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AMERSFOORT
re-use
recycle
reinvent
reconnect
resource
EUROPAN18

Competition brief European 18

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Dear European competitors,

Amersfoort is thriving and embracing significant growth. Several major societal challenges require solutions, including issues related to housing, mobility, energy, sustainability, and climate change. How we shape these solutions will define the city now and for many generations to come. We prioritize the development with care for the living environment of people, animals, and plants. Strengthening greenery and nature is essential for biodiversity and liveability. To achieve this we focus on connections between neighbourhoods and between people.

In line with these ambitions, European Netherlands and the Municipality of Amersfoort are proud to present six locations for European 18. These locations are strategically significant for the municipality and aligns closely with this session's theme of resourcing, highlighting Amersfoort's search for innovative approaches to urban transformation.

Stadhuisplein

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Amersfoort in the region

Amersfoort is a historic and strategically located city in the central part of the Netherlands. Situated in the province of Utrecht, it lies at the heart of the country, making it a key connection point between the Randstad - the economic and urban hub of the west, including cities like Amsterdam and Utrecht.

The city is surrounded by diverse landscapes, including the Utrechtse Heuvelrug National Park to the south, the Eemland polder area to the north, and the Gelderse Vallei to the east. Additionally, the important rural regions in the north and the east are the Gelderland and Overijssel.

Amersfoort is a major railway junction, with its central station providing direct connections to key cities like Amsterdam, Utrecht, Zwolle, and Deventer. These factors contribute to its accessibility and its role as a regional and national transit node. The city's accessibility supports its function as a residential and economic center, attracting commuters, businesses, and visitors from across the Netherlands and beyond.

Amersfoort's central location has made it a significant transportation hub. It is well-connected by major highways such as the A1 (east-west) and A28 (north-south), facilitating efficient road travel.

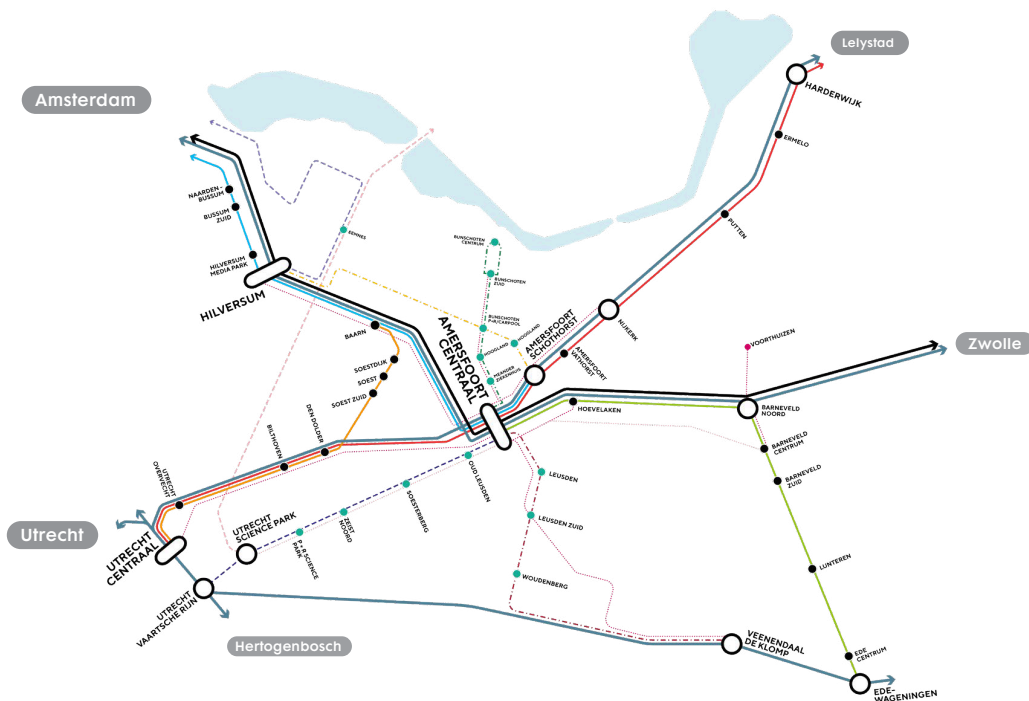
The Regional Vision for Amersfoort, emphasizes its integration with the broader Utrecht Metropolitan Region. The city leverages its proximity to Utrecht, one of the



most competitive regions in Europe, by aligning its goals with Utrecht's strategies for healthy urbanization, mobility, and sustainability.

The vision incorporates shared objectives for balanced growth in housing, employment, and green spaces, ensuring connectivity and alignment with the national and provincial frameworks. The geographical location formed the starting point for the development of Amersfoort. The city's spatial principles and choices were largely based on the existing cultural-historical and landscape values.

The quality, diversity, and proximity of the surrounding landscape remain key reasons for people and businesses to settle in Amersfoort. Original routes, waterways, sight-lines, and other landscape elements serve as meaningful foundations.





The city's position on the edge of the Utrechtse Heuvelrug and the lower-lying Eem Valley and Gelderse Valley is palpable even in the heart of the city.

Principles from Regional Spatial Vision

Growth Within Urban Areas

Prioritize development within existing built environments to preserve open spaces.

Support Vital Villages:

Enable limited growth in villages and focus additional expansion in the regional heart

Naturally Attractive

Use water systems for climate adaptation. Preserve and enhance landscapes.

Heart of the Netherlands

Improve accessibility and prioritize cycling in urban planning.

Locally Vital

Strengthen urban centers and regional recreational structures.

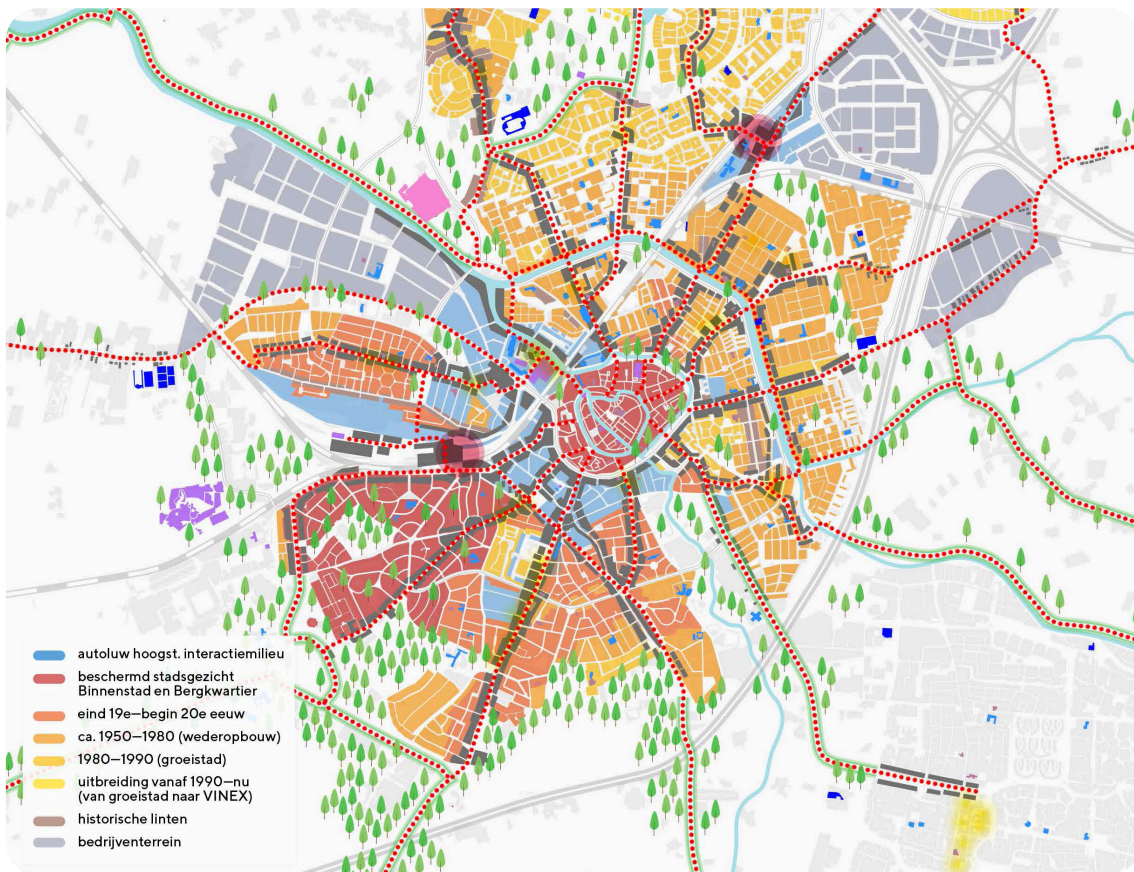
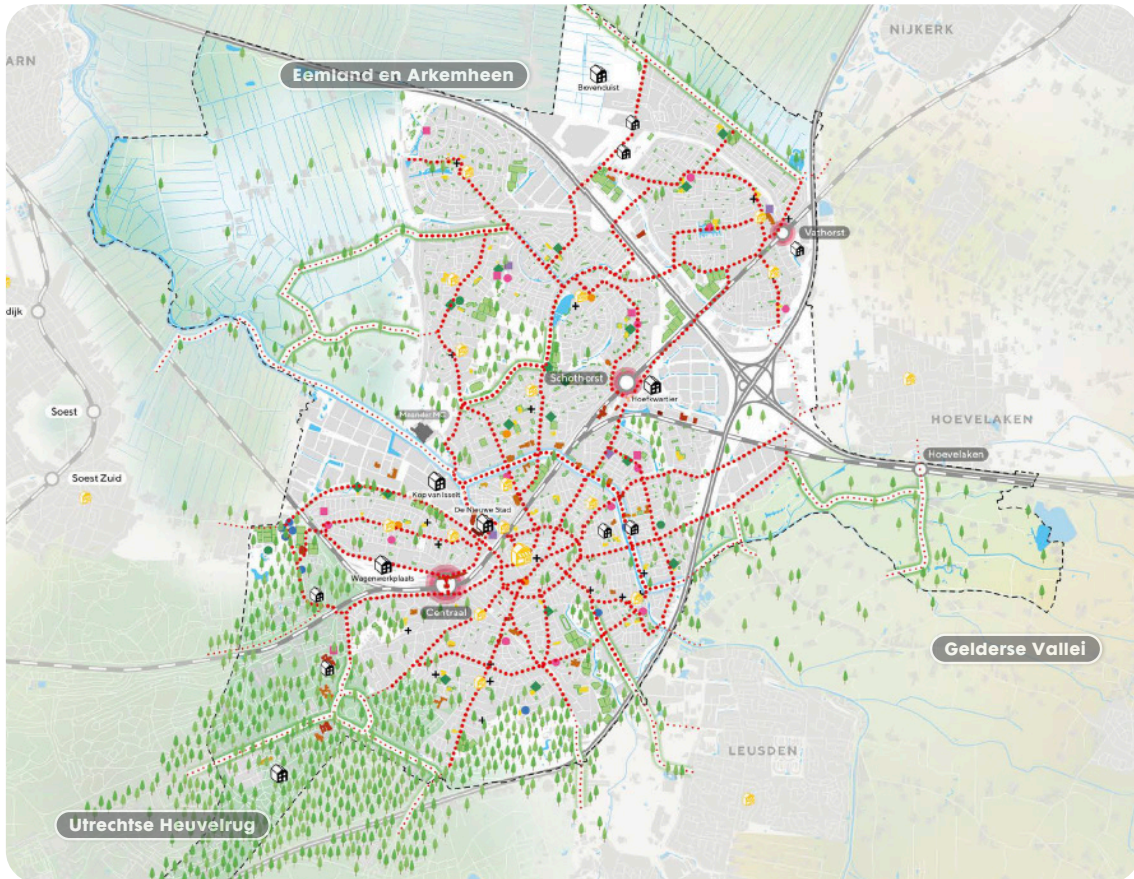
Thinkers and Doers

Develop distinctive living/working environments, focus on sustainability and foster interaction.

