



### CATEGORY urban/architectural

LOCATION Norra Vrinnevi, Norrköping  
 POPULATION city 84 000, municipality 130 000  
 STRATEGIC SITE 140 ha  
 PROJECT SITE 16 ha  
 SITE PROPOSED BY the municipality of Norrköping  
 OWNER OF THE SITE the municipality of Norrköping

### COMMISSION AFTER THE COMPETITION

Strategic planning commission. Urban design commission.

### TRANSFORMATION OF SITE

Vilbergen in the northwest of the site is a neighbourhood developed in the mid 1970s. It consists of a ring shaped plan with a park and community centre in the middle, providing the local inhabitants with recreation, service and shopping possibilities. The area is inward facing and slightly disconnected from the city. The oversized road Gamla Övägen east of Vilbergen cuts through the project site and creates a heavy barrier to the nature reserve Vrinneviskogen. To the south, at the edge of the city, the hospital sits as an isolated compound on a safe distance from its surroundings.

The main task is to redevelop the amorphous area around the Gamla Övägen road and create a new built landscape with mainly residential buildings that connects and improves the continuity on different scales, both the connection

with the inner city and between the isolated fragments of the present situation. It is also important to find ways of improving the relation with the nature reserve east of the site.

### CITY STRATEGY

Norrköping has an important industrial heritage, but the city is in a strong transformation process. The structural and economical changes of the late 20th century has made the city focus on new ways to reprogram the inner-city blocks formerly used for textile or paper production. One important actor in this transformation has been the university, now using many of the former industrial layers of the city. Next to inner city transformations and densification, the tram network is being actively used in the planning to vitalize the periphery and improve the integration of the city.



Aerial photo with the strategic site



Aerial photo with the project site

## SITE DEFINITION

The site has a valley at its core, stretching from the nature reserve in the south-east to the centre of Vilbergen in the northwest. The planning patterns of Vilbergen are partly a result of this topography. The city hospital is situated south of the site and is an important facility for the whole city and the region. To the east the forest of Vrinneviskogen is an important nature reserve. Its hilly landscape is clad with pine trees and has traces of human activities from the Bronze Age.

## NEW MOBILITY

The tram network plays an important role in Norrköping. The city is planning to extend the existing tram system through Vilbergen to the hospital. This will greatly improve the connection of the site with the city and provide a better integration of the adjacent areas. It is part of the competition task to suggest a possible extension of the tramway line.

## NEW WAYS OF LIFE

The local community centre of Vilbergen is working surprisingly well, but it acts mainly on a local level. Adding a tramline and integrating it with new programme at the project site, this social backbone could be further improved. The social spaces through the competition site, from Vilbergen to Vrinneviskogen, and along the stretch of Gamla Övägen, must be studied carefully.

## NEW SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

By strengthening the public transport networks, as well as the pedestrian and bicycle paths, the area could develop towards a more integrated part of the city. A densification strategy is also a way to work on sustainability on an urban level. There is also a need to work on the topic of strengthening the social structure of the area in terms of integration, diversity and activity.



The Vrinnevi forest



Central Norrköping



Tunnel underneath Gamla Övägen



Vilbergen community centre



Vilbergen inner courtyard