

INVITATION INTERNATIONAL WORKSHOP
7-11 JUNE 2011



RiverCity Gothenburg



Göteborgs
Stad

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Invitation

Gothenburg stands on the threshold of a new era. North and south will soon be re-connected when the city centre takes a leap across the river Göta älv. The core of whole western Sweden will be strengthened.

The extensive and diverse areas involved raise questions and challenges of varying character but with equal importance. To meet the challenge the City Executive Board has initiated the project 'RiverCity Gothenburg' with the task of outlining Vision and Strategy by 2012 for the years to come.

Ambitions are high. Project cornerstones are sustainability (social, ecological, economical), to work with openness and in dialogue with the Gothenburg society, transdisciplinary cooperation and exchange of knowledge as well as national and international exchange of experience.

The three dimensions of sustainability has been translated into three project objectives: to be inclusive, green and competitive - offering a place for everyone, to reduce the impact on climate and actively contributing to the economic development of Gothenburg.

We now need your help to widen the perspectives and develop ideas in order to achieve strategic models for future development. You are therefore invited to qualify for participating in our International workshop which will take place in Gothenburg 7- 11 June 2011. It is our sincere hope that you will accept the challenge!

Gothenburg, 17 February 2011



Anneli Hulthén
Chairman of City Executive Board



Jonas Ransgård
Vice-Chairman of City
Executive Board



Lars Ivarson
Convening Management Group



Bo Aronsson
Project Manager



RiverCity Gothenburg

Gothenburg has unique possibilities to expand and build its city centre across the river Göta älv. The City of Gothenburg has therefore with broad political support launched the project RiverCity Gothenburg.

The purpose of RiverCity Gothenburg is to outline Vision and Strategy for the area as well as to develop methods for transdisciplinary cooperation, dialogue and exchange of information. This objective is thought to secure a sustainable approach towards urban planning not only within the project but in the city as a whole.

The workshop

By organising an international workshop 7-11 June 2011 the RiverCity Gothenburg project aims to deepen the knowledge about strategic models and concepts for sustainable urban design. The purpose is to fully understand the potential of the site, create scenarios and formulate visions and strategies that are relevant to the project.

The results of the workshop will work as support and inspiration for the continuing work of outlining Vision and Strategy for the RiverCity area. It is our intention that specialist knowledge and competence within a whole range of areas will interact in a transdisciplinary way throughout the workshop as well as in our own work.

Key points and challenges

Gothenburg's overriding goal is to continue to develop sustainably. However long term in character, ideas and perspectives of what sustainable development is are constantly being produced and shifting. The task of developing the city sustainably can only start with gathering ideas, perspectives, methods and experiences from different kinds of knowledge and parts of the world.

The introductory work on RiverCity Gothenburg has identified three main objectives in connection with sustainable development that acquires a closer look. Sustainable urban planning and design for the city as a whole must:

- be inclusive,
- reduce its impact on and adapt to climate change, and
- develop economic diversity.

Each of these objectives encompasses uncertain and complex issues for which it is urgent to find solutions. Balance must be struck within, and not least between, the objectives concerned. In order to achieve well-balanced solutions that merit respect by all parties it is necessary that established planning models are further developed. New forms of interaction and exchange of know-how also need to be explored.

Climate effect and adaptation

Gothenburg is located in a valley through which the river Göta älv flows. The city was consolidated around low-laying areas of reeds and clay soil ringed by rocks. Over the years, the former

reed beds have been dried out and by the help of in-fill made into surfaces ready to build on. These conditions together make Gothenburg and especially the RiverCity area vulnerable to sea level rise caused by climate change.

Apart from adapting to climate change in terms of sea level rise and high temperature another major challenge is to reduce the city's own impact on the climate. The development of RiverCity Gothenburg will continue over 50-70 years. In 40 years time the greenhouse gas emissions in Sweden will need to decrease to 1/5 of the amount produced today, and in the long run fossil fuels need to be ruled out completely. When building new the possibilities to meet these criteria are greater. Still the challenge to create a city where buildings, mobility and consumption are fossil free is enormous.