Implementation Plan

Monitor housing and workspace needs; start new development planning before shortages arise.





Urban Arteries and meeting places

Amersfoort envisions its urban arteries as vibrant lifelines that connect diverse neighbourhoods through shared spaces, dynamic programs, and cultural identity. The diversity of these arteries is key, as they vary in design while adhering to five fundamental principles: inclusivity, vibrancy, orientation, continuity, and identity. These principles guide the development of spaces that are both harmonious and distinctive, ensuring they remain meaningful for all residents and visitors.



Inclusive spaces

Create a network of vibrant and accessible meeting places that inspire community engagement, encourage inclusivity, and improve connections through thoughtfully designed public spaces

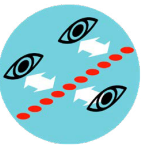
Vibrant program

Establish dynamic urban corridors that integrate vibrant urban functions, creating spaces where activity and liveliness thrive. Prioritizing accessibility and safety ensuring that every individual feels a sense of belonging and connection, creating human-centred neighbourhoods.



Orientation

Ensure that the orientation of spaces along the urban corridors enhances the identity and diversity of the environment, creating a harmonious blend of functionality and aesthetic appeal while avoiding fostering feelings of insecurity. Buildings and spaces should be designed to feel open, welcoming and safe.



Continuity

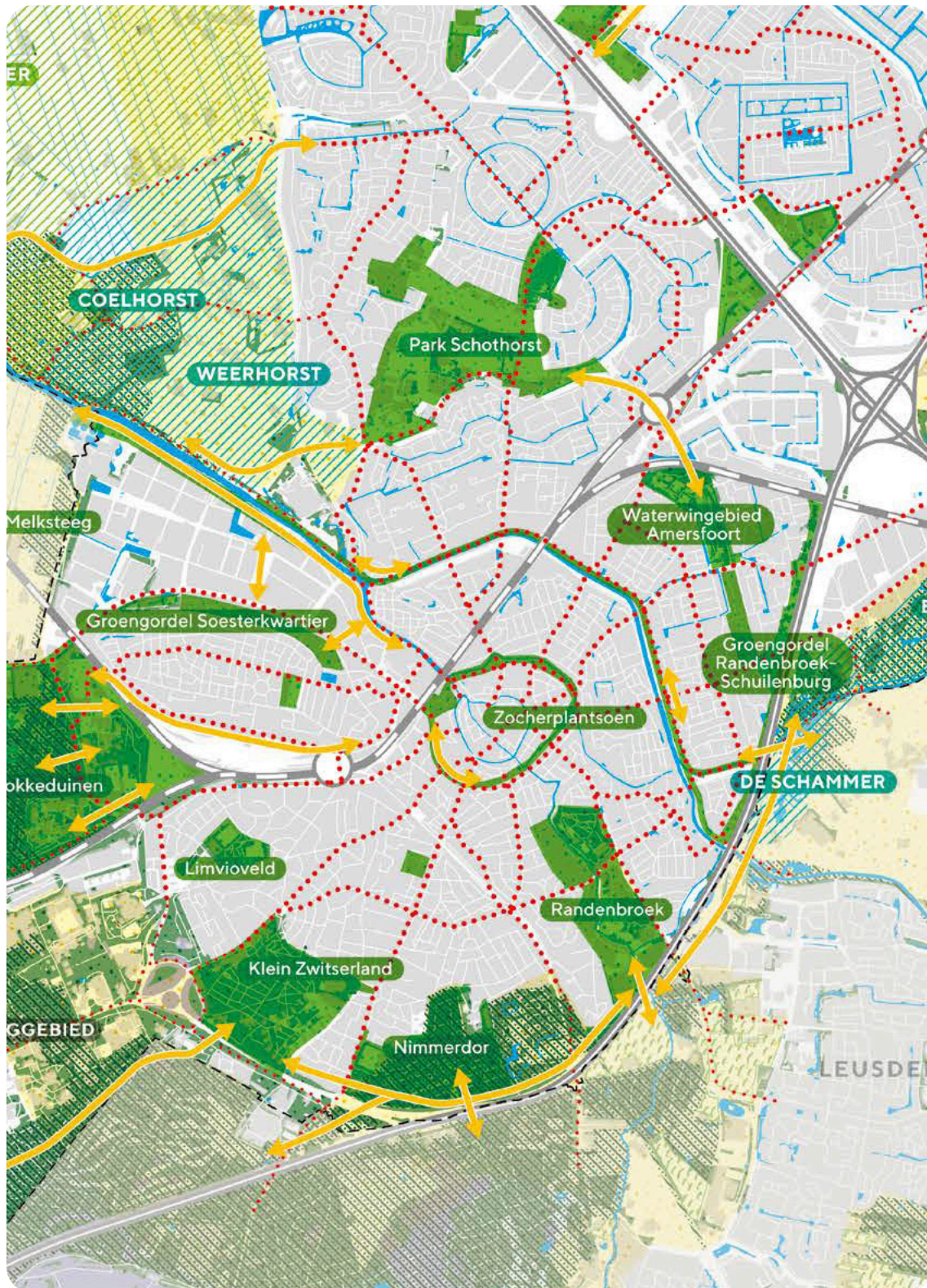
Create welcoming and safe corridors for slow traffic ensuring seamless connectivity between neighbourhoods and the city. Prioritizing cyclists and pedestrians, we aim to foster environments that encourage mobility, strengthen communities and enhance the overall quality of urban life.



Identity

Enhance the recognizability and unique character by celebrating diversity, integrating cultural and historical elements, and fostering a sense of pride and belonging, making the urban arteries memorable and meaningful to all who traverse them.





It is also about the inclusivity of public spaces; are they accessible and reachable for everyone, young and old, and for people with disabilities.

— from summary of participation in the environmental vision, 2021

City Environmental Vision

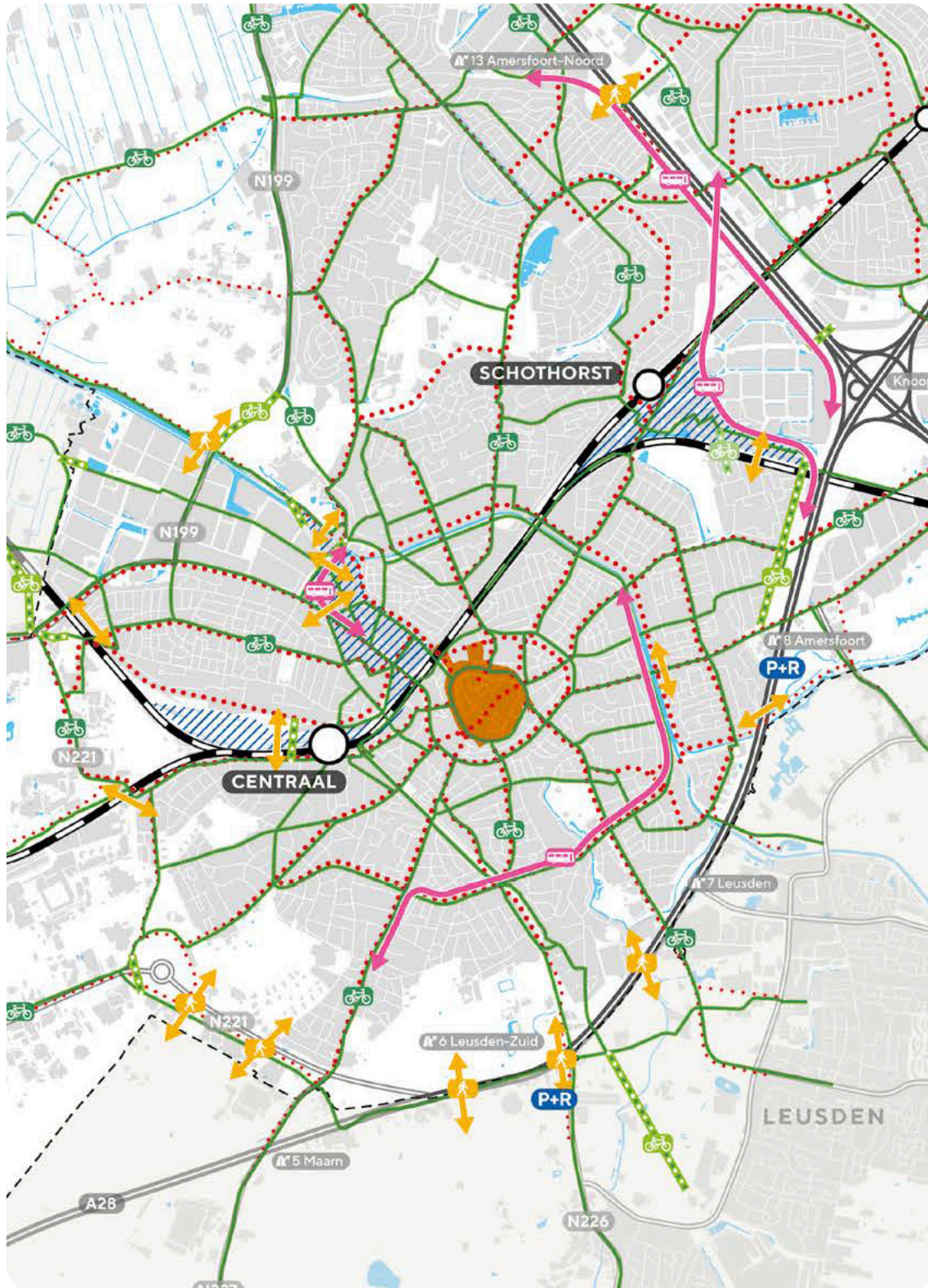
A green city in a green environment that embraces water

WE CHOOSE TO LET THE NATURAL SYSTEM GUIDE THE DESIGN OF PUBLIC-SPACES

Healthy living together means a city with ample space for water and greenery and a robust, well-functioning natural system. A green city in a green environment provides opportunities for relaxation, recreation, social interaction, and healthy physical activity. A healthy living environment contributes positively to a healthy lifestyle, social cohesion in neighbourhoods, and spaces with room for peace, quiet, and clean air. We aim for a nature-inclusive city and countryside where people, plants, and animals feel at home. We want to live with nature, not at the expense of it.

