

Participatory urban planning

Ideas competition for the railway area of central Lahti

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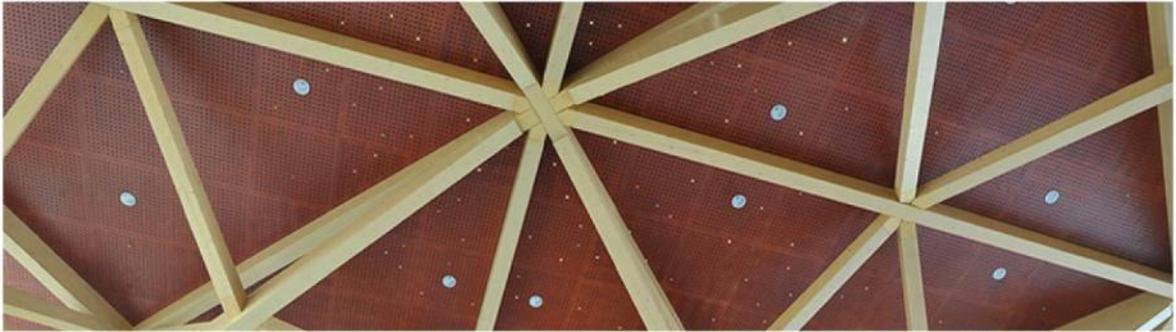
Head of strategy
Administrative affairs



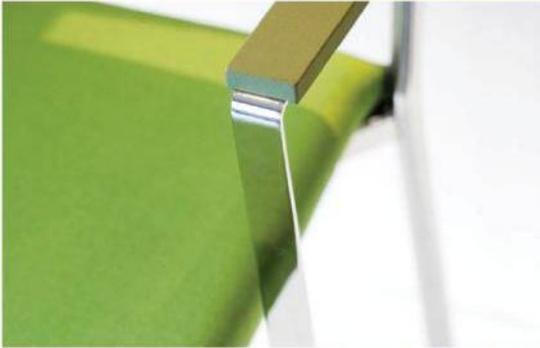
City of Lahti

- Satellite city on the greater Helsinki metropolitan area
- 102 000 inhabitants and growth rate of aprox. 0.7 %
- Area : 154,6 km²
- Economic structure: services, education, wood industry, mechatronics, food industry
- An area of strong economic restructuring





