# A SOCIALLY COHESIVE OVERTOOMSE VELD

A research project on how the monofunctional post-war neighborhood Overtoomse Veld can be transformed into a more socially cohesive mixed-use area



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### Op 1500 meter afstand van de [1500m from the world city] wereldstad

#### Voorpagina

Prognose: recordaantal inwoners Amsterdam in 2019 [Record amount inhabitants Amsterdam]

# Sturen met stadsvernieuwing

Gentrificatie in Amsterdam heeft ook schaduwkanten [Gentrification in Amsterdam has downsides]

[Steering urban renewal]

Marokkanen in West, vijf jaar na de explosie

August Allebépleinvrees

# Van hippiestad tot pretpark voor hoogopgeleiden

[From hippie city to amusement park for the highly educated]

## Amsterdam in 2019: een stad vol problemen en vol geluk

[A city full of problems and full of luck]

# Van wie is de stad?

#### Onderzoek

De Amsterdamse binnenstad verandert in een eentonig consumptiegebied [The inner city is changing into a monotonous consumption area]

Waarom het massatoerisme ons meer kost dan **oplevert** [Why mass tourism costs us more than it bears]

Raad voor de Leefomgeving: Amsterdam groeit uit tot enclave voor de rijken

[Amsterdam grows into an enclave for the rich]

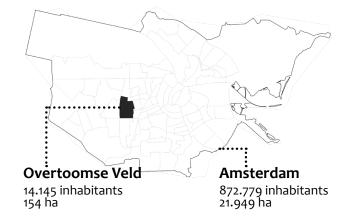
'Diversiteit is een kracht'

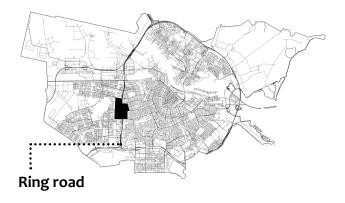
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## Social cohesion in neighborhoods

is a characteristic of society which deals with the interrelationship of **societal units** and **territorial units**.

A socially cohesive neighborhood enhances **activity, interaction** and **safety** on the streets and between persons of **different socio-economic** and **ethnic** backgrounds, different **ages** or **households** types.





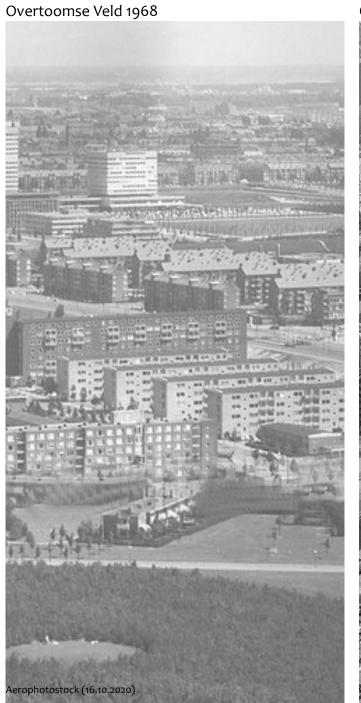
Based on open GIS data (2020)

