

CROSSING HORIZONS

Context, urban structure and relation to surrounding areas

One of the main features of Lentoasemanpuisto is its vast open landscape which has remained open because of the long roots in agriculture and the airport history. The runways and airport buildings are currently giving a strong identity to the site. The environment around the Fallkulla estate has rich cultural features with old trees, fields, meadows and pastures with farm animals. An old sand track which transported sand from Tattarisuo to the tile factory of Malmi can still be recognized as a pathway close to Fallkulla. Water has been visible in the landscape in many forms during the times: as dence patterns of ditches in fields, as a stream of 'Pekki', a branch of Longinoja, and natural springs in the ground water area. Due to this historical background the area has versatile and distinctive flora and fauna. Surrounding forests of Malmi airport are very vivid recreational areas which offer circular routes for jogging, cycling, riding and skiing in the nature with multiple ecological values. Existing forests around airport vary from wetlands and swamps to dry rocky hills. In bigger scale the airport area is located between two 'green fingers' of Helsinki city structure and larger recreational network.

Proposal

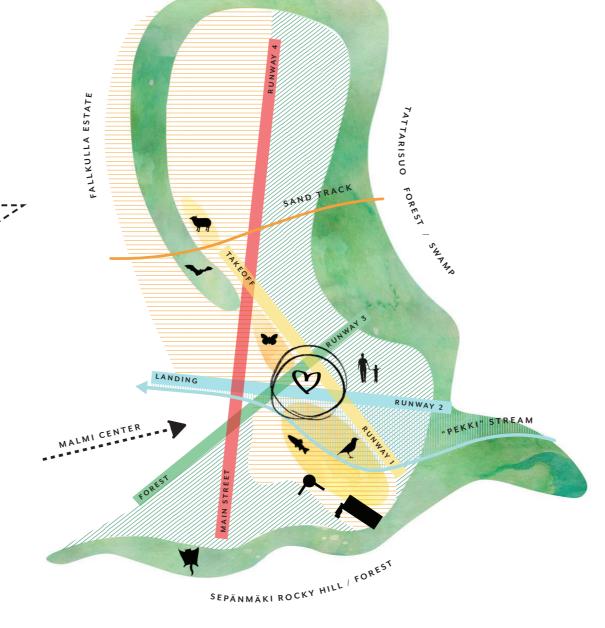
The new park is seen as a process where residents, visitors and multiple animal and plant species live and thrive side by side, while preserving fractures of rich cultural history as a cultivated land and a pioneer site of Finnish aviation history.

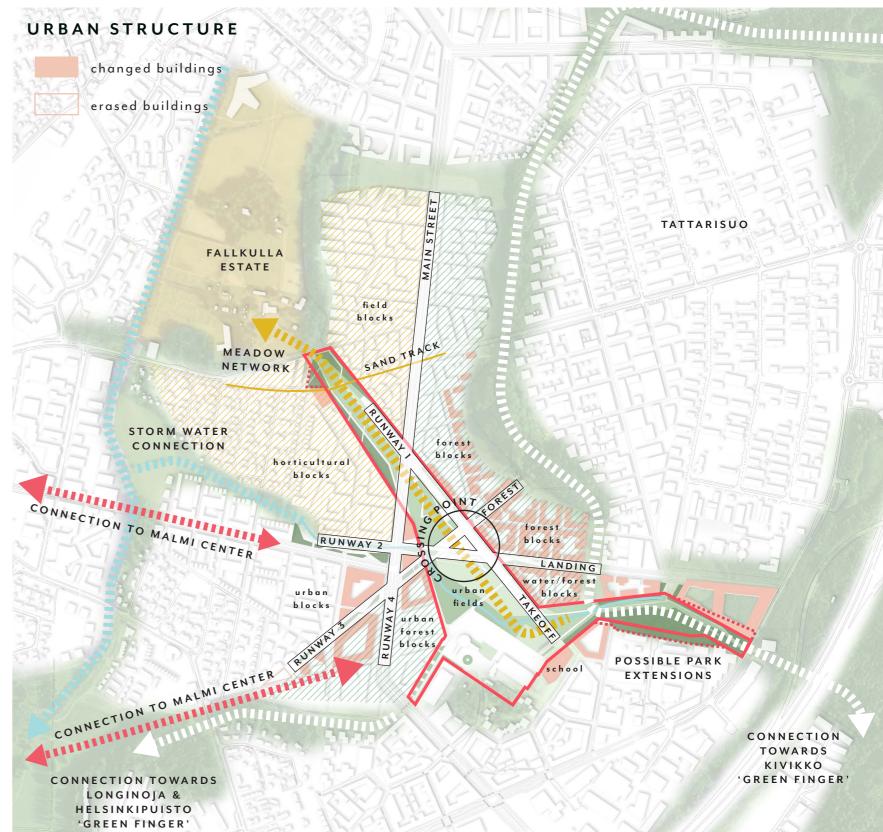
The proposal addresses larger area than the competition site itself to give the new area a strong identity based on genius loci and to solve land use and storm water management in a holistic way. The design preserves the open cultural land-scape. Different types of biotopes are created on versatile green areas to support the surrounding ecological networks. The new residential area will be densely built and therefore the amount of vegetation and other permeable surfaces is maximized in the park. The existing forests are preserved and cutted forests will be compensated. The park activities and structures are focused on the historical skeleton of the runways. In the park area the runways create the core of public open space. The skeleton is extended from the park area into the new city structure so that the print of the airport will stay visible. The extensions work as multifunctional public spaces which are defined and evolved by residents to strengthen the sense of community.

