

Make room for the landscape - strategies for the landscape of Göteborg, Sweden

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The City of Göteborg has recently produced a strategic program dealing with the landscape of Göteborg. The goal of the program is to make the main landscape features of Göteborg - the valleys, the coast line and the cultural landscape - available to the citizens of Göteborg and visitors. The program consists of five main strategies, designed to achieve this goal. The strategies are: characteristics, within reach, taking care of, make places and spaces available and variation.

Characteristics is all about finding the characteristics of Göteborg and strengthening them. The features of Göteborg are for example the landscape characteristics, the people living here and the urban districts within Göteborg. Strengthening these is the same as strengthening the experience of Göteborg.

Within reach uses the sociotop map (a sociotop map describes the common everyday life qualities of open space with 20 socio-cultural values, for example ball game, picnic, cultivation and walking) and the sociotop circle to create a guideline telling planners (and users of open space) how far away open space qualities should be available to the citizens of Göteborg. To achieve this, a district park should be present in every district of the city, public transportation to popular landscape features such as the coast line and the forests should be arranged and new parks should be constructed in areas of park shortage.

Taking care of means exactly what the name of the strategy implies – the public administrations of Göteborg together with the citizens should take care of the city in order to make the public spaces into a living room for all.

Make places and spaces available means listening to initiatives from the public and being open minded to new ideas. It means letting people make foot prints in the open spaces of the city for shorter and longer periods of time. Thereby creating a more fun city filled with experiences.

A **Variation** of open spaces in a city brings about parks and experiences for everyone. Variation in form, shape and expression. To create contrasts that enhances the experience of the open spaces. Mixing the organised with the wild and prioritize variation in front of equity.

At this very moment district level plans are made in order to implement the five main strategies from the program.