

ACTIVE TRAJECTORIES

A Vision for Lahti Sport Center and Beyond



Lahti Sport Center bears the potential of becoming a new vibrant centrality for the city with all year round programs and activities based on three main topics: Sport, Nature and Culture. Our vision is based on the creation of a central axis that runs North-South; a 1.8 km linear active park that connects Lahti Sport Center with Lake Vesijärvi and the proposed Park of the former Railway while activating existing programs and implementing new ones. A East-West axis connects the City with the Salpausselkä Geopark and provides a new experience of accessibility through a new ring gate located at the joints of the two axes. Within the project site we aim to create a Pedestrian and slow mobility friendly area.

Our project proposes the implementation of a new identity based on wellbeing, social gathering and coexistence between different species. A social and ecological Siniristilippu infrastructure based on human-scale and biodiversity. The project aims to address the needs and will of any target groups by creating an inclusive public space with all year round uses, taking in account day-night uses and seasonality. It promotes outdoor life and co-existence between humans and nature. The project aims to address the needs and will of any target groups by creating an inclusive public space with all year round uses, taking in account day-night uses and seasonality. It promotes outdoor life and fosters citizenship processes.

RETHINKING MOBILITY, PROVIDING NEW OPPORTUNITIES

In the whole site, west of the main axis, we propose to remove daily car transit and parking through a carefully studied mobility strategy in order to create a pedestrian and slow mobility friendly urban ecosystem. A new strategy of diffuse Parking and a Multi-storey Parking will provide the required parking plots and accessibility within short times walk while avoiding car congestion.

Loading and unloading routes will guarantee logistic efficiency to support sport buildings and events of different scale as well as emergency routes for firetrucks and ambulances.

By liberating space for cars we tackle the opportunity to create a new central square (of 6000sqm) that provides a flexible and multifunctional space that can be used for multiple temporary events, from the sport events related, to concerts, fairs, food festivals, outdoor exhibitions and more. The square will be characterised by a special “carpet” pavement that could be realized through participation processing by involving the community, with the goal of creating a “common ground” that celebrates the City of Lahti and its unique specificities.

NORTH-SOUTH AXIS

It is envisioned as a 1.8 km linear active park running North-South that connects Lahti Sport Center with Lake Vesijärvi and the proposed Park of the former Railway.

The active promenade is a hybrid running track with several programs such as outdoor gyms, sitting areas, playgrounds, ping-pong areas, chess tables.

It is a place for walking and running, moving and sitting, dancing and meditating. At the same time it is a linear park that integrates the existing trees with the implementation of

new plantations, both in the form of trees and lower planters for local shrubs. The axis will be realized with a porous material in order to maximize the permeability and therefore allowing air and water to pass through, optimizing drainage, reducing heat buildup, and minimizing environmental impact.

The axis is dynamized as well by the presence of a Bird watching tower, a Bridge that crosses Jalkarannantie road and elevated viewpoints that provide outstanding views towards the Vesijärvi lake and Pikku Vesijärvi.

The axis will be characterized by a blue tone that provides a new identity for the city and a playful design of strip lines that could be designed through involving local community and cultural institutions.

Through the axis people will easily reach the existing built programs and the new implemented ones such as the planned Water Sport Center, the proposed Water Sport Center, the new reconverted Sport-hotel, the new implemented multistorey parking and the reconversion of the power plant into a Cultural Center (TEVOCUC - Teivaanmäen Voimalaitos Cultural Center) with the Hangar theater, and spaces for Library, Workshops, Exhibitions and Laboratories.



EAST-WEST AXIS

It connects the City with Pausselkä UNESCO Global Geopark and provides a new arrival experience to the site.

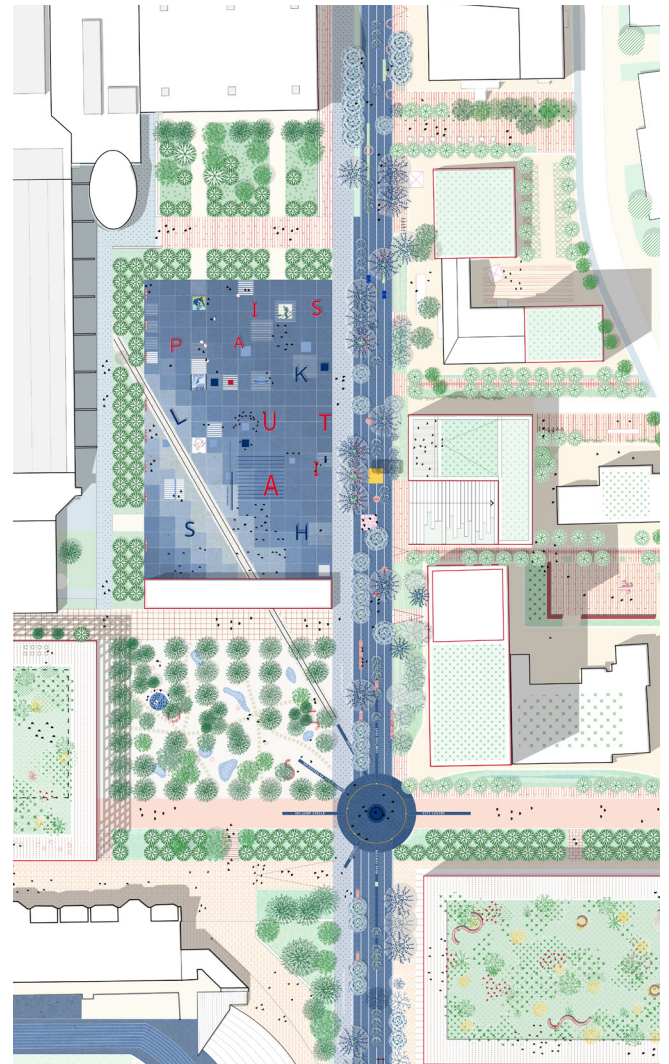
At the crossing with the North-South axis people can easily navigate through the site thanks to the new “gate”, a circular suspended ring where different banners and flags can be applied according to the current event. At night it creates lighting effects and creates an outstanding effect and marks the new identity of the site and symbolizes the spirit of innovation that characterise Lahti. At the floor level a circle of wayfinding clearly unfolds the directions to take, either the visitor wants to reach one of the sport venues, the lake, the forest and so on.

