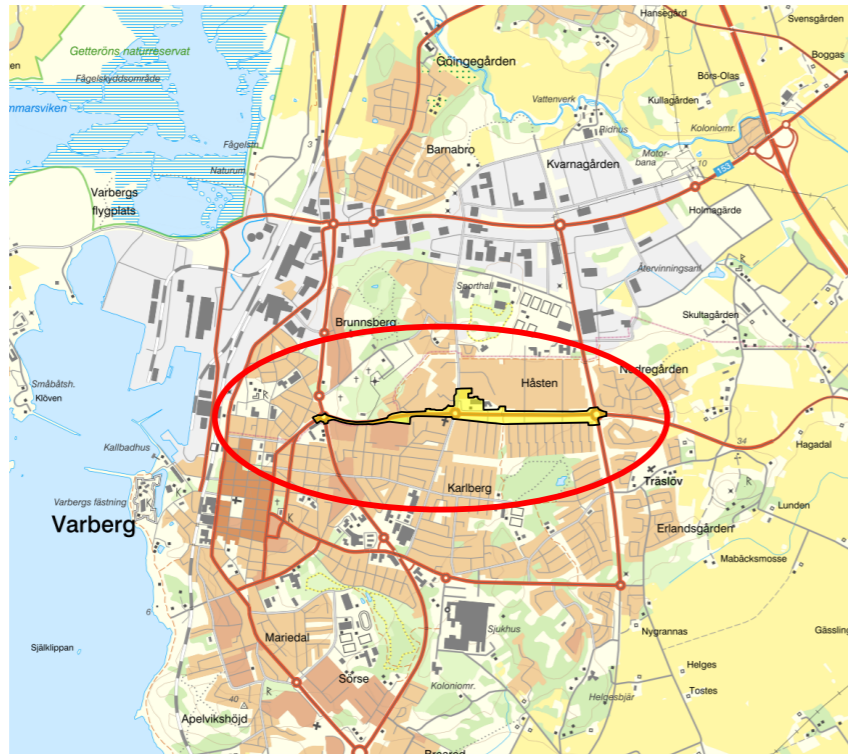


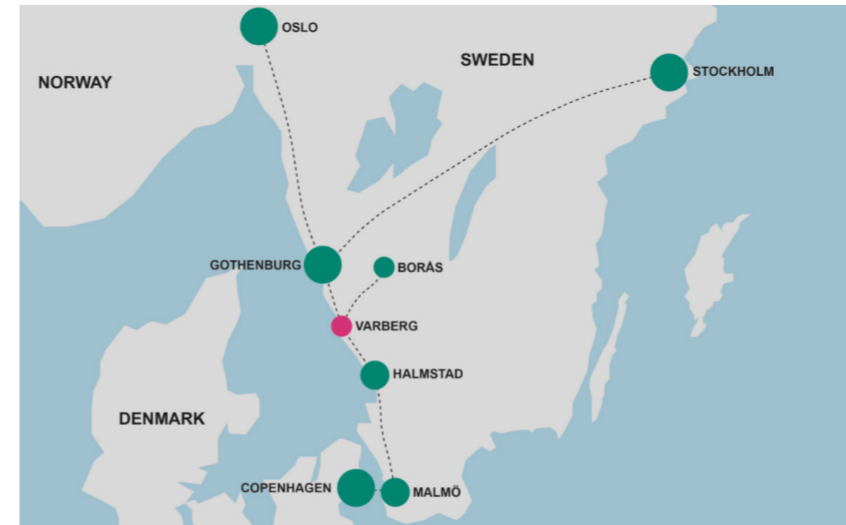
E16 LIVING CITIES  
**Varberg**  
 Sweden

SCALE: L urban and architectural  
 TEAM REPRESENTATIVE: urbanist, landscape architect & architect  
 SITE TOPIC: Revitalize– systems of infrastructure  
 LOCATION: Varberg  
 POPULATION: 65 000 inhabitants  
 STUDY SITE: 300 ha  
 PROJECT SITE: 12 ha  
 SITE PROPOSED BY: Municipality of Varberg  
 ACTORS INVOLVED: Municipality of Varberg,  
 OWNERS OF THE SITE: Municipality of Varberg and private  
 COMMISSION AFTER COMPETITION: Involvement in an implementation process in collaboration with the Municipality of Varberg



# Trädlyckevägen - from traffic route to living environment

**SITE PRESENTATION**  
 Varberg is a steadily growing city in an expansive region. The ongoing construction of new railway tracks, with a tunnel under part of the city centre and a new train station, will preserve and further develop connections within the region. This will also enable the city centre to expand with new public spaces and residential areas.



The competition site, Trädlyckevägen, is a 2,6 km long traffic route that connects the city centre in the west with a future new development area east of the competition site. The competition task is to transform this large scale traffic route into an inclusive living environment that connects and integrates existing neighborhoods. The route has become a barrier between the two neighbourhoods north and south of the site, and is perceived as unsafe. There are, however, qualities that can be highlighted in a future transformation. The green stretch is a buffer for storm water and can be further developed with regard to ecosystem services.



**URBAN STRATEGY**  
 “Varberg – the creative centre of the West Coast” is Varberg’s vision that describes how the municipality should develop and that influences everything from formulating missions to developing new action plans. Keywords are; innovation, knowledge, forward-thinking and courage. The development of Varberg should focus on sustainability and participation.



New development should mainly be made by complementing existing built areas. This way, previous investments in existing infrastructure can be utilized in an efficient way and surrounding arable land can be protected from new exploitation. The densification strategy of the city promotes densification within 3 km from the city centre. Prioritized strategies for the development are to transform traffic routes into living environments and to densify existing squares.

## E16 LIVING CITIES Varberg Sweden



### HOW CAN THE SITE BE DEVELOPED TOWARDS CONNECTED METABOLISM AND INCLUSIVITY?

The competition site has been identified as one of two heavily trafficked roads that should be developed into an inspiring living environment for people, which is in line with the urban strategy to densify areas close to the city centre. A larger population density enables for more people to share resources and infrastructure, and for more people to walk, cycle and use public transportation instead of taking the private car. A dense city also creates good conditions for a mixed and varied development, increases the demand for service facilities, and will contribute to creating a safe and accessible living environment.



In order to create opportunities for ecological and social sustainability over time, there is a need to value and further develop ecosystem services and to have a social perspective when planning for densification.

The competition site can be a starting point to create a more equal public environment and to strengthen social sustainability. This could be achieved by adding housing that attracts different target groups and generates diversity in the area. There is a need to strengthen nodes and local squares with new buildings, functions and meeting places that inspire social interaction and create new links between the segregated areas north and south of the competition site.



As well as adding new housing, service and meeting places, the area also needs to be densified with green values and ecosystem services. To create a resilient city there is a need for solutions that take the changing climate into consideration, for example by using vegetation to deal with raising temperature and forming environments where extreme rainfall doesn't cause flooding.