



Aerial photo with strategic elements

**CATEGORY** urban/architectural  
**TEAM REPRESENTATIVE** architect

**LOCATION** COPENHAGEN  
**POPULATION** City 561 000 inhab. Conurbation 1 213 822 inhab.  
**STRATEGIC SITE** 8,75 ha **SITE PF PROJECT** 3,75 ha  
**SITE PROPOSED BY** Municipality of Copenhagen  
**OWNER OF THE SITE** Municipality and housing associations

## COMMISSION AFTER COMPETITION

Depending on the competition entries received, the City of Copenhagen intends to offer the winner of the competition the chance to act as a consultant in the development of the site and possible sub-projects in energy renovation and climate adaption in the selected strategic site and focus areas.

## HOW THE SITE CAN CONTRIBUTE TO THE ADAPTABLE CITY?

Seen in light of the challenges facing the city, Copenhagen Municipality sees great potential in «the adaptable city». Large cities are growing and growing - more people are moving to urban areas, and those who already live here are staying put. Combined with the growing consciousness on increasing climate changes and world's resources, this has resulted in a wish both from the politicians responsible and the individual citizens to develop and transform the city into a flexible and living/modifiable organism, which can adapt to changing needs and wishes for ways to live and to use the city.

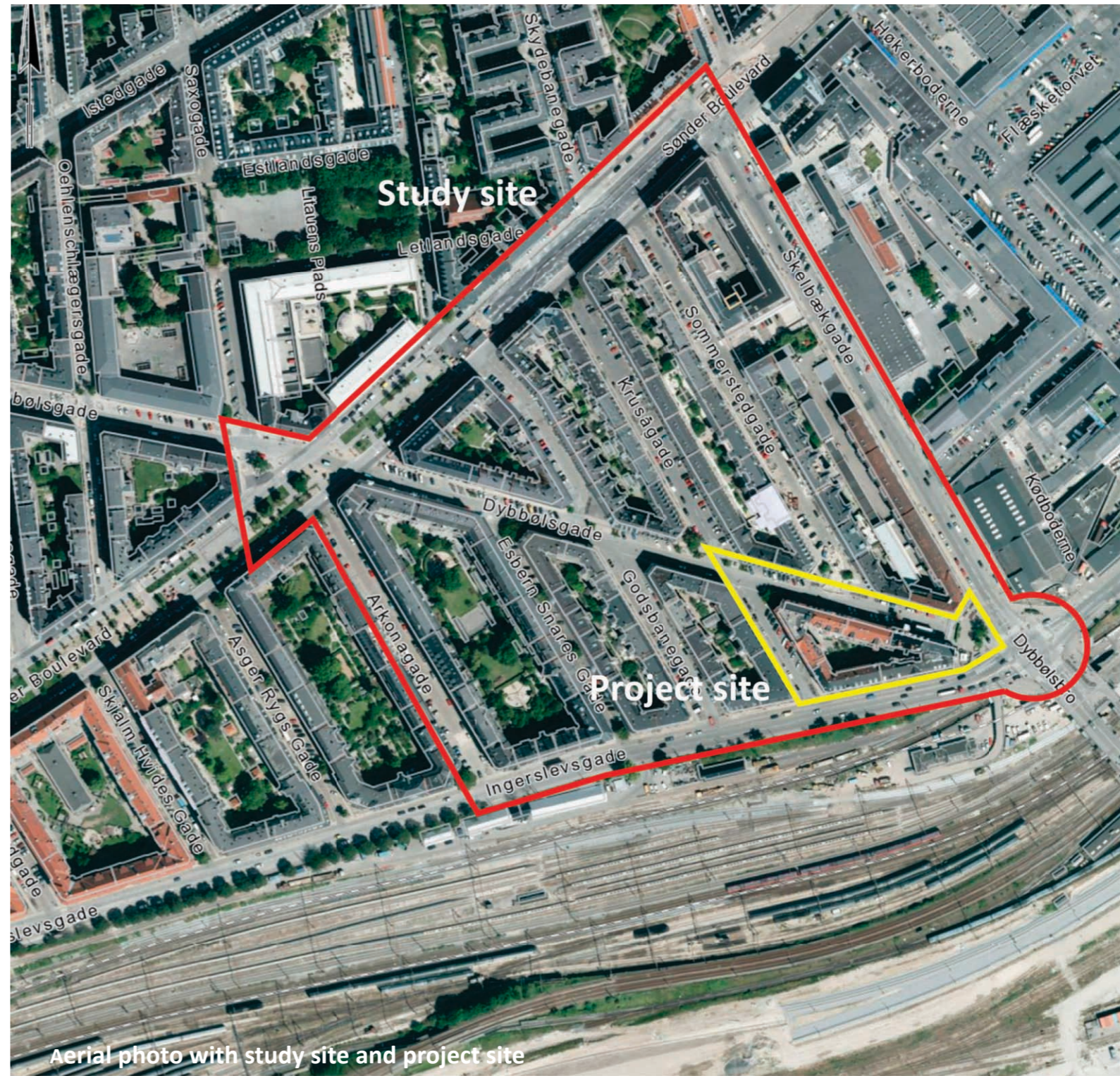
## CITY STRATEGY

In tandem with the focus on and great consciousness about climate problems and consumption of resources, more and more countries are drawing up policies and guidelines for sustainable development. In The City of Copenhagen there has been an increased awareness of these areas, as well as of the necessity for adaptation and resilience in the pre-existing city. This should be seen in connection with an awareness of the architectural challenges involved in renovating the existing housing mass to meet new energy standards. Politicians in the City of Copenhagen are taking regular initiatives to accomodate these challenges. Copenhagen has been awarded the EU-Commission's prize of being Europe's Green Capital in 2014. This should be seen as recognition of the efforts to create a green and environmentally sustainable city, which is good both to live and invest in.



Study site  
Project site

Aerial photo with strategic elements



Aerial photo with study site and project site