Therefore, it is essential for us that the living space for trees, plants, and animals grows alongside the city. To achieve this, we will work according to the Basic Nature Quality principles. We enhance biodiversity with sufficient and well-connected water and greenery for people and animals. To create a sustainable, healthy, and attractive living environment, water and soil will guide the design of (public) spaces wherever possible.





The Stadsring keeps the city center trapped and closed. This barrier should be removed so that the city center can grow further as a lively and welcoming hub.

— from summary of participation in the environmental vision, 2021

A City with Sustainable Mobility

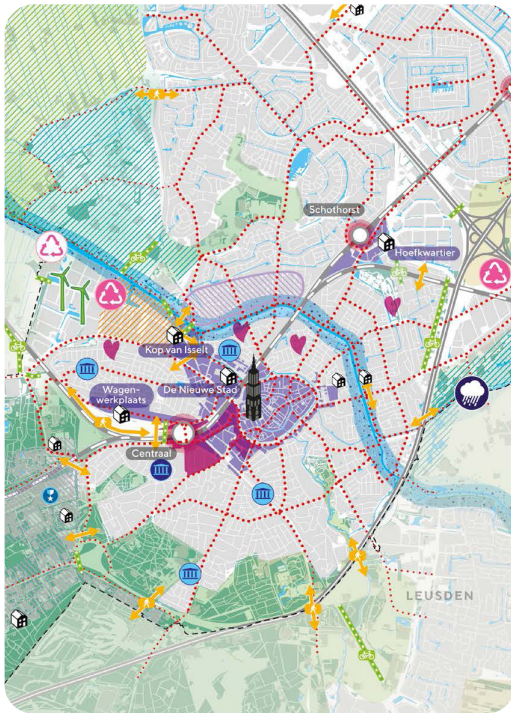
WE CHOOSE SUSTAINABLE AND ACTIVE MOBILITY WITH MORE SPACE FOR CYCLISTS AND PEDESTRIANS

In the future, Amersfoort will be an accessible and liveable city that embraces active mobility (walking and cycling) and public transportation. Proximity is the key. By building compact and mixed-use areas along urban arteries and at centrally located, easily accessible meeting points, near amenities and public transport hubs, we encourage active mobility and the use of public transport. This reduces the need for car travel.

To keep the city accessible and liveable, cars will no longer take priority in spatial planning. Instead, we prioritize pedestrians first, followed by cyclists, public transport. Private car use is the last priority, to achieve this shift we implement parking regulations. Together these measures lead to a better living environment, lower parking demand, and more space for greenery, climate adaptation, and areas for recreation.



An inclusive and attractive city to live in

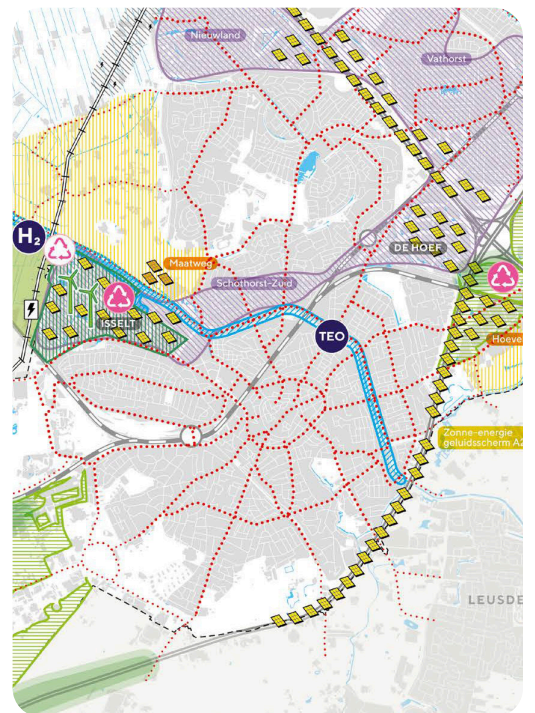


AMERSFOORT PROVIDES A HOME FOR EVERYONE AND CHOOSES HEALTHY GROWTH WITH SUFFICIENT DIVERSITY

Healthy living together means that all people have a home and feel at home. This applies to existing residents as well as the large number of people seeking housing. The city grows so that everyone can have a home. Pleasant living—feeling at home—not only involves having accessible, affordable, and suitable housing but also a healthy and inclusive living environment and how people coexist. Many different people can live alongside and with each other here, where everyone can be themselves and feel connected.



A city becoming Sustainable & CO2-Neutral

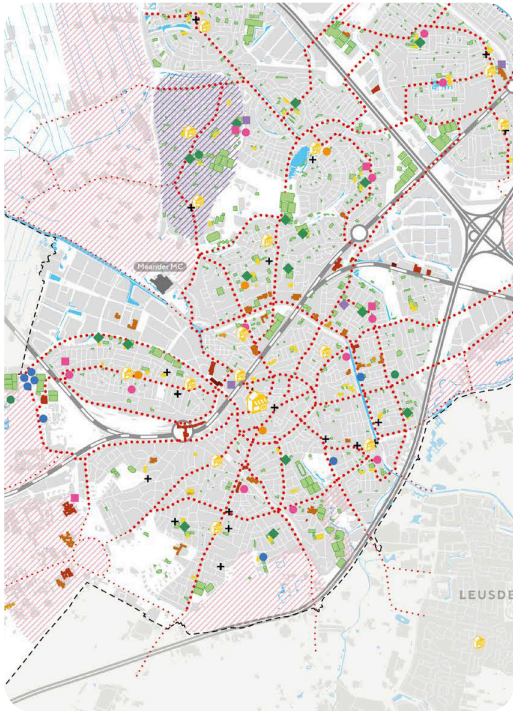


WE CHOOSE RENEWABLE ENERGY AND MATERIALS

Healthy living together means transitioning to sustainable energy. We focus on an inclusive approach where no one feels excluded, and everyone can participate in the energy transition. Together with residents, organizations, and entrepreneurs, we inform about changes, engage in dialogue, and provide support where needed to make progress in the energy transition. By 2050, we will emit no harmful greenhouse gases because we will have replaced fossil fuels with renewable sources such as solar, wind, or water. Our goal is to become energy neutral as quickly as possible.



A city where facilities grow next to development

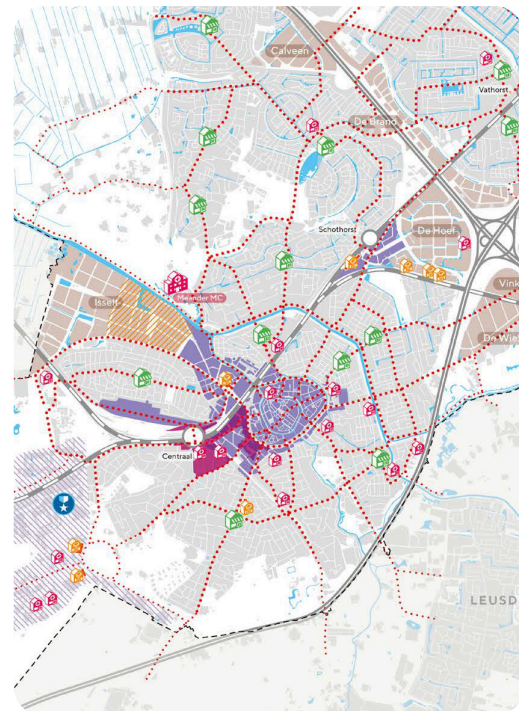


WE WANT FACILITIES TO GROW WITH THE INCREASE IN POPULATION

Social facilities contribute significantly to a healthy and attractive society. They play an important role as meeting places within the city. In a city with a growing population, the demand for facilities also increases. We distinguish between urban facilities and those at the neighborhood or district level. An increasing number of seniors and residents with disabilities require different forms of culture, recreation, services, and care. With the growing number of children and young people, there is a rising need for education, childcare, and spaces for sports and play. The changing demand for facilities will not be uniform across the city.

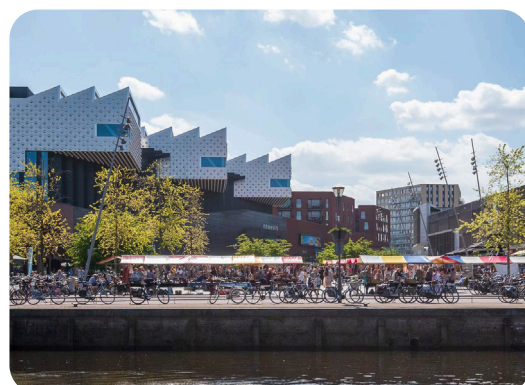


A city with a diverse and resilient economy



WE WANT THE JOBS TO GROW WITH THE INCREASE IN POPULATION AND WE AIM FOR AN ECONOMY THAT IS SUSTAINABLE, CIRCULAR, IN AN INCLUSIVE, HEALTHY AND LIVEABLE CITY

Amersfoort aims to be a versatile economy that aligns with the needs and skills of its residents. Economic activities will contribute to the city's vibrancy and appeal, offering a high level of amenities and innovative solutions to ensure fairness, sustainability, and resilience. We stimulate the transition to a green and circular economy. We aim to meet space needs within the existing city limits, requiring careful land use and a clear framework for economic prospects. Business and office locations play a key role in housing Amersfoort's enterprises, alongside workplaces in neighborhoods, the city center, and various shopping and recreational areas.



Given the Earth's ecosystem fragility and the myriad social crises we face, there's an urgent need for innovative approaches to counteract harmful resource extraction, overconsumption and environmental degradation.

This imperative has birthed a call for regenerative projects that seamlessly weave together elements of nature and culture. Central to this mission is the cultivation of synergistic connections between biogeophysical data, socio-spatial justice and health.

In pursuit of resilience, we propose three interlinked avenues that invite exploration and action.

Resourcing in terms of

Natural Elements and Risks

It's imperative to re-evaluate the fundamental relationship between humanity and the elements of nature—water, air, earth, and fire. While these elements provide essential sources of energy and fertility they also carry inherent risks and vulnerabilities. Understanding and mitigating these risks is paramount as we strive to coexist harmoniously with our environment.

Resourcing in terms of

Ways of Life and Inclusivity

The rapid evolution of lifestyles in our digitally interconnected world demands a re-evaluation of how we inhabit and interact with our surroundings. Fostering inclusive communities that prioritize intimacy, commonality, and solidarity is key. This entails adopting bioclimatic and permaculture strategies that not only accommodate human needs but also nurture symbiotic relationships between humans and non-humans, ensuring sustainability for all.

