



# INTEGRATED URBAN RENEWAL

in Copenhagen, 2012

# COLOPHON

## **District development in Copenhagen**

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# DEVELOPMENT OF THE CITY

## Development of the city

Europe's largest climbing wall in the attractively landscaped Banana Park in Mimersgade district, the architecturally striking community centre in Jemtelandsgade in Holmbladsgade district, and the coming Music Square in Øresundsvej district are all initiatives started as part of previous integrated urban renewal projects in Copenhagen. Lifting and renewing the city concerns much more than the physical amenities, however. Integrated urban renewal is an initiative that focuses on specially selected, well-defined districts which face a broad spectrum of challenges. The purpose of integrated urban renewal is to promote a new, positive development in the districts – encompassing physical, social, cultural and environmental aspects.

## Resident's decisions

What is special about integrated urban renewal is that the wishes and efforts of the residents themselves determine

the course of the project. Local resources become actively involved in all phases of the development efforts. As a result, feelings of commitment and ownership towards the district among residents and users are strengthened. Strong feelings of ownership help ensure that the initiatives taken live on

*The problems and solutions to be focused on will be decided in dialogue with local residents, associations, institutions, businesses, etc.*

after the project period has elapsed.

## District lift, area renewal or partnership project?

Up until 2010, unified urban renewal efforts in Copenhagen have had various names: district renewal, partnership projects but today, such efforts are known as integrated urban renewal. It is the ambition of the City of Copenhagen to initiate one or two new integrated urban renewals each year.

## The projects

Integrated urban renewal initiates positive development. The areas chosen for integrated urban renewal are therefore districts which already possess considerable potentials and qualities. The areas are also characterised by a high proportion of small, outdated flats with lacking installations, relatively poor and run-down amenities (open spaces, institutions, etc.), integration problems and a large number of residents outside the labour market.

Physical and social planning are therefore important elements of integrated urban renewal efforts. It is especially the physical results in the district which are visible to residents and the public at large. The physical projects are also those which attract most attention from residents when work groups are appointed and citizen dialogues held. With regard to social initiatives, integrated urban renewal focuses on building networks in order to get the district to function better. Almost all activities have a sub-objective of strengthening the district's civil network. Activities directed at social challenges are performed in close cooperation with other social and housing projects in the area.

## Funding

Basically, integrated urban renewal is a publicly financed initiative in which the state pays 1/3 and Copenhagen Municipality 2/3 of the total cost. Part of the preliminary work involved in area renewal consists of drawing up an investment statement covering the possibilities for both private and public investment. Integrated urban renewal is thus characterised by a joint funding model in which contributions are received from the state, municipality, private foundations, private property owners, companies and associations.

## The integrated urban renewal process in rough outline

Integrated urban renewal consists of three different phases. The first phase is the start-up phase in which the first citizen involvement activities take place and work groups are appointed. The work groups then draw up a district plan in cooperation with the municipal departments. The district plan is the programme on which area renewal will be based during the project period. It contains a description of the area's potentials and challenges and suggests specific projects and more general visions for area renewal. The district plan is then discussed and approved within the political system.

# COPENHAGEN MAP



The second phase is the implementation phase in which the ideas for the many projects are qualified, planned in detail and implemented wherever possible.

The final, anchoring phase is used to determine the future of the various activities and physical projects which have been implemented. Anchoring is a question of physically ensuring that the implemented projects are maintained and that the implemented activities and initiatives are able to continue. Anchoring is also a question of collating the experiences gained and of communicating the methods developed in connection with the area renewal.

## Facts about area renewal

- + Aims to initiate positive development of the chosen areas
- + Has a well-defined geographic boundary
- + Is unified and all-embracing
- + Takes its starting point in the policies and strategies of the City of Copenhagen
- + Is based on citizen participation and local involvement
- + Is limited to a six-year period
- + Is generally financed by public funds but is co-financed by foundations, residents and businesses
- + Consists of three phases: district plan phase, implementation phase and anchoring phase

## Ongoing projects, 2011

### Area renewal projects:

- + Sjællandsgade – commenced 2006, completion 2011
- + Spydspidsen – commenced 2006, completion 2011
- + Haraldsgade district – commenced 2007, completion 2012
- + Sundholm district – commenced 2008, completion 2014
- + Gl. Valby – commenced 2009, completion 2015
- + Husum – commenced 2009, completion 2015
- + Skt. Kjelds district – commenced 2010, completion 2016
- + Central Vesterbro – commenced 2011, completion 2017

### Selection of new areas for renewal

#### Why is it important to continue with integrated urban renewal?

The City of Copenhagen views integrated urban renewal as an important initiative of great importance to citizens and the city as a whole. Over recent years, Copenhagen has enjoyed positive growth, which has transformed the city physically, socially and economically. Such positive developments have changed many of the city's needs and disadvantaged areas now require a different kind of attention and effort than the first district-based area renewals performed by the City of Copenhagen. In step with such changing needs, the framework of district-based initiatives has also changed. As previous integrated urban renewals had much greater financial scope than is the case today, the conditions under which integrated urban renewal is performed have changed. The City of Copenhagen therefore works strategically with area renewal as a means of ensuring that disadvantaged areas of the city can develop and utilise the resources they contain in the best possible way.

Area renewals help to relieve unfavourable development trends and prevent potential downwardly spiralling develop-

ment patterns in run down and socially underprivileged areas of the city. The effort is unified and is both a long-term and broad-pallet initiative intended to help improve the quality of life of residents and to create sustainable urban areas – socially, physically and culturally.

#### How does the process work?

Before an application is submitted to the Ministry of Housing, Urban and Rural Affairs, the process has been underway for almost a year. The process begins with the Technical and Environmental Department performing a screening of the city's physical and socio-economic condition. In 2010, the Technical and Environmental Administration drew up a new, web-based, socio-economic map, which now is used for this preliminary, all-embracing screening of Copenhagen. As a result the city can be screened for a greater number of parameters.

#### Socio-Economic Map of Copenhagen (SØK)

SØK is a web-based housing and socio-economic map of Copenhagen. The map contains a number of indicators which help the Technical and Environmental Administration determine which parts of the city face particular challenges

concerning housing and socio-economic parameters. Among other things, the map will be used to select new integrated urban renewal districts and to analyse individual districts so that the efforts can be planned to better target the challenges present in the area.

