

**Team composition:** architect/urbanist/landscaper**Location:** Berlin Pankow, Germany**Population:** Berlin: 3.821.800 | Pankow: 418.250**Study site:** 1145 ha**Project site:** 66 ha**Site proposed by:** City of Berlin**Actors involved:** Berlin Senate Administrations,

District of Pankow, Deutsche Bahn

**Owner(s) of the site:** Various**Commission after competition:** in the on-site workshops after the competition, the results are to be discussed on site and adapted if necessary. The next planned step is to commission the winning team(s) with urban planning studies.

Study site with railway crossing «Karower Kreuz»



### INHABITED MILIEU'S CHALLENGES

For the Karower Kreuz in the north-east of Berlin, an urban development vision is to be developed that shows how the development of a hybrid traffic junction can become an impulse generator for the further urban development of existing residential quarters.

Berlin's population has grown continuously by almost half a million inhabitants over the last 20 years. The district of Pankow in the north of Berlin is one of the fastest growing districts and has a particularly dynamic development. In order to meet the challenges associated with this, especially the shortage of housing, Berlin is developing innovative and sustainable urban districts. At Karower Kreuz - where city turns into countryside - there are several large brownfield sites with significant urban development potential for Berlin.

The regional and suburban railway station «Karower Kreuz» can provide impulses for redevelopment within the European project site as well as the surrounding area. The aim is to overcome urban development barriers and create a place of networking and interconnection that links the various urban and landscape spaces and enhances them in terms of design.

The interplay of new and existing neighbourhoods at a regional and suburban railway station that is in the preliminary planning stage is the focus of the site. Forward-looking planning approaches are sought at the interface of urban and transport planning. The new station building will make a significant contribution as a nucleus and new urban centre for the further urban development processes in the surrounding area. In terms of urban planning, the designs are to contribute to the debate on urban mobility, density and networking and strengthen an integrated perspective of urban growth.

# WHAT IS THE VISION FOR A RAILWAY STATION AS A NUCLEUS AND URBAN CENTER FOR EXPANDING SUBURBAN NEIGHBORHOODS?



Project site and neighbouring single-family houses

# HOW DOES RAILWAY ARCHITECTURE CONTRIBUTE TO SUSTAINABLE IDEAS AND THE DEBATE ON URBAN MOBILITY, DENSITY, AND NETWORKING FOR THE URBAN GROWTH OF BERLIN'S NORTHEAST?



Project site sections



Green corridor with «Upstallgraben» and «Laake»

## QUESTIONS TO THE COMPETITORS

The aim is to create a development concept for the inner area of Karower Kreuz that makes efficient use of the space potential, integrates the railway station into the overall concept and gives the public space an atmospheric effect as a place of exchange and encounter.

What degree of urban density is appropriate for the location and what building forms can be used to efficiently fill out the area around the new station so that a recognisable city entrance is formulated that acts as a kick-starter and attractor for the surrounding area?

How can we succeed in establishing a new centrality that does not compete with the existing local town centres and their supply function, but is stimulated by new programmes that are consistently developed from the further thinking of the railway station as a hub of public life and productive interface of ecological, economic, social and cultural values?

Which programme components can be added to new office and commercial buildings so that the public space becomes an urban meeting place and a safe and fear-free urban space is created? How should buildings and especially the ground-floor zones be designed so that they contribute to the revitalisation of the public space?



Project site with potential for a new multi-level railway station