**SITE DEFINITION**  
Copenhagen is located in eastern Denmark facing the Baltic Sea and Sweden. Vesterbro is in the south-western part of Copenhagen, close to the harbour. Copenhagen has a population of around 561,000, a figure that has been increasing over the past few years by around 1000 new residents per month. In Vesterbro, the population is around 36,000. Vesterbro is located west of the old medieval city and bordered to the south by the railway; to the west by Søndermarken park; to the north by Frederiksberg municipality and to the east by the medieval city (inner city). Vesterbro is a densely built area, with narrow yards where back buildings once stood, both for residential and business purposes. Today, many of these back houses have disappeared and in the competition area it is only the blocks on Skelbækgade, Sdr. Boulevard, Sommerstedgade and Ingerslevsgade, where there can still be found businesses and garages around the back.

**ADAPTABILITY: MAIN ELEMENTS TO TAKE INTO ACCOUNT**  
The future's inheritance. The densely built-up city requires fresh ideas, not only in regards to climate change but also in terms of optimizing energy. The buildings in the project area represent Copenhagen's identity and cultural heritage. They have shown their strength and robustness over time, and with good solutions and smart decisions when it comes to energy optimization and climate adaptation, which means finding the right balance between transformation and preservation, these old buildings can retain their identity and still be future safe; and in this way, strengthen the area's ability to adapt itself to coming changes and crises.  
  
The size of the houses means that many families today feel compelled to move out of the area. Thus we need fresh ideas on how to develop housing and ways

to live, and there is a desired focus for alternative solutions to the simple merging of apartments, e.g. with extensions out into the street, courtyard and up into the rooftop. Solutions are sought on all levels, from the simple housing unit to the entire area, from low-tech to high-tech solutions; likewise, levels in the kind of upgrades housing requires ranges from tight to ample economies, and from individual solutions to shared solutions across buildings, courtyards and streets. Multifunctional and scalable solutions are required in densely built-up urban areas with sparse housing and recreational space. These kind of solutions for built-up urban areas can be applied to other parts of Copenhagen, Europe and the world.



View of project site



The project site seen from Dybbølsgade/Krusågade



Yrsas Plads seen from DybbølsbroStation/Ingerslevsgade



Dybbølsgade seen from Yrsas Plads



The courtyard