Marche-en-Famenne - Belgique - europan 11

LE TRAIT D'UNION



The main road and the present empty space of the site

CATEGORY Urban

LOCATION Marche-en-Famenne
POPULATION 17.238 inhabitants for 122 Km2 or 141 inh./km2
STRATEGIC SITE +/- 0,2 Ha SITE OF PROJECT +/- 0,1 Ha
SITE PROPOSED BY Municipality
OWNER OF THE SITE Communal property, with rights temporaly assigned to a private party interested to develop the site

COMMISSION AFTER COMPETITION
Urban planning reflection, Architecture

TRANSFORMATION OF SITE
The transformation of this area is both a must and a challenge. A must because the parcel extends along the future main boulevard of the city, currently under complete renovation. A challenge because of its topographic, relational and func- tional aspects. On one hand the project will have to tackle the par- king issue for residents and future occupants of new buildings. On the other hand, the level difference between the front and back of the era will have to be managed while respecting the neighboring buil- dings. Finally, the commercial func- tion called upon by the Boulevard at this location should be mixed with the demand for new housing from the Municipality.

CITY STRATEGY
The mayor of Marche-en-Famenne has held municipal mandates from the end of the 70's. His dynamism has been impacting the development of the municipality, as shown by some buildings of contemporary achitec- ture. The complete renovation of the Boulevard on which the site is located shows the will of the City to create an attractive showcase location for through traffic , usually very dense there. Numerous efforts have already been provided for the quality of city center planning (pedestrian areas, conversion of an 18th century Church into an upscale hotel, restoration of heritage buildings). Europan proposes thus a complex urban site located at the frontier between through traffic and the old city center. A contemporary solution will be expected with great interest by the municipal authorities.

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view of the center of Marche


situation of the site

SITE DEFINITION
The complete renovation of the main Boulevard, a project undertaken by the current mayor, will give this important axis a status of urban boulevard, welcoming all and guiding cars in a slow journey respectful of slow urban actors, ofte neglected in the development of roads. The City wishes to emphasize qualitative treatment of the borders of the Boulevard. The Europan project constitutes an important piece of this urban link. The complexity of the treatment of this link lies obviously in the multiplicity of constraints to solve (uneasy parking, volumes to domi- nate, quality of treatment of the front and rear facades, commercial space, and housing that must coexist on a confined area, interface between trough traffic and city center, ...) on a small site, narrow and elongated, with unusual topography.

NEW MOBILITY
The site extends along the new urban boulevard of Marche en Famenne, currently under construction. Hence the buffer role played by the site between through traffic of the future boulevard and the very urban traffic of the pedestrian area and its nearby areas.

NEW WAYS OF LIVE
The urban boulevard will profoundly change the distribution of functions along its path. New business structures and new housing units will constitute an offer capable of reviving the social mix

NEW SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT
Slower roads, pedestrians "at home in the city", more accessible shops, more "liveable" homes, better controlled waste treatment, all this contributes to the development of the site and its surroundings in a user-friendly and sustainable way.

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From the Boulevard towards the old part of the town

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View of the new boulevard (under construction)





bottom of the site (part)



bottom of the site (second part)



Top of the site (above the roof of the inner parking)



Communal way