STRATEGY 2025

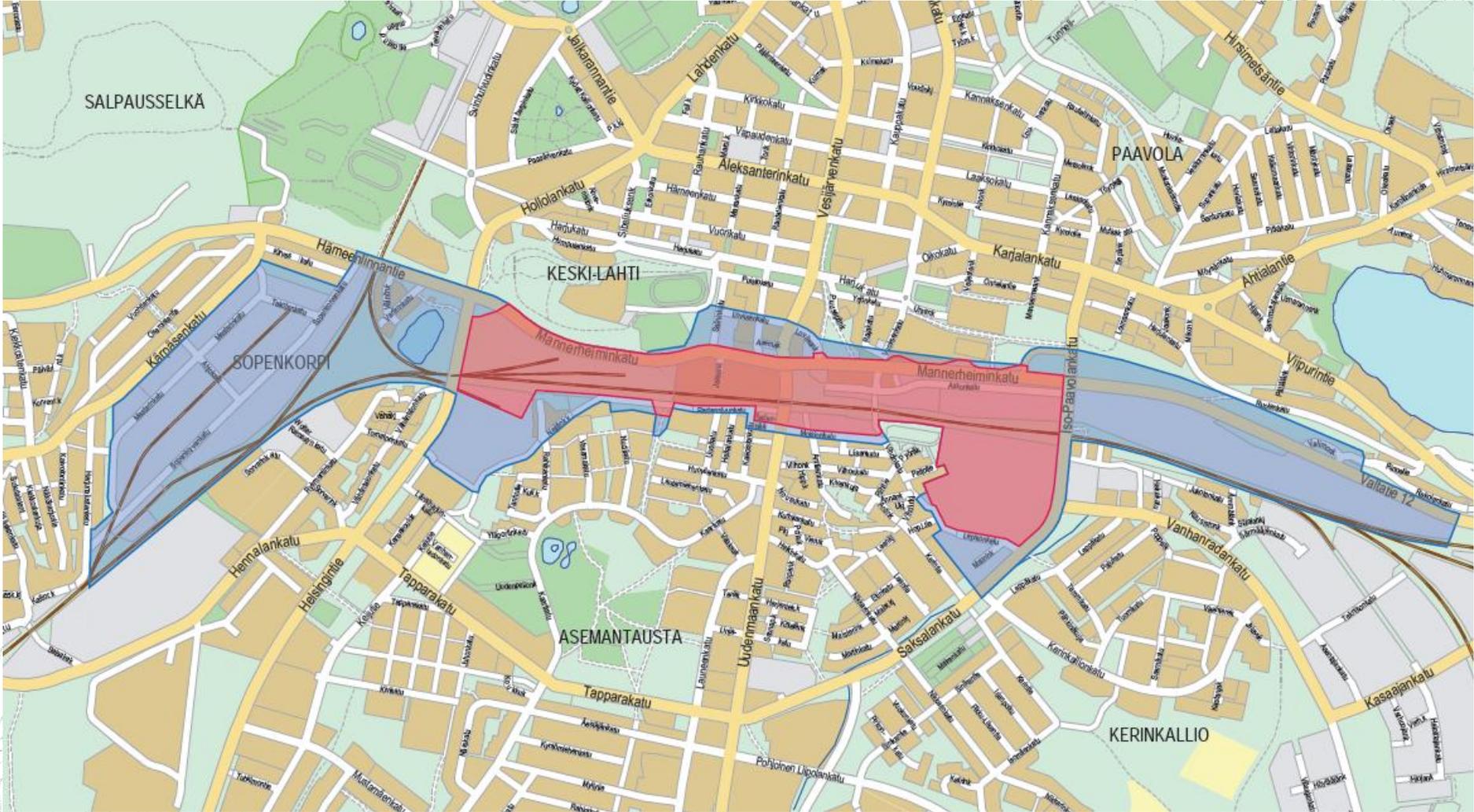


Strategic goals

- One of the main growth areas in Finland
- Integral part of the metropolitan area
- Leader in reducing greenhouse gas emissions and creating sustainable city
- Strong economic growth based on high value-added business – especially cleantech and design
- Attractive city
- Open and collaborative decision making