An inclusive urban development

In recent decades Gothenburg has become an increasingly segregated city. Sustainability in social terms is complex and hard to define. An inclusive development, however, can be described as when everyone has the possibility to interact on equal terms, without changing or being restricted to or by their origin.

An inclusive urban planning also considers the level of access to the arts and culture. Diversity in terms of cultural expression and belonging is a priority, not so much in terms of tolerance but rather in that of an active pursuit.

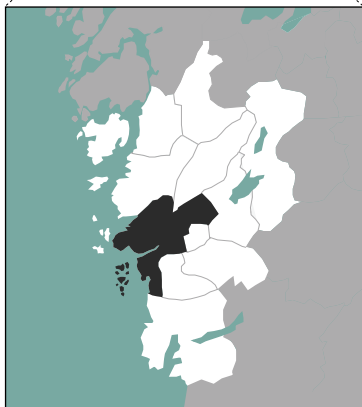
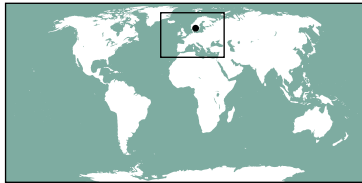
Economic diversity

Gothenburg has to a large degree been shaped by its industrial and port-related heritage. The shipyard crisis in the 1960's and 70's meant a major blow and a wake up call leaving large central plots relatively empty.

Even though a shifting economy is a topic frequently discussed, the city's economy is to a large extent still dependent on the presence of industry and export. However, a business sector too uniform makes a city vulnerable. Gothenburg must therefore foster and develop economic diversity.

Background

Regional context



The Gothenburg Region

Gothenburg is the centre western Sweden, as well as the second biggest city in the country. The Gothenburg region consists of 13 municipalities, joined together in the co-operative organisation The Göteborg Region Association of Local Authorities (GR). The population combined in these municipalities is 927 000.

Objectives for regional development can be found in the strategy document Sustainable Growth as well as shown in the Structural illustration. The fundamental element of regional structure within the region are outlined as sea and coastal areas, woods and lakes together with an attractive regional core with corridors to several strong regional centres.

Regional structures and RiverCity Gothenburg

Main regional structures outlined in the Structural illustration relevant to the project RiverCity Gothenburg are that of the Core, the Main Corridors, the River Göta älv as well as the Metropolitan District.

- **The Core**
The centre of Gothenburg makes the regional core, easy to access from the entire region. Large parts of the core consist of post industrial sites.
- **The Metropolitan District**
The core together with well developed systems of local public transport are defined as the metropolitan district.
- **The Main Corridors**
Main corridors, or strategic routes, connects the main cities within the county, such as Uddevalla, Trollhättan, Alingsås/Skövde, Borås and Varberg. The routes are to be strengthened with rail service to become an attractive alternative to car use. Västlänken is such a project connecting the region.
- **The river Göta Älv**
The river is a highly structuring element of not only the city of Gothenburg but the to region as a whole.



Structural illustration for the Gothenburg Region by GR

Local context

Gothenburg was in the 1600's built as a fortification to protect Sweden's western front, then only a small strip stretching out to the North Sea. In the 1700's it came to adopt the identity of a trade and port city, and then it transformed itself to that of an industrial and port identity in the 1800's and early 1900's.

Due to the shipyard crises in 1960's and 70's large parts of Gothenburg's central parts city consists of partly abandoned industrial sites which to a large extent are used, or could be used, in a new way. These sites are ready to be complemented with both new use and content.

RiverCity and the Core

The City of Gothenburg has decided that by developing from the centre outwards it can strengthen the region as well as satisfy the demand for attractive business sites - the Core. Complementary development combined with development at strategic nodes makes effective use of limited land resources.