The indicators in the map are of both physical and social character:

#### **With respect to physical indicators, the map can identify/analyse the areas with a high proportion of:**

- + *small flats (under 60 m<sup>2</sup>)*
- + *flats which lack basic installations (toilet/bath/central heating)*
- + *residents who live in few m<sup>2</sup>*

#### **With respect to socio-economic indicators, the map identified the areas with a high proportion of:**

- + *residents outside the workforce*
- + *residents with a short educational background*

#### + **residents with low incomes**

On the basis of this screening, a number of areas are selected in which the physical and social challenges are most highly concentrated and which meet the other criteria set by the Ministry of Housing, Urban and Rural Affairs for integrated urban renewal districts (e.g. a high proportion of flats which are owner-occupied, cooperatively owned or privately let).

The Technical and Environmental Administration then performs additional analyses based on observations in the area and interviews with local interest groups. Among other things, these analyses determine how the area looks and which potentials and resources it contains. For example, are there any green spaces? Are the buildings and streets in good condition? Is there life on the streets? Do people feel safe in the area?

The areas which have greatest need for renewal are then selected after discussions involving several municipal departments. The selection is presented to the Technical and Environmental Committee, which submits the choice of areas to

the Municipal Council for approval. The Municipal Council then decides whether an application should be sent to the Ministry of Housing, Urban and Rural Affairs for funding of a new integrated urban renewal. Applications concerning new integrated urban renewals are prepared and discussed politically within the City of Copenhagen before being submitted to the Ministry of Housing, Urban and Rural Affairs.

#### What happens if the application is approved?

If the Ministry of Housing, Urban and Rural Affairs approves the application, the extensive process of involving local citizens, appointing a steering committee, hiring a project director and finding a suitable location for a secretariat begins. The Technical and Environmental Administration is responsible for the initial process.

#### Assessment

Assessment activities in the City of Copenhagen are carried out partly as ongoing process assessments, which focus on cross-functional organisation and cooperation and progress in initiatives and projects, and partly as a final assessment, which documents the results of the integrated urban re-

newal in relation to its objectives. Assessment helps ensure knowledge collection and learning during the course of the process and forms an important part of collective learning between the various district-based initiatives in the City of Copenhagen.

The City of Copenhagen wishes to accumulate knowledge on the basis of the experience gained from the results and effects of the district-based initiatives undertaken in the city, including integrated urban renewals. The Technical and Environmental Administration and Integrated Urban Renewal therefore perform a number of assessment activities, focusing on the following three general themes:

- + Process, organisation and cooperation
- + Progress in relation to the objectives set out in the district plan
- + Attraction of additional investment

# TABLE

## of flats and residents in area renewal districts of Copenhagen

Housing and residents	Small flats		Without bath/WC		Residents from non-Western countries		Residents outside the labour force	
	1 Jan. 07	1 Jan. 10	1 Jan. 07	1 Jan. 10	1 Jan. 07	1 Jan. 10	1 Jan. 07	1 Jan. 09
Sjællandsgade	36%	32%	24%	20%	13%	12%	29%	24%
Spydspidsen	26%	23%	53%	41%	3%	3%	18%	16%
Haraldsgade	38%	37%	5%	4.3%	35%	35%	29%	33%
Sundholmsvej	34%	33%	12%	10%	20%	20%	29%	28%
Husum	38%	34%	6%	5.5%	20%	21%	33%	34%
Gl. Valby	27%	27%	14%	11%	19%	18%	24%	24%
Skt. Kjelds	31%	31%	12%	12%	10%	10%	21%	24%
Copenhagen	31%	31%	12%	12%	15%	14%	24%	27%



# SJÆLLANDSGADE

## **Project period**

2006-2011

## **Funding**

DKK 23.9 million for integrated urban renewal. In addition, DKK 4.7 million from the Danish Foundation for Culture and Sports Facilities.

## **Examples of major focus areas**

Establishment of a new play area which, by providing the urban space with a wide range of opportunities for play and activity, will be attractive for the neighbourhood's various children's and parents' groups. The area is divided into three play areas: an area for supervised games and areas for horizontal and vertical games respectively. Besides the play areas, the project also encompasses the ground floor of the youth centre as a base for passing the time of day, for having meetings

and parties, and for local associations.

## **Local projects and implemented initiatives**

Area between Guldberg School and Simeons Church. The overall vision for the area is to create an attractive, recreational area which blends with the school, the church and other surrounding buildings. An additional objective is for the area's residents, associations and institutions (church, school, baths, etc.) to be able to use the area as a new urban room for playing, exercising and sitting, and for social and cultural activities.

## **Steering committee**

Besides representatives of the City of Copenhagen, the steering committee consists of representatives of the area's interested parties, residents, institutions and associations.

## **Observers**

SBS Rådgivning a/s managed the project on behalf of the Technical and Environmental Administration of the City of Copenhagen.

## **Project manager**

Kurt Christensen, SBS Rådgivning a/s

## **Website:**

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Guldberg School in  
Sjællandsgade

# INITIATIVES

*The overall improvement of Guldberg School is intended to result in parents choosing the school for their children rather than rejecting it. The project will also ensure that the school and its surroundings become attractive enough for parents and children to use the area for everyday leisure activities.*

New life in the area surrounding Guldberg School (previously Sjællandsgade School)

Leisure activities within sport, motion and play which not only appeal to all ages of children but also to adults. Implementation will be started in 2010 and completed in 2011.

### Why?

The project's objective is to use a number of specific physical improvements of the conditions around Guldberg School to give the neighbourhood a general lift. By strengthening the school and its associated cultural institutions, a setting has been established for a strong cultural focal point in the neighbourhood and for the entire school district.

Local cultural institutions, the school and local associations help catalyse positive development of the neighbourhood surrounding the school itself and the local institutions connected to Guldberg School - the school in Sjællandsgade. The area surrounding the school, the youth centre called Univer-set and the square in front of Simeon Church comprise one continuous urban space. A central precondition for whether the area renewal project leads to positive development of the area is that it is anchored in the local community and steered by local residents. It is important that the project creates a broad feeling of ownership between property owners, residents and users of the area.

### How?

Two working groups consisting of residents and others from the local community have in cooperation with the City of Copenhagen and its consultants drawn up an overall plan for the entire area surrounding the school and for safe access routes to the school. The vision for the area is to create a coherent urban space with a variety of activities.

Correspondingly, the plan for safe access routes to the school is built on the idea of combining traffic-related initiatives with the creation of small urban spaces so as to make the routes safe for children, increase the accessibility of space and make them more attractive to the general benefit of city life in the area.

An overall theme for the area is "play, sport and activity". A new play area for vertical, horizontal and supervised games will be established in connection with the creation of the new urban space and its incorporation with the area facing the school and the school's own ground. The area for supervised games is located in the immediate vicinity of the

school buildings and is primarily intended for the youngest schoolchildren. The area for horizontal games consists of a continuous, open surface free of edges and barriers and supports activities such as ball games and cycling as well as games with chalk, skipping ropes, roller skates, etc. The area for vertical games contains playground equipment which rises above the ground.





