

RIVERCITY GOTHENBURG VISION



Welcome to

RIVERCITY GOTHENBURG



RiverCity Gothenburg will be open to the world. It will be inclusive, green and dynamic. It will be designed in a way that connects the whole city, embraces the water and reinforces the regional centre. Success in this endeavor requires openness, collaboration, knowledge development and strong leadership.

RiverCity Gothenburg is central Gothenburg along the river. Major areas of our city are waiting to be transformed into a living, attractive inner city. What you have before you is the RiverCity Gothenburg Vision and Strategies document, the result of an extensive consultation and concept process. The process has involved the people of Gothenburg, municipal administration representatives, companies, private industry and academia. Since August 2010, public consultations, expert workshops, exchanges of experience, enquiries and studies have been conducted. Student projects have been developed in collaboration with the secondary schools in Gothenburg, Chalmers University of Technology, the School of Design and Crafts and Harvard University. An international workshop involving 80 leading urban development experts has been held. An exchange of experience with seven other major Nordic urban development projects has taken place. Collaboration and co-ordination have taken place with Gothenburg 2021 as well as Mistra Urban Futures. The public consultation work and international workshop have taken place with the support of the Delegation for Sustainable Cities.

During the course of the work, a consensus has emerged about how the city ought to be developed. We should strive towards urban development where we make use of the features offered by the river and the water. We should understand and use our historical heritage. The city should be accessible for everyone, regardless of background, and it should be designed with meeting places that vary in nature and which promote activities in every form. The city should be open. We want to take possession of our city and use it for our own benefit and the benefit of others. We want a living city that can be extended cohesively across the river.

The task of producing the vision and strategies was commissioned by the City Council under the leadership of the City Executive Board. The original name in Swedish Centrala Älvstaden was changed during the course of the work to Älvstaden (RiverCity Gothenburg) in response to the image of the future that has gradually emerged. The vision was adopted by the City Council 11th October 2012 and will form the basis for future work in the city with the aim of planning and developing RiverCity Gothenburg.

GOTHENBURG, OCTOBER 2012

Anneli Hulthén
Chair, City Executive Board

Jonas Ransgård
Deputy Chair, City Executive Board

VISION



OPEN TO THE WORLD



RiverCity Gothenburg is open – inwards towards Gothenburg and West Sweden – and outwards to the world.

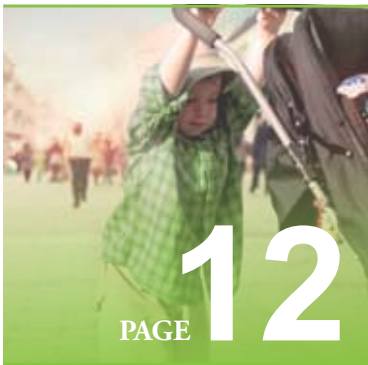
WHY A VISION?



There is a need to create a common set of objectives – a vision for RiverCity Gothenburg.

STRATEGIES

CONNECT THE CITY



We will bring the city together across the river to become a physical and social whole.

EMBRACE THE WATER



The water will be a permanent feature of urban life and will be an asset for everyone.

REINFORCE THE CENTRE



To meet the challenges we are facing, the knowledge and ideas of all actors – big and small – must be used and developed.



FROM VISION TO IMPLEMENTATION

There is widespread consensus on the type of city we are seeking to create. Experts and the people of Gothenburg all point in the same direction.

RIVERCITY GOTHENBURG

- OPEN TO THE WORLD


RiverCity Gothenburg is open – inwards towards Gothenburg and West Sweden – and outwards to the world. It is a meeting point for old and new, the known and the unknown. In the city, people feel a strong sense of community feeling and there is always a new initiative around the corner. The area is alive and open and at the same time unique and special.

In RiverCity Gothenburg, there is a warm and welcoming atmosphere alongside an ethos of involvement and participation. The area is growing in line with our needs and wishes. RiverCity Gothenburg is *inclusive*. A meeting place for everyone, regardless of age and background. Children, young people and adults meet, play and learn from each other. At the same time, a long-term sustainable city is being planned, providing scope for more short-term solutions between buildings that promote diversity and flexibility. Some uses are here for just a short while – others will remain far into the future.

RiverCity Gothenburg is close to the water. The waterfront and quays are buzzing with activity. Ships, ferries, sailboats and a range of other leisure boats make their way up and down the river and sometimes moor at the quayside. RiverCity Gothenburg is *green*. Good access to renewable energy, attractive public transport and interconnected paths for pedestrians and cyclists make it easier to live sustainably. The quays protect against flooding while at the same time bringing us closer to the water.

RiverCity Gothenburg has been built around the principles of the compact city. There is a wide variety of meeting places and activities. RiverCity Gothenburg is *dynamic*. Culture and industry are developing side by side, inspiring each other. The industrial side of the city brings out the best of a knowledge-intensive Gothenburg filled with new ideas and innovations. New forms of collaboration offer added impetus to the development of the regional centre and attract entrepreneurs and investors from all over the world. RiverCity Gothenburg has an international reputation.



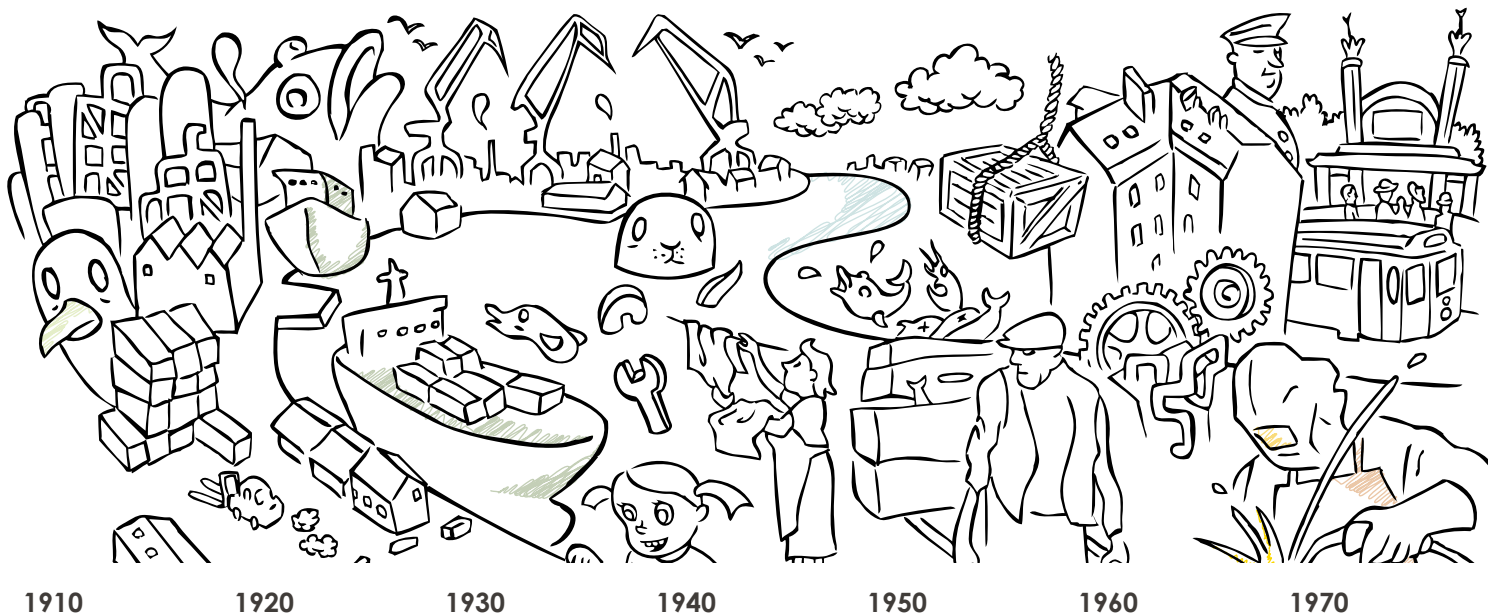


“ It was a beautiful day – 2021.
Lots of nice people walking
around and cute children playing
with their friends at nursery.
The Central Station has been
redeveloped, making it larger
and more attractive.
Everyone is welcome.

...

The river Göta älv has
become more beautiful,
with lots of couples strolling
along romantically. ”

STUDENT, YEAR 8
HAMMARKULLSSKOLAN SCHOOL
PUBLIC CONSULTATION / YOUNG:RIVERCITY



WHY A VISION?

RiverCity Gothenburg can contribute to releasing the driving forces of Gothenburg. It can transform the challenges facing the city into opportunities for the future. Changes in the global economy, widening socio-economic differences and a changing climate with rising water levels and extreme weather events as a result, requires a fuller and more integrated approach. This is what the Vision provides. It provides guidance on how RiverCity Gothenburg can be developed sustainably, reinforcing both the city and West Sweden.

GOTHENBURG'S STRENGTHS

The identity of the city is to a large extent defined by the river, the history of the city within the moat, the industrial legacy and the cultural diversity. These are strengths that future development of the city should rely on.

DIVERSITY

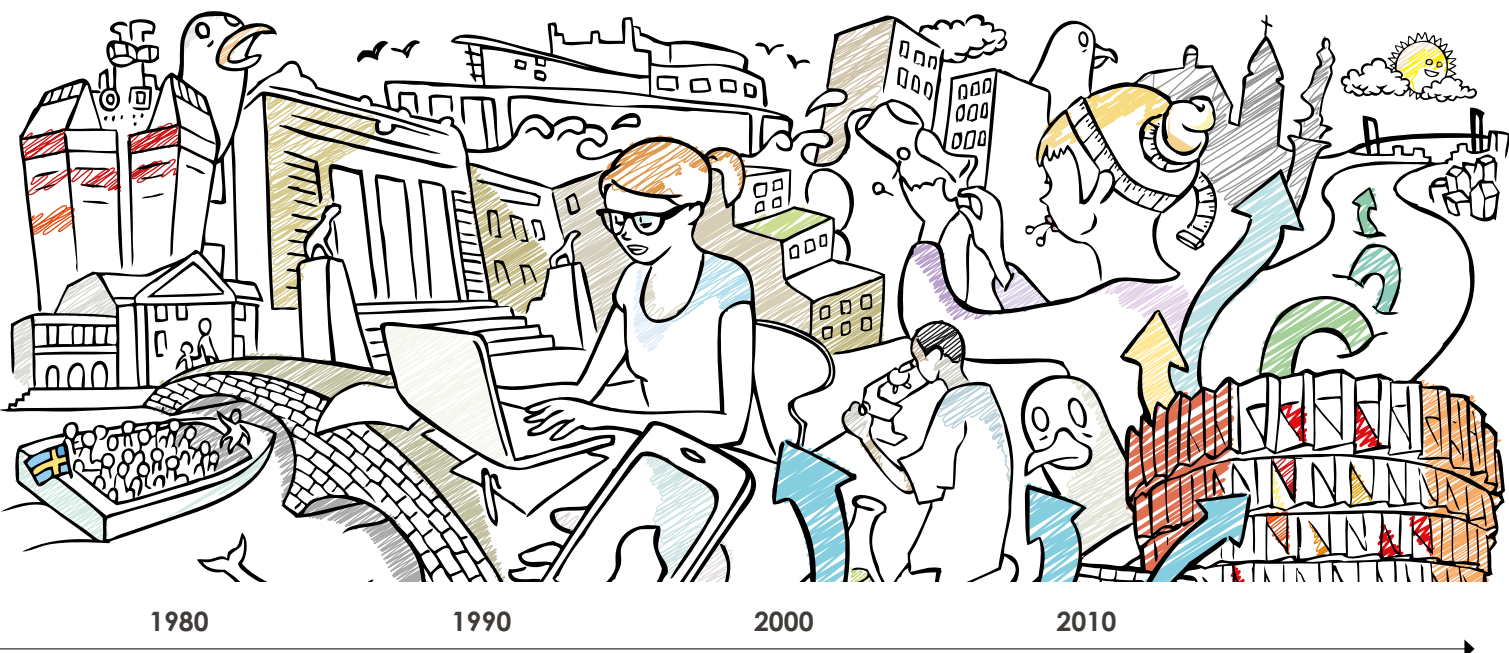
Since Gothenburg was founded in 1621, the city has developed closely with the world around it. The city was built and organised by Dutch and German settlers. As a centre of trade and shipping, relationships were created and an exchange of culture and knowledge took place with other parts of the world. The city developed as an industrial centre with technology and expertise from Britain. The economy expanded with the aid of immigrant labour from Italy, Greece and other countries. Many of the companies in Gothenburg are now internationally owned. The city's inhabitants have moved here from all parts of the world and the diversity of the population is greater than ever. Now, as in the past, it is the contrasting experience, perspectives and commitment among the people of Gothenburg that enrich the city and constitute its most important resource.

