

# KARLSKOGA (SE)

## EMBRACE KARLSKOGA

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On the edge of the beautiful lake Möckeln, between forests and open meadows, a new sustainable and inclusive district is taking shape. This is achieved not by making something entirely new, but by embracing the qualities Karlskoga already has.

The district is sustainable, as it embraces all landscape characteristics and existing buildings on the site, giving new functions to the big box stores and increasing the biodiversity of the streams, forests, and meadows.

The district is inclusive, it introduces a wide variety of urban typologies that enable different ways of life. Each typology embraces the natural values found around the site, making outdoor activities, farming, and nature education the foundation for a more shared way of living.

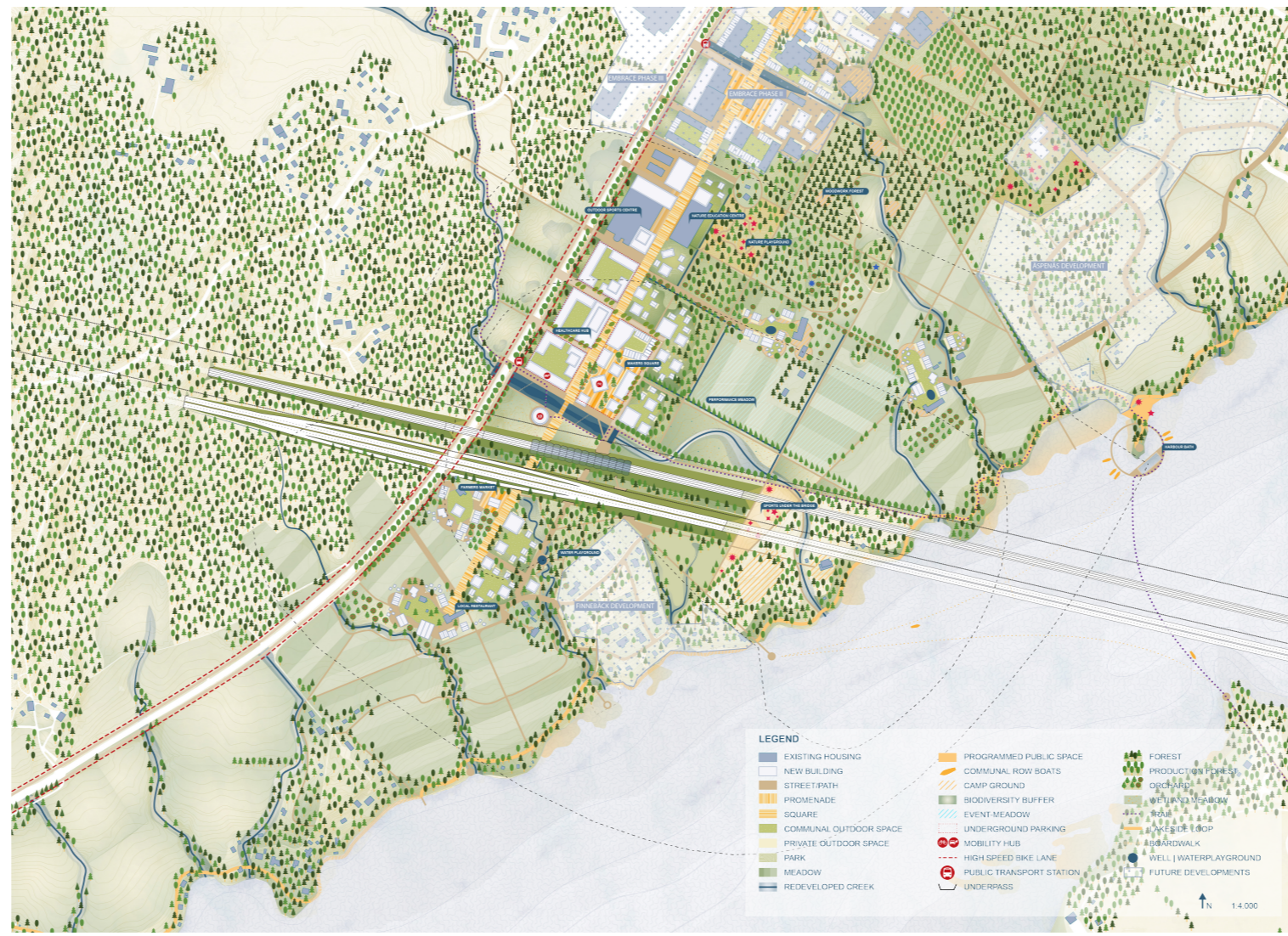
The district brings new amenities, jobs and houses for the inhabitants of Karlskoga. As the new Nobel trainline connects the district to Oslo and Stockholm it is interesting urban dwellers that are looking for a different way of life. Away from the bustle of the city, in the quiet forests on the edge of a beautiful lake.