Resourcing in terms of

Materiality and Reuse

Our built environment presents an untapped reservoir of resources waiting to be harnessed. By adhering to the principles of Reduce, Reuse, Recycle, we can unlock the potential of existing structures and materials to minimize waste and resource depletion. Embracing bio-geo sourced materials and localized construction techniques not only promotes environmental stewardship but also fosters a deeper connection to place and community.

R e s o u r c i n g
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Koppelbrug
Rethink Health

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Kop van Isselt
Reintegrate Old

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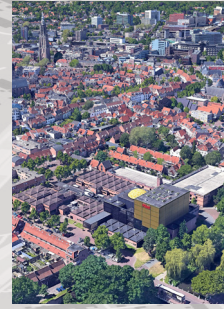
AMERSFOORT is thriving and embracing significant growth. Over the next decade, the city is dedicated to improving the quality, energy efficiency, and sustainability of its existing built environment, with a strong focus on prioritizing the needs and well-being of its residents.

In line with these ambitions, European Netherlands and the Municipality of Amersfoort are proud to present **SIX LOCATIONS** for European 18. These locations are strategically significant for the municipality and aligns closely with this session's theme of **RESOURCING**, highlighting Amersfoort's search for innovative approaches to urban transformation.



A m e r s f o o r t

Stadhuisplein
Rebuild Culture



A m e r s f o o r t

Flint
Reinvent the Theater



A m e r s f o o r t

Otto Scheltus
Reconnect City



A m e r s f o o r t

Amicitia
Restore Urban fabric



A m e r s f o o r t

R e s o u r c i n g



AMERSFOORT
the use
recycle
reconnect
resourcing
EUROPAN18



Stadhuisplein

Rebuild Culture

URBAN CONTEXT

Historically prominent
Recent Developments

Amersfoort faces the challenge of balancing its rich historical heritage, with increasing demands for modern urban needs and growth as whole. The Stadhuisplein area consists of buildings from different time periods and various styles, lacking functionality and appropriate scale, creating a fragmented urban experience with a sense of disconnect.

The urban design task is to reshape Stadhuisplein into a vibrant cultural district accommodating theater, a large music venue, film and exhibitions to attract diverse audiences, while integrating existing buildings into a new and harmonious urban configuration. At the same time, the new design should connect the historic city centre and the Stadhuisplein area with the emerging large-scale redevelopment zones along the river Eem, merging them into a unified and harmonious urban experience.

Stadhuisplein

R e b u i l d C u l t u r e



Historically prominent

Stadhuisplein in Amersfoort represents a dynamic convergence of historical legacy and urban renewal, situated at the heart of the city's medieval core. The area is part of the protected cityscape of Amersfoort's inner city, emphasizing its significant cultural and architectural value. Historically, the Stadhuisplein area has undergone significant transformations from its medieval origins with concentric city walls and grachten (canals) to its current form. The mid-20th-century redevelopment introduced the current Stadhuis complex.

Medieval Origins

Amersfoort's inner city developed around two concentric rings of fortifications. The first city wall which was built in the late 13th century enclosed the core urban area establishing the network of streets, canals, and public spaces that defined the medieval city. The second defensive ring, constructed in the 14th century, expanded the city, incorporating areas that now include Stadhuisplein and its surroundings.

This area historically served as a transitional zone between the fortified inner core and the outlying rural areas. It featured a mix of agrarian uses, small-scale housing, and civic institutions, thus reflecting the multifunctional character of medieval cities. The proximity to the Hellestraat, a significant medieval route, and the city's water systems further reinforced its role as an important node within the city's urban network.



Pre-Industrial Period (Before 1830/1850)

Until the industrial era (before the last quarter of the nineteenth century), Amersfoort largely matched the image of a frontier town. The infrastructure of the inner city remained heavily influenced by the natural terrain, the presence of water with various cross-sections, and arterial roads with in between green areas. By the late pre-industrial period, the street pattern from 1560 remained largely intact.

The Hellestraatkwartier was an enclosed area with little connection to the core or countryside, nestled between two radial roads. Several institutional complexes were built in the northern part of the area. These stood along the street, surrounded by large gardens later used recreationally by city dwellers, like the former Observanten Monastery which served as a public space within the city's defences. The rest of the area, particularly south of Molenstraat was denser with compact houses and small businesses that directly faced the street.

The outer edge of the city transformed at the end of the pre-industrial period from a stone city wall with towers, gates, and a circumferential route adjacent to deep gardens into a romantic nineteenth-century Zocherpark. This green-blue belt served as an intermediary between the built-up city and the open countryside, clearly defining the city's boundary.

Aside from this transformation, the spatial structure of the inner city remained largely unchanged throughout the pre-industrial period, retaining much of its 1560 layout.

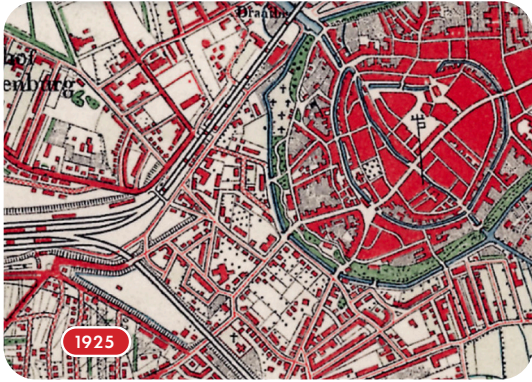


Early Industrial Period (1830/1850-1914)

Industrialization in Amersfoort began with the railway's arrival around 1860. Development focused on the outskirts, near the new station (1901) west of the city. New streets across the West-Buitensingel shaped the unclear approach to the area until the 1970s.

By the end of the industrial period, Amersfoort remained within the singels, with its medieval structure intact, remained largely unchanged. The Hellestraatkwartier remained isolated despite outer developments. Railways and stations spurred Amersfoort's growth, with factories and luxury residences appearing between the station and inner city. However, a clear route to the inner city was unresolved until after the war.

New buildings, particularly in the north, formed an 'institutional' zone with schools. Simple structures created enclosed spaces and courtyards. The St. Pieters, Bloklandsgasthuis and the Ambachtsschool diverged from historic patterns, positioned freely with façades facing the cemetery and park. The new Achter Davidshof route connected these buildings to the cemetery. South of Molenstraat, little changed. The Hellestraat remained mixed-use, with housing and businesses, while Molenstraat and Sint Jorisstraat stayed residential, featuring workers' houses with deep gardens.

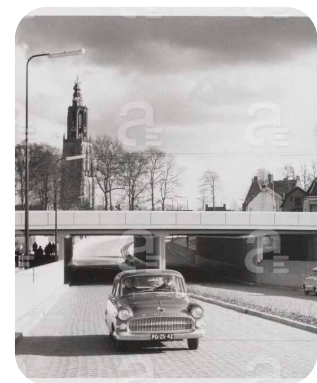
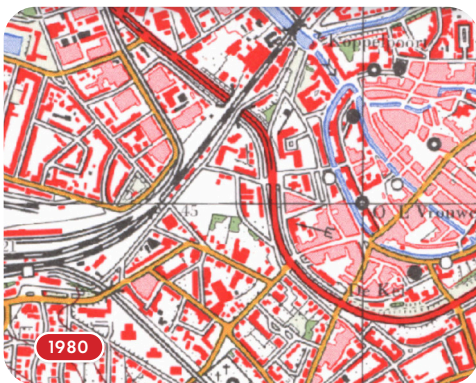


Late Industrial Period: WWI & Inter-war Period (1914-1940)

During the Inter-war period, industrialization and population growth significantly impacted Amersfoort. Many inner-city workers' houses, often shared by multiple families, faced deterioration and housing shortages. The 1902 Housing Act mandated expansion plans for cities over 10,000 residents, prompting Amersfoort to establish a municipal planning department and appoint a city architect.

This period marked the first significant redevelopment of the Hellestraatkwartier. Workers' streets on the city's edge had little relevance to the growing city. Sections along Molenstraat, St. Jorisstraat, and Hellestraat were demolished to improve connectivity. However, institutional buildings in the north and the Hellestraat's original course remained. By the late interwar period, the Hellestraatkwartier still appeared 'wounded.' Redevelopment plans progressed slowly, leaving newly created triangular plots undeveloped for years.

Plans for a new city hall, municipal services, and a police station aimed to establish a representative district aligned with the old city's scale and character.



Reconstruction & City Formation (1945-1965)

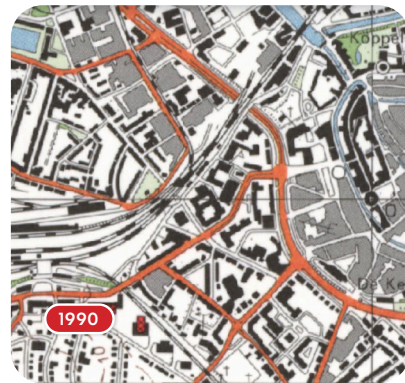
After World War II, Amersfoort, a provincial city of 58,000 inhabitants had a damaged transportation network. Unlike other cities, it remained largely intact preserving its historical core. However, a growing population and outdated housing required redevelopment.

Post-war plans sought to restore historical qualities while modernizing at a distance from the historic core. The Hellestraatkwartier, southwest of the city centre, became a focus for development. Concrete plans emerged to transform it

into the Stadhuisgebied (City Hall Area). Between 1945 and 1960, redevelopment followed post-war trends. The area was cleared replacing historical structures with roads and modern buildings. Like many cities, part of the singel was filled in to create a city ring—a boulevard with offices and urban facilities. The demolition of park replaced the city's boundary with a road, allowing outer city expansion into the inner city.

For the Hellestraatkwartier, this meant integration with Stationsstraat/Van Asch van Wijckstraat, larger-scale buildings, and a shift toward monofunctionality. The Core Plan designated it as a city entrance, hosting new institutional buildings. Molenstraat was straightened and became a major traffic artery. Along Molenstraat, freestanding institutional buildings with green spaces were replacing historic streets.

Early city hall designs by Van Kranendonk and Zuiderhoek incorporated the hof concept, a long-standing spatial element in the Hellestraatkwartier. This included the Observant monastery courtyard, the school's hof-like structure, the green settings of St. Pieters and Bloklandsgasthuis and the former Handelsschool, forming a cohesive courtyard structure. South of Molenstraat, new buildings aimed to complete a missing city block.



City formation & Habitat (1965-1985)

The Hellestraatkwartier transformed into the new Stadhuisgebied with a single new building, replacing much of the remaining historical structures along Hellestraat. Despite efforts to integrate with the historic fabric, Van Kranendonk's new building was on an unprecedented scale for the inner city. More historic buildings were preserved here than initially planned. The Westsingel buildings remained, forming a relatively intact historical façade, including the old city hall and the Observantenklooster.

The increase in building scale continued with new developments along the Stadsring, where the first large offices and apartment complexes emerged. Each building stood independently, lacking cohesion. Molenstraat failed to become an inviting route to the city center and instead turned into a traffic corridor lined with parking spaces. The parking lot at Hellestraat seemed more of an afterthought than a planned feature.