WATER

The river Göta älv and its contact with the oceans of the world was what determined the location of Gothenburg. Even today, the river is vital to the development of the city. The water landscape and the mark left by history are to a large extent characteristic of the city landscape. Along the river, the remains of the shipyards and a range of other industries co-exist with port operations – development varying in nature and from different eras. While in many cases access to the river is limited, this has not diminished the city's inhabitants' strong relationship to the water.

DRIVING FORCES

Over a period of 300 years, Gothenburg developed from a fortress and trading city to a shipbuilding and industrial city. The present-day export industries are strong. At the same time, both industry and commerce are developing and are increasingly about knowledge and innovation. The city's economy is increasingly a knowledge economy. These economic changes put different demands on the design of the city compared to the days when the economy was purely industrial. The inherent character and qualities of the



city are crucial to driving the expansion of this knowledge economy forward – an economy that also includes the events, tourism and creative sectors.

THE CHALLENGES FACING GOTHENBURG

Gothenburg is facing significant challenges in the wake of continued globalisation, increasing social exclusion and the effects of climate change. By taking on the challenges, the identity of the city can be strengthened and its economy can remain competitive in an increasingly inter-connected world.

SOCIAL EXCLUSION

The Gothenburg of today is a socio-economically excluded city. Economic and social deprivation is clustered in specific parts of the city. Such areas tend to exhibit high unemployment, low levels of educational attainment and skills, poor health and low levels of civic participation. There is a significant disparity between these areas and other parts of the city. At the same time, the city operates within a common European labour market, which is leading to greater cross-border mobility. Globally, migration is increasing between different parts of the world. Migration could increase

due to the financial imbalance between countries and the impact of climate change. It is a challenge to use the expertise and labour resources that have resulted from migration and at the same time work to reduce social exclusion.

CLIMATE CHANGE

Several of the city's densely built and central urban districts are close to the river or other bodies of water. During the second half of the 20th century, the number of periods of extremely high water and extreme precipitation has almost doubled. It is a challenge for the city to deal with these effects of climate change effectively. It is also a challenge for the city to create a robust urban environment and transport infrastructure that can reduce the city's impact on the climate and the environment.

CHANGED ECONOMY

The city is largely dependent on exports, which means that it is dependent on the global economy and what is happening in the rest of the world. The trend towards a more distinct knowledge-based economy means that earlier working models of economic need to be re-examined and new models of development need to be explored. The challenge is to understand what is required in order to reinforce

what exists at present and stimulate the development of new or complementary sectors. It involves putting actions into words in different ways. One way is through urban development.

RIVERCITY GOTHENBURG REPRESENTS AN OPPORTUNITY

RiverCity Gothenburg offers the opportunity to get to grips with and develop the strengths of Gothenburg. It can transform the challenges facing the city into opportunities for the future. The large area covered by RiverCity Gothenburg, over four square kilometres, is in the very heart of the region and will be easily accessible from a large part of West Sweden. There are areas that are under-used and can be used to create new neighbourhoods where people will want to live, work and socialise. A modern inner city can be developed with a vibrant city life, with a whole range of people, organisations and activities. Through RiverCity Gothenburg, the various parts of the city can be brought together. The river and the water add personality to the area. Shipping and port activities give the area a distinct character and at the same time reflect the rich history of the city.

Continues →

THE RIVERCITY GOTHENBURG AREA



RIVERCITY GOTHENBURG – AN ATTRACTIVE AND SUSTAINABLE REGIONAL CENTRE

The regional development strategy Sustainable Growth (Gothenburg Region Association of Local Authorities, 2006), aims to create good living conditions and sustainable development in the Gothenburg region. A basic assumption is that the larger and denser a region is, the better the conditions are to develop a strong diversified economy. With a strong economy, there is increased potential to ensure continued welfare. Having a strong regional centre is a key part of this strategy.

By 2020, 30,000 new homes and 40,000 jobs will be created in the regional centre, which comprises the city centre district Centrum, the Linné-Majorna districts and parts of Lundby. By 2011, almost 15,000 homes and almost as many workplaces had been added to the regional centre.

THE PROCESS

The RiverCity Gothenburg Project was initiated by the City Executive Board in November 2009. Following a decision by the City Council in March 2010, a directorate was appointed along with a project group that was commissioned to formulate vision and strategy for the area. According to the assignment, the work of the project group has been pursued using social, environmental and economical dimensions as a starting point. Through dialogue with the Gothenburg community, it has been characterised by openness as well as an exchange of experience on the national and international level.

The work took place with the City Executive Board as the steering committee. The directorate and project group were made up of individuals with varying backgrounds, affiliations and expertise. Representatives from industry and academia were involved. The directorate co-opted consultation groups made up of representatives from municipal administrations, regional and government bodies, industry and academia.



This means we are well on the way to achieving the established objective. Through RiverCity Gothenburg, conditions are being established to create 30,000 homes and 30-40,000 workplaces even after 2020, which could further reinforce the regional centre.

The population of Gothenburg is continuing to increase. The Comprehensive Plan for Gothenburg states we must primarily focus on new development in central locations and in locations with good access to public transport. The plan also highlights five strategic development areas. Two of these, Centrum and Backaplan, lie within the RiverCity Gothenburg area.

There are already a number of projects in progress within RiverCity Gothenburg such as Lindholmen, Skeppsbron and Backaplan. Common to all these projects, both present and future, is that they all include issues that

ought to be viewed in a broader context. Questions need to be answered from the perspective of the city and region as a whole. There is a need to create a common set of objectives and a vision for RiverCity Gothenburg – a vision that lays down the direction for all the plans and projects within the area.

ONE VISION AND THREE STRATEGIES FOR RIVERCITY GOTHENBURG

The vision aims to contribute to sustainable development in Gothenburg and West Sweden. The aim is to create an attractive, sustainable city from a social, environmental and economical point of view.

Three strategies have been formulated to realise the vision. These indicate how the city can build on the strengths that already exist and transform the challenges facing the city into opportunities to deliver a more sustainable pattern of development.

CONNECT THE CITY

We will connect the city – we will counteract physical and social segregation and expand the city with strategic links across the river. We will create a mixed city with pedestrian and cycle friendly streets & paths and neighbourhoods with lots of vibrant meeting places. At the same time, we will offer the people of the city the opportunity to be involved in the development of RiverCity Gothenburg.

EMBRACE THE WATER

We will embrace the water – we will create a living, attractive riverside space and deal with the effects of climate change. We will make it easy to live a sustainable lifestyle.

REINFORCE THE CENTRE

We will reinforce the regional centre to strengthen Gothenburg and West Sweden as a whole. The design of RiverCity Gothenburg will stimulate development towards a more diversified and robust regional economy.



WHAT YOU TOLD US

During the course of work on the vision and strategy for RiverCity Gothenburg, knowledge and ideas have been gathered from a number of sources and on different levels. Through consultation with the general public, through the workshops that were arranged, in contact with national and international experts, industry, the university and other organisations in the city and through co-operation with the Gothenburg 2021 project, a concurring image of how the city ought to be developed gradually emerged.

Everyone should have a place in the city. Housing should be developed for everyone. The value of the river is highlighted, it is important to get close to and move along and across the water. There should be greenery throughout the city with a central park beside the water and numerous pocket parks in various parts of RiverCity Gothenburg. Pedestrian, cycle traffic and public transport should be prioritised. It is important to preserve the soul of the city, build on what is already there and use our culture as a source of strength to develop upon.

CONNECT THE CITY

We will bring the city together across the river to become a physical and social whole. In RiverCity Gothenburg, there will be room for everyone and for variation in content and expression. In RiverCity Gothenburg, there will be openness to initiatives and ideas. It will be possible to exert an influence and establish one's place. Social exclusion and physical segregation will be counteracted through openness, variation and involvement.

We will create a city with a wide variety of places, architecture, homes and the room for people to express themselves in socially and culturally diverse ways. A city where everyone has a place and can feel a sense of belonging – a place that is open, inviting, alive all year round and at all hours of the day and night. The creativity of children and young people will be unleashed when we are developing RiverCity Gothenburg. Art and culture will contribute to creating identity, context and change.

RiverCity Gothenburg will connect the city across the river by means of new strategic urban links and a more cohesive urban street network. The network of paths, including streets, will be designed as inclusive urban spaces where public transport, pedestrians and cyclists are prioritised.

RiverCity Gothenburg will be developed through dialogue. We will work with the grain of existing civic life and structures, making use of and strengthening existing networks and activities. Many of the current buildings and their uses will be kept and will help to create a unique area that blends the new with the old.

RIVERCITY GOTHENBURG WILL CONSOLIDATE THE WHOLE OF GOTHENBURG BY:

- Creating a city for everyone
- Building the city together
- Getting more people involved







CREATE A CITY FOR EVERYONE

Gothenburg at present is a socially fragmented city. Everyone should feel welcome here, be able to take their place, have the opportunity to meet and feel an affinity with Gothenburg and the city centre. RiverCity Gothenburg therefore needs to provide a mix of housing, enterprises, jobs, uses and public places that provide room for different expressions. We must create a city for everyone.

BUILD TO PROMOTE MIXED HOUSING

We should work to ensure that all citizens have the opportunity to live in the RiverCity Gothenburg area. Socially mixed housing creates a varied city life and a more interesting range of services. It also helps underpin a broader commercial and industrial base where more people have the opportunity to work. A socially mixed population should be promoted by varying the range of housing through different forms of tenancy and size. We should be open to new ways of living. Communes and

community living can be tested as a means of bringing variation to the area. At the same time, we need to show consideration for existing housing for the socially excluded. To pursue development, a test-bed for socially sustainable housing should be created within the area. Through collaboration between universities, colleges and various bodies within the construction industry, an international exchange of knowledge will be promoted along with the development of knowledge that will benefit the whole city.

All parts of RiverCity Gothenburg should contain housing. The districts that make up the area have different prerequisites for integrating housing with existing and future businesses and their commercial activities.

Along the urban paths and hubs there should be housing interspersed with space for existing and new businesses in a dense structure. In other areas, the proportion of housing can be greater, with variation in density and expression. Alternative forms of housing, such as houseboats, could be accommodated at Ringön and along selected quays.

WE WILL:

- establish a test bed for socially sustainable housing.
- work to ensure a wide range of housing for everyone.

PROVIDE SPACE FOR MEETINGS AND PLAY

Public spaces that provide space for social and creative encounters are indispensable in a living democracy. In RiverCity Gothenburg, we will create meeting places for all weathers, seasons and times of the day and night. We will work to ensure that all parts of the area are populated 24 hours a day. A variety of cultural, cross-generation and well designed meeting places where people feel they belong can be created by lots of people and organisations being involved in contributing to the design and activities. It makes them accessible and usable for everyone. The location of public and commercial services will help contribute to a more active street life. Community institutions and facilities will be visible in the city. These will be located strategically in the area to contribute to the positive development of the area.



2

To be attractive to everyone and in different situations, there needs to be considerable variation in places, from large venues to small intimate spaces. We need protected places where buildings and greenery contribute to a good local climate. There should be activities and initiatives on squares, streets, quaysides and parks. There needs to be space for things large and small; for planned or spontaneous cultural events and installations. Squares and parks should be easily accessible and form an integrated network to satisfy the needs of young people for space for play, recreation and a functioning daily life. Nursery schools and schools should have a high quality outdoor environment. Natural meeting places should exist where children, young people and adults can meet, play and learn. We must ensure that the needs of the whole city for meeting places is satisfied, ensuring

” Our city is segregated. Take up the challenge and create a true mixed city! ”

**VISITOR AT THE SQUARE
OLSKROKSTORGET
PUBLIC CONSULTATION /
PUBLIC MEETING**

that everyone feels a sense of affinity with RiverCity Gothenburg.

WE WILL:

- create a varied range of meeting places for all ages.

CREATE A CITY AT EYE LEVEL

Successful cities are often characterised by their diverse streetscapes. We want to create this diversity. The development of RiverCity Gothenburg should be varied and rich in experiences in a way that contributes to improving the overall attractiveness. The greatest qualities of this open space should be found at eye level for both children and adults. We should be open to new ideas about how the city should be designed and provide a space for a diversity of people and agencies. Public art should be used to enrich and establish identity in urban spaces. The density of the development should be varied, with compact and higher rise development focused in specific locations, such as the key development areas and urban paths and lower rise development in other locations. A mixture of functions and density will produce buildings and places that vary in character, thus expanding the range of impressions and experiences.



