



NB168

HEJ GRANNE!
A PLACE TO CARE

THE POTENTIAL AND NEED OF THE STREET

Streets comprise approximately 80 % of all public space in cities. This means that streetscapes need to fulfil many roles, such as taking care of various movement flows, allowing for rest, meeting places, greenery, service, etc. They should be seen as the veins of a city; they are the framework within which life takes place. If veins do not perform the way they should, it can have severe, unhealthy consequences for the body. As UN Habitat argues; streets should be seen as drivers of urban prosperity.

For urban areas to prosper we need to utilise our public space, hence streets play an important role. Streets should not be mono-functional, serving only for transportation. They need to perform in many aspects. Mobility is a given; as the veins of the city they need to grant us accessibility for transportation. Streets should also allow for various uses and activities where citizens can socialise, revitalising the city. Streets will play an important role within the expected climate change trends, becoming vital for the resilience of cities. Finally, they will support a just society by promoting a safe environment that is inclusive and attractive to everyone. It is time for

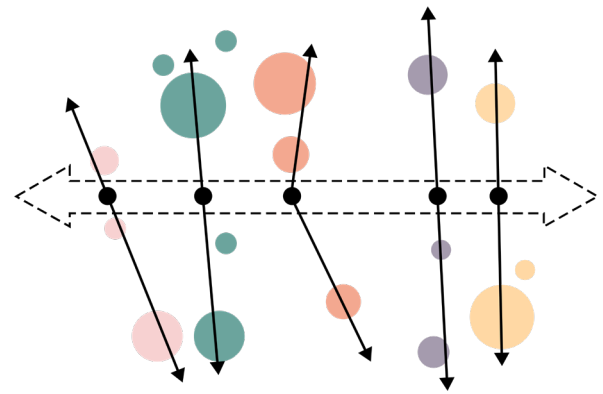
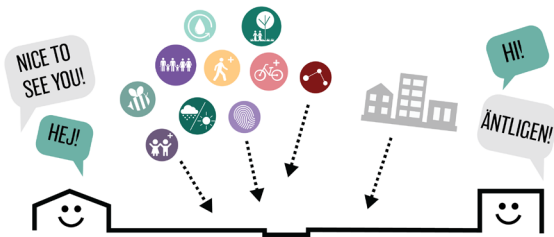
streets to be reclaimed, to explore the needs and potential we have for these vast spaces in order to generate places for people, that bridge barriers in cities and promote resilience.

VARBERG - A PLACE TO CARE

Varberg is a city that has been moved and rebuilt more times than any Swedish city. This has resulted in a variety of urban layouts, causing disconnected areas with split structures and barriers. There is a need for these areas to be reconnected to each other, to meet your neighbour and make greater use of what the city has to offer. There is a need for integration, as well as a need for more climate-sensitive measures that also contribute to ecological sustainability.

Varberg is a city where recovery and well-being for humans have always been in focus. The streets of Varberg hold a lot of potential in healing the city fabric, continuing the history and heritage of Varberg as a living city that cares for its citizens. Let us start with Trädlyckevägen!

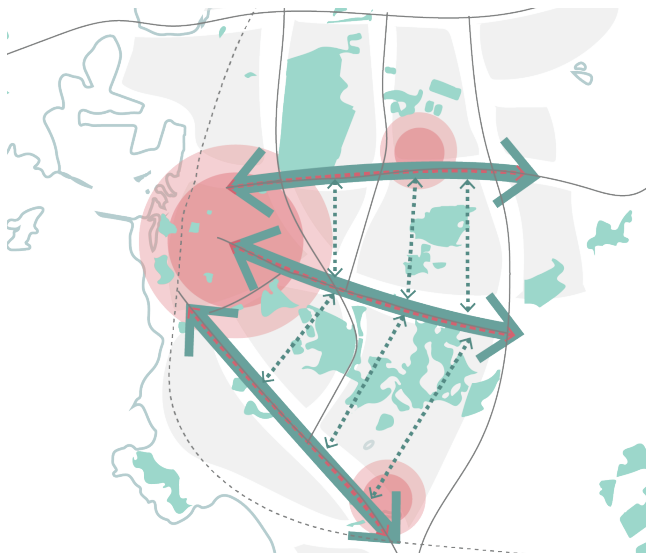




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ADD VALUE AND TIE TOGETHER

Reclaiming the street can take many forms. The intention is to tie the neighbourhoods closer and for streets to perform well in line with social, equitable, environmental and architectural values.