The relationship and transition between the park and the surrounding built areas has been carefully studied. Some changes have also been made to the building masses, heights and distances to strengthen and highlight the ideas behind the park design. The focus has especially been on the 'joints' where the old runways connect with both the park and the urban structure.

The park consist of four different kinds of parts: 'the Area of Pastures' next to Fallkulla estate, 'the Archeologic Crossing Point' where the runways cross in the central part of the Lentoasemanpuisto, 'the Area of Open Urban Fields' in front of the airport buildings and 'the Forest Corridor' which connects the park to eastern green structure of Helsinki.

The main routes of the park are directed to the long sides of the park. The original runways are both pathways and activity areas. Smaller crossing connections and bridges are made above water and meadow areas to allow experiencing the park from different levels of heights. Old sand rail track can also be seen as a pathway in the new park.





Concept The four ex

The four existing runways form a skeleton for the park and each one of them has its own colour based on the airport lighting system. The colour is visible in furniture, info signs and gate structures. Each runway has a distinctive visual and functional character that identifies them and helps the orientation.

The identity of the northern part of the park around Fallkulla estate is influenced by agri- and horticulture. Vegetation consists of trees like oaks, lindens, larches and fruit trees growing loosely beside pastures and meadows. Clay is used in facades of the buildings and ground pavings.

The runway 1 is called 'Takeoff' and it links Fallkulla to the terminal area. Vegetation on the runway consists of mixed forest tree and bush species. It is a runway including activities with speed and linear movement. The code colour is yellow. The runway 2 is called 'Landing'. It is emphasized by alder trees, natural stone pavings and visible water. It is a runway which is characterized by relaxing and hanging around. The code colour is blue.

Runway 1 and 2 are crossing with the storm water stream ´Pekki'. The stream has several retention basins and it undulates across the park and dominating the landscape in the southern part of the park.

The Forest runway 3 is linking the forests of Tattarisuo and Sepänmäki. The runway is articulated by forest vegetation and the main trees being birches. It is the runway of residential activities and the sense of community. Code colour is green.

The 4th runway is the main street of the area with a light railway lane with lawn. The green identity for the street is increased by long rows of columnar trees like aspens which make contrast with surrounding vegetation. The squares beside the 4th Kiitotie are proposed to be planted with aspens to create buffer zones between the housing blocks and the street and to protect against wind. Squares covered with leaf canopies are furnished with benches and bicycle parking. The code colour is red.

The surroundings of the airport buildings get their identity from the aviation history and rocky forests nearby with conifer trees. Local crushed nature stone material is used in low walls and surfaces.

STATEMENTS FOR THE LENTOASEMANPUISTO = IDENTITY

1 Preserving open cultural landscape in the middle of the dense city

In the central crossing point all the streams of runways and processes are mingling together. There one can feel the pulse of the park.