3

WE WILL:

- work to promote variation by having more people involved in the development of the area.
- give priority to individuals and agencies who can demonstrate how a modern city can be built with a diversity of content and expression.

→ IDEAS FROM THE PROCESS

1 RIVERCITY WORKSHOP

Proposal from Team EGA

Urban paths with a mixture of activities and expressions can be established along the water at Ringön.

2 RIVERCITY WORKSHOP

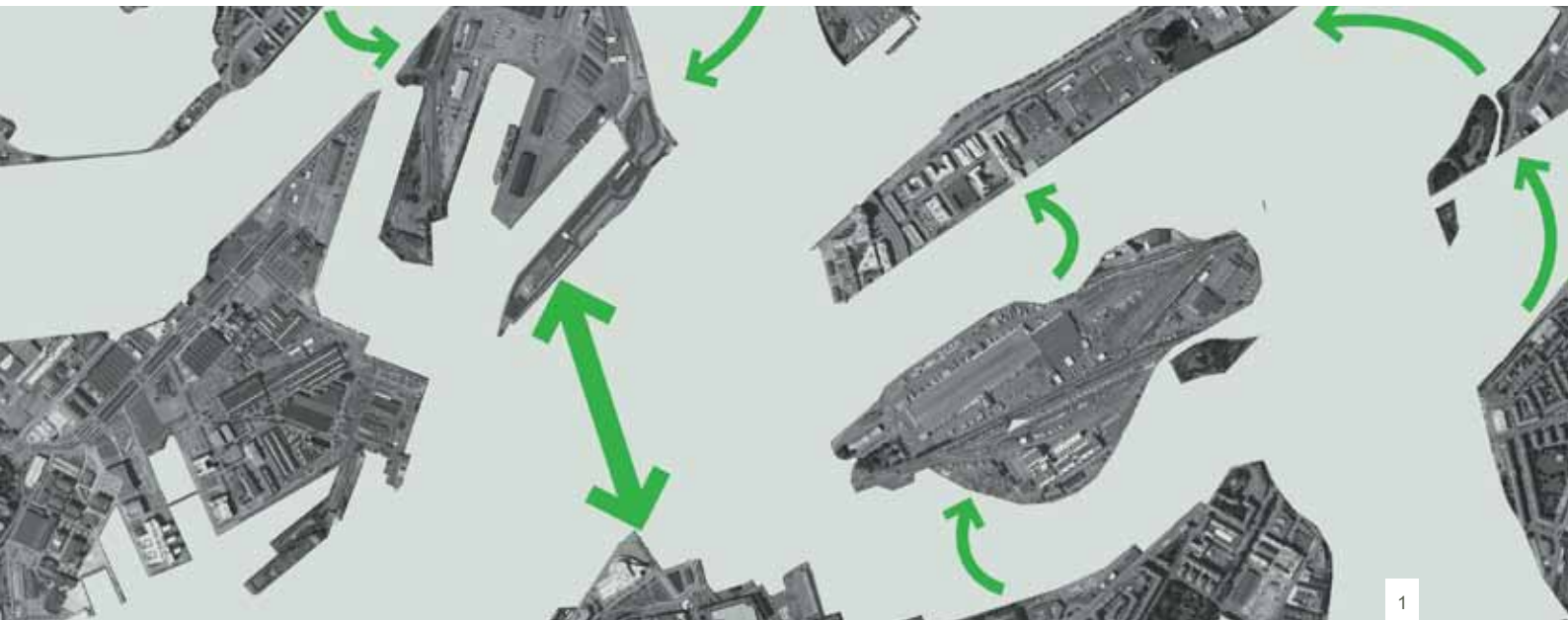
Proposal from Team SLA/HLA

RiverCity Gothenburg should offer meeting places where we can all feel welcome. A park can be created at Frihamnen.

3 MALMÖ

Western Harbour district

The Stapelbäddsparken park in Malmö is an example of a popular meeting place that contributes to creating a vibrant city life.



1

BUILD THE CITY TOGETHER

The city is physically fragmented. To some extent, RiverCity Gothenburg comprises urban islands separated by barriers that cut through the urban landscape. Roads, railway tracks and closed-off areas separate north and south from each other and the city from the river. Even the river, which historically has been a unifying link, is nowadays a barrier. We need to connect Gothenburg across the water by eliminating barriers and replacing them with an urban environment that includes accessible paths that link the various parts of the city.

CREATE STRATEGIC LINKS ACROSS THE RIVER

RiverCity Gothenburg should connect the city with strategic links across the river. These new paths should be part of a cohesive urban structure that brings together urban streets and meeting places on either side of the river. A main urban axis should link Wieselgrensplatsen and Backaplan to the north with the Central Station area in the south. It should form part of a compact city with meeting places and an active mix of uses on both the north and south side of the river. The urban axis needs to be supplemented by a number of urban paths in a north-south direction and with urban paths in an east-west

direction. A path for pedestrian and cycle traffic should be created as an extension of Östra Hamngatan and Avenyn streets, over the area Frihamnen towards the square Kvilleorget and Backaplan node. In time, a public transport route between the Stigberget hill and the area Lindholmen needs to be built to increase capacity and reduce congestion.

WE WILL:

- create an urban axis between Wieselgrensplatsen and the Central Station area.
- add a bridge for pedestrians and cyclists to Frihamnen as an extension of Östra Hamngatan and Avenyn and a public transport link between Stigberget and Lindholmen.

“ The infrastructure ought to be planned as an open space where different social groups can meet in the public space... Places that unite. ”

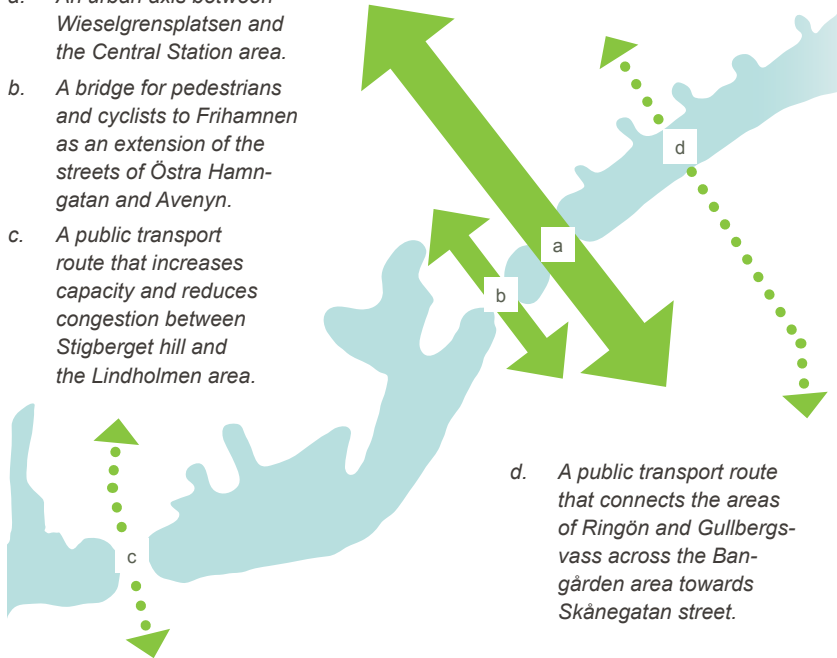
TEAM EAST
RIVERCITY WORKSHOP



2

THE CITY IS CONNECTED BY STRATEGIC LINKS ACROSS THE RIVER

- a. An urban axis between Wieselgrensplatsen and the Central Station area.
- b. A bridge for pedestrians and cyclists to Frihamnen as an extension of the streets of Östra Hamngatan and Avenyn.
- c. A public transport route that increases capacity and reduces congestion between Stigberget hill and the Lindholmen area.



- d. A public transport route that connects the areas of Ringön and Gullbergsvass across the Bangården area towards Skånegatan street.



3



4

ELIMINATE BARRIERS

We will design RiverCity Gothenburg as a cohesive inner city where it is easy to move around on foot. Road traffic still has a role to play in the city, but accessibility and usability for pedestrians and cyclists need to increase. Main roads, streets, railway areas, car parks and closed or unutilised areas must be redesigned so that they become part of the new accessible inner city. Busy urban highways can be transformed into walkable urban streets and boulevards with public transport and greenery. The urban spaces between buildings

need to be designed to promote a mixed urban life where distances are considered short. Pedestrian-friendly environments with intimacy, safety and variation will be promoted throughout RiverCity Gothenburg.

WE WILL:

- eliminate the barrier effects created by busy urban highways and unused/closed areas.
- study how the busy urban highways of Oskarsleden and Mårten Krakowgatan can be redesigned and when and how Lundbyleden and the port railway line can be redirected underground.

- A **path** is one or several streets or places where people move. Paths create important links and directions in the city.

→ IDEAS FROM THE PROCESS

- 1 **RIVERCITY WORKSHOP**
Proposal from Team East
The islands in RiverCity Gothenburg are currently separated by barriers that cut through the urban landscape.
- 2 **RIVERCITY WORKSHOP**
Proposal from Team West8
Barriers ought to be eliminated at Gullbergsvass and replaced by dense city development, paths for walking and a new canal.
- 3 **YOUNG:RIVERCITY**
Proposal from Noleredsskolan school
In the city centre, parks, homes and boats ought to be prioritised.
- 4 **RIVERCITY WORKSHOP**
Proposal from Team SLA/HLA
The new bridge over the river Göta älv can be designed as part of the city – a bridge to live on.



GET MORE PEOPLE INVOLVED

RiverCity Gothenburg is in the centre of Gothenburg and should be there for everyone. This makes it a matter for the whole city. There are many thoughts and views on how the various areas within RiverCity Gothenburg ought to be designed. We will continue to use the creativity and ideas that exist. Involving people who feel a strong affinity to Gothenburg will provide a solid foundation for reducing segregation and improving social cohesion. It is only through dialogue and continued involvement that RiverCity Gothenburg will be truly inclusive.

USE WHAT ALREADY EXISTS AS A STARTING POINT

As we design the RiverCity Gothenburg of the future, we will make use of what already exists as a starting point. There is considerable knowledge about the cultural and historical heritage and an abundance of ideas about how the area can be developed. In the area, there

are already strong and varied social, cultural and economic networks, as well as key buildings. We will make use of people's capacity for initiative and at the same time create an urban environment and architecture that is unique in its expression and identity. We will build on the urban life that already exists and at the same time open up to new and varied forms of social expression. Certain areas could take longer to develop. How the area looks and functions should guide the development of all areas within RiverCity Gothenburg. Existing qualities should be cherished and used. A cultural base can thus be created as well as variation where the new meets the existing.

WE WILL:

- document and analyse the cultural and historical heritage as well as the physical and social conditions in each project within RiverCity Gothenburg.

MORE PEOPLE WILL HAVE AN OPPORTUNITY TO EXERT AN INFLUENCE

The expansion of RiverCity Gothenburg is a matter for the whole city. We can all envisage living, working or spending time in the area. It is therefore important that

everyone, regardless of where we live in the city, is given the opportunity to be involved in the planning and expansion and at the same time capitalise on local knowledge and experience. We will build on the experience from the RiverCity Gothenburg public consultation process and develop a set of appropriate methods. Those who normally do not have a voice in public debates will be sought out and consulted.

RiverCity Gothenburg will be designed with the best interests of children and young people in mind. We need to work from a child's perspective. We should listen to thoughts and ideas presented by children about developing the city. Children and young people should be consulted in all matters that concern them. Schools and education can be used to make use of the children's ideas. In doing so, the expertise in the schools can be reinforced in subject areas related to sustainable development and urban development.

WE WILL:

- develop RiverCity Gothenburg through involvement, learning and interaction.
- work from a child's perspective and listen to children's thoughts and ideas about developing the city.



2



3



4

START WITH TEMPORARY MEASURES

Major changes will take place in RiverCity Gothenburg for a long time to come, but even now we can start to take control of the area. We will develop the city in partnership, arranging concerts, jumble sales and exhibitions. We will grow things in areas that are not being used or build installations directly on site. Because many different people will be involved in designing urban spaces, a diversity of expressions will be created. Art and culture will become a powerful driving force in the development process.

“ Places to sit along walking paths are important for the elderly and this will encourage health-promoting activities... The city should be there for everyone. You do not get afraid if you know one another. ”

RESIDENT AT FYRKLÖVERN
PUBLIC CONSULTATION

Temporary activities and uses will be used to inject vitality into the area, to create a vibrant area, to test new ideas and to demonstrate that change is happening. Temporary activities and uses will take place in the various parts of the area alongside the transformation process and as major projects fall into place. The temporary activities and uses will be used to highlight life as it is at present and at the same time demonstrate the potential of the area.