# SPYDSPIDSEN

## **Project period**

2006-2011

## **Number of residents**

approx. 1000

## **Funding**

DKK 21.3 million for integrated urban renewal.

## **Examples of major focus areas**

Establishment of a park belt and Nørrebro cycle route between Jagtvej and Agade. The attractiveness and quality which this project has added to the area has been an important element in the design of the urban renewal plan for the district.

## **Local projects and implemented initiatives**

Noise-reducing asphalt has been laid on relevant stretches of Jagtvej and Agade, both noisy streets with heavy traffic.

## **Steering committee**

Besides representatives of the City of Copenhagen, the steering committee consists of representatives of the area's interested parties, residents, institutions and associations.

## **Observers**

SBS Rådgivning a/s managed the project on behalf of the Technical and Environmental Administration of the City of Copenhagen.

## **Project manager**

Kurt Christensen, SBS Rådgivning a/s

## **Website**

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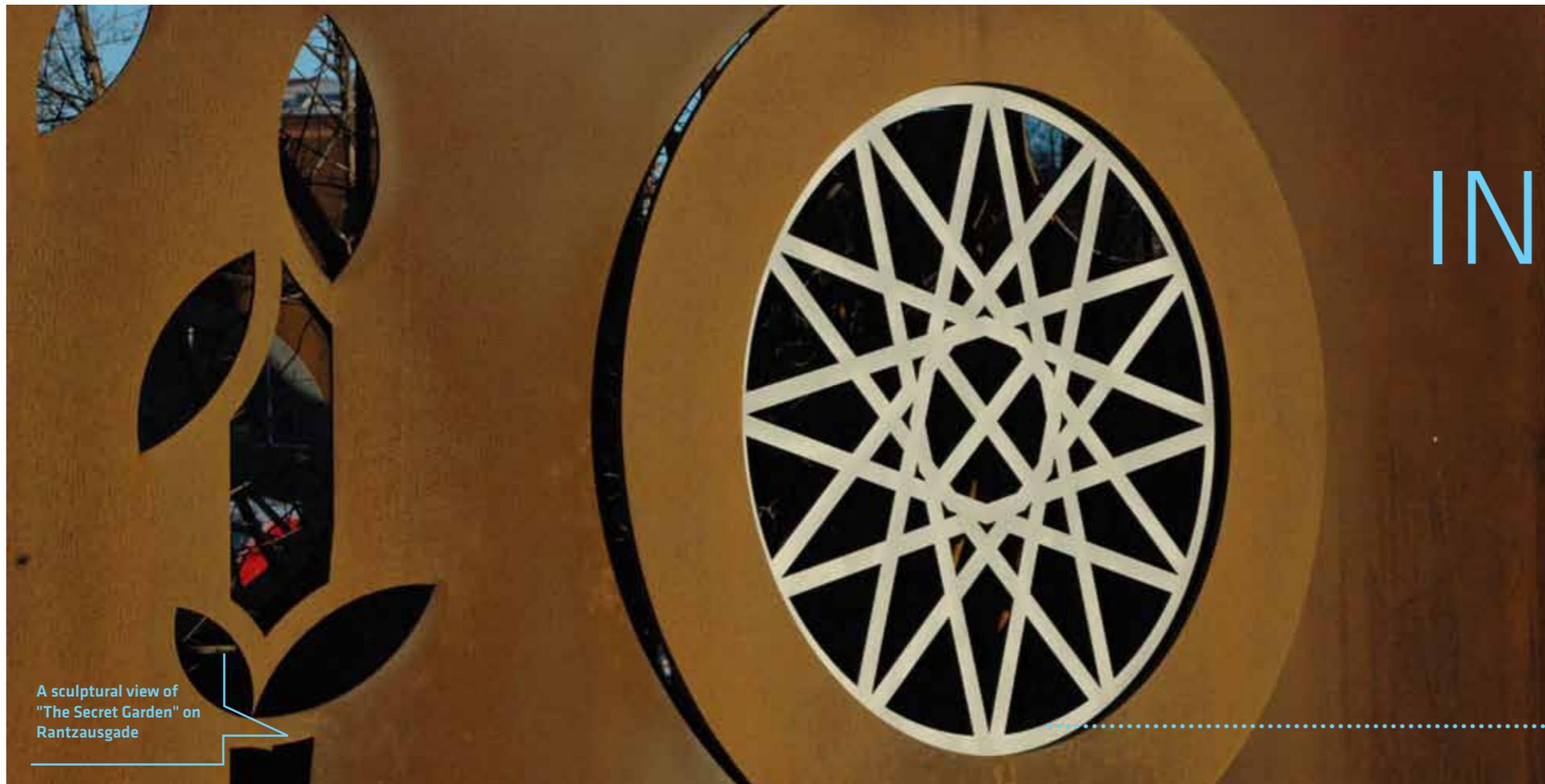
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A sculptural view of  
"The Secret Garden" on  
Rantzausgade

# INITIATIVES

*Street and urban milieus have been upgraded in the project and furnished with materials and features in a way that supplements the few open spaces the residents have around their buildings. By focusing on small urban and street milieus, the project will contribute to generating more urban life and identity for the area.*

The area is part of Nørrebro, a densely populated district of Copenhagen. The flats in the area are small and the newly renovated courtyards are small and insufficient to meet the needs of residents – and families with children in particular – for open spaces close to their homes.

#### Why?

The streets in the neighbourhood are run down and are not generally suitable for social interaction. The closely built blocks of flats with small courtyards and the traffic of the surrounding streets give the neighbourhood a cramped impression. As the area is largely a residential neighbourhood, the streets are usually filled with parked cars when people are at home, preventing them from being used for other purposes. The main streets surrounding the area – Ågade and Jagtvej – plague the neighbourhood with noise and pollution, as they are characterised by heavy traffic.

With respect to building renewal, the overall objective of the strategy is to improve the many flats which lack private toilets and to minimise noise impacts from Ågade and Jagtvej in particular. The projects concerning urban spaces were

implemented in 2010 – as were most of the urban renewal projects.