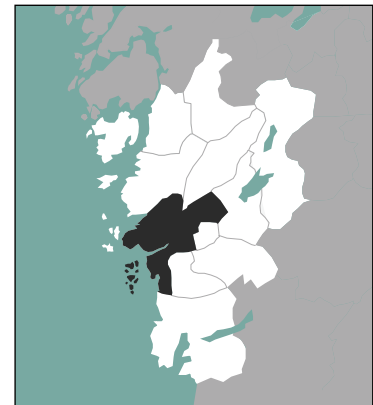
The Core encompasses an area on both the northern and southern side on the river Göta älv. The southern side is where the original fortified city lies, and that side has also hosted most of the city's expansion. The northern side for a long time hosted agricultural, harbour and industrial activity to a further extent.

The RiverCity Gothenburg project can read as the core of the core, since it consists of a relatively short strip along the water front on both sides of Göta älv belonging to the core.

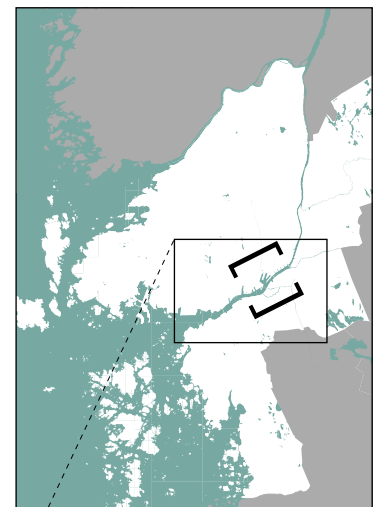
The river Göta älv

The river Göta älv flows through Gothenburg and stretches all the way to lake Vänern, by which the northern part of Gothenburg actually constitutes for an island - Hisingen. Over time the city of Gothenburg has grown on both sides of the river, benefiting from the flow of goods.

Today walking along the river gives an great impression of the city's port and industrial historical heritage. However, despite its importance and size, the river's presence within the urban space is relatively weak other than working as a strong barrier between the two sides.



The Gothenburg Region



Gothenburg



RiverCity Gothenburg

Two bridges span across Göta älv connecting the most central parts of Gothenburg - Älvsborgsbron (Älvsborg bridge) and Göta älvbron (Göta älv bridge). Göta älv bridge is located in the centre of the RiverCity area and is planned to be replaced before the year 2020.

Northern and southern side development

The northern side of Göta älv was to a large extent used for shipyard and boat manufacture until the shipyard crises 1960-70's. A new development of the area began in the early 1980's with the accompanying vision of The Good City. The idea was to establish new kinds of business, knowledge, culture and recreation through building and establishing mixed use areas. The new built areas would work as clusters for education, research and business as well as bringing about lively and attractive city life.

Between 2000-2006 the tunnel Götatunneln was constructed on the southern side, opening up for new urban planning on the southern shore as well. How to connect to and give residents of the city access to the waterfront have long been the topic for discussion.

The RiverCity project fulfils and expands upon previous ambition on both northern and southern sides by envisioning how the areas connecting both sides should be grasped and further developed.

Gothenburg's identity

Nowadays we talk about Gothenburg being an event or knowledge city, even though the city's economy to a large extent still depends on the presence of industry and export. The year 2021 Gothenburg will celebrate its 400 years Anniversary. If or rather how the city's identity will change is to a high degree subject to the work of outlining Vision and Strategy for The RiverCity project.

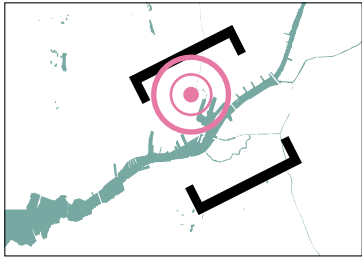


Area characteristics

The RiverCity project spans across an area of over 4 km² including central urban districts around and facing the historical city core on both sides of the river Göta älv. The area consists of a wide range of urban elements and interrelations. However, the whole area is both dependent on the river's shaping element at the same time as being fairly ignorant of it.