**CONTEXT INTRODUCTION** PROBLEM FIELD METHODOLOGY ANALYSIS STRATEGY DESIGN

#### **The Garden Cities** Wijkgedachte Das Neue Bauen







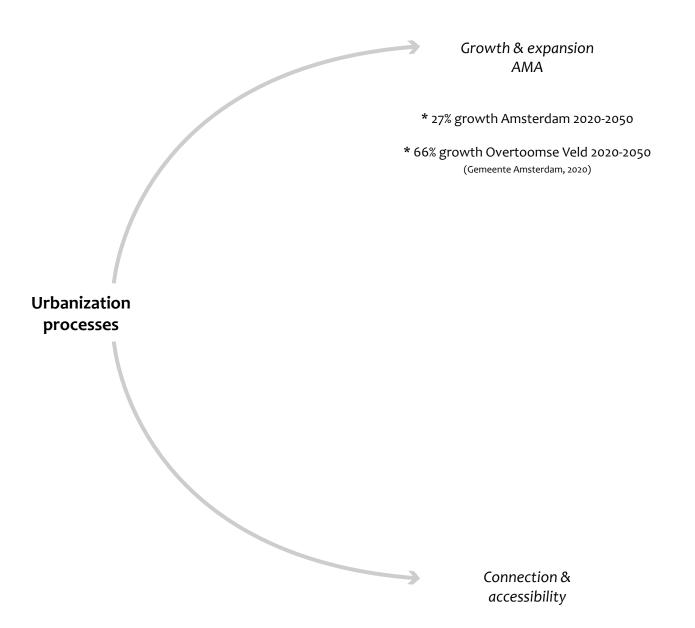
Overtoomse Veld 1973



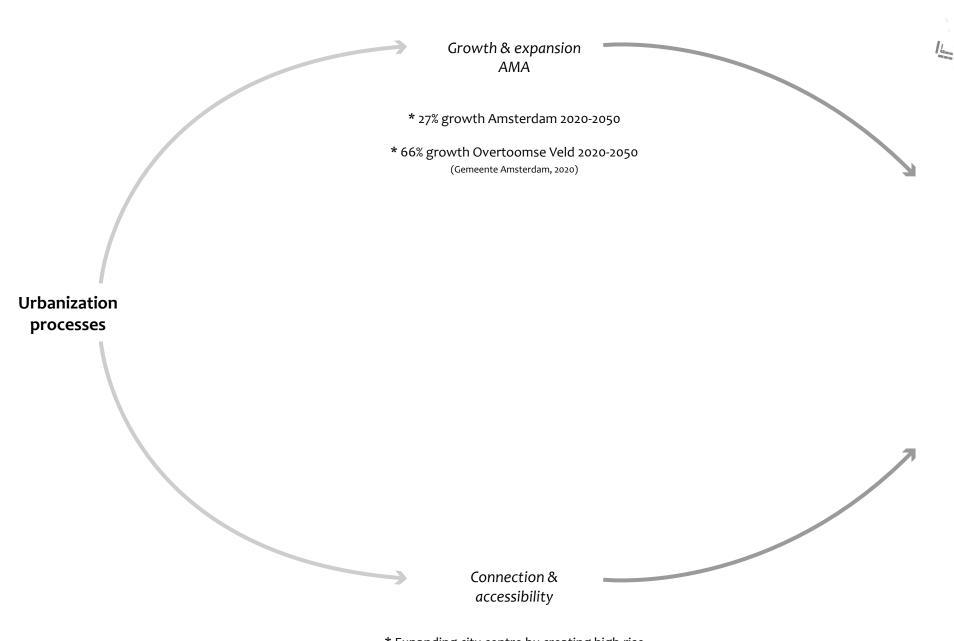


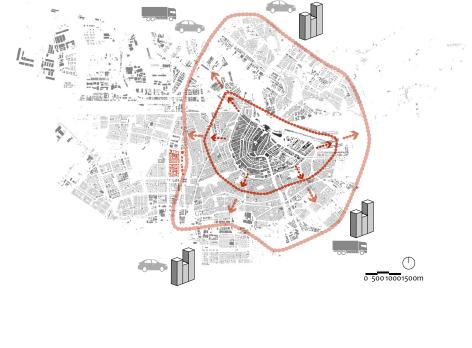
CONTEXT INTRODUCTION **PROBLEM FIELD** METHODOLOGY ANALYSIS STRATEGY DESIGN CONCLUSIONS