#### How?

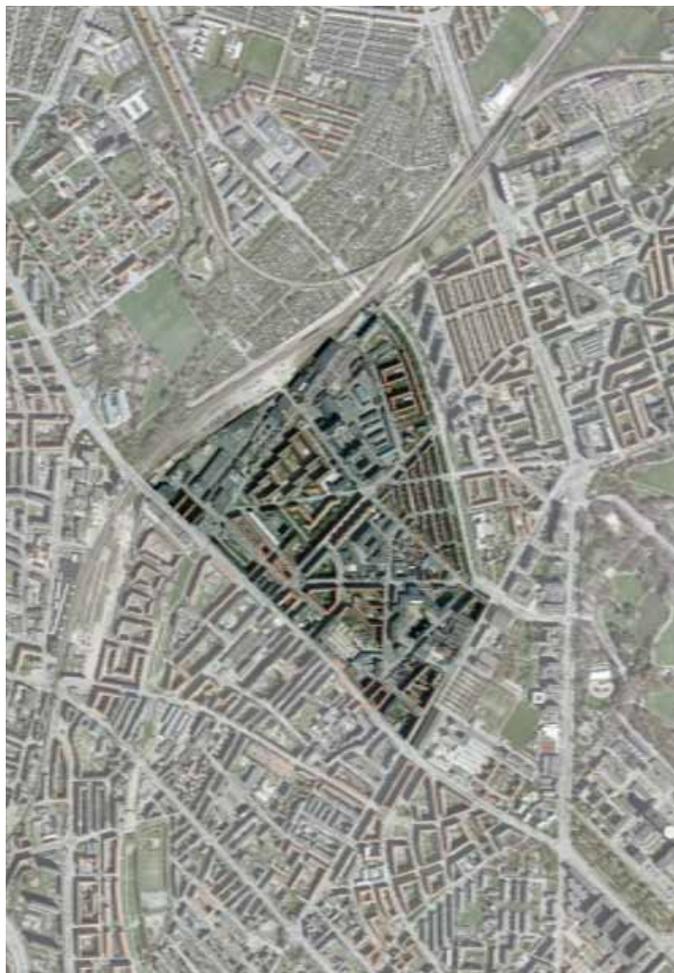
As the neighbourhood was greatly affected by traffic noise from Jagtvej and Ågade, the project ensured that noise-reducing asphalt was laid on relevant stretches of these roads. In particular, the street corners facing the new park were given special treatment in the new plan. The three corners were physically designed in cooperation with the artist Morten Stræde, who created sculptures specifically for these sites.



The sculpture is a focal point of the square by Laurids Skaus Gade



The square facing Rantzausgade with "The Secret Garden"



# HARALDSGADE DISTRICT

## **Project period**

2007-2012

## **Number of residents**

approx. 9,300

## **Funding**

DKK 54 million for two integrated urban renewals - Haraldsgade North and South. An additional DKK 24 million has been earmarked for improvements to buildings and public spaces and DKK 17.5 million has been awarded to an experimental climate screen on Tagensvej. Finally, DKK 12 million was invested in Osram House and the area's street lighting in connection to the International Climate Conference in 2010.

## **Examples of major focus areas**

Physical planning of exciting urban spaces. Renovation and refurbishment of former industrial buildings

for citizen-related purposes. Planning and implementation of initiatives that can strengthen local cultural life and social cohesion.

## **Local projects and implemented initiatives**

The Integrated Urban Renewal project has approved 132 projects of varying size, all of which are designed to strengthen the social, cultural and physical sustainability of the area and the quality of life of its residents. Initiatives worthy of particular note include efforts in connection with the Climate Conference in 2010, where the Osram House became climate friendly, the planning of an experimental climate screen for Tagensvej and the replacement of all the area's street lighting. In addition, the district housed part of the alternative climate conference on the KTK site and contributed with an exhibition and guided tour for local citizens and visitors. Besides this, efforts over recent years have focused on children and young people, temporary urban space initiatives - including flea markets - and support for

organisations, cultural cohesion and the social commitment of local enterprises.

## **Steering committee**

Chairman: Henrik Kølster

## **Representatives**

Besides representatives of the City of Copenhagen, the steering committee consists of representatives of the area's interested parties, residents, institutions and associations.

## **Project director**

Birgitte Kortegaard

## **Website**

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# INITIATIVES

*The Haraldsgade district will become a unique part of Copenhagen where you can hear, smell and taste that something special is happening.*

## Room for change

Everyone must experience a sense of belonging, and everyone must long to develop personally and be of use. Such is the common vision of the renewal plan for the Haraldsgade district of outer Nørrebro.

The streets of the Haraldsgade district are wide, there is plenty of space and light and most of the area's housing is of more recent date and in reasonable condition. There are a number of unused roads and plots of land which are well suited to become functional and attractive green spaces and communal areas. The district has a cohesive axis from south to north with university buildings and teaching facilities to the south, a number of exciting old industrial buildings housing creative businesses in the middle and empty buildings and areas of land in conjunction with the railway lines to the

north. Together with the coming Metro and the development of the University of Copenhagen, this provides a number of exciting opportunities for urban renewal of the district. Furthermore, the positive development of the surrounding areas of Outer Nørrebro, Nørrebro Park and Mimersgade have rubbed off on the district.

#### Why?

The district was singled out for area renewal because it lacks a number of urban facilities and qualities and because it is a socially vulnerable area in which a very large proportion of the residents have a cultural background other than Danish. As the area is very isolated, a major challenge will be to create cohesion for the area, both internally and in relation to surrounding areas.

#### How?

Integrated Urban Renewal has drawn up a plan for the area in cooperation with Campus North. Four new urban spaces will be established in 2011 with space for play and activity. In addition, Integrated Urban Renewal has participated in a number of climate adaptation projects with the conversion of Valhalsgade 4 to the climate-friendly Osram House. Some 2,000 people under the age of 18 live in the district and there is therefore considerable focus on initiating and coordinating new leisure activities for these young residents. Another focus area is publicising the district's merits and promoting its reputation. Active effort is required to make residents proud of their district. By telling positive stories and carrying out projects and events that promote a feeling of community and solidarity, Area Renewal can help residents experience their district as being a safe, interesting and pleasant place to live. We do so through summer markets, health ambassadors, mentor projects and by supporting the use of Osram House as a local cultural centre.





# Sundholm district

## **Project period**

2008-2014

## **Number of residents**

approx. 11,900

## **Funding**

DKK 60 million for two integrated urban renewals - Sundholmsvej South and North. In addition, DKK 75 million for the improvement of buildings and open spaces. Efforts will also be made to secure private co-funding from foundations, etc.

## **Examples of major focus areas**

The Factory of Art and Design, an old industrial building which, after being emptied, is now used as a communal workshop and studio for more than sixty local artists.

The renovation of seven large open spaces and streets which connect the area to surrounding districts and create more city life at high levels of climate-friendliness and artistic attractiveness.