Here follows a brief introduction to the urban districts involved. Then three urban themes characteristic to the area is introduced, in terms of being in common with, particular to, overlapping, intersecting or separating of the urban districts:

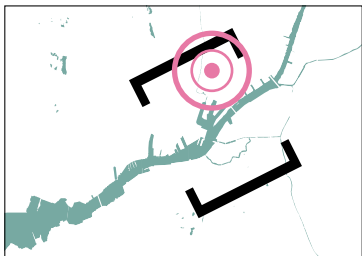
- Experiencing the river Göta älv
- Diversity of spaces
- Border land areas



Kvillestan



Lindholmen



Backaplan





Ringön



Frihamnen



Göta älvbron



Gullbergssstrand

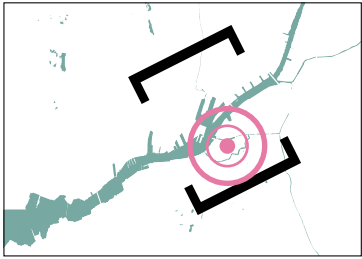


Gullbergsvass

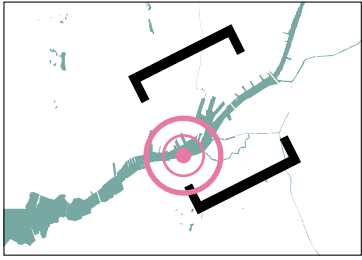


Gullbergskaj

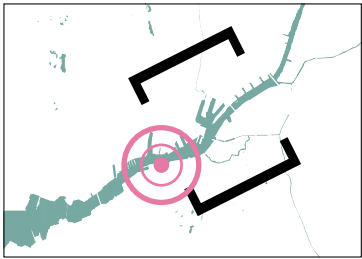




City



Skeppsbron



Masthuggskajen

Experiencing the river



Diversity of spaces



Border land areas



Who are we looking for?

We look for teams that show they have a good understanding of inner-city urban planning and development, with broad competence concerning sustainability issues. We expect the participants to discuss the project objectives on how to create a more inclusive community, a city that fosters and develops economic diversity, as well as issues relating to the impact on and adaptation to climate change.

The process starting and following the workshop will be carried out in three stages. First a pre-qualification takes place where 8-12 teams will be selected to participate in the work. The second stage is the workshop itself, which takes place in Gothenburg 7-11 June 2011. The third and last stage involves time for compiling the produced workshop material. The compiled material from the teams will then be put together in a publication which will constitute background for an exhibition in September 2011.

How to qualify

All teams are required to consist of 5-8 persons and include an appointed team leader.

The material submitted must include the following:

- A. A short description and explanation of the team's composition and competence (5-8 persons)
- B. Short account of how the team intends to work on the assignment.
- C. CV of the team leader.
- D. A selection of 3-5 relevant reference projects.
- E. Company name, registration number, address, phone number and e-mail address. If several companies collaborate information from each firm is required.

The submitted material is limited to a total of 10 A4 pages. Material in addition to the 10 A4 pages will not be included in the assessment process. The application, due 1 April 2011, is to be sent in writing together with an enclosed CD/DVD/USB copy, marked 'Tender RiverCity Gothenburg' to:

Björn Johansson
City of Gothenburg
Town Management Office
S-404 82 Gothenburg
SWEDEN

Evaluation

Requirements

Any bidder may be excluded from the selection process if the bidder:

- is bankrupt or is being wound up, where his affairs are being administered by the court, where he has entered into an arrangement with creditors, where he has suspended business activities or is in any analogous situation arising from a similar procedure under national laws and regulations;
- is the subject of proceedings for a declaration of bankruptcy, for an order for compulsory winding up or administration by the court or of an arrangement with creditors or of any other similar proceedings under national laws and regulations;
- has been convicted by a judgment which has the force of res judicata in accordance with the legal provisions of the country of any offence concerning his professional conduct;
- has been guilty of grave professional misconduct proven by any means which the contracting authorities can demonstrate;
- has not fulfilled obligations relating to the payment of social security contributions in accordance with the legal provisions of the country in which he is established or with those of the country of the contracting authority;
- has not fulfilled obligations relating to the payment of taxes in accordance with the legal provisions of the country in which he is established or with those of the country of the contracting authority.

In addition, it is a requirement that the bid:

- has arrived on time (before 1 April 2011) and is in English.

Team selection criterias

Teams will be evaluated on base of their ability to give a broad and varied contribution to the task.

In order to qualify as workshop participants the team must show a good understanding of urban planning and development as well as having extensive competence concerning sustainability issues. The selection of teams will be based on:

1. Relevant competence, motivation of the team's composition, in reference to A and B in 'How to qualify'.
2. Innovative and relevant skills proven by reference projects.
3. Choice of method.

Jury

A selection of nominees is made by an assessment group including the following members:

Lars Reuterswärd (chairman)
UN Habitat/ Mistra Urban Futures

Martha Schwartz
Harvard University

Ana Betancour
RiverCity Gothenburg/ Chalmers

Anders Sandoff
University of Gothenburg - School of Business, Economics and Law/ Mistra Urban Futures

Moa Tunström
Royal Institute of Technology

The appointed nominees will be evaluated by the RiverCity Gothenburg's directorate, who decides on which teams to include in the workshop.

The directorate includes the following members:

- Lars Ivarson (convener), City of Gothenburg
- Henriette Söderberg, Chalmers
- Johan Trouvé, West Sweden Chamber of Commerce and Industry
- Christer Samuelsson, Lundby Municipal District of Administration, City of Gothenburg
- Ulla-Carin Olsson, East Municipal District Administration, City of Gothenburg
- Björn Sandmark, Department of Culture, City of Gothenburg
- Anna Bertilson, City Planning Authority, City of Gothenburg
- Barbro Sundström, City Planning Authority, City of Gothenburg
- Christina Jonsson, Real Estate Office, City of Gothenburg
- Mats Andersson, Älvstranden Utveckling AB

The decision will be sent in writing to all tenders.

Time table

2011

17 February – 1 April

Advertisement/ Pre-qualification application time

1 April – 2 May

Selection of nominees and Decision on participating teams

May

Notification on Decision on participating teams

16 May

Program sent out to participating teams introducing the workshop

7-11 June

RiverCity Gothenburg International workshop

July - August

Compilation of material from workshop

September

Publication of material from workshop, exhibition and seminar

Autumn

Continuing work within the framework of RiverCity Gothenburg Vision and Strategy

2012

Summer

Decision on RiverCity Gothenburg Vision and Strategy

Fees

The application concerns participation for 5 days in the international workshop (7-11 June). All teams are paid for participating. Each team receives a fee of 250,000 SEK (around €29,000). The fee includes travel expenses. Apart from the fee The RiverCity project pays for and administrates hotel reservations for the teams involved.

From June to August each team prepares and compiles their workshop material according to a template handed by the RiverCity project group. The material from all the teams will be published in a joint report as well as displayed at an exhibition set to take place in September 2011. Each team then receives an additional 100,000 SEK (around €11 500).

All workshop material may be used and distributed freely by the RiverCity Gothenburg project group within the framework of the project.

Contact information

All queries during application procedure are to be sent in writing to:

centralaalvstaden@goteborg.se

or

Björn Johansson
City of Gothenburg
Town Mangement Office
S-404 82 Gothenburg
SWEDEN

Additional information, updates and answers to all queries sent to the above addresses are published on our web site:

www.goteborg.se/centralaalvstaden