Coming from the city side the axis is activated by the presence of the new planned Water Sport Center and on the other side the refurbished Sport hotel with the addition of a wooden small tower on top of the existing brick building. The Axis provides an outstanding perspective view towards the Forest, framed by the new light structure building of the Media Center.

NEW BUILT PROGRAMS

Within the site we propose as a principle the implementation of refurbishment and adaptive reuse technique in order to limit demolitions and new constructions. Amongst the new building proposed the **Multi-storey parking storey** is implemented along the main axis and provides 300 parking plots, an outdoor amphitheater facing the main axis and a panoramic accessible rooftop. **The Media Center** is a light and flexible structure that provides an accessible panoramic rooftop and flexible uses when not used for sport events. It's facade it's defined by vertical vegetation

The power plant, in the long term, could be transformed, applying an Adaptive reuse



principle into a Cultural center. **TEVOCUC - Teivaanmäen Voimalaitos Cultural Center** will provide a dynamic space for Arts, Literature, Dance and Theater and will furthermore activate the area.

Within the new Lahti Sport Center Square a new **Infopoint pavilion** will provide assistance and information to visitors while providing a large canopy for shading repairing from that frames the forest pocket implemented behind. Along the main axis we propose to create a vibrant **Mixed-uses district** such as Commercial and Retail, Repairs shops, Sport equipment rental spaces, Cafes, Restaurants, The Sport Hotel, The Multi-storey parking. While keeping the existing buildings we propose to implement volumetry with wooden construction in addition to the existing bricks buildings.



PHASING STRATEGY

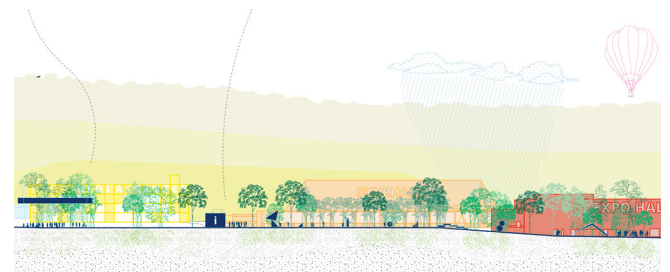
The degree of flexibility of our vision and the proposed designs allows a proper phasing in order to reach, through small steps the final vision imagined. One of the key problems of the site is the lack of identity, wayfinding strategy and car congestion. In order to address this topic on the **first phase** we propose to apply the new diffuse parking strategy and therefore remove the car congestion on site. While waiting for the construction of the new Multistorey parking the diffuse parking strategy can be applied by using existing surface parking located in proximity to the area. The Lahti Sport Center Square became a public space that can be appropriated by citizens with temporary elements. The Square, the first stretch of the North-South Axis and the integration of the wayfinding flooring strategy can be implemented through tactical urbanism approaches. The Info point located in the square would also require a limited budget and time frame.

The New Ring gate is also a simple and light structure that could be easily realized in a short time frame, contributing to the construction of the new identity.

In a **second phase** further stretches of the North-South Axis could be realized and the implementation of the new Mixed use district could start. Therefore the planned Water Space Center would be ready and the East-West Axis could be further developed. The new Media Center is also meant to be a light structure building that could be realized in a short time frame.

In a **third phase** we propose the further implementation of the Mixed use district, the implementation of the last stretches of the North-South axis connecting to the Port of Lahti

In a **fourth phase** we envision the adaptive reuse of the Power plants and its transformation into the TEVOCUC - Teivaanmäen Voimalaitos Cultural Center. As well the implementation of the Railway park located on the Southern edge could be realised in that phase..



SOCIAL ASPECTS AND ECOLOGY

The project aims to address the needs and will of any target groups by creating an inclusive public space with all year round uses, taking in account day-night uses and seasonality. It promotes outdoor life and co-existence between humans and nature. The project aims to address the needs and will of any target groups by creating an inclusive public space with all year round uses, taking in account day-night uses and seasonality. It promotes outdoor life and fosters citizenship processes.. The dense presence of vegetation and the permeability strategy of the pavement would be beneficial in order to create a climate-resilient public space where public life and biodiversity can foster.