The historic layout of the park at Achter Davidshof was further reduced. Part of the new city hall was built on the former cemetery. The cemetery was almost entirely cleared and repurposed as a tree meadow.



Post '85 (1985-present)

After 1985, The entire historic inner city, including the city hall site was designated as a national protected cityscape. Large-scale transformations initiated in the late 1960s continued. The Centraal Stadsgebied (CSG) project reshaped the area between the city centre and the station and the western part of the historic inner city. Molenstraat, along with the Station and Eemplein areas became one of the sites for urban expansion.

Throughout the CSG area, large, often high-rise complexes with single-use programs emerged. This development was driven by the national policy, which promoted scale expansion and densification, particularly with offices near stations, but did not prioritize small-scale development or mixed-use functionality.

In this early phase of rediscovering the inner city as a valuable urban environment for investment, the city formation trends from the 1960s were revived with a new approach. The expansion not only transformed the area between the station and inner city but also affected the Stadsring and, eventually the Molenstraat area.

Quality recommendations, such as those for improving the Stadsring layout were disregarded in favour of rapid and cost-efficient project implementation, resulting in a predominantly mono-functional office district with little inner-city ambiance between the station and Westersingel. Urban planning and architecture shifted back—after a decade of the Small-Scale Movement—towards the abstraction and utilitarian aesthetics of Modernism, though in a drier less aesthetic-oriented version than early post-war Modernism.





Plantsoen and Achter Davidshof: Residual Green Space

The city's green belt had already lost much of its continuity with the construction of the Stadsring and within the Stadhuisplein area little remained of the original green structure. The construction of the city hall, the removal of the cemetery under the Stadsring, the addition of a cookie factory and a switching station further fragmented the plantsoen.

In the early 1990s, the switching station was replaced by a new building designed by architect Ben van Berkel, completed in 1994. This required partial excavation of the former bastion and the filling in of the city moat, leading to the disappearance of its distinctive triangular form. Although the Monument Preservation office had drafted a reconstruction plan, it was never implemented. Around the same time the Meursing cookie factory was also demolished making way for a new RCE offices in 2009.

These developments have significantly reduced the historical legibility of this site. Achter Davidshof has since remained largely as a parking lot. Today, the plantsoen is merely a remnant of what was once a long-standing, enclosed green space, now reduced to a simple lawn against the backdrop of large-scale modern office buildings with a rigid and uncharacteristic appearance.



Torenstraat and St. Jorisstraat

During this period, Torenstraat and Sint Jorisstraat underwent significant transformations. As part of the CSG project, the idea emerged that the western edge of the historic city centre required expansion and diversification of its retail sector. Consequently, the area south of Molenstraat was once again redeveloped. The inter-war buildings in the triangular space between Sint Jorisstraat, Stadsring, and Torenstraat were demolished, including a residential block (demolished around 1996), several commercial buildings, and a post office. In their place, a

shopping center with an underground parking garage and apartments above was constructed. Along Stadsring, the shopping center featured an urban façade with a wide sidewalk, a service street, storefronts, and entrances to the residential deck above. Significant up-scaling of building volumes resulted into Torenstraat dominated by back facades, closed walls, absent active plinths and public space with access points to a parking lot and garage.



Recent Developments

The Eemplein

Eemplein has been developed as the second city center in Amersfoort, offering a vibrant space catering to all age groups from early morning to late at night.

The area is home to a variety of functions, including cultural, commercial, and leisure activities. The Eemhuis, a major cultural hub houses the public library, a regional archive, an arts center, and a music school. Throughout the day visitors can explore shops, enjoy dining experiences in diverse restaurants, or take advantage of coworking spaces designed for professionals. In the evening, the area comes alive with an extensive nightlife scene, featuring various bars, restaurants, and a Pathé cinema.

During the summer, Eemplein becomes an inviting outdoor space with terraces on the square and along the water. Regularly there are events, markets, and performances, further enhancing its role as a dynamic and social gathering point in the city.

Stationsgebied

The Stationsgebied is a dynamic urban node at the crossroads of the city's historical core and modern extensions, serving as Amersfoort's gateway and blending historic, cultural, and contemporary influences. New plans emphasize improving pedestrian connectivity and integrating green infrastructure to ensure seamless transitions between these areas, enhancing the station's role as a vibrant and accessible hub for all users. The aesthetic and connect between the station and the city center will be improved, traffic will be reduced creating pedestrian-friendly area.



PROJECT SITE & ASSIGNMENT

Buildings as Historical Development
Key Recommendations for Future Interventions
Urban Connectivity and Public Space
Creative City - Cultural Quarter

Propose Visionary urban design ideas to transform Stadhuisplein into a new cultural district, balancing historical preservation with modern urban functionality. The new cultural district proposal must integrate cultural performance spaces—theatre, music, film, and education creating seamless connection from Varkensmarkt, Eem, Stadsring and Westsingel.

Stadhuisplein is poised for transformation into a new cultural district, where history and modernity coexist. Propose a phased development strategy that will guide this transformation over the next seven years, ensuring an organic and sustainable evolution, leveraging the City Hall as an anchor for place-making and fostering dynamic cultural experiences.

Stadhuisplein

R e b u i l d C u l t u r e



Buildings and Historical Development

Stadhuisplein in Amersfoort is a location with a rich architectural and urban planning history. Situated within the nationally protected cityscape of the historic center, it serves as a key point where the historical and modern city converge. Stadhuisplein and its surrounding buildings are currently undergoing transformation. The redevelopment focuses on creating a dynamic cultural hub, incorporating a theater and cinema. The temporary repurposing of the old city hall building as a cultural incubator with studios and exhibition spaces highlights the evolving role of this location within the city.

The city hall of Amersfoort has evolved significantly over the centuries. Initially located at De Hof in the Middle Ages, it moved to Stadhuisplein as the city expanded and required a larger governance space. In 1974, architect Antoon van Kranendonk designed a modern brick city hall with a courtyard structure to promote transparency and accessibility. In 1994, Pi de Bruijn added a contemporary wing with light ceramic tiles, creating a deliberate contrast while enhancing office space and urban connectivity. These developments illustrate the dynamic architectural evolution of the city hall in response to Amersfoort's growing needs.

Historical Development of the City Hall

After multiple delays and design revisions, construction of the new city hall finally moved forward in 1963. Adjustments were necessary due to changing municipal needs, financial limitations, and outdated earlier designs. The planning area was also expanded, which led to the removal of an existing cemetery. In April 1969, Van Kranendonk introduced a new concept, and construction progressed smoothly. The social services building was the first to be completed at the intersection



of Westsingel and Molenstraat. The main city hall construction began in 1971 and officially opened on August 28, 1974.

Upon completion, Van Kranendonk described his design emphasizing the building's integration into the urban fabric and its alignment with contemporary ideals of openness. The shift towards transparency was evident in the replacement of the originally enclosed introverted structure with a new design that abandons the strict separation between administration and citizens, instead prioritized openness and accessibility.

The architectural approach included breaking open the previously enclosed courtyard design to create a more connected and accessible inner square. This adjustment preserved eight beech trees, each 25 meters tall, a decision that drew public attention. The architect also envisioned a publicly accessible rooftop garden, designed as a peaceful retreat complete with hanging greenery.

Van Kranendonk abandoned the square layout of his 1950s designs and created two interconnected buildings linked by a bridge. Low brick walls, made from the same material as the building, provided seating, play areas, and plant beds, reinforcing the connection between architecture and public use. A 1974 newspaper article explained its symbolic meaning as "The intertwining of government and citizens." Van Kranendonk emphasized that the city hall should serve the Amersfoort community, ensuring that its architectural expression prioritized service over grandeur.



To reflect Amersfoort's historical city wall, Van Kranendonk designed a gently curving, low façade along the new ring road, reinforcing the transition between the historic center and surrounding traffic routes. This design allowed motorists approaching from Soesterbergkwartier to experience a striking city wall, enhanced by five new towers that complemented the skyline alongside the Onze Lieve Vrouwe Tower. The roofline was striking, curving upward and lending the structure an unexpected lightness, despite not being a typical element in Amersfoort's architectural tradition.



The interior design

City Hall reflected Van Kranendonk's vision of a transparent and accessible public building. Visitors entered through glass doors into a spacious hall that housed essential municipal services, such as civil affairs, public health, and taxation. The wedding hall, visible from the entrance yet acoustically sealed, reinforced the idea of marriage as a communal event. Wide staircases and elevators on either side of the hall provided access to the upper floors, the chamber's open design allowed the public to observe meetings from the main hall. Despite budget constraints, the most public areas of the building featured rich detailing. The central hall was illuminated by striking hanging lamps, and the wooden ceilings included skylights to bring in natural light.

The Expansion of the City Hall

By 1978, discussions regarding expansion had begun as the increasing number of municipal employees necessitated additional office space. Instead of immediately extending the city hall itself, efforts were first directed at repurposing surrounding buildings, including the Observantenklooster and the former fire station, as workspaces. By the 1980s, further expansion was deemed necessary, driven



by Amersfoort's projected population growth and the need for additional office space. A fire in the city hall's basement in 1986 exacerbated the situation. With financial support from the insurance payout and municipal funding, a large-scale modernization effort was initiated. An additional 6,700m² of office space was needed, identifying five potential expansion sites around the city hall.

In 1989, the municipality officially approved the expansion, commissioning architect Pi de Bruijn to complete the urban fabric around the city hall while preserving the historical character of Westsingel. De Bruijn introduced a new design that integrated the new wing with the existing structure while maintaining the characteristic enclosed nature of the city hall complex. His approach emphasized balancing historical preservation with modern needs.

As part of the expansion, De Bruijn addressed previous design gaps, such as strengthening the city hall's corner elements and enhancing connectivity between various sections. The new wing included additional office spaces and public service areas while adhering to the aesthetic principles established by Van Kranendonk. This extension solidified the city hall's role as a functional and architectural landmark, merging historical continuity with urban progress.

Key Recommendations for Future Interventions

Future developments at Stadhuisplein should maintain a sensitive approach that respects both the historical identity and evolving urban landscape. Any modifications should prioritize preserving the existing architectural integrity while enhancing the functionality and accessibility of the area.

Public spaces should continue to foster engagement by ensuring open, well-connected pathways that encourage interaction between the city hall and surrounding urban fabric. Green elements, such as preserved trees and new plantings, should be emphasized to reinforce the balance between built and natural environments. Moreover, material selection for any renovations or extensions should complement the existing structures, preserving the aesthetic coherence of Stadhuisplein.

Adaptive reuse strategies should be considered for underutilized spaces, ensuring their relevance to contemporary urban needs while safeguarding historical value. Sustainable building practices should be incorporated in any future modifications, supporting energy efficiency and environmentally responsible development. By adhering to these principles, future interventions can successfully bridge Amersfoort's historical heritage with its modern aspirations.