# ATION KARLSKOGA



# KARLSKOGA (SE)

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# KARLSKOGA (SE)

## EMBRACE COMMUNITY

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Embrace Karlskoga creates blocks with a variety of inclusive urban typologies. Each typology, the green urban block, the makers square, living in the park and the grower's plot, embraces different values found around the site, enabling many contemporary ways of living. Inspired by older housing projects in Karlskoga the typologies stimulate the development of communities. On different scales, ranging from the individual housing complex to the amenities of the whole development, inhabitants and visitors are encouraged to meet, share, and live with one another. Each typology is shaped by four parameters to optimize variety.



**Diversify housing**  
Every block contains multiple housing typologies to stimulate interaction between people in different phases of life, household compositions and levels of income.



**Share!**  
Sharing is necessary due to the limited resources of our planet. Inhabitants share (work)spaces as well as amenities within the building, block or even within the district, what is shared is defined by the block-typology. The shared programme enlivens the working spaces.



**Communal spaces**  
A smart gradient from public to private is applied to indoor and outdoor spaces. The communal spaces enrich everyday life within the buildings and the blocks.

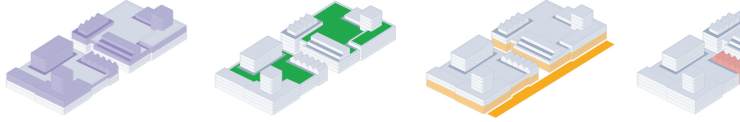


**Stimulate social cohesion**  
Part of the buildings will be designed and constructed by their future inhabitants, allowing people to create work and living spaces tailored to their preferences. Their commitment to the development process creates strong binding with the neighbourhood.

## THE GREEN URBAN BLOCK

The green urban blocks urban have a similar scale as the existing big-box stores. The blocks provide higher density living and lively streets with plenty of services, like a doctor's office, hairdressers and supermarkets, and amenities like gyms, restaurants and shops. Roof gardens are lushly planted and the streets are lined with trees.

- Housing diversity**
  - Differently sized apartments e.g. split level, studio's and lofts
  - Private outdoor spaces are mostly balconies and roof terraces
- Communal spaces**
  - Large roof gardens with outdoor furnishing are shared by the inhabitants of the block
- Shared programme**
  - Each block has a shared work spaces and quick access to the publically accessible amenities and shops in the plinths and the terraces on the streets and squares
- Self-organized**
  - 10% of the apartment buildings are completed as shells, for inhabitants to organize and structure



## MAKERS SQUARE

Makers square revolves around crafts and handwork. Inhabitants work alongside each other in shared studio's and workshops and display or sell their work in a local gallery or shopfront. The shared activities take place on and around the squares. The blocks are relatively dense, but more oriented towards the ground floor and with more public spaces than the green urban blocks.