- 2 Preserving different historical layers of the site materials and structures relate to local history
- **3** Solving storm water management in a holistic way
- 4 Maximizing green areas and permeable surfaces to detain and reduce the amount of storm water
- 5 Preserving existing forests and compensating cutted forests
- 6 Placing activities to existing runways and hard surfaces to preserve and create new biotopes



EXISTING FOREST

PERMEABLE

STORM WATER

SITUATION

HIGH FLOOD STORMWATER VEGETATED

BASIN

SWALES WITH

MAIN FLOW

PLANTED FOREST CUTTED FOREST

SPOTLIGHTS

HANDRAIL

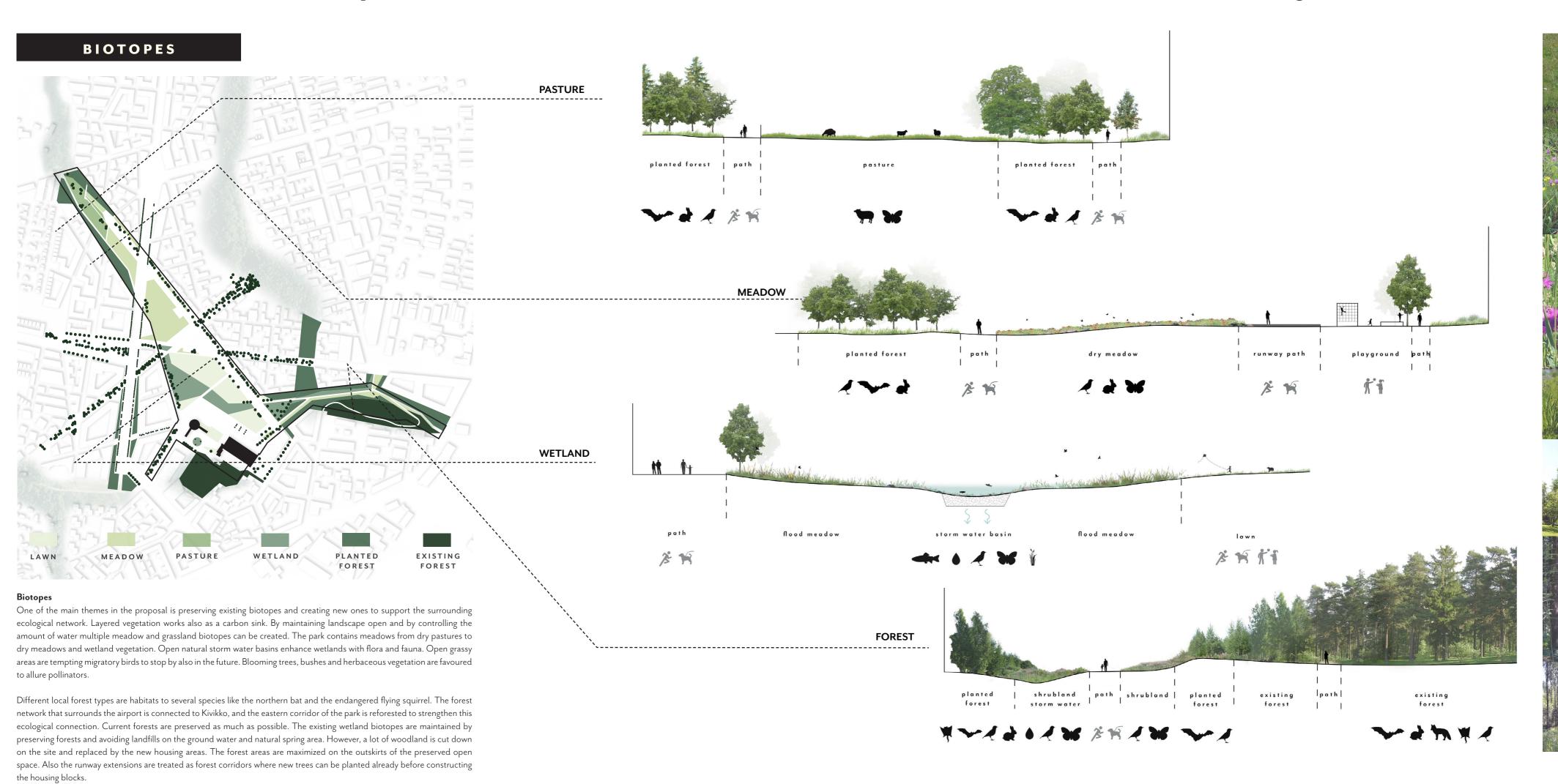
LIGHTING

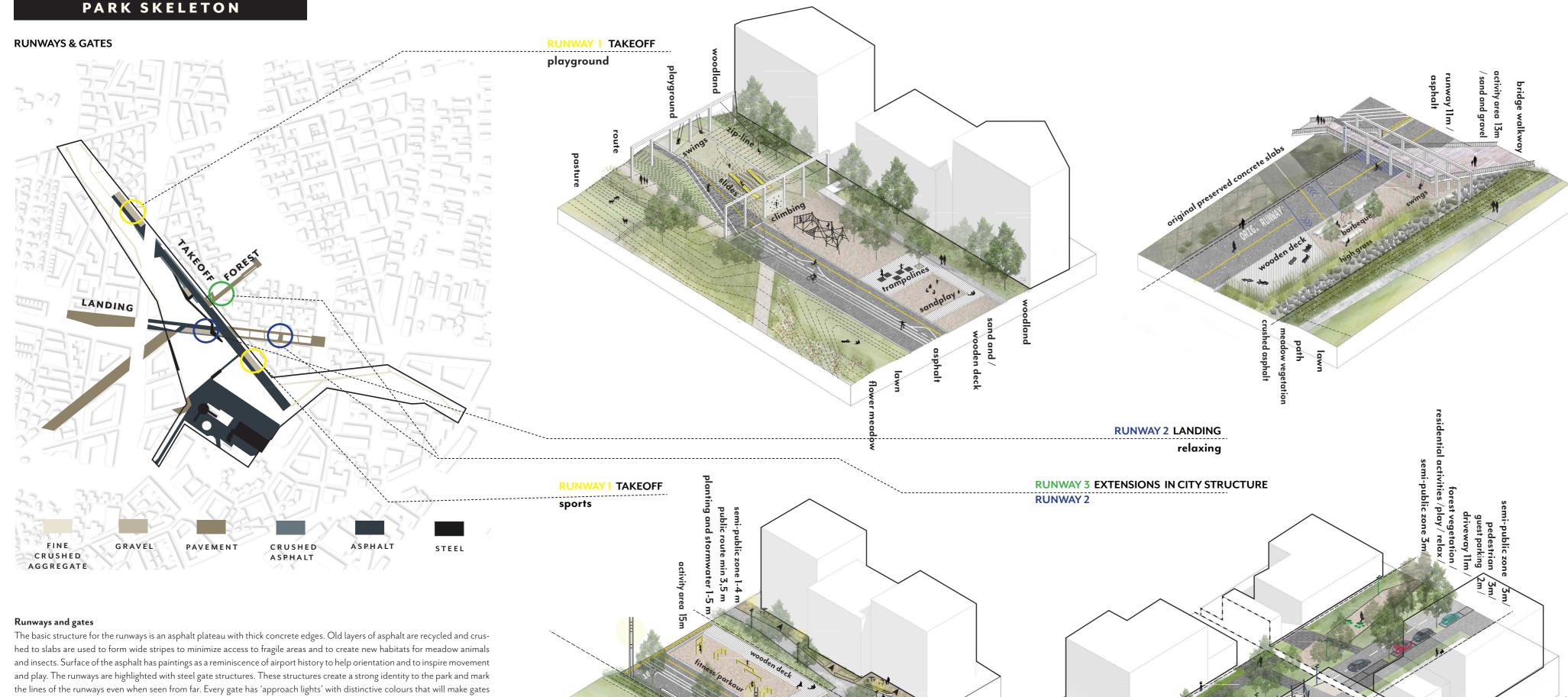
LIGHTED

integrated approach PARK AREA

SPECIAL

STRUCTURE





visible and recognisable also at night-time.