## **Examples of local projects**

Part of the effort to involve young people in the area's renewal consists of the art communication project "Tag Plads" in which young people from the area's two schools together with artists from the Factory of Art and Design continually subject the area's open spaces to an artistic overhaul.

## **Steering committee**

Chairman: Per Hanson

## **Representatives**

Besides representatives of the City of Copenhagen, the steering committee consists of representatives of the area's interested parties, residents, institutions and associations.

## **Project director**

Øystein Leonardsen

## **Website**

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Visualisation of light workshop for design students

# INITIATIVES

*A combination of state and municipal institutions, local schools, a church, unused squares, abandoned factory buildings and housing areas provide a host of opportunities for developing creative activities which promote a common identity for residents and users of all ages.*

## **A creative, sustainable area**

In its district plan, the Sundholm district steering committee has formulated a sustainable and creative vision for the integrated urban renewal project. Among other things, they write: The Sundholm district teems with life, both human and animal! In small green pockets, the sun sparkles on the water and animals and birds find shelter in the trees and bushes. New galleries and cafés have opened here and there. Following area renewal, solar cells, plants and flowers compete for space on roofs and gable ends. Instructed by local

artists, children and adults have created small masterpieces that are a treat to the eye as well as the soul. The homeless who pass the time of day in the area have built a kissing bench for the area's youngsters. In the Sundholm district, everyone considers themselves a resource for the area and everyone feels they have something to offer in relation to the area's general development.

Sundholm district's sustainability concept encompasses three dimensions: economic, environmental and social. Environmental sustainability is linked to nature, climate and human health. Social sustainability focuses on culture, education and interactions between people. Economic sustainability entails using resources sparingly, creating jobs and putting money aside for future investments.

### Why?

Sundholm is one of the oldest and most notorious work-houses in Copenhagen. In the old days, citizens who deviated from the "norm" were sent to Sundholm when there was no longer room for them in the city centre. Although in some people's eyes, Sundholm still has a somewhat shady

reputation, the area contains a wide spectrum of resources which can be utilised to transform the area into an exciting, creative and living district. Today, Sundholm consists of newly renovated buildings which serve a number of functions. There is, for example, a hostel for the homeless, activity centre, bicycle workshop, day nursery, young offenders institution and the Factory for Art and Design. In future, there will be exciting housing schemes, green belts and urban gardens.

The Sundholm district contains many blocks of flats which lack basic installations. In addition, the outsides of 29 properties are in such poor condition that parts of the buildings require replacement or major renovation.

### How?

To promote social and cultural activities in the area, the local secretariat utilises a resource atlas which maps the most important associations, institutions and volunteer groups in the district. The local secretariat also holds public meetings and workshops in order to strengthen the development of community resources (children, adults, the elderly, retailers,

businesses, institutions, sports clubs, etc.) and to get them to participate in the overall area renewal.

In cooperation with the city's urban renewal department, Area Lift provides financial support for urban renewal projects so that more residents can have their own toilet and bath and a new roof and can invest in renovation projects which reduce energy consumption and contribute to coping with future climate change, e.g. green roofs.

Fourteen blocks of public housing in the Sundholm district have drawn up a joint overall social master plan. They share offices and secretariat with Area Lift and the two organisations work together in close partnership. The partnership focuses in particular on initiatives targeting children and young people and on a common communication strategy. In addition, the partnership works on organising local events and strengthening local networks. Citizens thus experience a unified effort across organisations.





# HUSUM

## **Project period**

2009-2015

## **Number of residents**

approx. 9,300

## **Funding**

DKK 27.5 million for integrated urban renewal. There is no funding for the improvement of buildings and private open spaces.

## **Examples of major focus areas**

Physical planning of shopping area on Frederikssundsvej and renewal of public urban spaces, parks and sports facilities.

Initiatives which strengthen local citizen networks. Cooperation with citizen groups on conversion of the

disused Voldparken School to Energy Centre Voldparken for the provision of activities within sport/exercise, health, nature, culture and art. The Energy Centre will be organised as a socio-economic enterprise and will also offer employment-promoting and other activities for residents of the area.

## **Local projects**

Workshops for particular groups, including children, young people and the elderly, and representatives of local culture, institutions, businesses, etc. Learning, advisory and competence-developing activities for the area's residents in the community centre. Husum Park as a meeting place and upgrading of the park's exercise facilities.

## **Steering committee**

Chairman: Freddy Ingvorsen

## **Representatives**

Besides representatives of the City of Copenhagen, the steering committee consists of representatives of the area's interested parties, social master plan, residents, institutions and associations.

## **Project director**

Tommy Kristoffersen/Jan Salling Kristensen

## **Website**

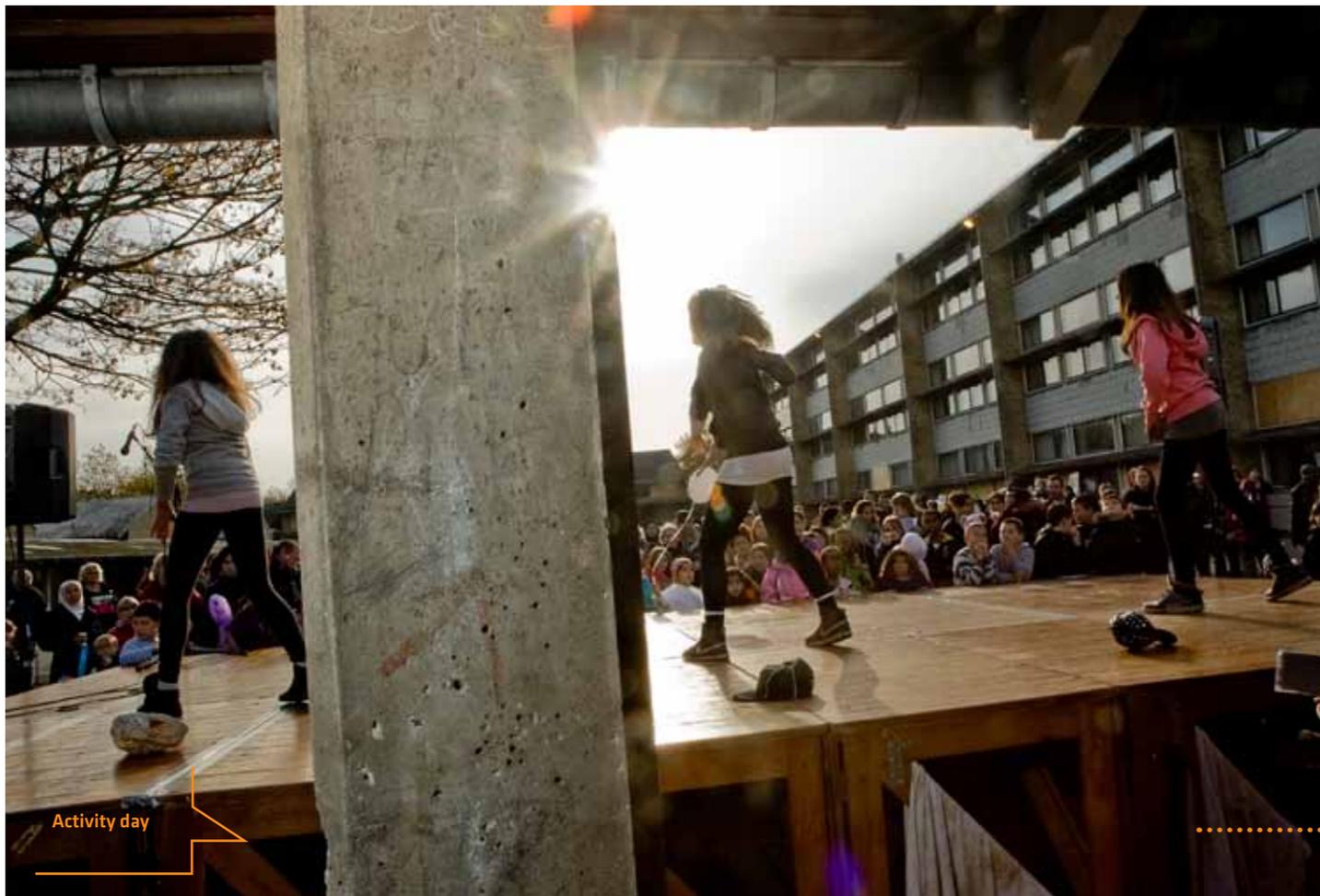
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# INITIATIVES