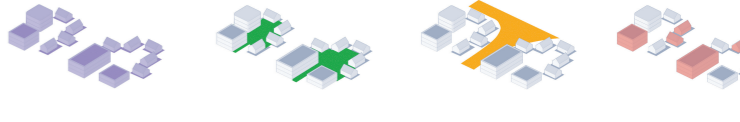
- Housing diversity**
  - Terraced housing and apartments e.g. split level, studio's and lofts
  - Private outdoor spaces are balconies, roof terraces and groundfloor terraces
- Communal spaces**
  - Inhabitants share offices, workshop and studio spaces as well as courtyards and roof gardens
- Shared programme**
  - Shared amenities like flexible office spaces/workshops
  - Public services (i.e. galleries, flexible shoospaces, music studio's) and restaurants/bars in the plinths
- Self-organized**
  - All individual housing is self-built and has a dual designation of housing and office/workspace. 5% of the apartment buildings are completed as shells



## LIVING IN THE PARK

The park enlivens some of the blocks, providing clusters of low-density housing in green forested surroundings. The park-blocks offer many of the same qualities as the villa-areas of Karlskoga like spacious housing and safe playspaces for children, but combined with more communal living and a high standard of biodiversity.

- Housing diversity**
  - Terraced housing, villas and apartments
  - Private outdoor spaces are roof gardens and terraces oriented towards the park
- Communal spaces**
  - Inhabitants share courtyards with space for sports, gatherings and gardening
- Shared programme**
  - The housing clusters are part of the public park and contribute to its programming (e.g. playgrounds, performance spaces and outdoor equipment rental)
- Self-organized**
  - 50% of the villa's are self-built and 50% of the apartment buildings are completed as shells



## THE GROWER'S PLOT

The epitome of communal living. The inhabitants of the grower's plot grow their own food and maintain the agricultural fields and historic farms of the area. In return they get large shared spaces and high quality housing, as well as the chance to uphold a largely self-sustaining lifestyle.

- Housing diversity**
  - Terraced housing, villas and tiny houses
  - Private outdoor spaces are terraces oriented towards the meadows, orchards and creeks
- Communal spaces**
  - Inhabitants share large courtyard with space for allotment gardens and lend the surrounding farmland and orchards
- Shared programme**
  - 5% of the buildings have a public function (i.e. farm shop)
  - 5% of the arable land has public programming (i.e. petting zoo)
  - The meadows is a temporary space for large events/festivals
- Self-organized**
  - 50% of the villa's and all tiny houses are self-built.



## EMBRACE CHANGE

The arrival of the Nobel Railway Line train station is a great benefit to Karlskoga. The connectivity of the train line is a catalyst for structural improvements to the region. The rail line does not only create a direct connection to the Scandinavian capitals of Oslo and Stockholm and reduce the travel times to Karlstad and Örebro. It also brings investment and capacity to make changes to the infrastructure and make better use of the natural assets in the region. Five big improvements can be made:



### Create a green outdoor hub

The new railway station lies directly in between local and regional walking-, biking- and kayak trails like the Bergslagsleden trail. By connecting these trails, the Nobel station and the new district become a green node in an outdoor network.



### Redirect infrastructure

The relocation of the E16 motorway improves the quality of life in Karlskoga. The restructuring of the traffic system can be more impactful if the regional roads 248 and 205 are redirected along with the highway, freeing the city center of through-traffic.



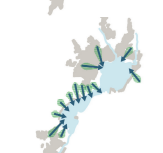
### Transform the urban fabric

The spaces along the redirected infrastructure become attractive spaces for urban densification and the repurposing of industrial and commercial buildings into vibrant neighborhoods that relate to existing qualities.