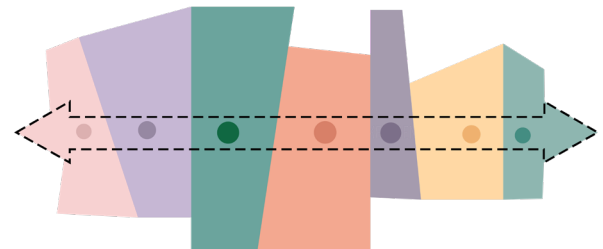
USE VARBERGS POTENTIAL

Varberg has a rich and eventful history, being rebuilt more times than any Swedish city. The proposal adds a new annual ring to the city, addressing the future, while at the same time as tying the different parts and characters of the city together.

Trädlyckevägen, Österängsvägen and Södra vägen together form very important connections into the city centre. There is a huge potential in these streets to become the catalyst of transforming bigger road networks into performative streetscapes.

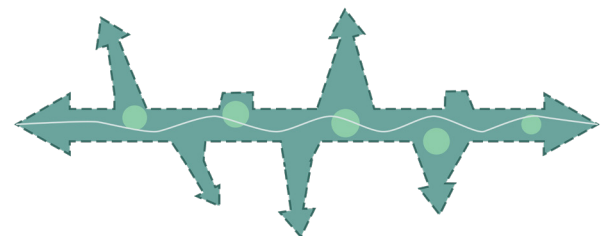
TRÄDLYCKEVÄGEN CONNECTED

The concept of the proposal latches on to the existing street network to cross-connect a number of different popular destinations and activities.