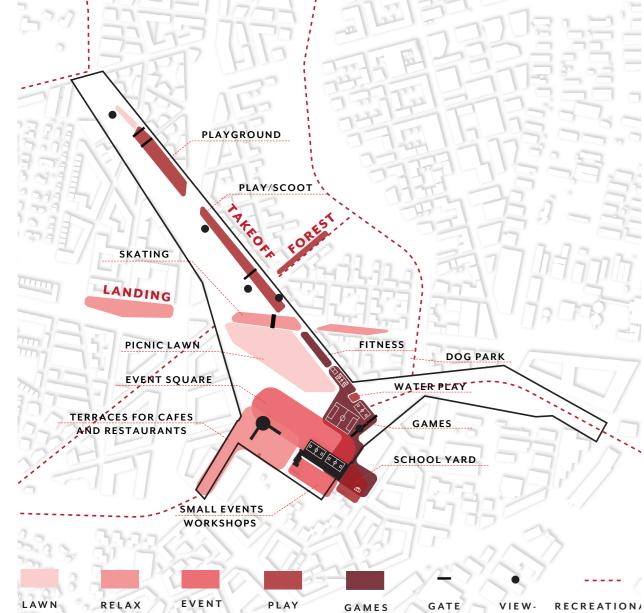
'The Slow way' follows parallel to the runway 1 to provide a peaceful walkway in the shade of vegetation. Between Runway 1 and the Forest Blocks, there is a semi-public zone, which can be designed simultaneously with the buildings.

Recreation and activities

ACTIVITIES

Park is designed for multipurpose and -cultural activities. Recreational routes and connections outside of the park area are fluent and versatile. Activities that need space and speed, for example scooting, roller skating, basketball, beach volley, are placed on the 'Takeoff' runway 1. There are also several different playgrounds including sand play, water play, climbing, swinging etc. Activities that are more quiet or relaxing, for instance chilling, observing nature or views, picnic and grilling, are located to 'Landing' runway 2.

Terminal building, 'Airport square', 'Event square'



GAMES

The main entrance of the Terminal is turned to 'Airport Square' that respects the old features of the surroundings like the fountain and original hedges. The square is organized with concrete, pavements and lawn to articulate different parts of the area and parking. The old external stairs to the second floor and the original roof terrace are restored offering magnificent views to the new park and urban area. The top floor and rooftop suit for weather observation where local data of weather and nature phenomena can be gathered and informed.

'Event Square' respects the openness of airport landscape. This large space with hard surface materials can take large amount of people and serve events like outdoor cinema, small concerts, local winter market, snow sculpture event or ice rink. Artificial icing system can be installed under the square. 'Event Square' is covered with original materials: asphalt with paintings. In front of the Hangar the asphalt is divided with large concrete slabs and small trees and multifunctional areas.

Hangar and 'Hangar square'

The interior use of the Hangar can therefore be occasionally opened to events, and sports field north side of the buildings offer "low threshold" for communal sports, event and workspaces that are easily available for the public to use. The main hall can be utilised as a sport field for indoor games or even indoor ice rink. It can be a meeting place for summer camps, flea markets, pop up events or a place for borrowing sport equipment and park furniture. It can also serve as an extra space for the school activities.

The lowest part of the Hangar offers small rentable workshops for artists, craftsmen or different hobby clubs and also serves as dressing rooms and storages. The intimate outdoor space 'Hangar Square' between workshops and a forest is ideal for small events. It is equipped with movable sail canopies, lighting, furniture or an outdoor kitchen. Space is bordered by low blasted stone wall and a wooden deck in which can be integrated planting boxes for urban farming.

School, kindergarten and yards

ROUTES

The shape of the new school and kindergarten east side of the hangar has been tentatively shaped according to the goals and functions of the park design. The school yard forms a natural extension for the park and squares around airport buildings, and it increases versatile facilities of the outdoor spaces. On the roof of the school there is an outdoor space with exceptional views towards park. Next to school there is a sport field with lawn and a wooden deck for an audience. Runway 1 ends to a gate with light structure and a climbing net. The same net theme can be extended to fence the sport field with creepers.