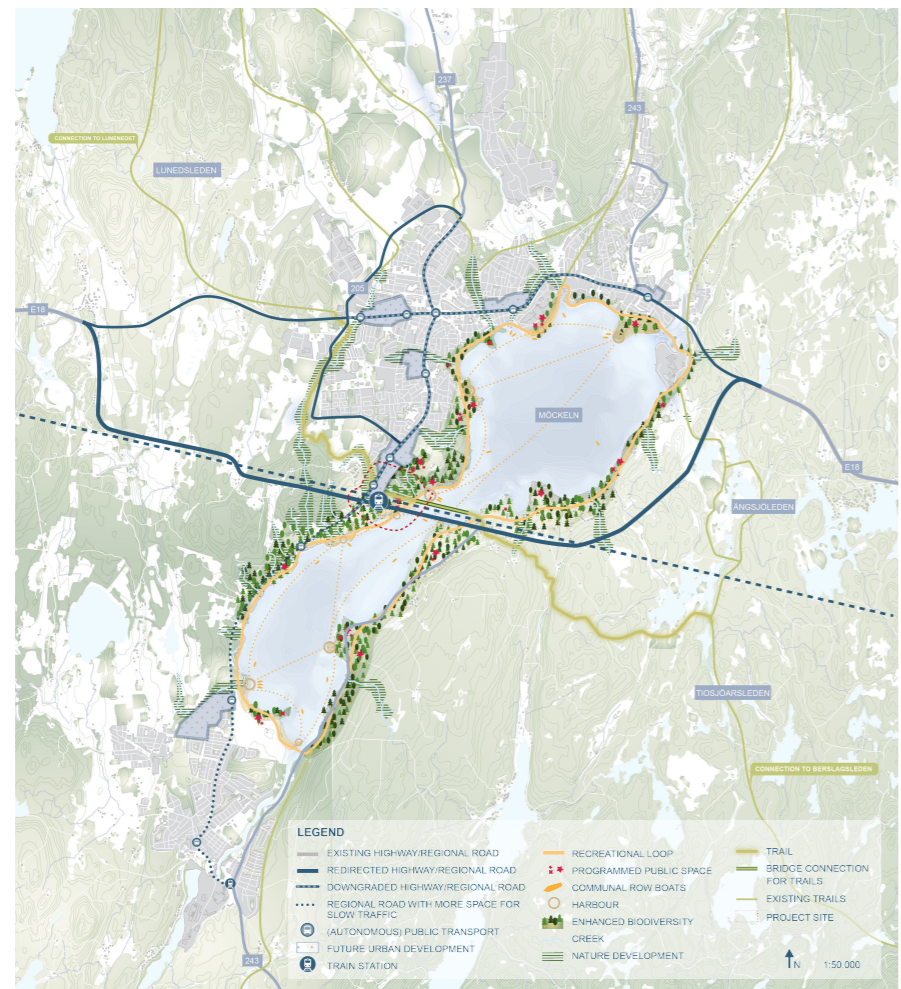
### Develop a recreational loop

The coastline of lake Möckeln is a fantastic asset for the surrounding towns. Income from the new district will be directed towards developing an active and programmed loop along the water for all inhabitants to enjoy.



### Open up the existing creeks

Today's landscape is characterized by creeks that have their outflow in lake Möckeln. By opening up the creeks the water becomes visible, and biodiversity thrives. The creeks connect several types of nature and is part of a recreational network that brings inhabitants to the forests and the lake.



## EMBRACE WHAT'S THERE

The existing landscape is the foundation for the plan. The development become a framework that integrates many existing parts into a cohesive whole. Existing buildings are re-used and determine the programme and building typology. Natural values like the forests, meadows, creeks, and lake Möckeln become assets for the new inhabitants and contribute to high quality living environments. Finneböck and Aspenäs are embraced and benefit from the new amenities.



### Re-use the existing as activators for the block structure

The block structure is based on the existing roads and plot sizes. The current infill of the plots determines the programme. This leads to four typologies, the green urban block, the makers square, living in the park and the grower's plot.



### The promenade

A sequence of squares is connected by the promenade and forms the lively heart of the new district. The built programme and amenities orient themselves towards the street, making it the outdoor living room where you meet your neighbours and hang out.



### The central park

The current forest is diversified and programmed to become a central park for the new inhabitants. The edges of the park are programmed to connect to the functions and character of adjacent block typologies.



### Inclusive transportation

A safe network for walking and biking runs through the district. Public transport complements this network for better connection to the region. The network is safe and robust because of minimal motorized traffic due to strategic placement of the parking garages.



### Sustainability and water

The creeks and green spaces are used for water catchment and filtration. The buildings are circular and insulated well enough to be heated by the lake through an aquathermal network. A smart-grid connects energy production and battery storage.