*Husum is a diverse area of Copenhagen where people from all levels of society – from academics to unskilled workers – live in close proximity to one of Copenhagen's green lungs.*

## **High street renewal and social initiatives**

Husum is located on the northern edge of the City of Copenhagen. The district is situated close to attractive green spaces which are ideal for cultural and recreational activities. The vision of citizens in Husum is for their district to be an area they are proud of and where they feel at home. An urban area where people gather and are happy, and where cooperation between residents and users irrespective of age, ethnicity or social background are part of the everyday lives of Husum citizens.

### Why?

A lack of areas and activities for young people has resulted in local recreational areas becoming run down. A lacking sense of safety has meant that many residents are afraid of using the area's common recreational areas, especially after darkness has fallen.

### How?

By focusing on developing a strong local identity, the objective is to create a feeling of community and of pride in living in Husum which can promote greater local ownership for the area than is presently the case. General improvement of the area's physical appearance, including street and urban furniture, and greater opportunities for motion and attractive urban spaces with more open meeting places, shall facilitate more social and cultural activities to the benefit of all the area's residents. Where an exciting process is underway with a view to developing Husum Park to a common meeting place where residents, besides ball games, also can participate in other forms of sport and exercise. Husum park has the potential to become an attractive meeting place for the entire district.

One of the main challenges is the renovation of the local high street in order to provide better shopping opportunities and to attract businesses and local residents. This will be achieved concurrently with the development of a strategy for improved bus access on Frederikssundsvej currently being drawn up by the City of Copenhagen. Future physical changes in Husum will be designed so that the urban space, to a greater extent than now, is attractive for collective social activities for residents of all ages. This will increase the possibility for social control of the urban space and prevent the possibility of anyone behaving in an inappropriate or offensive manner within it.

Integrated Urban Renewal in Husum also enjoys a fruitful partnership with other players in the overall plan for the area. Among other things, the partnership involves activities within the local area and at Energy Centre Voldparken. The objective is to strengthen social efforts in the area and stimulate leisure activities for children and young people.





# Gl. Valby

## **Project period**

2009-2015

## **Number of residents**

approx. 9,900

## **Funding**

DKK 30 million for area renewal. In addition, DKK 50 million for the improvement of buildings and open spaces.

## **Examples of major focus areas**

Physical planning of urban spaces and urban renewal.  
Initiatives that strengthen cultural life in the area.  
Initiatives that create more leisure activities for children and young people.

## **Local projects**

Open working groups within each of the three themes: physical, cultural and social renewal. A broad spectrum of cultural initiatives will draw attention to the area and create a local feeling of community. Initiatives to develop the privately owned roads in the area and to make them more attractive.

## **Steering committee**

Chairman: Ejner Jensen

## **Representatives**

Besides representatives of the City of Copenhagen, the steering committee consists of representatives of the area's interested parties, residents, institutions and associations.

## **Project director**

Thomas Geiker

## **Website**

[www.kk.dk/omraadefornyelsevalby](http://www.kk.dk/omraadefornyelsevalby)

## **Secretariat**

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Monrads Plads  
- a new square

*More recreational stretches of streets, attractive urban rooms and green oases and squares will provide a framework for the area's diverse urban life, attracting people to pass the time of day there and participate in physical activity.*

## INITIATIVES

### **Room for city life and community**

Gl. Valby will provide a sustainable base for good city life. Good physical and social relations across areas, generations and cultures will create cohesion and a framework for community.

### **The area's physical appearance**

Gl. Valby is a mix of small urban milieus with varied characteristics and building types. Small streets both divide and connect the various areas within the district, consisting of single-family houses and publicly, cooperatively and privately owned housing blocks. In addition, the district features a variety of institutions and facilities: Nordisk Film's headquarters, a fitness centre, a long shopping street, a shopping centre and a railway station with regional and local departures.

### Why?

Over recent years, central Valby has experienced improvement of its buildings, roads and squares. A new shopping centre has opened, for example, and the middle section of Valby Langgade has been made more attractive. The area has experienced a general lift with respect to everyday street life with shops, restaurants and cafés.

In contrast to the area around the shopping centre and Valby Langgade, several other areas, in particular the area around Langgade station, have not experienced similar renewal and contain many run-down housing blocks and open spaces which have no immediate attraction for activities or social interaction.

### How?

Renewal of the area's open spaces and streets offers great potential, in particular the utilisation of many of the wide pavements in the area for purposes other than their traditional use as transport routes for pedestrians and for bicycle parking.

The secretariat for the area cooperates with many local interested parties, including the local committee, on traffic plans, building renovation and general initiatives designed to make the area's most heavily trafficked roads more attractive to cyclists and less attractive to motorists.

Opportunities for a variety of activities will be created via strong, private networks and cooperation between organisations and institutions. All activities will be rooted in the permanent institutions and networks of the district so as to anchor them to the area.