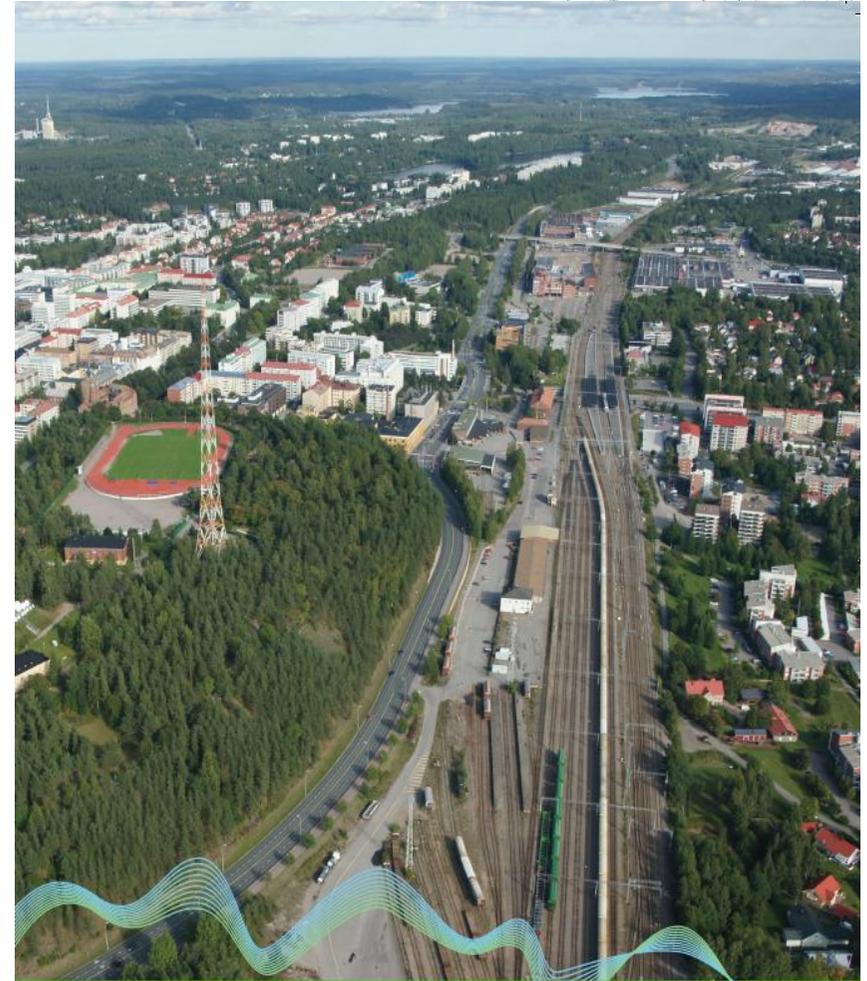


Ideas competition for the railway area of central Lahti



Ideas competition for the railway area of central Lahti

- A unique comprehensive idea for the area
- The functionally compact design of the Travel Centre complex
- Urban design that supports a sustainable and ecological lifestyle.
- Solutions that support car-independent transit culture and the use of public transport and bicycle and pedestrian traffic.
- Innovative green concepts.
- The creation of an 'identity' for the area



Participatory urban planning process

1. stage - The citizens' participation in the planning of the area and in the competition process



Creating a debate with the city's inhabitants about what is important for urban design.

Include citizens with widely varying viewpoints in the generation of ideas for the area.

Direct and multi-viewpoint feedback, ideas and debate offer a sturdier foundation for future planning work.

Create a pool of ideas for the planner to draw on

Participatory urban planning groups

1. stage - Creating groups of citizens and Data collection

15.2.2012 – 18.6.2012 & 9.9.2012- 26.9.2012



Elderly people
about 25 participants



Land owners



High school students
about 25 participants



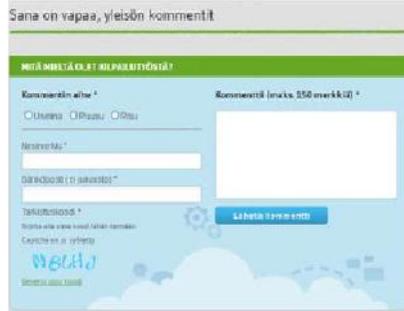
Diamond-team
about 30 participants



Local residents, Businessmen, Entrepreneurs and Unions
about 30 participants



Families Kindergarden
10 participants



Website+email

Participatory urban planning process

1. stage - Identify the context of use

- Who are the users?
- What kinds of demands and the needs users have, related to the area (services, leisure, work, traffic, environment)?
- How and when do they move in the area?
- What kind of values, dreams, prejudices users are related to?
- How the area is linked to the larger context?

Participatory urban planning groups

1. stage - What kind of city do the inhabitants dream about? Start up research



Comments were gathered from the inhabitants in many different ways, from internet services to interactive workshops.

The agenda of participatory planning mixes city residents and professionals in the field in a joint “ideas walk” along the trackside.

We walked along the trackside to hear about the history of the area and come up with ideas for its future.

We studied the area using all the senses – to get ‘feel’ of the place

Participatory planning groups

1. stage - What kind of city do the inhabitants dream about?