Historical and Spatial Value

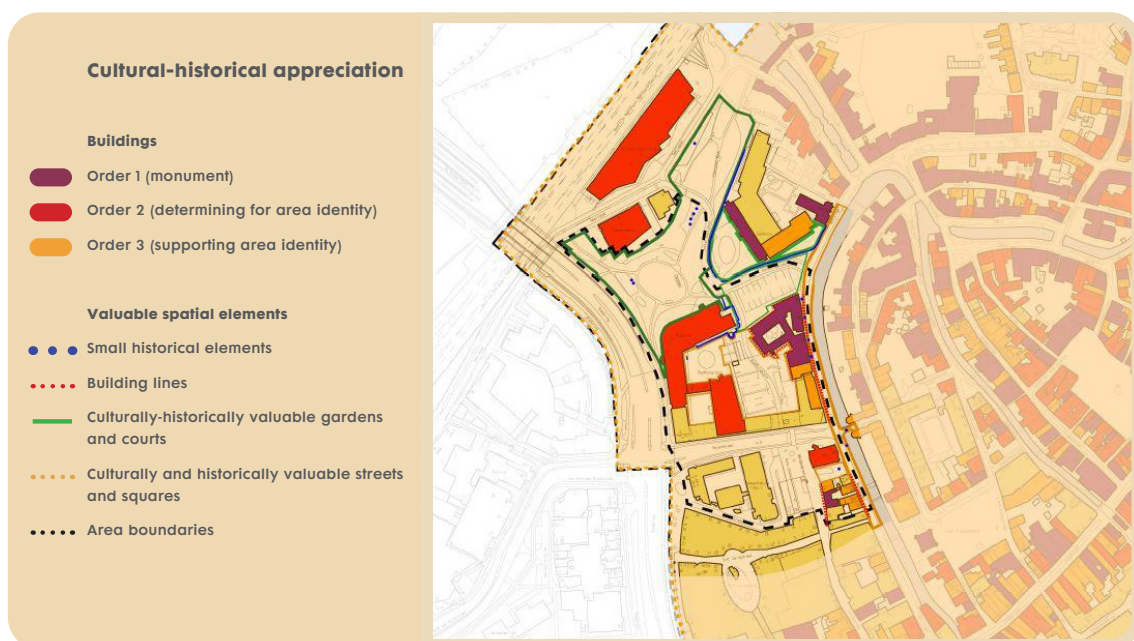
The Stadhuisplein area is part of the nationally protected historic cityscape, with key structures, sight-lines, and spatial relationships defining the character of Amersfoort's historic core. Important visual axes, such as those leading to the Onze Lieve Vrouwetoren and Sint Joriskerk, contribute to the city's identity and cultural significance.

The original urban morphology has been significantly altered, particularly on the west side, where large-scale developments have replaced the fine-grained medieval structure. However, remnants of historic buildings and spatial patterns remain intact, particularly on the east side, offering valuable connections to the city's past.

The transition from a traditional small-scale urban fabric to modern, large-scale developments has disrupted the coherence of the historic environment. The loss of historical street patterns and the removal of the original singel greenery have further impacted the spatial integrity of the area. Future interventions should carefully balance contemporary needs with the preservation and enhancement of these historical layers.

Policy Framework and Heritage Considerations

The area falls under strict heritage protection guidelines, ensuring that any future developments respect and enhance the historical and spatial values of the site. The City Hall by Van Kranendonk is classified as a visually defining structure with significant cultural and architectural importance.



Future interventions must align with established policy objectives, integrating new structures with sensitivity to historical context. Key considerations include preserving sight-lines to monumental landmarks such as the Onze Lieve Vrouwetoren and Sint Joriskerk, maintaining the existing scale and proportions of surrounding structures, and reinforcing the traditional urban fabric.

Additionally, any modifications should prioritize the restoration of lost elements, such as the green spaces and historical singel structure, which played a crucial role in the city's historical spatial organization. Public spaces should be designed to promote accessibility and social engagement while retaining the distinct character of the Stadhuisplein area. These guidelines ensure that developments contribute to both the historical continuity and the evolving needs of the city.

Heritage Inspiration

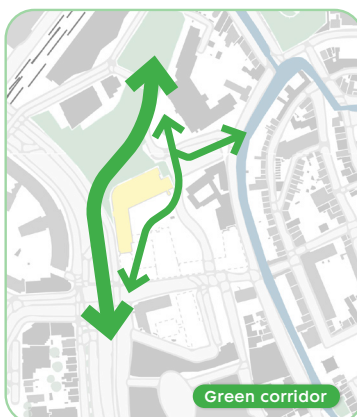
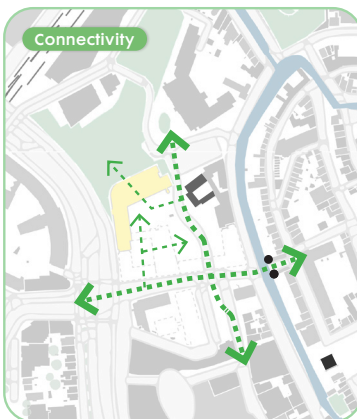
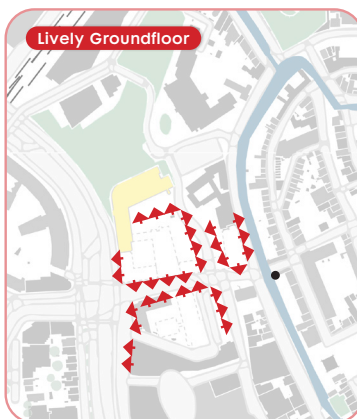
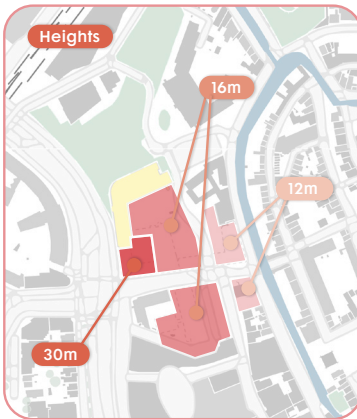
Future development in the Stadhuisplein area should take inspiration from its historical context, incorporating elements that reference and respect the city's architectural heritage. The design of new buildings should acknowledge the historical contrast between the northern part of the site—traditionally characterized by institutional buildings with gardens and courtyards—and the southern section, which was more structured with streets and aligned facades. By preserving this distinction, new developments can strengthen the historical identity of the area.

The reintroduction of greenery along the Stadsring is a key consideration, aiming to restore the softer transition between the historic center and its surroundings. A green corridor connecting the Stadhuisplein with existing parks would reinforce Amersfoort's tradition of integrating natural elements into the urban fabric. Furthermore, future developments should follow a modular approach, allowing for the adaptation and expansion of structures while maintaining the characteristic openness and spatial hierarchy of the historic city core.



Urban Connectivity and Public Space

Stadhuisplein must improve accessibility and integration with surrounding areas. Pedestrian pathways should be enhanced to create a seamless connection between the historic city core and newer developments. Public spaces should be designed for social interaction, with high-quality materials and attention to historical sight-lines, reinforcing the identity of Amersfoort as a city where history and modernity coexist harmoniously. The city's protected status requires that any intervention preserves and enhances the character of the medieval center. This means maintaining a balance between cultural heritage, urban liveability, and modern needs.



New developments should prioritize a human-scale approach, avoiding monolithic structures and integrating a mix of functions, including cultural, residential, and commercial spaces. The reintroduction of green elements, particularly along the Stadsring, is essential to reestablish lost connections to the city's historical landscape. Thoughtful design must ensure pedestrian-friendly spaces, clear sight-lines to key landmarks, and architectural elements that reflect the city's layered history while allowing for contemporary expression. These principles will guide Stadhuisplein's transformation into a dynamic yet historically respectful urban environment.

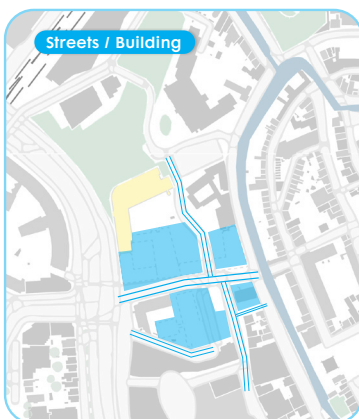
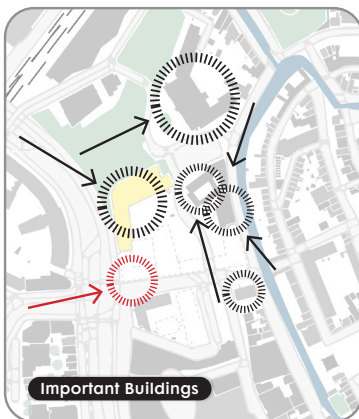
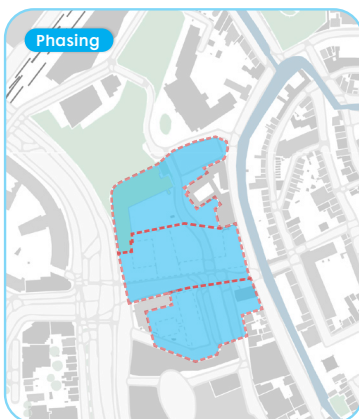
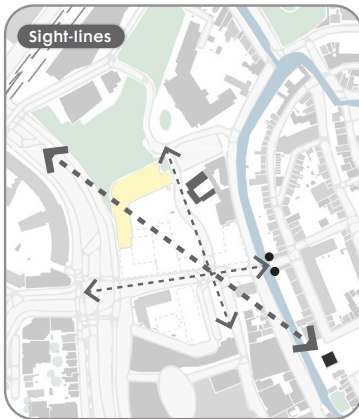
On the site, taller buildings are conceivable along the outer ring (Stadsring side), aligning with surrounding developments, with a maximum height of 16 meters. Only in specific locations is there room for a functional height accent (e.g., for a theater tower), which should be designed analogously to the area's characteristics, taking on a tower-like form and set back from the facades. This height accent could mark the entrance to Molenstraat.

Differentiation and Verticality / Unity in Diversity

The new buildings should align with the architectural characteristics of the historic center, featuring sufficient differentiation through a combination of distinct, recognizable volumes with subtle variations in height, structure, and design. The historic city is defined by verticality in its architecture and large, unbroken horizontal structures with closed facades do not fit the area's qualities, failing to create the desired attractive and dynamic environment.

Permeability, Public Space, Mobility, and Greenery

The design and layout of public spaces and their connection to the existing structure of the historic city are essential to create an attractive new urban environment. The goal is to establish a permeable area with inviting pedestrian routes and public gathering spaces. Adequate space must be allocated for these elements within the program, while also carefully addressing traffic flows (balancing car access with the aim of a pedestrian-friendly city center), loading and unloading, and other logistical considerations.



Additional Urban Planning Goals and Frameworks

Vibrancy and Experience: The overall structure, mix of functions, urban spaces, and architectural expression will significantly influence the area's vibrancy and atmosphere. Active ground-floor functions should be prioritized.