WE WILL:

- be open to, support and provide space for temporary uses and activities.



5

→ IDEAS FROM THE PROCESS

1 PUBLIC CONSULTATION

*Train of ideas,
The Central Station*

Visitors and passerbys give their ideas of Gothenburg.

2 RIVERCITY WORKSHOP

Proposal from Team West8

The city can be linked to a network of public areas.

3 PUBLIC CONSULTATION

*Public meeting in
the area Eriksberg*

Visitors at a public meeting place out their favourite places on a map – places that offer potential and places with problems and shortcomings.

4 YOUNG:RIVERCITY

School workshop

Task – “Build your fantasy home”.

5 RIVERCITY WORKSHOP

Team Espinàs Tarrasó

How would you move around the city if the river wasn't there? A map from the Espinàs Tarrasó Group. Public consultation during the RiverCity Workshop.

EMBRACE THE WATER

Gothenburg will be developed into a green city at the water's edge; a global icon for green urban development where a sustainable lifestyle is encouraged and renewable energy supply, climate adaptation and biological diversity enrich the urban environment. RiverCity Gothenburg will contribute to the development of smart systems and green technology. The water will be a permanent feature of urban life and an asset for everyone.

RiverCity Gothenburg will have a living breathing river space where the city is developed in harmony with shipping. The river will bring the city together through uses on and along the water. The design of the areas, urban paths and green spaces along the river and canals will contribute to vibrant city life with varied and mixed places. A good local climate will be created to provide cooling relief in the summer and protection in bad weather.

RiverCity Gothenburg will be the centre of development, focusing on a sustainable city and region. The city will be designed in such a way that makes it easy to live sustainably, with efficient, flexible systems for renewable energy and transport. The full potential of the sun, green areas, wind and water will be used. People will recognise Gothenburg as a green city.

RiverCity Gothenburg needs to adapt to meet rising water levels and extreme weather events resulting from climate change. Each area has different conditions and therefore needs to embrace the water in different ways. We will use climate adaptation measures as an opportunity to create interesting and flexible places and spaces near the water.

RIVERCITY GOTHENBURG WILL EMBRACE THE WATER BY:

- Creating a living river space
- Making it easy to live sustainably
- Using climate adaptation as a driving force





1

CREATE A LIVING RIVER SPACE

The river and the water have shaped the city, its development and settings. Throughout history, there has been close relationship between the water and the city with thriving trade and the shipbuilding industry along the river. Yards still exists in the area today. Together with traces of bygone industrial activities, our shipbuilding industry adds character to the area and is a vital part of the city's identity. In recent times, the link between the city and the water has been weakened and needs to be restored.

“ Make the water accessible for children and young people. Provide the opportunity to sail, canoe and so on. Young people with disabilities are important. ”

VISITOR AT ERIKSBERG
PUBLIC CONSULTATION /
PUBLIC MEETINGS

DEVELOP SHIPPING IN HARMONY WITH THE CITY

Shipping should be promoted. It is an important part of the history of the city and it is of major significance to the identity of the city and the development of business and industry in Gothenburg and around the lake Vänern. Small-scale shipping, large-scale shipping and ferry traffic inject life and activity on the water and contribute to a living river environment. We should keep the river open without any new bridges downstream of Frihamnen. The shipping industry along the banks is steeped in tradition and this is something we should safeguard. At the same time, the shipping sector needs to be developed in harmony with new links across the river and with improved access to the waterfront. If there is a shift in balance between freight and passenger traffic, we should re-assess the location of existing ferry terminals. No freight ferries should be permitted in Frihamnen. We should examine the potential for continued cruise traffic upstream of the bridge Älvsborgsbron. There needs to be ongoing improvement to reduce the environmental impact of shipping

– ferry and cruise traffic should live up to the RiverCity Gothenburg objectives of being green.

WE WILL:

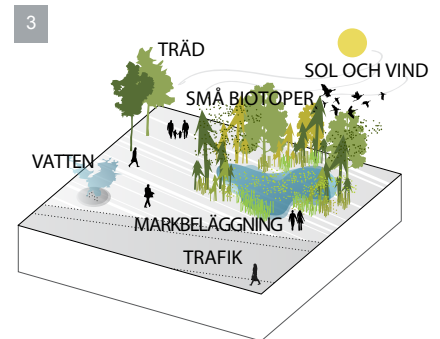
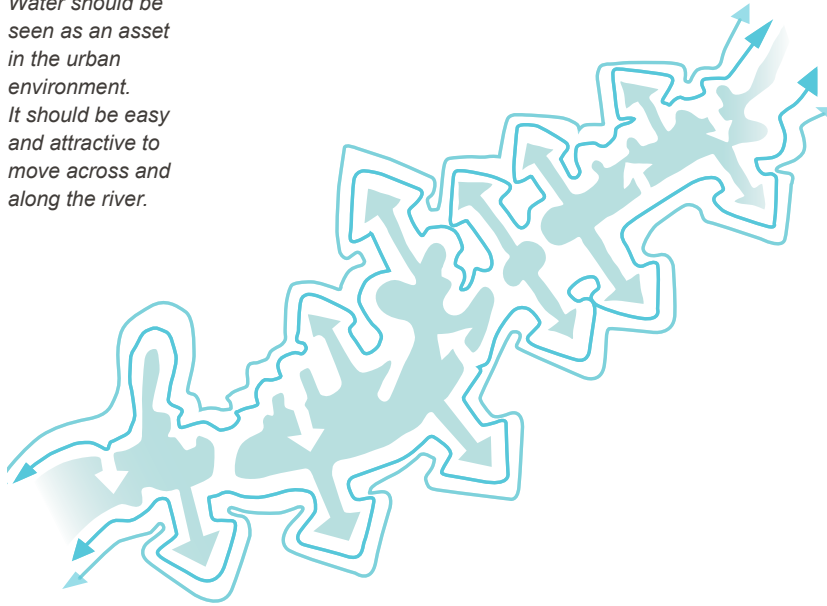
- work to ensure a modern, green shipping industry that will reinforce the identity of Gothenburg.

CREATE MEETING PLACES ALONG THE WATER

Life beside and on the water should grow stronger as RiverCity Gothenburg develops. The design of urban paths, streets and green spaces need to increase accessibility along the waterside and link up to ferries and bridges connecting the two sides of the river. We will establish continuous pedestrian and cycle paths along both sides of the river. The river should be easy to reach from surrounding districts. Barriers in the form of roads, railways and large unused and closed-off areas along the water should be redeveloped and redesigned to counteract barrier effects. Meeting places with activities should entice us to move along and on the water. The border between the water and land should be dissolved, allowing the city to expand

ACTIVITIES AND URBAN PATHS ALONG, BESIDE AND IN THE WATER

Water should be seen as an asset in the urban environment. It should be easy and attractive to move across and along the river.



out into the water and for the water to enter the city. Using steps, jetties or other arrangements, the river should be made accessible and usable by young and old, making it possible to get physically closer to the water and to fish or to bathe. The water should be part of our urban life with river traffic and marinas, walking paths and activities along the quays and banks.

WE WILL:

- ensure that everyone has access to the riverbanks and canals.
- establish cohesive pedestrian and cycle paths along both sides of the river.
- provide space for active uses and create vibrant places that attract people down to the water.
- set up one or several guest marinas.
- make space for a cultural harbour and for the ship Ostindiefararen.

ADD MORE GREENERY

We will build on the Gothenburg tradition of creating parks and use greenery as a means of raising the attractiveness of the city. RiverCity Gothenburg will contribute to the city's reputation as a lush green

city beside the water with welcoming green spaces in attractive locations. New green spaces or features should be planned in such a way that it increases accessibility and attracts people down to the waterside. Several large parks and a large number of small green spaces are required for rest and recreation in the future dense inner city. Our urban paths and streets will be viewed as an integral part of the city's green space network. Places that are attractive for development could be left untouched to the benefit of the green areas that contribute to our quality of life and increase biological diversity.

The vegetation in the area should contribute to creating a healthy urban environment with stabilised temperatures, wind protection, good air quality and low noise levels. As the temperatures rises due to climate impact, greenery in the urban spaces will become increasingly important to create a comfortable local climate. The greenery will highlight how the city is dependent on natural resources, thus creating an understanding of the importance of greater environmental adaptation. It will also contribute to creating a good

residential environment with, for example, green courtyards, roofs and walls.

WE WILL:

- create a number of large parks; one being the Jubilee Park beside the water at Frihamnen and a park at Gullbergsvass.
- create a network of small green spaces linked to the large parks and the water.
- channel the stream Kvillebäcken and make it a green corridor through Frihamnen.

→ IDEAS FROM THE PROCESS

- RIVERCITY WORKSHOP**
Proposal from Team EGA
An activity park in Frihamnen.
- RIVERCITY WORKSHOP**
Proposal from Team Güller Güller
A park can be created at Frihamnen for all the people of Gothenburg.
- RIVERCITY WORKSHOP**
Proposal from Team SLA/HLA
The city ought to be designed for a good microclimate.



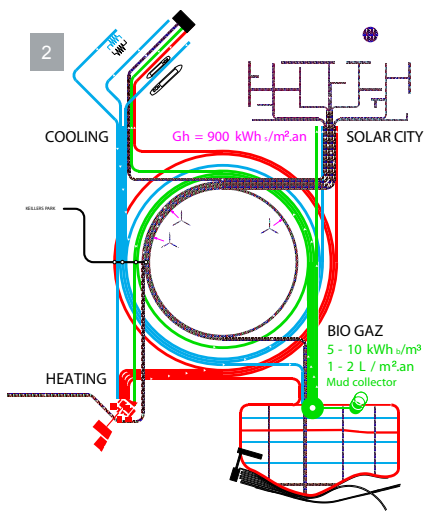
MAKE IT EASY TO LIVE SUSTAINABLY

Many of the challenges facing Gothenburg, such as climate change and resource management, are global. To bring about sustainable development, all cities need to assume joint responsibility for the environment. RiverCity Gothenburg is an opportunity for the city and the region to develop in a direction that leads to a sustainable society, including good public transport, attractive walking and cycling paths, renewable energy supply and sustainable construction.

**“ In each block –
eco-living, community
living, age-integrated
living, allotments,
self-build resources. ”**

RESIDENT OF MAJORNA LINNÉ
PUBLIC CONSULTATION /
CITY DISTRICT WORKSHOP





DEVELOP SMART SYSTEMS

The key to a sustainable city is that we all assume joint responsibility for development. Counteracting of greenhouse gas emissions is a key element in the creation of a sustainable city. RiverCity Gothenburg should therefore be free of fossil fuels and waste. To achieve this, we will create an urban environment that involves people and facilitates their pursuit of a sustainable lifestyle. We need to find solutions that take the entire city into account. Existing large-scale systems, such as district heating and district cooling, must be used and developed, but the expansion of the area must go further and contribute to effective integration with other functions. The district heating system can be supplemented with buildings that store heat. These technical systems should be flexible and usable over time.

The expansion of the area needs to be grounded in excellent resource management. The whole life cycle perspective must be taken into account when assessing the environmental impact of development. The use of energy, materials and resources must be evaluated in a way that makes them visible in financial calculations. A resource management system that ensures that development is promoted within each phase. It is vital to ensure that life within and between the buildings will function. Functions that facilitate a sustainable lifestyle need to be

integrated at the construction stage. RiverCity Gothenburg should also speed up the development of innovative, sustainable transport solutions that satisfy the needs of the city, industry and people for effective transport and an attractive urban environment.

WE WILL:

- develop small-scale and large-scale systems that are flexible and easy to use from the perspective of the whole city.
- pursue the development of innovative and sustainable transport solutions for goods, material recycling and energy supply.

MAKE GREEN TECHNOLOGY VISIBLE

Energy supply are a key issue in a sustainable city. Switching to renewable energy sources requires effective interaction between small-scale and large-scale power generation. This requires flexibility and the desire to receive and pay for power generation in close proximity to the property, e.g. from sun, wind or water. Solar energy can be integrated effectively and visibly into the urban environment, thus helping to educate people and raise awareness about renewable energy. The RiverCity Gothenburg areas must be designed with a street structure, variation in height and building orientation that allow solar cells to be placed on the facades and roofs. At the same time, we need to be open to the idea of integrating further energy sources (e.g. wind and water) into the urban environment.

WE WILL:

- use, test and promote the development of renewable energy.
- actively follow the development of the latest knowledge and innovations and put it into practice.