Gl. Valby will become a district which buzzes with creativity and offers a myriad of opportunities for self-expression both indoors and out. The area's image and attractiveness will be strengthened so that it also becomes an appealing district for those who live elsewhere.



Citizen dialogue  
- The Activity Space



# SKT. KJELDS DISTRICT

## **Project period**

2010-2016

## **Number of residents**

approx. 23,900

## **Funding**

DKK 60 million for two integrated urban renewals - Skt. Kjelds district North and South. In addition, approx. DKK 50 million for the improvement of buildings and open spaces (funding to be applied for in January 2011).

## **Examples of major focus areas**

Activity and exercise belts which create better conditions for play, social interaction and activity in the area's many small open spaces, and which bind these together and provide better access to recreational

areas outside the area.

## **Local projects**

Cultural laboratory - an experimental framework for the development of cultural activities.  
Places for young people - identification and testing of the best places for young people.  
Project and media workshop - where local volunteers can help create projects and relate stories which support the area's development.

## **Steering committee**

Chairman: Mads Faber Henriksen

## **Representatives**

Besides representatives of the City of Copenhagen, the steering committee consists of representatives of the area's interested parties, residents, institutions and associations.

## **Project director**

Mads Uldall

## **Website**

[www.kk.dk/SktKjeldsKvarter](http://www.kk.dk/SktKjeldsKvarter)

## **Secretariat**

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Dance performance at children's festival in Kildevældsparken

# INITIATIVES

*Integrated urban renewal of the Skt. Kjelds district is intended to improve the life quality of the district's residents. Physical planning and the improvement of buildings, open spaces and roads will, together with various social initiatives, motivate residents to follow a healthy, active lifestyle. An active lifestyle which in future will be reflected in the everyday urban landscape.*

**Health and activity**  
Located in the northern part of Copenhagen in outer Østerbro, Skt. Kjelds district appears generally run down and suffers to a growing extent from social problems in various parts of the area. There is great need for comprehensive physical improvements to lead the way for additional efforts and activities designed to give the area a social lift through better possibilities for local residents to improve their quality of life.

### Why?

The area's physical infrastructure appears run down and inadequate, creating major problems for cyclists, pedestrians and runners as well as for prams, roller skates and walking frames.

The centrally located square, Skt. Kjelds Plads, is not presently attractive as a rendezvous or meeting place. At present, the square is mostly used as a thoroughfare, especially for cars and heavy traffic. Similar traffic patterns apply to many of the surrounding streets.

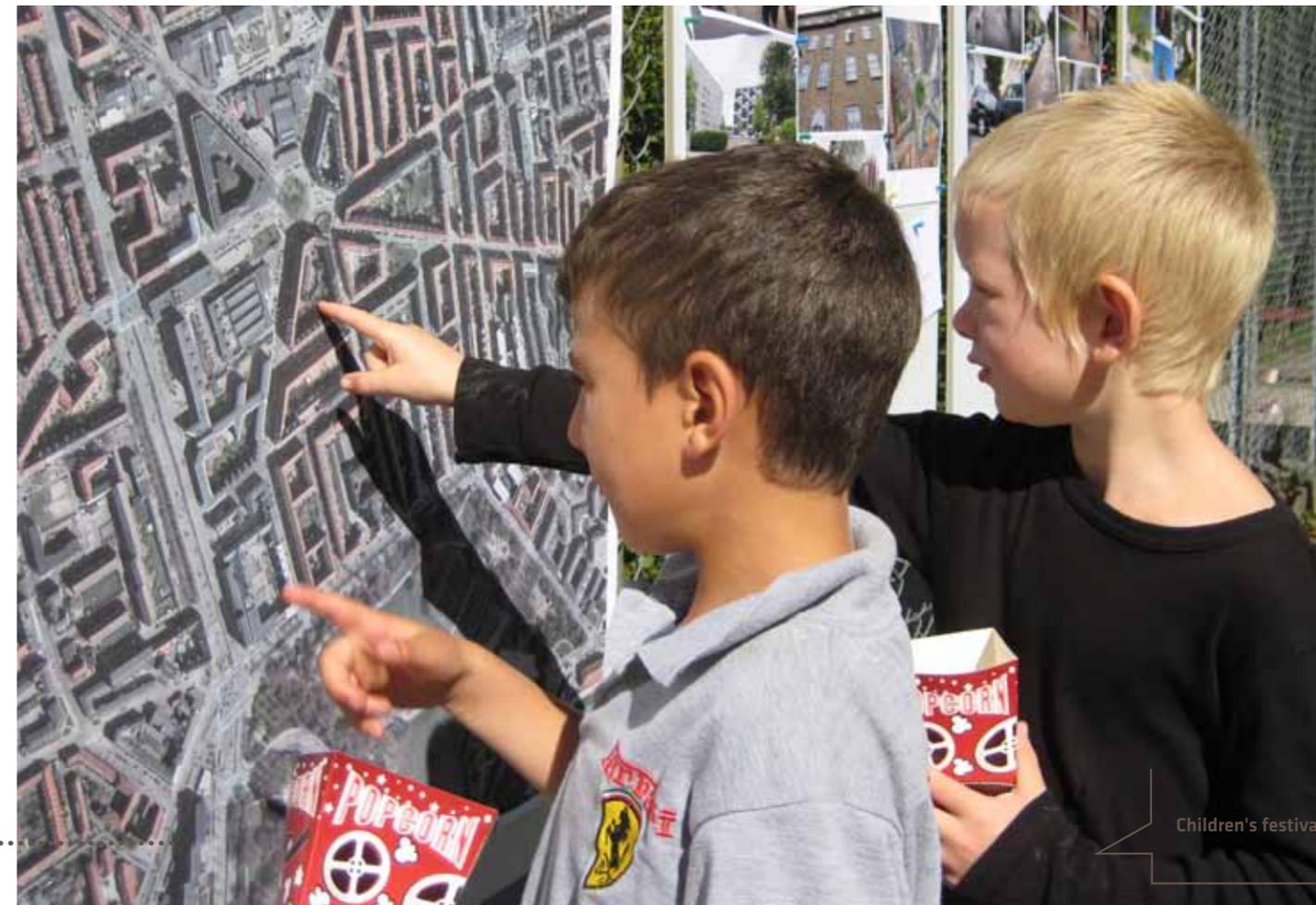
### How?

Strategies for physical and social improvements and the initiatives to be undertaken will be planned in cooperation with local residents, businesses, institutions, etc. This work will result in Skt. Kjelds Plads in particular, and the surrounding streets in general, becoming the centre of local shopping opportunities and a forum for the area's social, recreational and cultural activities.