Start up research

1. workshops with kindergarden kids



Idea-walking through area and after that visualization of dreams - the happy city through the eyes of five-year-old.

During the spring and summer about 100 participated the workshops!



There were about 500 participants in inclusive events during the autumn.

Participatory planning groups

1. stage - What kind of city do the inhabitants dream about? “Dream environment”

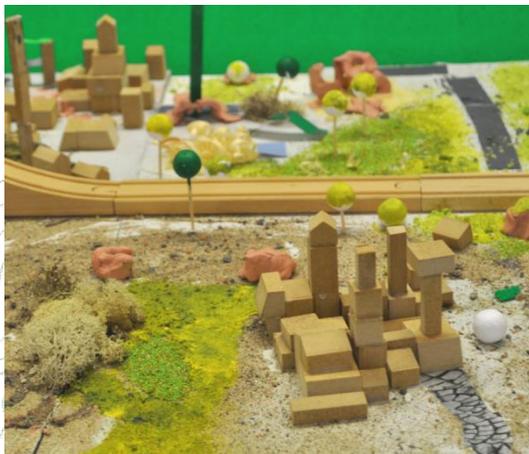


MAIJA
 Minun ajatuksia joulukinon ja oman
 maanrakennuksen. Kukaan ei ole
 rakentanut minulle kukaan. Ei ole
 maanrakennusta minulle, minä
 olenkin kukaan.

SEURAJA
 Ajatukset ja puutot kehittämissä...
 rakentaminen on maanrakennus, mutta
 ei. Maanrakennus on maanrakennus
 maanrakennus. Tämä maanrakennus, ei maanrakennus.

VALMIA
 Tämä on maanrakennus maanrakennus.

OP



Participatory urban planning groups

1. stage - Interaction

”The discussion between different viewpoints”



Visualization and other illustration tools will help to find a common point of view among participants.



Participatory planning groups

1. stage - What kind of city do the inhabitants dream about?

”The discourse between different viewpoints”



”Diamond team” – so-called ideas team –gathered together.



Gathering together around a single table people and stakeholders representing different starting points widens the horizons of all parties.

There is not a “single voice” among the residents for how the urban structure should be developed.

Urban planning is a diverse process in a state of continuous movement.

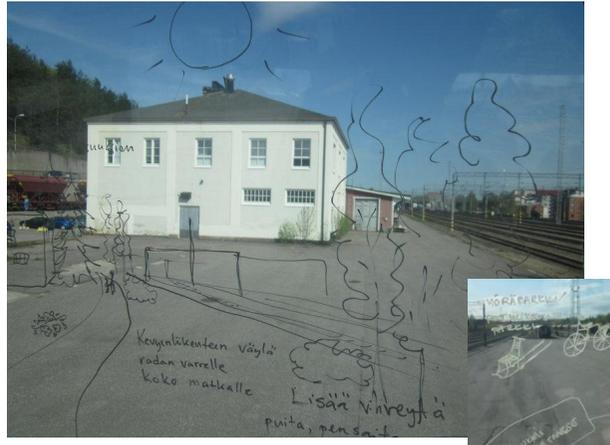


Kick off workshops with high school students
- totally we had 5 different workshops with 16-18 years
students. 25 participants in total.

Participatory urban planning workshop

1. stage - What kind of city do the professionals dream about?

"The discourse between different viewpoints - with new methods!"



Ideas were generated on the seminar bus and the market place

Participating in the seminar were professionals in the field of urban planning – architects, politicians, and representatives of the environmental authorities – as well as activist citizens.