FACILITATE SUSTAINABLE LIFESTYLES

In RiverCity Gothenburg it should be easy to choose sustainable solutions. It should be possible to control energy

consumption through smart grids to ensure the best financial and environmental outcome. We must promote commercial activities that facilitate a sustainable lifestyle and sustainable consumption. It must be easy to live without a car in a rich and varied urban environment where everything we need in day-to-day life is close at hand. District heating can be used for ice-free cycle paths and heated bathing facilities. RiverCity Gothenburg should be attractive and ensure leisure activities in the city all year round through good access to recreation, greenery, sports, water, services and culture. The child's day-to-day life must function simply. Children should be able to expand their circles and move without necessarily being in the company of adults. It is particularly important to ensure that children are close to and able to access green areas. Good environments for play must be promoted – streets cannot replace such environments. An urban environment that encourages a sustainable lifestyle also provides added social value, encourages co-operation and generates more opportunities to meet in the city.

WE WILL:

- create an urban environment where there is a wide range of sustainable alternatives, where it is close to what we need in our day-to-day lives and where it is easy to move around – without a car.

→ IDEAS FROM THE PROCESS

1 KVILLEBÄCKEN

Stadsjord

Local allotments close to the Kvillebäcken stream, an example of an activity that promotes a sustainable lifestyle in the RiverCity Gothenburg of today.

2 RIVERCITY WORKSHOP

Proposal from Team Grau

Heating, cooling, electricity and waste management can be integrated in a sustainable system.



USE CLIMATE ADAPTATION AS A DRIVING FORCE

Proximity to water is an asset for RiverCity Gothenburg although at the same time it represents a challenge for the city, both now and in the future. The area will be affected by climate change in the form of higher water levels and extreme weather with strong winds and heavy rain. The total volume of surface run-off will increase. We need to learn how to handle the effects of future climate change. In the area, we will use climate adaptation as an opportunity to not only develop our city but also to create interesting urban spaces that bring the city closer to the water.

“ See the potential raising of the water level as an opportunity to create a shifting, surprising city. ”

TEAM EGA
RIVERCITY WORKSHOP

USE THE STRATEGIES ATTACK, RETREAT AND DEFENCE AS A STARTING POINT

Climate change is causing sea levels to rise. RiverCity Gothenburg will be planned from a 100-year perspective, where a planned safe height is established to cope with future water levels. At the same time, knowledge and flexibility need to be developed to satisfy needs over an even longer perspective. Each area should be designed using a selected strategy or a combination of strategies, i.e. retreat, defend and attack. Retreat means that certain areas will be permitted to flood and the design of these areas is adapted accordingly. Defence is about holding back water by, for example, building embankments. Attack means that buildings meet the water – in the form of floating constructions for example. The choice of one or more strategies within the various urban districts in the area is determined by the specific needs of the location. A starting point when choosing a strategy is that existing areas should be secured as far possible.

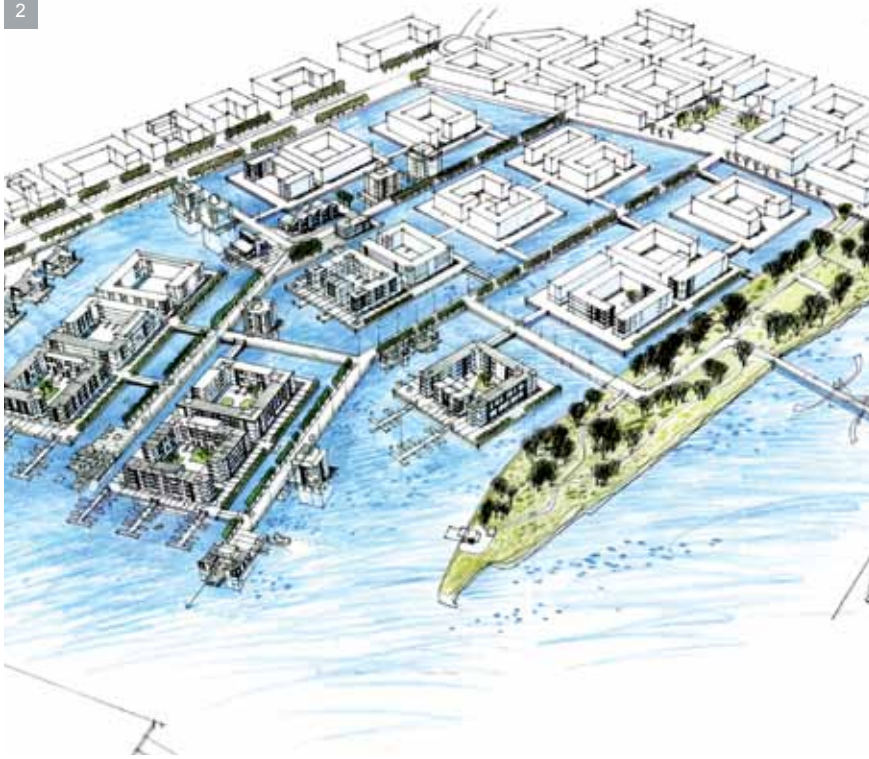
Climate adaptation measures should be an opportunity to enhance the urban environment. Creative measures should be employed to bring the city closer to the water. They should be used to create public areas and urban paths along the waterfront. The areas that are flooded temporarily could create exciting and educational elements in the urban environment.

WE WILL:

- use climate adaptation to bring the city closer to the water.
- design each area based on the strategies of attack, retreat and defence.
- plan on a 100-year perspective and use the best available knowledge and climate change adaptations and innovations.

DEVELOP INNOVATIVE SOLUTIONS

Considerable flexibility and preparedness is required in urban construction to handle uncertainty caused by climate change. The need for climate adaptation



will affect how the various areas in RiverCity Gothenburg can be developed. To find appropriate solutions, there needs to be interaction between organisations and agencies in the private and public sector. Climate adaptation must be used as an opportunity in urban development and as a means of developing and attracting knowledge, skills and innovation into the city. The area will be a test-bed where new solutions for climate adaptation and renewable energy supply are produced and presented with the aid of local, national and international organisations. If this work were to be successful, it could reinforce Gothenburg's brand and attract business owners and researchers in the climate change field.

WE WILL:

- create a test bed for climate change adaptation and innovative solutions.

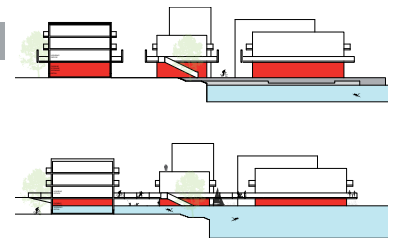
ALLOW THE RAIN TO ENRICH THE URBAN SPACE

Climate change will mean extreme weather events in the form of heavy rain and strong winds and more precipitation

generally. This creates the need to deal with increased volumes of surface water. Surface water must be an urban asset that can be channelled away in creative ways that bring fun and enjoyment to children and others. Water and rain protection can become exciting, light-hearted elements when designing playgrounds and parks. Green roofs, ponds created from surface water and a flood reservoir that can absorb and delay the water and at the same time promote biological diversity and create new meeting places. To deal with large volumes of water, larger areas could need to be left open. Run-off needs to take place in open systems along streets, cycle paths and tram tracks. Large, open grassed areas and sports areas could be used as temporary reservoirs. The city's sewage system needs to be adapted to harmonise with open systems and storage.

WE WILL:

- integrate water management into the urban space to minimise the load on the surface water system.
- create places that are enriched by rain.



→ IDEAS FROM THE PROCESS

1 RIVERCITY WORKSHOP

Proposal from Team West8

Frihamnen can be designed with houses and meeting places on the water.

2 PILOT PROJECT

Mistra Urban Futures

Climate adaptation strategy 'attack' at Frihamnen.

3 PILOT PROJECT

Mistra Urban Futures

Climate adaptation strategy 'defence' (top) and 'retreat' (below) at Frihamnen.

4 RIVERCITY WORKSHOP

Proposal from Team EGA

Flooding can temporarily transform RiverCity Gothenburg into a "small Venice".

REINFORCE THE CENTRE

The social and economic driving forces of Gothenburg must be released in RiverCity Gothenburg. We will use all the expertise, networks and companies in the city and meet the needs of people and large and small organisations. The compact, mixed inner city will grow across the river. The regional centre will be brought closer to the rest of the region and become more accessible for all our region's residents. RiverCity Gothenburg project will reinforce the regional centre, Gothenburg, and West Sweden as a whole.

In the area, there are excellent opportunities to build on Gothenburg's growing reputation for innovation. To meet the challenges we are facing, the knowledge and ideas of all actors – big and small – must be used and developed. We will work together to gather and release the forces that exist to make the economic development of the region a lever in the economic development of Gothenburg and the region.

RiverCity Gothenburg is located in the very centre of the region. By building an accessible, compact and mixed city with a large number of hubs, the inner city can expand across the river. With a strong regional centre, we can stimulate development towards an increasingly diversified and robust economy that could in time reinforce the whole of West Sweden, providing the capacity to face future challenges.

RiverCity Gothenburg will be accessible, dense, mixed and green. An attractive urban environment will emerge with excellent communications infrastructure, services, green spaces, and a wide range of jobs, homes and activities. The area will attract people and companies to Gothenburg from throughout Sweden and from abroad.

RIVERCITY GOTHENBURG WILL REINFORCE THE GOTHENBURG REGIONAL CENTRE BY:

- Releasing the driving forces
- Allowing the regional centre to come closer
- Creating an attractive urban environment







RELEASE THE DRIVING FORCES

The industrial city of Gothenburg is changing and fast becoming a distinct knowledge economy. This development is based largely on existing knowledge and expertise in the city. We will aim to unlock the full potential of the economic forces that exist and find new ways of working together. To achieve this, we need to be open to new ideas and approaches and maintain an open attitude. We must not only see but also actively work to realise the development of new knowledge, expertise and innovations.

“ We have the capacity to be world-leading and we’re here in Gothenburg. ”

**PELLE STENBERG,
NUDIE JEANS**

INTERVIEWS /
INDUSTRY AND ACADEMIA

CAPITALISE ON EXISTING STRENGTHS

Gothenburg is dependent on developments in the global economy. To meet future challenges with stiff competition and considerable uncertainty, we need to capitalise on the strengths that are already established in the city: large companies, strong clusters and strong collaboration between the city authority, academia and industry. At present, we have strong business-driven environments in medicine, logistics and transport as well as in the creative industries. To move towards a more robust, dynamic economy, the cities’ clusters need to be diversified. The service, visitor and life science sectors are examples of complementary sectors that need to be strengthened. RiverCity Gothenburg will be designed to promote these sectors.

To contribute to the good provision of skills and expertise and thus broaden the number of sectors in the city, we need an excellent educational environment. There must be a clear link between secondary school, high school and university and ultimately the specific needs of employers for knowledge and expertise. We will also make use of the knowledge

of people who have moved into the city by supporting enterprise and innovation on all levels.

WE WILL:

- build on and diversify clusters that are already established in the city.
- ensure that industry has access to the correct level of expertise.
- make use of expertise that already exists in the city.

USE CULTURE AS A DRIVING FORCE

In order to move towards a more distinct knowledge economy, we need to build on the knowledge, skills, commercial activities and networks that already exist in the city, even those that are small-scale. Culture is one of the driving forces. It supports the service sector and is important for regional development, growth, job opportunities and new products. In RiverCity Gothenburg, there are networks and companies ranging from small-scale trade and industry to service production and the creative sector. For instance, Lindholmen Science Park brings together different forms of collaboration in the media, arts and academia. Collaboration of this nature needs to be expanded.



“The city must begin and we will then follow. Provide us with a clear vision that creates credibility.”

MESSAGE FROM THE CONSTRUCTION STAKEHOLDERS

WORKSHOP / AUTUMN 2011

To contribute to development along these lines, an open, active investigatory attitude to urban development and wider economic development is required. We need to pay attention to the uses and businesses that already exist in RiverCity Gothenburg. Planning for RiverCity Gothenburg should be transparent and involve individuals and organisations that are or will be active in the area.

Relationships between businesses and public sector organisations should be improved. Advice, establishment of networks, mentorship and financing are vital tools for business growth. A growing and broader industrial base will result in a labour market where employees with different backgrounds and education levels are sought.

WE WILL:

- focus on giving advice, establishing business networks, promoting mentoring and financing to broaden the industrial base in the area.
- develop new methods to involve industry in the urban planning process.