- **Capacity of the Site:** The spatial goals and frameworks provide insights into the site's potential. Within these guidelines, it is possible to explore how functions and their interrelationships can be successfully integrated.
- **Silhouette and Roofscape:** The new roofscape offers significant potential to enrich the city's skyline, aligning with the more intricate roofscape of the historic center.
- **Preservation and Enhancement of Key Sight-lines:** Important sight-lines to historic landmarks such as the Onze Lieve Vrouwetoren, Muurhuizen, and the Observantenklooster should be maintained or enhanced. The visual and experiential connection with the old Doelenterrein (now a parking area at Achter Davidshof) is also a key quality. A green intervention at this location could greatly enhance its character. Large-scale development here is undesirable, with only small-scale additions along the Singelring considered appropriate within the established values.
- **Improving the Entrance to the Historic Center (Molenstraat):** A compelling and attractive entrance should be established, clearly marking the transition into the historic center, even without existing historic buildings. This could be achieved through a fine-grained structure, active ground-floor uses, and high-quality design.
- **Enhancing Hellestraat:** Especially at the square-like space at Hellestraat/Torenstraat, the current layout lacks clarity and has minimal public quality, requiring improvements to create a more inviting and well-defined public space.

Creative City - Cultural Quarter

Amersfoort is exploring its potential as a creative city, establishing a cultural network where institutions complement and influence one another. This new positioning includes venues and initiatives dedicated to arts and cultural education.

Promoting the creative city ensures a dynamic and vibrant urban development while generating innovative solutions. Significant opportunities lie in key areas such as Binnenstad, Langs Eem en Spoor and the station district. The core vision is to establish a cultural boulevard stretching from the city center to Kop van Isselt. The ambition is to integrate this area into the city center as a 'chamber en suite,' creating a vibrant district where living, working, and cultural amenities coexist.

Theater Flint, Theater De Lieve Vrouw, Poppodium FLUOR, and KOSMIK face pressing housing challenges, creating an opportunity to redefine Amersfoort's cultural landscape. As a growing city with an increasingly vibrant center, Amersfoort is poised to expand its cultural infrastructure, not only enriching the arts but also driving social and economic development. Purpose-built venues will foster creative crossovers, enhancing opportunities for amateur arts, cultural education, and collaboration. This strategy will amplify contemporary culture, foster artistic innovation and deepen public engagement.

Program of Requirements – Space Needs

The transformation of Stadhuisplein into a cultural hub requires careful spatial planning to integrate new and existing functions within the urban fabric. As a key gateway to the historic city, the development must enhance the pedestrian experience while respecting the scale of the surrounding architecture.

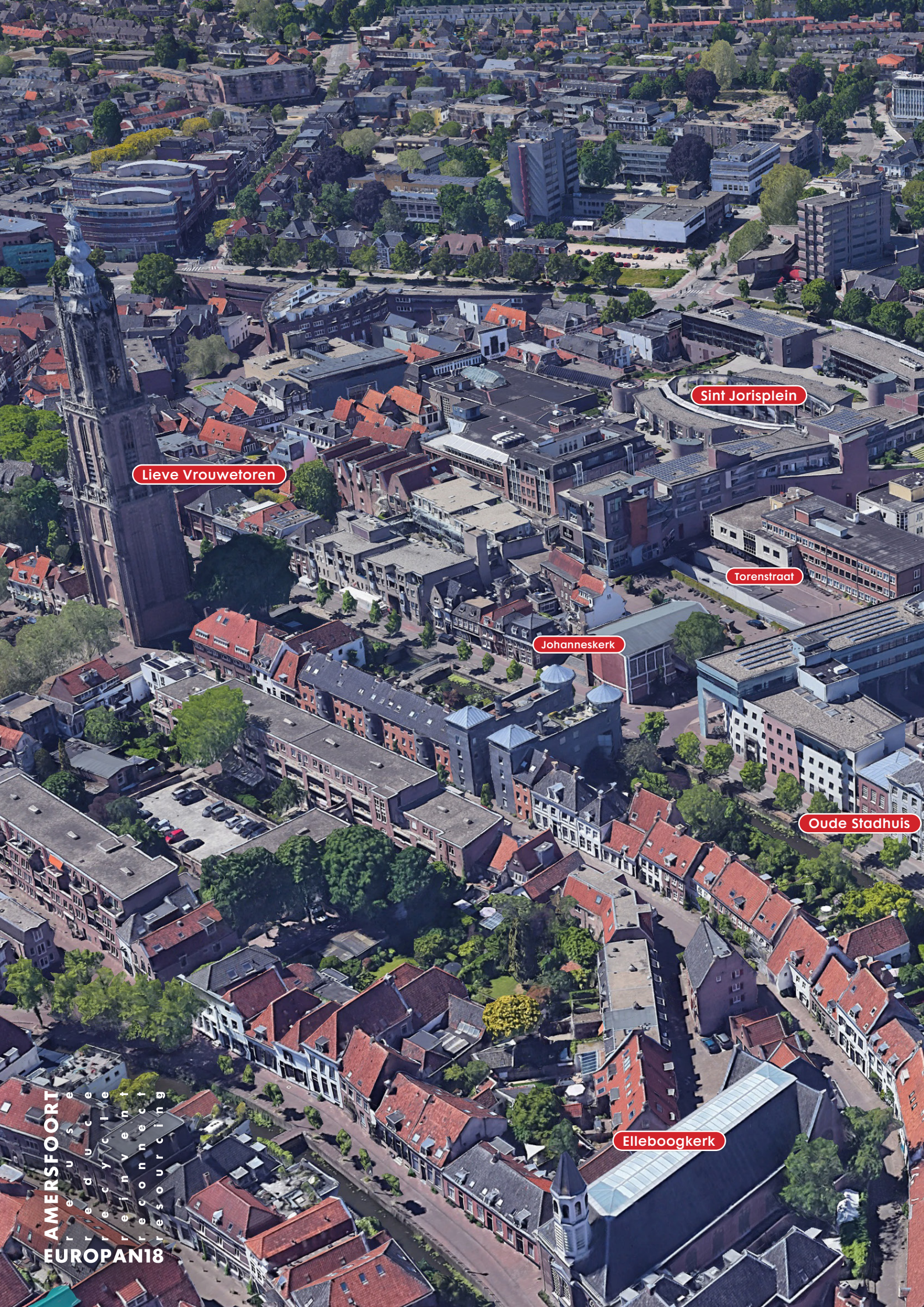
Core Requirements

- Theater + Film House: Approximately 18,500m² GFA, including performance spaces, rehearsal rooms, and visitor amenities.
- Parking: Dedicated parking for up to 50 vehicles to support theater operations.
- Adaptive Reuse: Temporary cultural programming in the Stadhuis (existing brown brick building), gradually transitioning into a permanent cultural function such as studios, exhibition spaces, creative incubators, and pop-up venues.

Key Spatial Considerations

- Cultural Heritage: The site is part of a protected cityscape with several listed monuments. Design interventions must maintain sight lines to key landmarks, particularly the Onze Lieve Vrouwetoren.
- Urban Integration: Large building masses must be thoughtfully integrated to avoid creating leftover/negative public spaces. The design should reflect the intimate scale of the historic centre while accommodating modern functions.
- Logistics and Traffic Flow: Theater logistics must allow for truck access without obstructing public spaces. Hellestraat should not serve as a through-traffic route. Entry to the shopping parking can be reorganized.
- Parking Strategy: Visitor parking should be distributed across nearby garages (RCE, Van Asch van Wijck, Stadsring, Q-Park) to minimize local congestion.

The development of Stadhuisplein presents an opportunity to reinforce Amersfoort's identity as a cultural city by blending history with contemporary creative expression. A well-balanced urban strategy will ensure the area remains a dynamic and inviting destination for residents and visitors alike.



Lieve Vrouwetoren

Sint Jorisplein

Torenstraat

Johanneskerk

Oude Stadhuis

Elleboogkerk

AMERSFOORT
reducing
recycling
reconnecting
resourcing
EUROPAN18



Station

Stadsring

Stadhuis

Stadhuisplein

Observant

St. Pieters en Bloklandsgasthuis

Stadhuisplein

Rebuild Culture

AMERSFOORT
re-use
recycle
reinvent
reconnect
resource

Location: Stadhuisplein, Amersfoort

Population: 160,000 / 285,000 inhabitants

Strategic Site: 3.56 hectares

Project Site: 1.90 hectares

Scale: L/L

Owner(s) of the Site: Public and private ownership





Stadhuisplein

Rebuild Culture



Aerial View of Stadshuisplein



View from across the Molenstraat



View from Stadshuisplein parking area



Aerial View of Stadshuisplein



Inner courtyard view of the Stadshuisplein



View of the Stadshuisplein from the



View at the junction of Molenstraat and Westsingel



Stadsring



View of the Westsingel street

Competition Assignment

The Stadhuisplein area in Amersfoort is a historically layered urban site that reflects the city's evolution from a medieval settlement to a modern municipality. The location is part of the protected cityscape of Amersfoort's historic core, emphasizing its high cultural and architectural value.

The challenge is to rebuild a dynamic cultural quarter integrating cultural podiums while respecting and using the quality of its historical character and scale, that amplify the city's social and cultural vibrancy. The area lies in the historic city center at the border of the significant redevelopment zones along the River Eem, presenting the challenge of crafting a cultural urban district with a pedestrian friendly design that acts as a transformative link uniting these areas into a cohesive and harmonious urban experience.

Follow-up process

The Municipality of Amersfoort is dedicated to establishing the new cultural district as a crucial element of the broader urban development plan. Building on the proposed phasing concepts, the Municipality seeks to collaborate with stakeholders to implement innovative ideas generated through this competition. Furthermore, the Municipality is open to conduct feasibility studies to explore long-time opportunities for the Stadhuis (brown brick building), whether through a partial study of as part of the comprehensive and integrated development strategy.

1**Cultural District**

The area requires a rethinking of the connection from the Varkensmarkt to the Eem and from the Stadsring to the Westsingel (Molenstraat). The primary focus is cultural performance, approached from a broad perspective and encompassing various scales, theater, film, music, including education and performance in theater. The cultural program, featuring large blind boxes, along with the current logistical problems, forms the primary challenge in an area rich with significant historical values.

The area struggles to reconcile Amersfoort's historic core with its modern urban use and fabric. The site retains historical remnants includes key complexes such as the Zoicherplantsoen, Observantenklooster, Johanneskerk, and Sint Pietersgasthuis.

The urban design proposal is to balance public space and new buildings with historical preservation while addressing logistical challenges. The plan must envision Stadhuisplein as a new cultural district that integrates historical and modern functionality, ensuring that new programs enhance (green) public spaces and foster inclusive urban life.

2**Step by step development / Phasing**

Part of the challenge is an organic development, step-by-step phasing. Propose a phased development strategy that addresses current temporary uses, optimizes land utilization, and seamlessly integrates future growth while enhancing connectivity. During the long-time development the several parts of the City Hall can be an engine for place-making, and the beginning of the cultural district during the restructuring of the area. Important in this part the assignment is a prospect /script for the development for at least 7 years which preserve the value of the City Hall (as it probably will be redeveloped instead of demolished). The three main sections in the area each playing a pivotal role.