With respect to the local traffic situation, the secretariat for the area will participate in ongoing dialogue with the City

of Copenhagen regarding the planning of future alterations to local streets in order to make them more attractive as thoroughfares and for soft road users. One of the activities already decided upon is to extend the existing Copenhagen Green Cycle Route through the district. This will ensure that the area is better linked to inner Østerbro.

Focus on activities which benefit pedestrians and cyclists will cause many car owners to leave their cars at home and to cycle, walk or use public transport instead. Determined efforts to reduce the amount of traffic will support the ambition of creating more street life, with social and cultural activities characterising the urban landscape, and of developing new urban spaces which inspire activity.



Children's festival



# CENTRAL VESTERBRO

## **Project period**

2011-2017

## **Number of residents**

approx. 17,800

## **Funding**

DKK 30 million for area renewal of Central Vesterbro East and DKK 30 million for area renewal of Central Vesterbro West. In addition, DKK 36 million for the improvement of buildings and open spaces.

## **Examples of major initiatives**

Renovation of eleven large urban spaces and byways in order to interconnect the area, create recreational urban spaces, generate more urban life and enhance the area's diversity. Litauens Plads, for example, which will be made more attractive by renovating the area's ball game pitch and by creating better access routes

to the surrounding streets and Oehlschlægersgade School. The area will stimulate more urban life and act as an attractive base for physical activities for the district's children.

## **Local projects and implemented initiatives**

Integrated urban renewal will focus in particular on the socially disadvantaged and on children and young people, who themselves will be involved in the process of designing the new urban spaces.

As part of the urban renewal process, a strategy will be developed for utilising the area's many corners.

Fence of Vesterbro: in connection with construction of the Copenhagen Metro, the fence surrounding the two building sites in central Vesterbro will be used as an urban canvas to advertise the neighbourhood renovation plans and ensure citizen involvement.

## **Steering committee**

Chairman: Thomas Egholm

## **Representatives**

Besides representatives of the City of Copenhagen, the steering committee consists of representatives of the area's interested parties, residents, institutions and associations.

## **Project director**

Jesper Langebæk

## **Website**

<http://www.kk.dk/Borger/BoligOgByggeri/ByfornyelseV-edligeholdelse/Omraadefornyelse/DetCentraleVesterbro.aspx>

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# INITIATIVES

*The area renewal project for Central Vesterbro will develop attractive and unique urban spaces which reflect the needs of the people who live there. We will promote the development of modern flats in attractive, safe housing areas which respect the diversity of their residents.*

## **Democracy and participation**

The area renewal project for Central Vesterbro will focus on local democracy and participation and will strive to support a process of urban development in which a diverse pallet of citizens and local interest groups help develop their own district. There is a need to strengthen the physical and social links in the neighbourhood so as to ensure room for diversity across the various areas, generations, social groups and cultures of Vesterbro.

### Why?

Central Vesterbro is characterised by considerable social differences and lacking social and cultural integration of the weakest groups. Central Vesterbro is also one of the areas within the City of Copenhagen with the lowest green space area per citizen. Furthermore, a large proportion of the existing green spaces are run-down and dysfunctional. The area renewal project will improve and activate corners and squares, allowing them to be better used and helping to interconnect the district and strengthen its local identity. The area presents a number of physical challenges, the most urgent of which are:

- A major need for urban renewal as almost every fourth flat lacks basic installations.
- Comprehensive building projects within and immediately outside the area.
- Considerable need for functional, recreational spaces close to housing.
- Traffic-related challenges, especially those concerning increased vehicular traffic and unsafe cycle routes for the district's citizens and, in particular, schoolchildren.

### How?

Plans for physical and social initiatives will be drawn up in close cooperation with local citizens, businesses, institu-

tions, social organisations, etc. within the area.

Although disadvantaged groups, children and young people are the most common users of urban spaces in Vesterbro, it is not necessarily them who have the greatest influence on their development. The area renewal project will make particular effort to listen to and involve such typically weak and unorganised voices in the area.

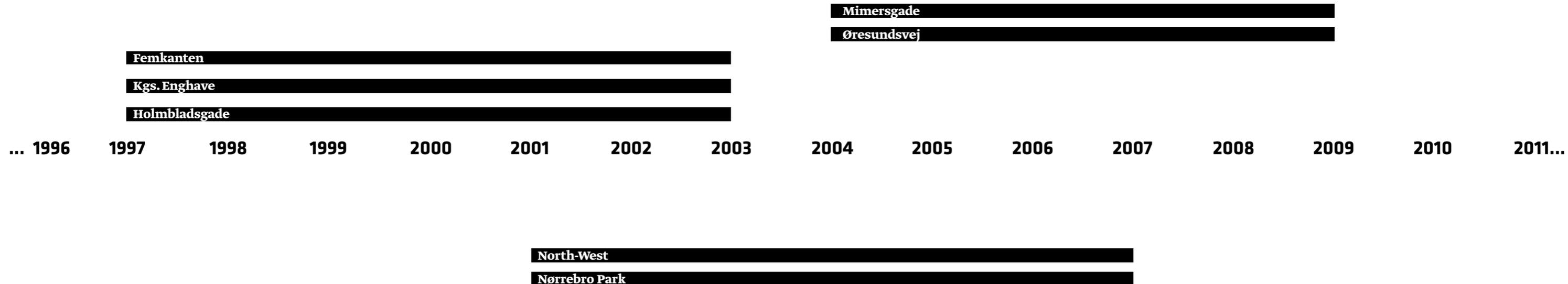
The integrated urban renewal project will therefore draw up a strategy for involving disadvantaged citizens, children and young people throughout the process. New methods of involving such groups, as well as local citizens in general, must be developed and tested. With a clear focus on local democracy and participation, we wish to qualify the physical projects through citizen involvement while at the same time strengthening cohesion in a diverse district in which a broad variety of lives are lived.

The integrated urban renewal project will work with partnerships as a method of promoting social development in the district. The integrated urban renewal project will also work closely together with socio-economic organisations, create spare time jobs for young people, and promote initiatives which increase employment among 18 to 29-year-old young people and 18 to 49-year-old women, temporariness and accessibility for cyclists.



# COMPLETED AREA RENEWALS

Since 1996, Copenhagen Municipality has completed eleven district/area renewal projects distributed over the entire city



Information on the completed district/area renewal projects is available at [www.kk.dk/borger/boligogbyggeri](http://www.kk.dk/borger/boligogbyggeri) under the respective area-specific initiatives.

**SAMMEN  
OM BYEN**

**KØBENHAVNS KOMMUNE**

Teknik- og Miljøforvaltningen