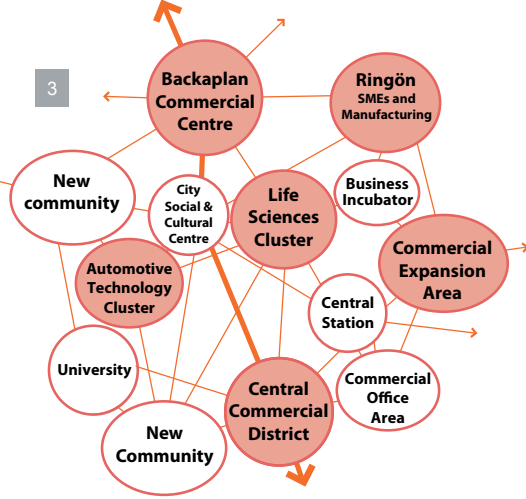
LARGE AND SMALL MEET

RiverCity Gothenburg is a place where players both large and small carry

on operations. The large will help the small to grow and the small will help the large to develop. We will bring together existing business experience in incubators and create a common culture of mentorship. Mentors will support new entrepreneurs from a variety of backgrounds and different stages in their development. By doing so, we will make full use of new ideas at the same time supporting everyone in our entrepreneurial community including players large and small. We will develop a space that makes it easier for them to meet. By allowing industry, academia and the city authority to collaborate in development projects that focus on a sustainable, dynamic regional centre, small and large players can collaborate. Apart from collaboration between different players, we will build up knowledge of how to create a climate-adapted, resource-efficient, inclusive and dynamic city.

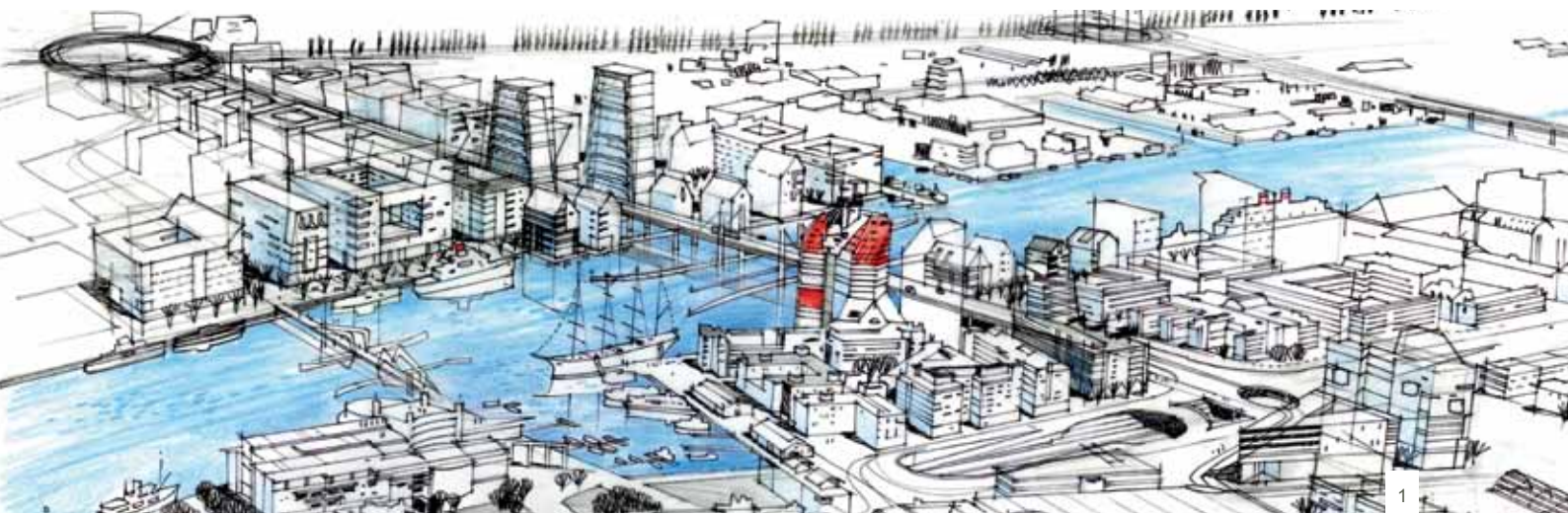
WE WILL:

- bring together experience in incubators and create a common culture with mentors who support new entrepreneurs on all levels.
- establish a test-bed to bring large and small players to collaborate around a sustainable, dynamic regional centre.



→ **IDEAS FROM THE PROCESS**

- 1 STUDENT PROJECTS**
Proposal by Edward Becker, student at Harvard University
A hub for public transport and a park will be created at Frihamnen.
- 2 RIVERCITY WORKSHOP**
Proposal by Team EGA
Gothenburg ought to be developed carefully over time – allow enterprises to grow side by side.
- 3 RIVERCITY WORKSHOP**
Proposal by Team Happold
Activities and clusters can be linked in RiverCity Gothenburg.



ALLOW THE REGIONAL CENTRE TO COME CLOSER

The city centre of Gothenburg and the wider city region of West Sweden need to be strengthened. RiverCity Gothenburg is in the heart of a regional economic system with good accessibility from both the rest of the city and from the wider travel to work area. Accessibility will be improved further by investments within the framework of the West Sweden Package. By densifying and establishing several strong hubs in the area, the centre can be developed and grow sustainably over time. It reinforces the competitiveness of both the city and the wider regional labour market.

“ Plan public transport and cycle paths to keep car traffic to a minimum. ”

RESIDENT OF LUNDBY
PUBLIC CONSULTATION / WORKSHOP

THE REGION WILL MEET AT ITS CENTRE

The regional centre is the focal point in the regional labour market and is important for regional economic development. It offers job opportunities, cultural experiences, services and meeting places. The larger the regional centre, the more opportunities there are for the region, not only within the country but also internationally. The regional centre is expected to grow and if it is able to do so sustainably, the region and its centre need to integrate more effectively. RiverCity Gothenburg is located in the heart of the regional centre and will contribute to this integration.

An increasing number of people in the Gothenburg region use public transport to travel between home and work, particularly young people without a car. As the regional centre grows, the need for efficient, accessible, public transport will increase. At the Central Station and the terminal Nils Ericsonterminalen, trains, buses and trams already meet and the ferries are not far away. The area will gain in importance with the planned West Link system and as the regional centre continues to grow. It will be easier

and more attractive to switch between different modes of transport.

WE WILL:

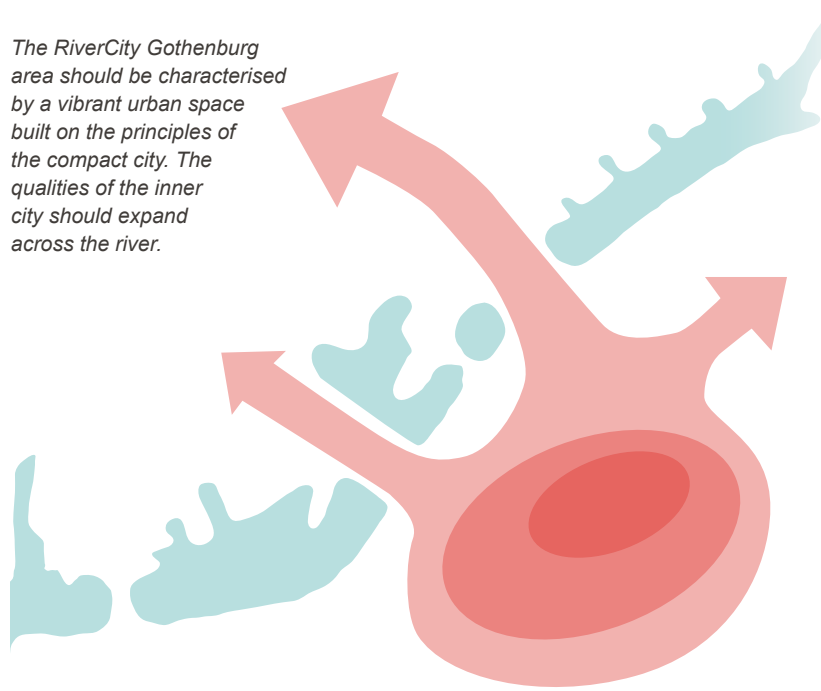
- develop the Central Station area into an attractive communications hub and regional centre.
- remain open to the idea of linking the Bohusbanan railway to the West Link system by means of a tunnel under the river.

THE INNER CITY WILL GROW ACROSS THE RIVER

The Central Station area is located in the heart of RiverCity Gothenburg but also in the heart of the future inner city of Gothenburg. We will focus development around a number of hubs. The area will benefit from such a development with Frihamnen, Backaplan, Lindholmen, the Central Station area and Järntorget/ Järnvågen as strategic development hubs. Frihamnen will be strategically important, because it will link the inner city across the river and with the quarters of Kvillestaden, Backaplan, Lindholmen and Ringön. Backaplan will link the rest of the quarter of Lundby to Frihamnen and Brunnsbo. The Central Station area will open up the development of the

THE INNER CITY WILL GROW ACROSS AND ALONG THE RIVER

The RiverCity Gothenburg area should be characterised by a vibrant urban space built on the principles of the compact city. The qualities of the inner city should expand across the river.



quarter Gullbergsvass and link the whole area to the water, including Lilla Bommen. Lindholmen will in time link Stigberget to Hisingen by means of a public transport route. Järntorget/Järnvågen will open up the quarter Linnéstaden towards the river and link the Southern river shore, including Skeppsbron, Masthuggskajen and Stigberget.

WE WILL:

- establish and develop the Frihamnen hub – this will be the Northern equivalent of Korsvägen!
- develop the Backaplan hub – Vågmästareplatsen will become the Hisingen equivalent of the square Järntorget!
- develop the Central Station hub – the area will be the central business district of the city and a regional meeting point for people coming from the wider city region and Gothenburg itself.
- develop the Lindholmen hub – the area will be integrated more effectively with the quarter Stigberget!
- develop the Järntorget/Järnvågen hub – the square Heurlins Plats will become the heart of the Southern river shore!

MORE PEOPLE WILL WALK, CYCLE AND USE PUBLIC TRANSPORT

In a compact inner city with several hubs, conditions will be created for a rich and varied city life. The squares and urban paths, where people can move around calmly and safely, will form a basis for local services. If home and work are closer we will be able to walk, cycle and travel by tram and bus more frequently. To make the choice simple, there must be distinct, safe and accessible urban paths. In RiverCity Gothenburg, it should be easy and attractive to move around other than by car. This can be facilitated by creating intelligent solutions where alternative modes of transport are combined. It must be easy to switch between the different means of transport. We must reinforce contact between ferries and other public transport in the area. More squares along the river will be made accessible by ferry. The public transport stops must be designed as meeting places that enrich the urban environment and support surrounding activities and businesses. They must be located and designed as part of the urban space at squares or along urban paths where we move around naturally.

New enterprises must fit into the established urban fabric.

WE WILL:

- design public transport stops that are attractive meeting places in their own right.
- connect RiverCity Gothenburg with a continuous system of pedestrian and cycle paths.
- test the possibility of expanding the local ferry traffic to link up more places along the river.

→ IDEAS FROM THE PROCESS

1 RIVERCITY WORKSHOP

Proposal by Team Sweco

Both sides of the river can be linked by means of a Jubilee Area around the new bridge over the river Göta älv.

2 RIVERCITY WORKSHOP

Proposal by Team Schønher

The regional centre should offer job opportunities, cultural experiences and meeting places for the whole region.

3 RIVERCITY WORKSHOP

Proposal by Team SLA/HLA

Attractive public places can be created at Skeppsbron.



CREATE AN ATTRACTIVE URBAN ENVIRONMENT

Apart from accessibility, the most prominent features of RiverCity Gothenburg are the historical city within the moat and proximity to the river. Despite this, it is sparsely developed and busy commercial thoroughfares and railways are a recurring feature even in central locations. By creating an attractive city environment, making way for a multiplicity of enterprises and creating a rich range of services and culture, the attractiveness of Gothenburg can be increased nationally and internationally.

CREATE INTERNATIONAL REPUTATION

Gothenburg has a relatively small residential area and a small travel to work area. We cannot rely on the local market to sustain a wide range of services and amenities. We need to work in a national and international context where access to skills and expertise is key to success. The living environment is an important consideration when a company chooses to invest and

establish new operations. Through its attractive city environment, RiverCity Gothenburg will attract individuals working internationally as well as students. Access to student apartments, accommodation for key workers and places at international schools need to match demand. We will continue to work to support the establishment of international companies by offering location support with attractive sites and good accessibility.

RiverCity Gothenburg offers a unique opportunity to market Gothenburg on the national and international level. We will use the project to make Gothenburg visible and to capitalise on opportunities to attract national and international investors, organisations and companies, tourists and people with skills and expertise. We will market the area and tell the world about Gothenburg.