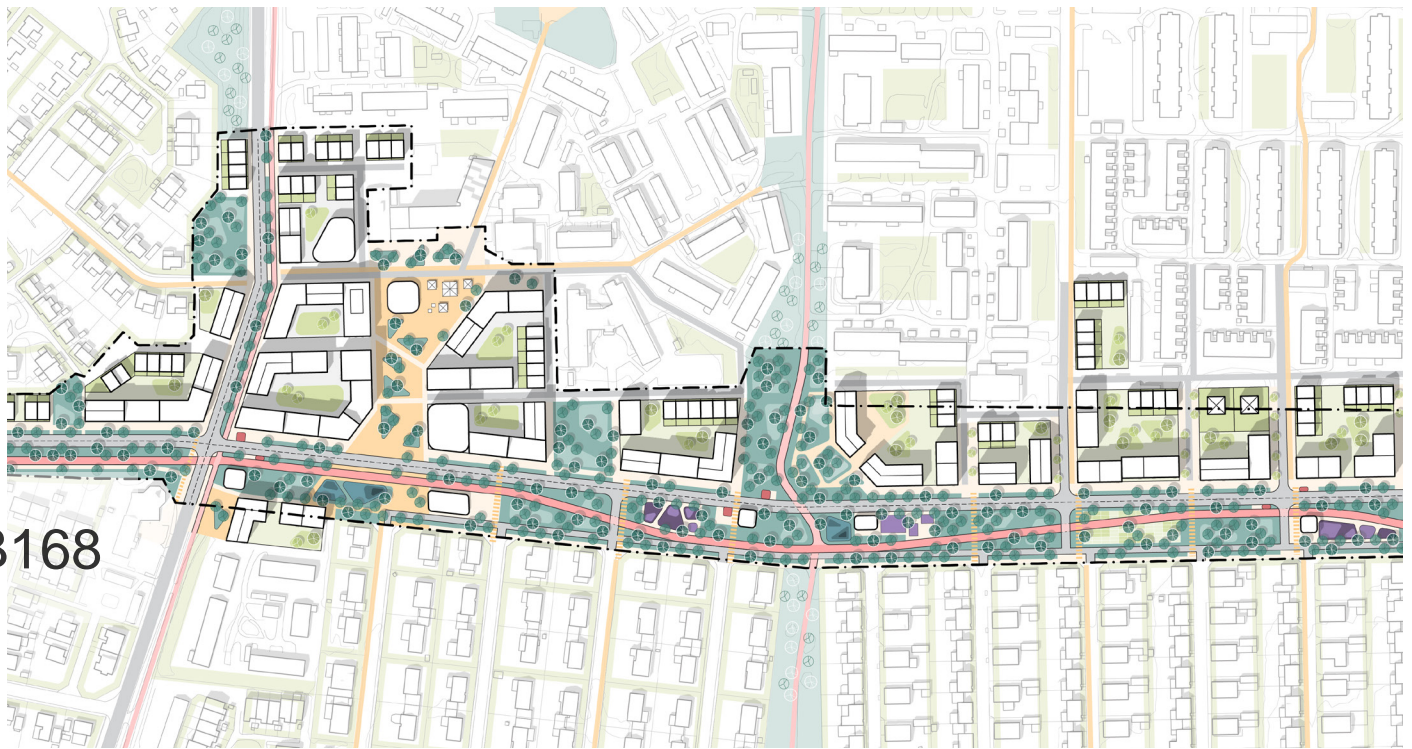
TRÄDLYCKEVÄGEN SOCIAL

The cross-connections have different character and consist of varying activities, influencing and creating variety along Trädlyckevägen.



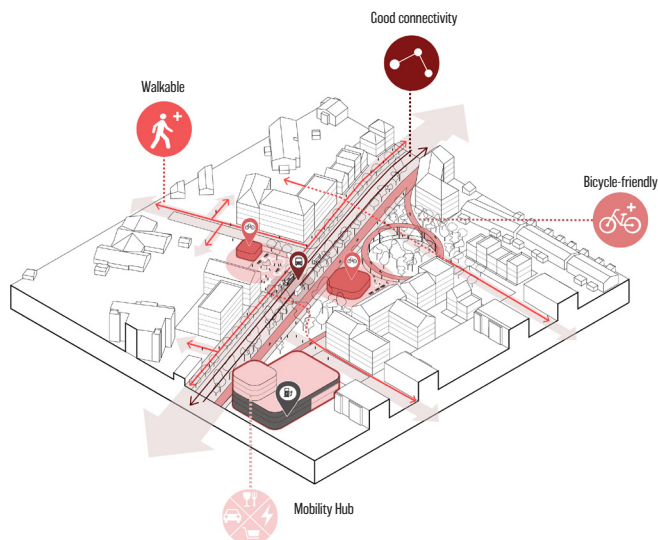
TRÄDLYCKEVÄGEN BLUE-GREEN

Whilst the different character zones create a variety of activity, there is a blue and green character that is continuous along the whole street, connecting the surrounding greenery.



RECLAIMING THE INFRASTRUCTURE

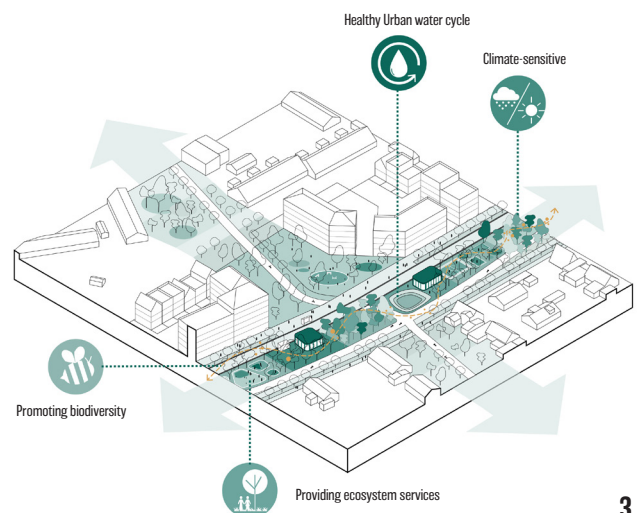
By transforming Trädlyckevägen from an isolated road into an integrated urban street, the people of Varberg are invited to walk, bike, use public transport and car-share. A comfortable and safe walking and cycling infrastructure is introduced, connecting the eastern part of Varberg with the city centre and strengthening the connections in North-South direction. Bicycle hubs for repairs and bike-rentals are placed strategically on crossings between the new main lane and existing streets. They work in close connection with mobility hubs and public transport, for an easy transit going into the city centre. The mobility hubs are flexible structures that in the beginning can house parking and hubs for car-sharing. In the future, when the need for car parking decreases, they can be converted into co-working spaces or office buildings.