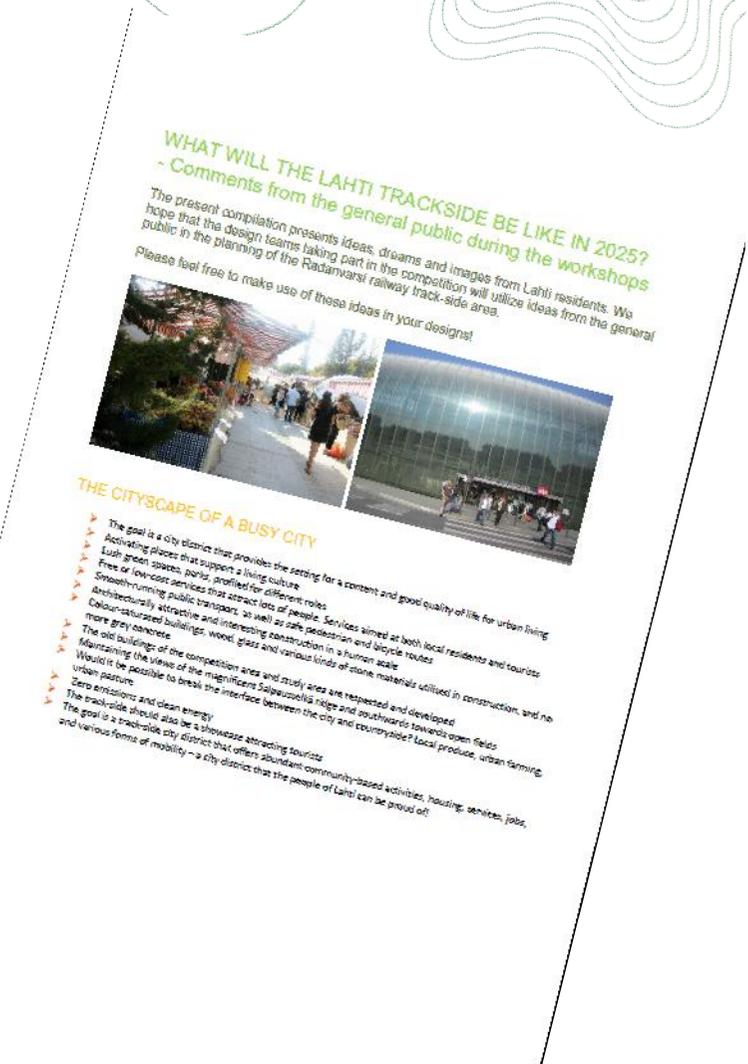


The participants invented several new uses for the old building and environment.

Participatory urban planning

Results from step 1 - “Dream environment”