- The building along Torenstraat (Hellestraat 24) is earmarked for demolition, the space between Sint-Joriskerk and Torenstraat, currently occupied by parking and logistics for the Sint Jorisplein shopping centre, requires redesigning or integration into the overall plan.
- The Molenstraat street profile can be optimized to a single-lane road, while the long building along Molenstraat, including the bridge and annex of the "Stadhuis" building, will remain in use for 2 years before demolition. The original "Stadhuis" (brown brick building) will be preserved for 5-7 years, with temporary use planned for the next 4-5 years, although its long-term future remains undecided.
- The Achter Davidshof, situated between the City Hall and train tracks, serves as a vital transitional zone, playing a key role in urban development along the Eem and enhancing connectivity and spatial quality.

3**Urban Historical scale for Cultural Synergy**

Define an ensemble of buildings and spaces promoting openness, transparency, street life and entertainment. The envisioned cultural district will be a central destination, combining functions for theater and a large music venue, film and exhibitions to attract diverse audiences. While accommodating evolving cultural needs, providing scalable options for event programming and audience engagement. The program features a centralized cluster, including at least a large multifunctional theater and film screening rooms, creating a cohesive and versatile cultural venue. Support spaces encompass production facilities, rehearsal studios, and artist workspaces, fostering an environment that enhances creative synergy

Stadhuisplein

Rebuild Culture

INFORMATION

Relevant documents

Facts and Rules

The jury

Organization

Relevant documents

Most of the documents provided here under are in Dutch language, please do use on-line translation services to help you understand the content. We excuse any inconvenience caused. *** We strongly recommend reviewing the listed documents for a thorough understanding of the competition site, its historical development, conceptual evolution, and ambitions. Please note that some ideas and decisions across various documents may conflict or have been superseded.

Ontwikkeling omgeving Stadhuis en Hellestraat.pdf (2024)

Historical and cultural analysis of the Stadhuis and Hellestraat area, focusing on urban and architectural transformations through different periods.

STADHUISGEBIED: Samenvatting Cultuurhistorische en Ruimtelijke Aspecten.pdf (2024)

Summary of historical and spatial values, emphasizing integration of new developments with cultural heritage considerations.

Situatietekening Stadhuis AO.pdf (2024)

Appendices providing a deeper explanation of the historical and spatial frameworks applicable to the Stadhuis area.

Bijlage Stadhuisgebied Toelichting Ruimtelijke en Historische Waarden.pdf (2024)

Historical and cultural analysis of the Stadhuis and Hellestraat area, focusing on urban and architectural transformations through different periods.

Biografie Stadhuiskwartier: Contrei Rapport .pdf (2024)

In-depth historical and urban biography of the Stadhuiskwartier, exploring the area's development phases and cultural significance.

Cultuurhistorisch Onderzoek Stadhuis Amersfoort .pdf (2017)

Cultural-historical research into the Stadhuis complex, analysing its architectural evolution and proposing future recommendations.

Facts and Rules

Facts

Site representative / Actor(s) involved

Municipality of Amersfoort

Team representative / Lead member

Architect and/or urban designer

Expected skills

With regards to the site's issues and characteristics we are looking for design proposals which mainly requires good Architectural and Urban Design skills. In addition it might be useful to also have Public space / Landscape Design skill with in the team.

Rules

Participate / Register

For registration and other information please visit
<https://www.europan-europe.eu>

Competition Rules

For more complete competition rules and other information regarding Europan18 session please visit: <https://www.europan-europe.eu>

Evaluation

Jury

All jury sessions are conducted by our professional jury, comprising 7 to 9 members. Site representatives may attend these sessions but only as observers.

Award

The ranked selection includes a Winner, awarded €12,000; a Runner-up, awarded €6,000; and a Special Mention, which does not carry a financial reward.

Post-competition

Intermediate procedure

A meeting will be held to introduce the rewarded teams to the site representatives. This may be followed by an on-site workshop involving the winning team(s), runner(s)-up, and special mention(s).

Commission given to the selected team(s) for the implementation

The selected team(s) may be commissioned by the municipality and/or private partners for a follow-up design or research-by-design assignment aimed at implementation. This assignment will take place at the project site or a location with similar characteristics.

Communication

Anonymous publication online after the 2st jury round
Publication in book and potential exhibition after the competition

The jury

The Jury

The E18 Session will feature a professional jury comprising 9 main members, supported by 2 substitutes, making a total of 9 to 11 participants. The jury process is divided into three parts: Technical Committee Analysis (Pre-Jury review), First Jury Session (20% of received projects, Shortlisting entries) and the last Second Jury Session (Final Selecting of winners).

Kristiaan Borret (BE)

Bouwmeester Maitre Architecte (BMA) at Brussels Capital Region (<https://bma.brussels>)

Jeroen de Willigen (NL)

Urbanist and partner / De Zwarte Hond, Chairman BNA, Supervisor Amsterdam Amstel, Healthy Ageing Campus. (<https://dezwartehond.nl>)

Eric van der Kooij (NL)

Chairman BNSP, Concept development at BPD Amsterdam (<https://www.linkedin.com/in/eric-van-der-kooij-a18469ab/>)

Oana Rades (NL)

Architect / Partner at Shift architecture urbanism (<https://www.shift-au.com>)

Wouter Veldhuis (NL)

Urban planner / State advisor for the physical living environment, Director MUST Ambassador, Platform Space for Walking (<https://www.must.nl>)

Cécilia Gross (NL)

Architect Partner / Director at VenhoevenCS architecture+urbanism (<http://www.venhoevencs.nl>)

Nathalie van Hoeven (NL)

Concept development at Eigen Haard (<https://www.eigenhaard.nl>)

Rob Meurders (NL)

Architect / Partner at Diederendirrix architects, Chairman Advisory Committee on Environmental Quality Eindhoven (<https://www.diederendirrix.nl>)

Tom Avermaete (CH)

Professor for the History and Theory of Urban Design at ETH Zurich (<https://www.nsl.ethz.ch/en/professur/prof-dr-tom-avermaete>)

Oliver Thill (NL) *Substitute Jury

Owner of Atelier Kempe Thill architects and planners (<https://www.atelierkempethill.com>)

Cristina Gamboa (ESP) *Substitute Jury

Cristina is co-founder at Lacol (<https://www.lacol.coop>)

Technical committee

The technical committee is tasked to advise the jury on the contextual sensitivity and the feasibility of the competition proposals. The technical committee checks the completeness of the entries while categorizing the entries to reflect the ambition of competition location. The goal is to help the Jury members dive deep into the content as quickly as possible.

The technical committee is composed of: two European NL board members; two launching partner representatives; a private partner representative for each committed party; one site specific stakeholder representative per site; both jury substitutes (unless tasked to act as an active jury member).

Organization

Project coordination

Madir Shah

Director, Secretariat European NL / E18 Project leader

Arno Goossens

Senior Strategic Advisor Spatial Development at the Municipality of Amersfoort

Maricke Hiddink

Architect - Advisor Spatial Development at the Municipality of Amersfoort

Agnes Galama

Spatial Development Strategist at the Municipality of Amersfoort

Pre-competition working group

Flint, Amersfoort (NL)

Agnes Galama, Esther van Son-Kock

Amicitia, Amersfoort (NL)

Agnes Galama, Esther van Son-Kock

Scheltus Flat, Amersfoort (NL)

Agnes Galama, Esther van Son-Kock

Stadhuisplein, Amersfoort (NL)

Maricke Hiddink, Esther van Son-Kock

Kop van Isselt, Amersfoort (NL)

Maricke Hiddink, Dirk Hölzer

Koppelbrug, Amersfoort (NL)

Maricke Hiddink, Dirk Hölzer

European NL

André Kempe (Board member)

Architect / Urban Designer / Co-founder / Director at Atelier Kempe Thill

Jonathan Woodroffe (Board member)

Architect / Urban Designer / Co-founder / Director at Studio Woodroffepapa

Sabine Lebesque (Board member)

Architectural Historian Land and Development, Municipality of Amsterdam

Anouk de Wit (Board member)

Program manager Spatial Quality, Municipality Amsterdam

Arnoud Gelauff (Board member)

Architect / Co-founder / Arons en Gelauff architecten

Madir Shah (Director)

Architect / Urban Designer / Co-founder / Director at URBANOFFICE Architects

Isha Joshi

Architect / Urban Designer / Team European NL

Dear European competitors,

In line with the **RESOURCING** theme, European Netherlands and the Municipality of Amersfoort are pleased to present **SIX STRATEGIC LOCATIONS** for European 18. We warmly invite you to explore these sites in detail, as each location offers unique opportunities and challenges to help shape Amersfoort's future in sustainable, innovative, and community-driven ways.



Flint Reinvent The Theater

How can we, reinvent the program for inward-facing theater building Flint into a inclusive multi-functional hub that fosters creativity, connection to the neighbourhood and urban vitality for all, a new urban destination for Amersfoort?

Register @ www.euopan.nl



Amicitia Restore The Fabric

How can we, restore the underutilized Amicitia location into an iconic gateway to Amersfoort's historic centre seamlessly blending housing, commercial, semi-cultural and green spaces to revitalize the urban fabric?

Register @ www.euopan.nl



Otto Scheltus Reconnect City

How can we, reconnect Otto Scheltusflat as an urban hotspot bridging the central station and historic centre, creating innovative residential typologies and dynamic public spaces to create an inclusive new city landmark?

Register @ www.euopan.nl



Stadhuisplein Rebuild Culture

How can we, rebuild Stadhuisplein into a dynamic Cultural Quarter which integrate performance venues, honours heritage and create a pedestrian-friendly design, bridging the historic core and river-front redevelopments into one harmonious urban experience?

Register @ www.euopan.nl



Kop van Isselt Reintegrate Old

How can we, re-purpose Kop van Isselt's industrial heritage buildings into a vibrant mixed-use identity establishing new homes, creative industries, and lively green public spaces to foster a dynamic, sustainable urban ecosystem for Kop van Isselt?

Register @ www.euopan.nl



Koppelbrug Rethink Health

How can we, rethink Koppelbrug as a mix-use building complex combining indoor/outdoor sports, housing, and parking so it becomes a landmark for health, community well-being, and inclusive urban living along the River Eem?

Register @ www.euopan.nl



Amersfoort

R e s o u r c i n g



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AMERSFOORT
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re s o u r c i n g
EUROPAN18

AMERSFOORT is thriving and embracing significant growth. Over the next decade, the city is dedicated to improving the quality, energy efficiency, and sustainability of its existing built environment, with a strong focus on prioritizing the needs and well-being of its residents.

In line with these ambitions, European Netherlands and the Municipality of Amersfoort are proud to present **SIX LOCATIONS** for European 18. These locations are strategically significant for the municipality and aligns closely with this session's theme of **RESOURCING**, highlighting Amersfoort's search for innovative approaches to urban transformation.