WE WILL:

- attract skills and expertise by offering an exciting urban environment with an interesting cultural life and an attractive residential setting.
- support international companies looking to enter the area by facilitating their establishment

at locations that offer good access, support and service.

- create a city environment that attracts international attention and uses RiverCity Gothenburg to reinforce the image of Gothenburg and West Sweden.

BUILD A COMPACT CITY

A compact or high density city means that more people can move around in an area. With many people moving around, there are lots of encounters. RiverCity Gothenburg should therefore be built densely. High density brings new commercial activities that contribute to a vibrant, attractive urban setting where people will happily spend time. A compact city creates the conditions for a wide range of services, workplaces, culture and recreation. It provides a basis for good public transport and contributes to a city that is very much active for most of the day and night. An urban environment such as this generates higher levels of economic and business growth, because businesses will cluster together, develop stronger relationships, collaborate and foster innovation, new products and new supply chains. Where we will make the city denser, we will think

“The city should be good to live in for our employees.”

MAGNUS KÅRESTEDT,
PORT OF GOTHENBURG

INTERVIEWS /
INDUSTRY AND ACADEMIA



in the long term and create clusters of economic activity and other groupings that can be developed over time. Initially, we will build on existing retailing locations. Backaplan, Frihamnen and the Central Station area will be developed into compact mixed use city quarters. Incorporation of squares and green areas into this dense city structure will create added value and must be taken into account.

WE WILL:

- build a dense urban environment that promotes meetings and interaction. Particular account should be taken of the creation of squares and green areas.
- strengthen existing retailing areas and create dense hubs of activity with a mix of uses.

REINFORCE DIVERSITY

A diverse range of businesses and organisations are interested in establishing operations in an attractive urban environment. The content of an area – its diversity – is of crucial significance to how active it will be during the different hours of the day and night. This mixture comprises

housing, workplaces, institutions, services and recreation facilities as well as a mixture of old and new, large and small. It will be an area that offers variation in architecture and other forms of expression. We must build densely but not everywhere. Some sparser development could remain and be developed in line with different principles and thus enrich the denser areas of RiverCity Gothenburg. It is the contrast between the dense and the sparse, the small and large, the old and the new that generates diversity in urban space and life and creates conditions for more people to live and work there.

In RiverCity Gothenburg, the diversity will be reinforced by providing cultural institutions such as museums, performance venues and public arenas alongside small working premises for studios and workshops. We will satisfy the needs of various branches of industry by offering a varied range of premises. Ringön and Gullbergsvass are examples of areas where different commercial activities can co-exist. This form of diversity should be utilised and reinforced in the area.

WE WILL:

- reinforce diversity by supporting the creation of a mixture of enterprises as well as the different facets of the city.
- take particular account of the potential offered by architecture and art to contribute to a vibrant, welcoming city.

→ IDEAS FROM THE PROCESS

1 YOUNG:RIVERCITY

Proposal from Gustaviskolan school

There ought to be a car-free area in the city with space for greenery and games.

2 RIVERCITY WORKSHOP

Proposal from Team EGA

At Frihamnen, large-scale events and daily meeting places could exist side-by-side.

3 STUDENT PROJECTS

Proposal by Edward Becker, student at Harvard University

A green embankment that houses a centre for commercial activities and communications below ground could put Gothenburg firmly on the map.

FROM VISION TO IMPLEMENTATION

There is widespread consensus on the type of city we are seeking to create. Experts and the people of Gothenburg all point in the same direction. RiverCity Gothenburg will be open to the world. At the same time, the process has revealed that we need more than a vision to achieve our ambition. We must continue to demonstrate initiative, organise the work process and lead by example.

RiverCity Gothenburg will make Gothenburg visible to the world. We will achieve this by using the area as a test-bed where we try out new models and technologies – socially, environmentally and economically. We will do this by capitalising on our strengths in the lead-up to 2021 and we will work in a way that attracts attention and interest in what we are doing. As we plan for the area in the long term, we will make it accessible here and now through short-term measures and activities.

Urban development covers many political areas and requires collective political leadership. In each sub-project we must maintain a view of the totality of the RiverCity Gothenburg project. Of particular importance is how we design the shared spaces of the city– the city spaces, streets, squares, quaysides and parks. We will therefore continue to develop the way in which we plan and collaborate to shape our city. We need clear roles and a working model that can change and adapt over time. We need working forms where we test, measure, follow up and learn from what we have done. We need to improve the way we communicate and continue to discuss the type of city we want. All this requires openness, a capacity to see beyond the established norms and practice and a sense of curiosity and courage to test new ideas and innovations.

WE WILL:

- Use RiverCity Gothenburg as a test-bed for new ideas and innovations
- Capitalise on our strengths through to 2021
- Make full use of temporary measures and uses
- Communicate with active openness
- Develop our way of working



The Lingaphone sculpture by Olav Christopher Jenssen was erected at Frihamnen on November 4, 2011 on the initiative of the Department of Culture, City of Gothenburg.





1

AN OPEN APPROACH

USE RIVERCITY GOTHENBURG AS A TEST BED

Socially sustainable development will be a high profile issue for Gothenburg as well as RiverCity Gothenburg. We will investigate how the city can be made available to everyone. This can be achieved through pilot projects and comparative studies. RiverCity Gothenburg will move the city forward as a sustainable, attractive city for everyone.

In the area we will test new ideas, methods and technologies to build

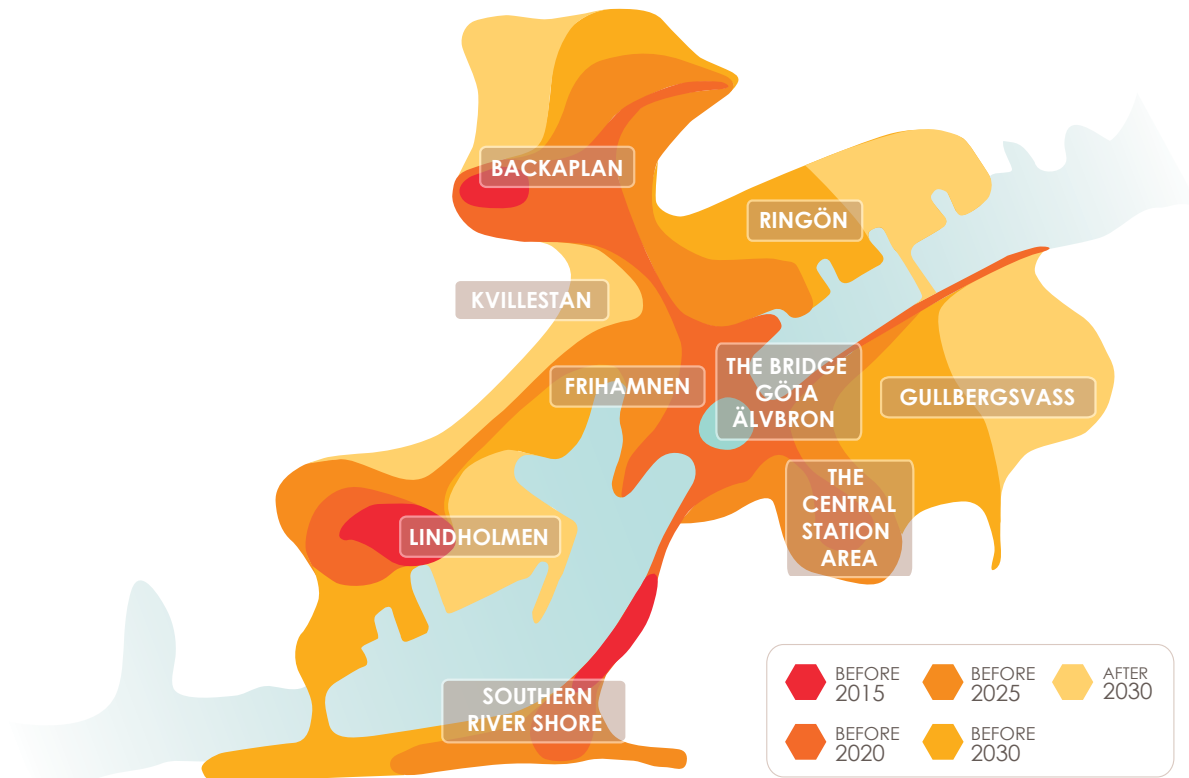
a sustainable city. This will cover everything from socially mixed housing to effective, flexible climate adaptation, innovative energy production and collaboration between large and small players and industry. We will seek out the best possible knowledge and methods to promote collaboration. We will make this a reality by working together with Mistra Urban Futures, Johanneberg Science Park and Lindholmen Science Park as well as other national and international bodies of expertise in academia and industry. We will learn more about how we can create the 'good city' through collaboration and dialogue.

MAKE FULL USE OF TEMPORARY MEASURES AND USES

Work on RiverCity Gothenburg will continue over a long period, but the vision can become part of the city now. We will encourage temporary measures, activities and uses to support and develop life in the city. Initially, we can test new things to find models that can be used during the process in order to incorporate elements naturally into city life. The discussion about the city will be kept alive and the results will be followed up.

2





CAPITALISING ON OUR STRENGTHS THROUGH TO 2021

In 2021, Gothenburg will celebrate its 400th anniversary. We will capitalise on all our strengths to celebrate the Jubilee by developing the first stage of RiverCity 2021 – which by then will have been completed. The people of Gothenburg are eagerly awaiting the linking of the city across the river and construction at Frihamnen. This stage will therefore be directed at the Frihamnen/Ringön area. There is also strong interest among the business community in the city to be involved in expansion within Frihamnen and the areas beside the future northern support for the new bridge over the river Göta älv.

Key issues for RiverCity 2021 will be to show how housing, workplaces and services can be integrated into a modern inner-city place beside the river. An inner city which in every sense is made available to everyone. It is also about connecting the city across the river, expanding a Frihamnen and creating a Jubilee Park on the waterfront.

The open working approach that has been established in the RiverCity

Gothenburg Vision should also be retained in our future work.

We will engage the services of a wide range of leading national and international experts. The first step is a concept process where the chosen working approaches will reinforce the national and international interest that has been created in Gothenburg during the visioning process.

After 2021, the process will need to be evaluated and developed. The vision will be enriched by experience and re-shaped in line with new conditions and ideas.

We are already building and planning in the area. The quarters of Kvillebäcken and Skeppsbron will be followed by Norra Masthugget. A replacement for the bridge Göta älvbron will be completed in 2020. The West Sweden infrastructure package will result in substantial investment in public transport. Work on the West Link rail tunnel will take until 2027. The Central Station and its immediate vicinity are facing wide-reaching transformation that will extend over a long period. These and other projects will contribute to realising the vision for RiverCity Gothenburg.

→ IDEAS FROM THE PROCESS

1 ST PETERSBURG

New Holland

Temporary measures and art installations attract people to visit and spend time in New Holland, a previously isolated island in St Petersburg.

2 RIVERCITY WORKSHOP

Proposal from Team SLA/HLA

Begin with the small-scale, green aspects and people and companies will appear.

3 EXPANSION PLAN

RiverCity Gothenburg

RiverCity Gothenburg will expand from the hubs and urban paths and a vibrant river space. By allowing the area to grow gradually from projects that are already in progress along strategic links and by commencing construction at Frihamnen and the Central Station area, a cohesive city can be created at an early stage in the expansion process.

COMMUNICATE WITH ACTIVE OPENNESS

We should all be able to follow what is happening in our city. We should be able to become involved in issues that affect everyone. RiverCity Gothenburg affects us all. We should therefore continue to work actively to communicate what we are doing and to inform people about the projects that lie ahead. It is also important to develop ways to discuss and find suitable arenas to pursue public dialogue. Practising active openness means making it possible to be part of the urban development dialogue. Not only do we need to inform people and provide feedback on the results to those who are involved, we must also anticipate situations where we ought to reach out to groups that normally do not make their voices heard. It should be possible to ensure that an increasing number of people feel they are being kept informed and that they are part of the process of making RiverCity Gothenburg a reality. The different aspects of RiverCity Gothenburg

have different pre-conditions. In areas with a high number of residential units or companies and organisations, different working forms are required than in areas that at present are relatively under-utilised.

Industrial and business sectors need to be involved in the process. To achieve this, a Strategy Council is proposed that will work on an interdisciplinary basis. We need to learn from the RiverCity Gothenburg Vision project if we are to carry on the dialogue and practise active openness.