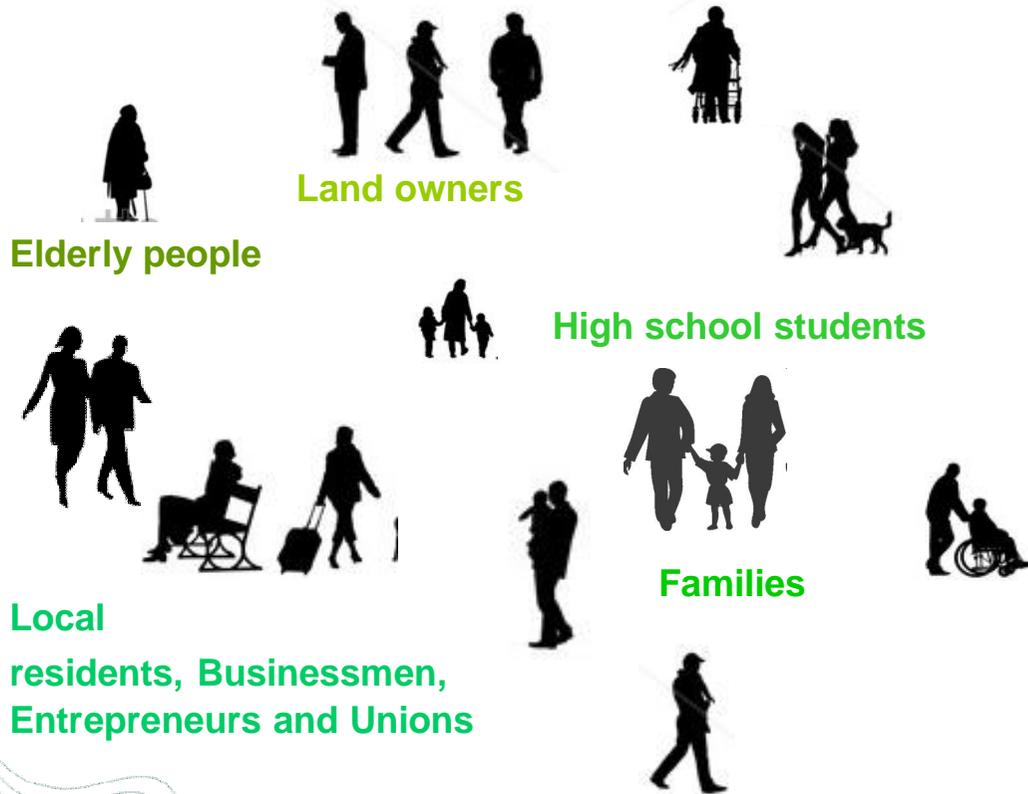
- The Radanvarsi trackside compilation presents the issues, wishes and viewpoints of the inhabitants, as well as reference pictures that the citizens have submitted of their “dream environment”, linked with the development of the cityscape, architecture and environment.
- Fast and easy-to-use public transport services, smooth and safe bicycle and pedestrian routes, and free/public urban spaces were ‘the hot topics’
- The city’s inhabitants pondered about ways to attract tourists to the city and, on the other hand, about how the surroundings of the Travel Centre and trackside would support the people’s different life circumstances.
- The compilation in its entirety can be read on the homepage of the competition website www.radanvarsi.fi/en.



Participatory urban planning

2. stage – **Open doors** - Give your voice and comments about competition proposals

16.10.2012 – 12.11.2012



Open doors 1.11 - 7.11.2012

About 210 participants

Participatory urban planning

2. stage – Open doors - Results from step 1



"Meidän ryhmän ajatukset näkyvät näissä töissä hämmäntävän hyvin. Aika uskomatonta." "Tämä on ollut mukava projekti olla mukana, kun olen todella saanut tuntea vaikuttavani. Ainakin siis näihin kilpailutöihin."

Almost all the 27 competition teams had used creditably the material gathered from citizens.

" Ideas of our group shown amazingly well in these works ! "

"This has been a nice project to be involved. I really feel that I have had influenced to these competition works. "

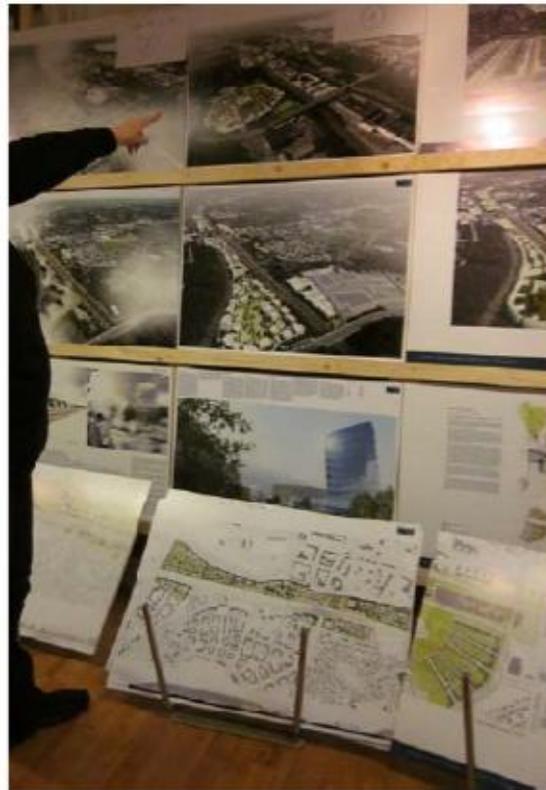
Participatory urban planning

2. stage – Open doors - Give your voice and comments

1.11.2012 – 7.11.2012



"Hei täällähän on käytetty mun ideoita!"