PROMOTING RESILIENCE

Trädlyckevägen plays an important role in preparing Varberg for future climate change. The road is transformed into a green connection with a park theme going all the way from the edge of the city into the city centre. The greenery expands in strategic places along the stretch to create larger parks and promote ecosystem services. The infrastructure has a great potential to serve the city when big rainfalls come. Stormwater ponds are located in lower areas to be able to collect, hold, clean and let stormwater infiltrate, preventing flooding and contributing to a healthy urban water cycle.

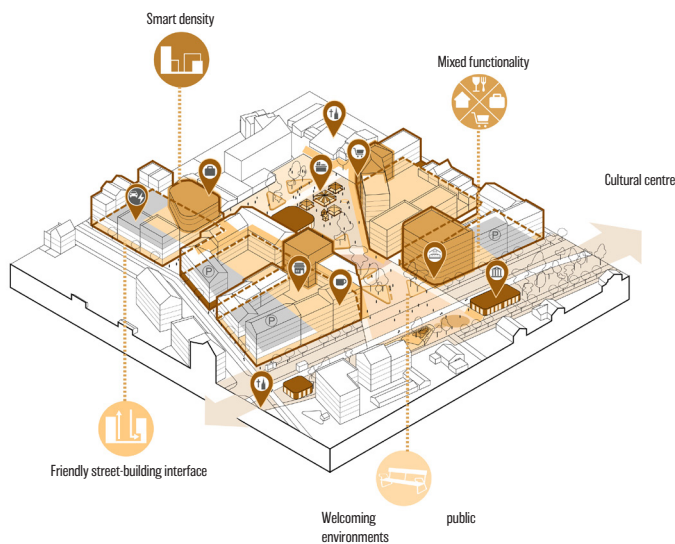
The design aims to connect the green areas North and South of the street as well. Working as a bridge, latching on to already existing green connections, it promotes biodiversity.



REGENERATING PLACES FOR PEOPLE

Along Trädlyckevägen a series of new public meeting places are introduced. They are focused at the junctions, in relation to functions for mobility, commercial activity and culture. With both smaller and bigger programme schemes being introduced, a variety of places for people to use and activate are being created.

By expanding the usage of the land, a small-scale, urban centre is built in Håsten, serving the areas around it. The structure creates a linear square surrounded by services, restaurants, healthcare facilities and religious buildings. Hybrid blocks are proposed, these are blocks that consist of housing as well as bigger and smaller commercial functions. The buildings have permeable ground floors and entrances facing the street and the new Håstens torg, opening up for new commercial activity. Through new housing, the supply of different services increases. The existing and new programming help to strengthen each other, all together attracting more people. The public square together with cultural functions, the church and healthcare provide non-commercial functions, welcoming everyone.



BRIDGING BARRIERS

Trädlyckevägen as it is today, forms a barrier between the areas on each side of the road. The wide streetscape invites cars to drive fast, pedestrians and bicycles are led down to tunnels and the green areas surrounding the road are mainly leftover spaces. This layout means that distances are both physically as well as mentally far and long.

By introducing new housing and activity along the new street, destinations are closer. At the same time the cross-connections are highlighted, making the distances shorter and junctions get a public and inviting programme.

The housing typologies are mixed to create a variety of character and atmosphere within the area. A strategy that further helps to blur the edge between the single-family housing area and the apartment buildings. Safety is a key to activate the new paths at nights. Through good orientation, a more open layout and good lighting, a sense of safety is created when moving along the pathways. By making the street narrower and placing buildings and trees along it, the speed of the cars is decreased. All together the new street introduces a new unique identity to the area, opening up new flows and creating new places to meet.