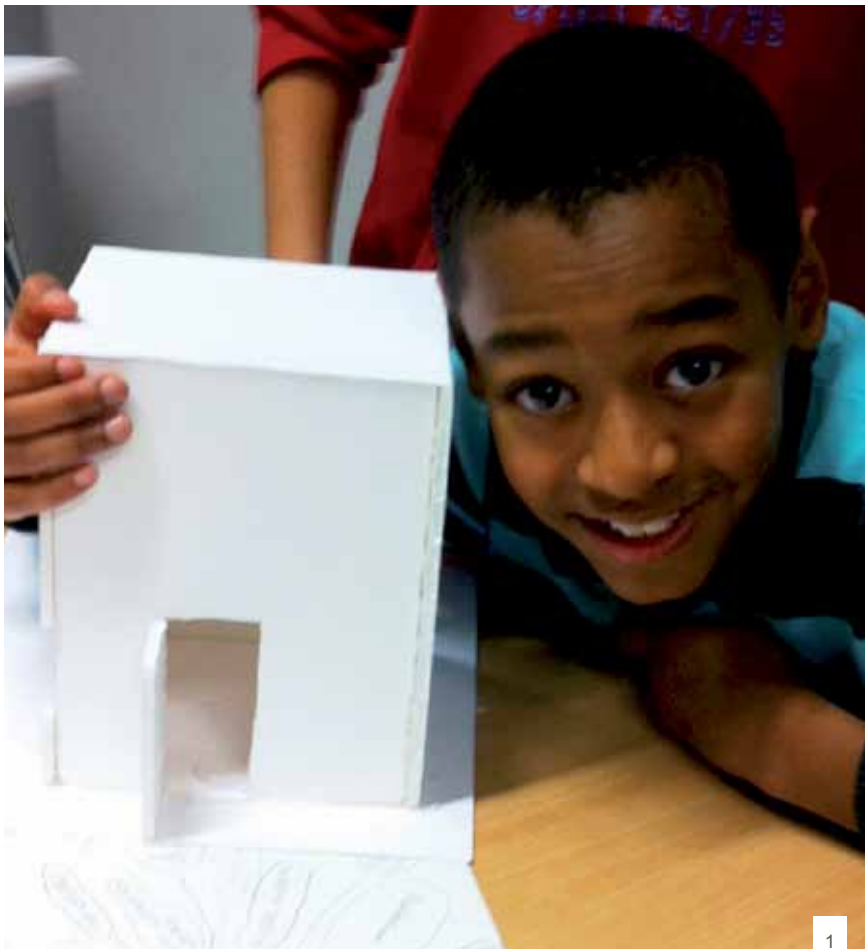
We need to communicate a collective and consistent narrative about how we are seeking to develop our city. RiverCity Gothenburg is an important part of the city's planned development and will to a large extent shape the Gothenburg of the future. A shared narrative will facilitate work with external parties and could attract investors. At the same time, it gives us, the people of Gothenburg,

→ *During the RiverCity Gothenburg public consultation process, a number of lessons have been learned.*

Among other things, it is important when making a decision about a consultation activity to define at an early stage:

- *the purpose of the consultation activity,*
- *the influence those who take part have on the process,*
- *who is ultimately responsible for implementation and who is behind the commissioning.*

knowledge about how the city of the future will be shaped. The image that we communicate of the area will be in harmony with the image that we communicate of Gothenburg as a whole. When working on the vision there will be a particular focus on capturing the values for the city as a whole. The aim is that all communication around RiverCity Gothenburg will contribute to reinforcing the image of Gothenburg.



→ IDEAS FROM THE PROCESS

1 YOUNG:RIVERCITY

School Workshop

We must listen to the thoughts and ideas of children about developing the city. Pictured are children from the Gärdmosseskolan school who gave their own visions for the city.

2 PUBLIC CONSULTATION

Book Fair 2011

We will work actively to seek out thoughts and ideas about the city among the people of Gothenburg. Pictured are visitors at the Book Fair pointing out their favourite places on a map of Gothenburg – places with potential and places with problems and shortcomings.

DEVELOP OUR WAY OF WORKING

Each project within RiverCity Gothenburg will be founded on the values set out in the vision. To achieve this, we need to focus on our way of working with each sub-project. We need a model for urban development that ensures that the vision is achieved and the strategies delivered.

When working on the vision, such a model emerged. The model is driven by leadership, a holistic view, involvement, co-operation and learning. The model is dynamic. It will be developed as part of a learning process that takes place through our experiences.

The basis for the model is that all projects within the area will have their starting point in the vision. Even at the programme stage, we will report on how the project contributes to the vision being achieved and how the strategies and working model will be applied.



THE RIVERCITY GOTHENBURG OF THE FUTURE

RiverCity Gothenburg will be open to the world. It will be shaped in such a way that it connects the city, embraces the water and reinforces the regional centre. The area needs to be seen as a totality but also as individual parts. To safeguard the character and expression of each district, they must be given the opportunity to develop in parallel and subject to different conditions and plans.

THE SOUTHERN RIVER SHORE

The Southern river shore will be brought closer to the water through the quarters of Skeppsbron, Masthuggskajen and Stigberget. The Järntorget/Järnvägen hub will be the midpoint and link up the area. It will be complemented by a mixed range of commercial activities and uses. There will be further study of how the busy urban highway of Oskarsleden can be redesigned into an urban street.

THE CITY WITHIN THE MOAT

We should safeguard the mixed commercial activities and uses in the city within the moat and the rich range of events and pursuits. The Nordstan quarter will be developed towards Lilla Bommen and the Central Station area.

THE CENTRAL STATION AREA

The Central Station area will open up development of Gullbergsvass and link up to the waterfront. The area will be an attractive communications hub and a regional centre. There will be dense, mixed urban development with meeting places and an abundance of greenery. The Central Station area is part of the urban axis that will be created across the river to Wieselgrensplatsen via Backplan.

GULLBERGSSVASS

The Gullbergsvass quarter will be reinforced with a mix of uses, which both builds on the local qualities of the neighbourhood as well as a new, large park. The area will be integrated more effectively with the water through new walking paths along the river. There will be further study of how the busy urban highway of Märten Krakowgatan can be redesigned into an urban street.

THE RIVER

We will have a living river space with small-scale and large-scale boat and ferry traffic. Continuous paths for walking and cycling will be established along both banks of the river. Squares and activities on both sides of the water will attract people down to the water and link the city across the river.



LINDHOLMEN

The Lindholmen quarter has an important role to play as a centre for the knowledge economy with collaboration within the media, the arts and academia. This role will be reinforced by building on existing clusters. Work and education in the area will be improved, but it will also be complemented by new homes. Lindholmen will be developed as a hub and in time Stigberget link on the Southern shore to Hisingen through a public transport link.

RAMBERGET

The green area of Ramberget is of considerable value to the urban environment and will be better integrated into the rest of the city.

KVILLESTADEN

The commercial activities in Kvillestaden will be safeguarded alongside the character of the residential area. The area will be linked to the Frihamnen and Backaplan quarters. How Lundbyleden and the port railway line will be directed underground will be the subject of further study.

FRIHAMNEN

If the inner city is to expand across the river and link up the Kvillestaden, Backaplan, Lindholmen and Ringön quarters, Frihamnen will be strategically important. The area will be a hub comprising new workplaces, socially mixed housing and good public transport. The development will be dense and contain a mix of uses. The Kvillebäcken river will be channelled through Frihamnen to form a 'green corridor'. No freight ferries will be permitted here. The area will be linked to the city within the moat by means of a new bridge for pedestrians and cyclists between Frihamnen and the extension of Östra Hamngatan and Avenyn.

BACKAPLAN

Backaplan will link the rest of Lundby to the Frihamnen and Brunnsbo quarters. The area will be developed as a dense mixed use hub. Retailing will continue to be developed. Backaplan will form part of the urban axis that will be created across the river to the Central Station area.

RINGÖN

At Ringön, various businesses currently exist side by side. This diversity will be utilised and reinforced. The area will be developed under its own power at the same time that scope will be created for industry – enterprises that are at the leading edge as well as enterprises that are more conventional. The range between the new enterprises at Frihamnen and the existing enterprises at Ringön is an important contributing factor in the development process. There will be old and new, expensive and less expensive. Alternative forms of housing, such as houseboats, will be accommodated at Ringön.

RIVERCITY 2021

We will capitalise on our strengths in the lead up to the Jubilee by developing the first stage of RiverCity 2021. The area will comprise parts of Frihamnen and Ringön. Key issues for RiverCity 2021 will be to show how housing, workplaces and services can be integrated into a modern inner-city environment and which connect the city across the river. A Jubilee Park will be created on the waterfront.

THANKS TO

INTEREST GROUPS

Multicultural Finnish Folk High School in Angered
Caritas Voluntary Centre, Hjällbo
Residents of Fyrklövern, Lundby
Senior citizens of Lundby
Inter-Religious Council
Students
Omställning Göteborg
Pantrarna i Biskopsgården
Idéverkstan Majorna
Aktivitetshuset Gyllenkroken
Fryshuset: Being Wanting Doing Project
Consultation Group for Physical Accessibility
Skolhusgruppen i Västsverige
Residents in all districts of the city

LUNCH MEETINGS

Everyone who became involved and presented their ideas about RiverCity Gothenburg at Älvrummet during the course of the project.

TEACHERS AND PUPILS

Angered High School
Schillerska High School
Tynneredsskolan
Bräckeskolan
Noleredsskolan
Brännö skola
Gårdsmosseskolan
Gårdstensskolan
Nya Varvets skola
Hammarkulleskolan
Glöstorpskolan
Gustaviskolan
School of Design and Crafts
Harvard University

VISITORS AND STUDENTS ON WALKS OF THE FUTURE

Ringön – Frihamnen
Brämaregården and Kvillestaden
Lindholmen
Långgatorna – Stigbergstorget
Gullbergsvass

VISITORS AND PARTICIPANTS

Gustav Adolfs Torg
Kyrkbytorget
Galaxen Bergsjön
Vårväderstorget
The Flunsås Path Day
Brunnsbotorget
Kortedala torg
Olskrokstorget
Selma Lagerlöfs torg
Eriksbergs torg
Farmers' Market, Haga
Frölunda torg
Angered Centrum
Train of ideas
Energy and Environment Day
Kulturkalaset
Book and Library Fair
Exhibition at the City Library

EXPERTS WHO TOOK PART IN

Workshop: A Fossil-Free City, 2011
Workshop: An Inclusive City, 2011
Workshop: A Differentiated Industry, 2011
Nordic Exchange of Experience, 2011

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Monitoring researchers,
Mistra Urban Futures

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Environmentally

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MATERIAL ABOUT RIVERCITY GOTHENBURG



REPORTS:

- Program for the International Workshop RiverCity Gothenburg (in Swedish and English)
- RiverCity Gothenburg, The Outcome of the International Workshop (in Swedish and English)
- Advisory Board Report (in English)
- Dialogue on the Future of RiverCity Gothenburg (in Swedish)
- Vision and strategies - Evaluating the process (in English)
- Reports from the RiverCity Workshop Ten Teams (in English)
- Harvard, Student Project (in English)
- Polluted Land (in Swedish)
- From Vision to Built Environment (in Swedish)
- City Life Analysis (in Swedish)
- Socially Mixed Areas (in Swedish)
- Retailing in RiverCity Gothenburg (in Swedish)
- Sound of the City (in Swedish)
- Green Plan for RiverCity Gothenburg (in Swedish)

- A Summary of the workshops: A Fossil-Free City, An Inclusive City and A Diversified Commercial and Industrial Life, as well as the Nordic Exchange of Ideas and Experience (in Swedish)
- RiverCity Gothenburg, Material for discussion - potential for development and distribution of homes and workplaces (in Swedish)
- Learning from Hamburg (in Swedish)

EXHIBITIONS:

- Results from the RiverCity Gothenburg International Workshop
- Young:RiverCity
- Harvard, Student Project (summer 2012)

FILMS:

- Young:RiverCity (in Swedish)
- From reed to knowledge cluster, the history of Gothenburg (in Swedish, with English subtitles)
- Introduction to the RiverCity Gothenburg International Workshop (in Swedish, with English subtitles)

- Walks of the Future, a Summary (in Swedish)
- Presentation of the result of the RiverCity Gothenburg International Workshop at the School of Business, Economics and Law on 11th June 2011 (in English)

ONLINE:

- You can find more information about the processes that have created the vision at alvstaden.goteborg.se
- To remain updated, please visit and follow us on Facebook, YouTube and Twitter.
- You can view the ideas that contributed to the vision at: centralaalvstaden.goteborg.se

Please continue to follow the vision at alvstaden.goteborg.se



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