"Yhtään sellaista täydellistä kilpailuehdonusta ei oikein löydy.... useissa töissä on hienoja toteutuksia."

"Parhaimmat ideat poiminalla saataisi upoa ja totoutuskol poimen alue."

The meetings with residents are definitely the most fruitful part of this work.

"Hey, my ideas has been used in this work!"



Participatory urban planning

Results from step 1 - "Dream environment"



WEBSITE:

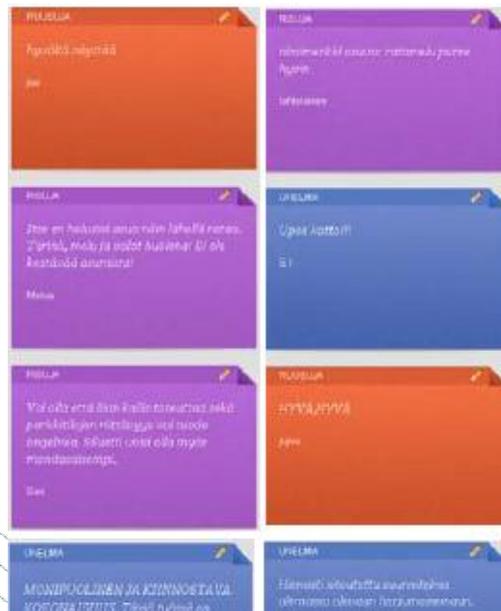
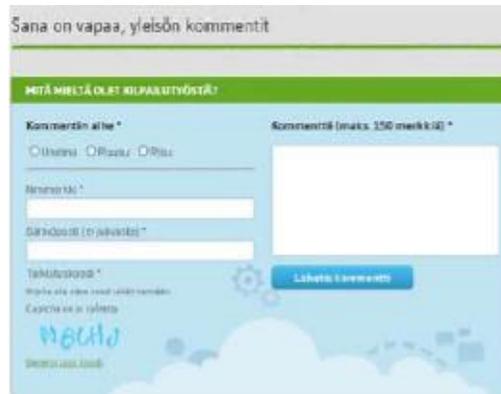
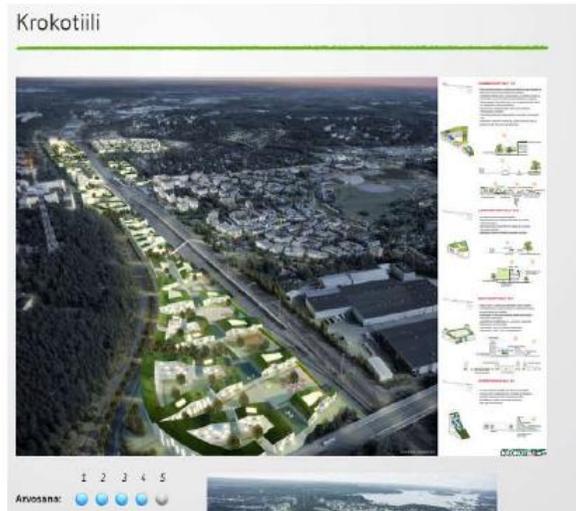
The citizens can vote for their favourite entry and give their comments on the proposals



Participatory urban planning

2. stage – Website - Give your voice and comments

16.10.2012 – 12.11.2012



Website 16.10 - 12.11.2012

- about 1100 votes
- several hundred comments

All these comments and Ideas can be followed through these webpages.

