



aerial photo looking south west

CATEGORY Urban/landscape/architectural  
TEAM REPRESENTATIVE architect or urban planner or landscaper  
LOCATION Province of Värmland  
POPULATION City 19 000 inhab. Conurbation 24 000 inhab.  
STRATEGIC SITE 67 ha PROJECT SITE 6 ha  
SITE PROPOSED BY Kristinehamn Municipality  
OWNER OF THE SITE Kristinehamn Municipality  
COMMISSION AFTER COMPETITION  
Urban project management role, design of public and landscape areas.

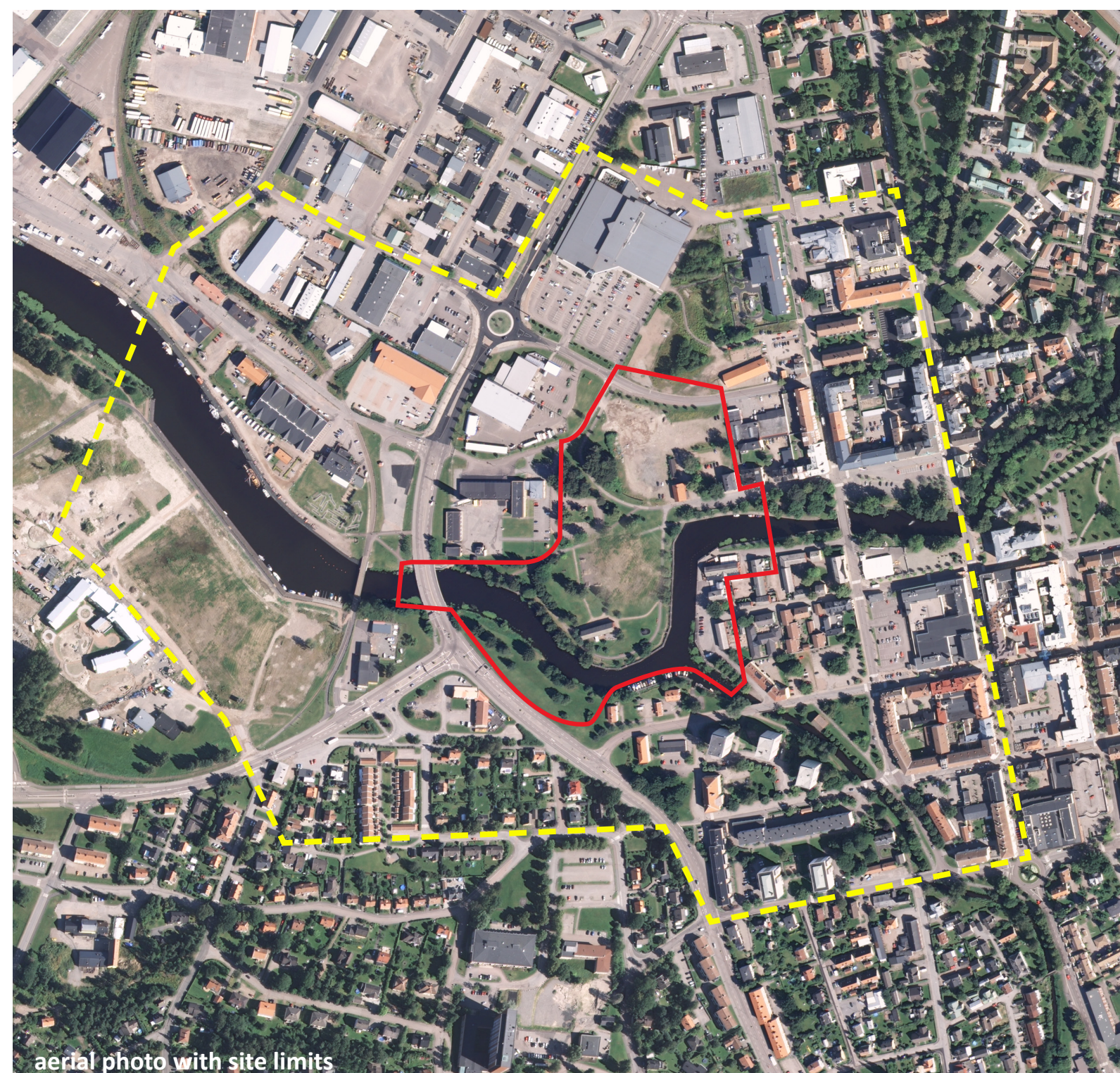
HOW CAN THE SITE CONTRIBUTE TO THE ADAPTABLE CITY?  
*The Kristinehamn site presents a fantastic opportunity to shape the future evolution of this lakeside town centre. Once a harbour area crucial to the creation and survival of the town, this centrally located park could again play a pivotal role, in the creation of local identity. The central location, the beautiful river Varnan meandering through the site, and the wooden architecture of the old town, create great potential for the creation of a successful inner city park. The project could function as a hub between different parts of the city. The competition is great opportunity for landscape architects and architects alike to be part of a crucial step of this towns development.*

CITY STRATEGY  
One of the challenges is to create a good mix of activities, cultural and commercial, spontaneous and planned, in order to attract people of all ages on all hours of the day. It is important that the physical and mental connection between the city centre and the commercial area as well as the connections between the project site and the city centre are developed and strengthened. Kristinehamn has the possibility to specialize in excellent living conditions. People can live and work here or commute to Karlstad. The town needs to preserve the small-scale, idyllic, accessible city centre and to provide means for spontaneous social and recreational activities. The task of the competition is to create a long term plan for the site to be part of this development.





aerial photo with strategic elements



aerial photo with site limits

**SITE DEFINITION**  
The location of the site is very central. The site sits on a small peninsula with the river running on the eastern, southern, and western sides. Until the 1940s it used to be a part of the city's harbour and the site was filled with warehouses and small industries. Most of the remaining harbour related buildings were cleared in the early 1960s and a public indoor swimming pool was built. As mentioned above, this building has recently been torn down. To the north there are shopping malls with big parking lots. It is easier to drive around than to walk here. Further to the east, opposite the river, there is an old cultural area and beyond that lies the centre of the city. To the west there are some buildings of commerce, the fire station and a four-lane thoroughfare that

crosses over the river on a wide bridge. The low bridge closes the river since no large boats can travel under it. It is also a barrier for pedestrians. The project site was once the location of the old city harbour. It is centrally located between the old town and a former industrial area. The southern part contains a park that has lost its purpose since the demolition of the public bathhouse. To the west there are housing areas, a sports arena, and the new harbour by Vänern, the largest lake in Sweden.

**ADAPTABILITY: MAIN ELEMENTS TO TAKE INTO ACCOUNT**  
The site and its western surroundings were originally planned and dimensioned to handle the export of iron and forest products and for industrial purposes. Today a major part of the big surfaces

needed for this have become obsolete. Beside these obsolete surfaces, the central part of the city is roughly built up of three types of areas:  
1) Housing and commerce in the old town centre.  
2) Detached single family houses surrounding the old town centre  
3) A shopping area with large parking lots built on a former industrial ground.  
The site lies directly on the border where these different categories meet. The municipality wants to make a long term plan to protect and fortify the town centre. On the site there could be a public park that could extend the centre. This idea has to relate to the expansion of the large scale commercial area from the north linking it to the centre.