Participatory urban planning

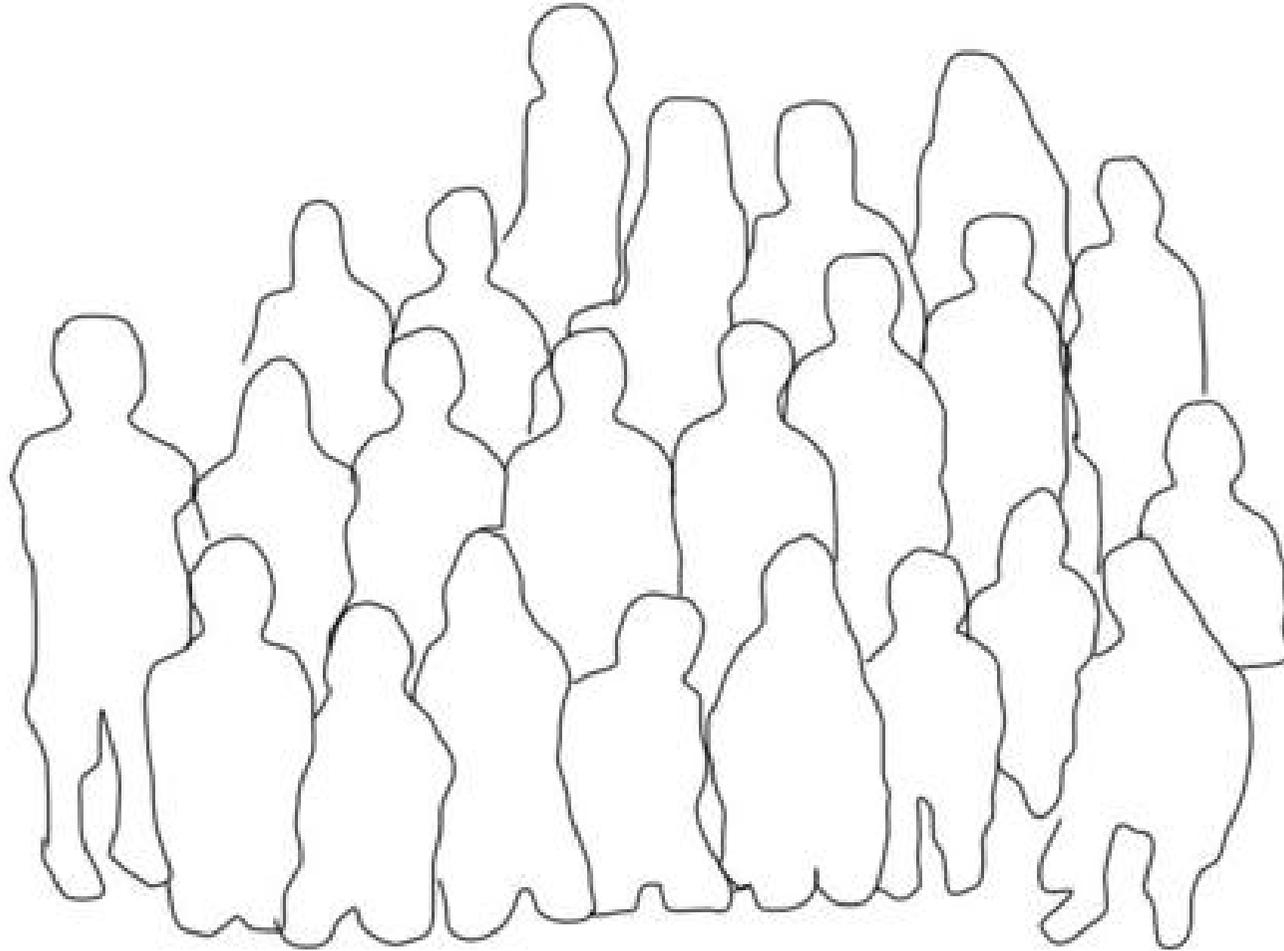
Media - an important part of our collective Inclusion



Medias play an important role in collective inclusion.



City residents



Users are a valuable lead-user potential!



Thank you!

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www.radanvarsi.fi
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Sitra - Design Exchange Program