Urbanization processes Segregation & exclusion Transformation

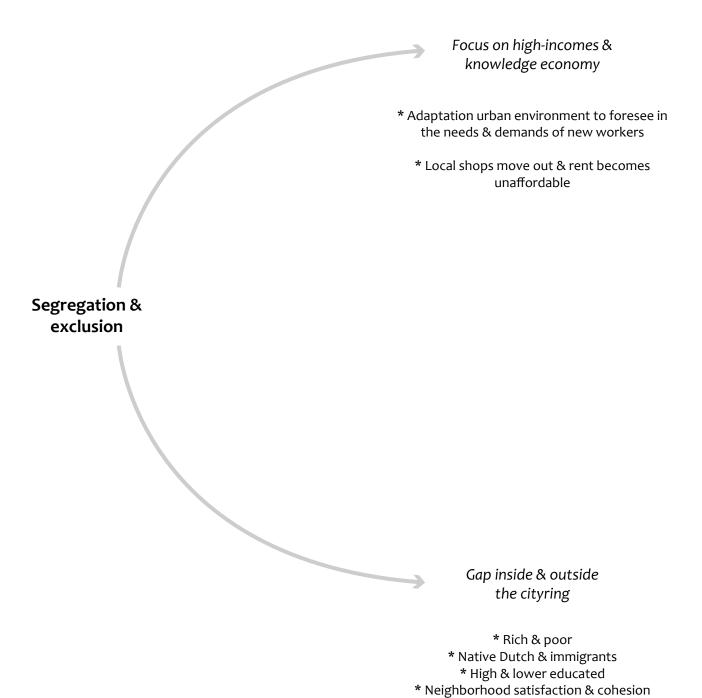


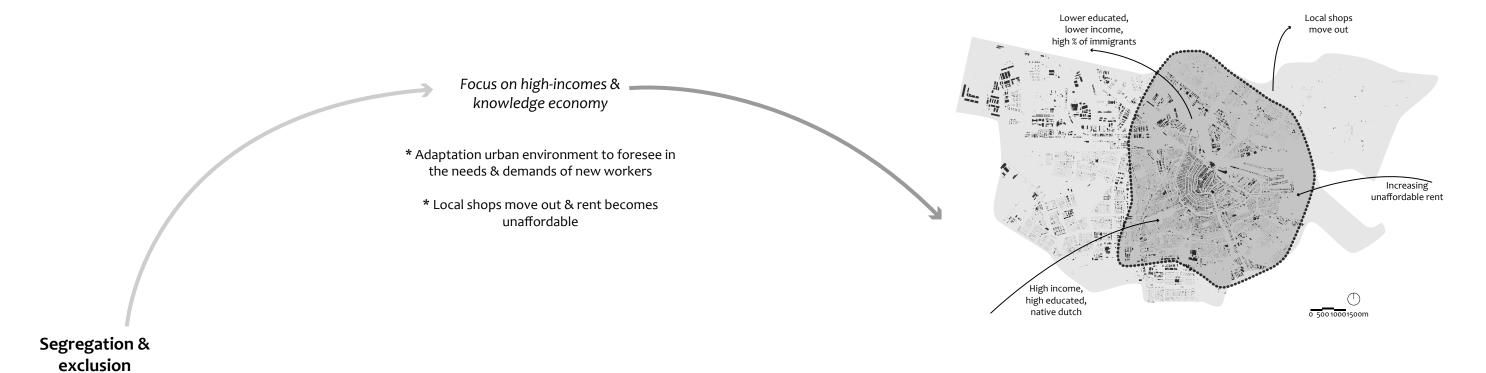
\* Expanding city centre by creating high-rise on infrastructure bundle

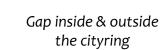












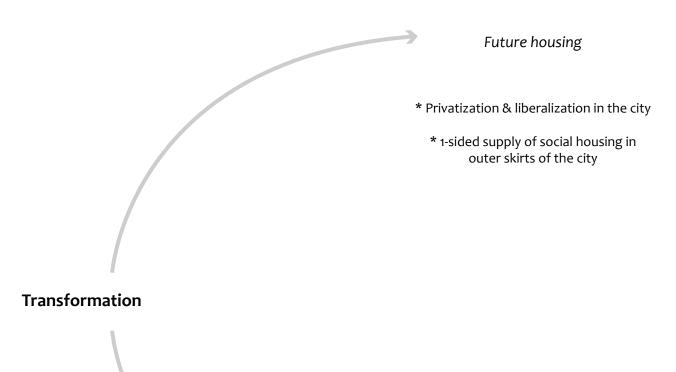
\* Rich & poor

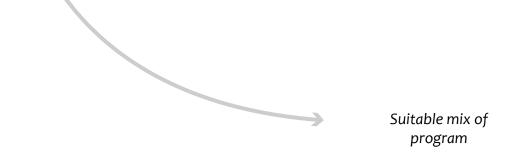
\* Native Dutch & immigrants

\* High & lower educated

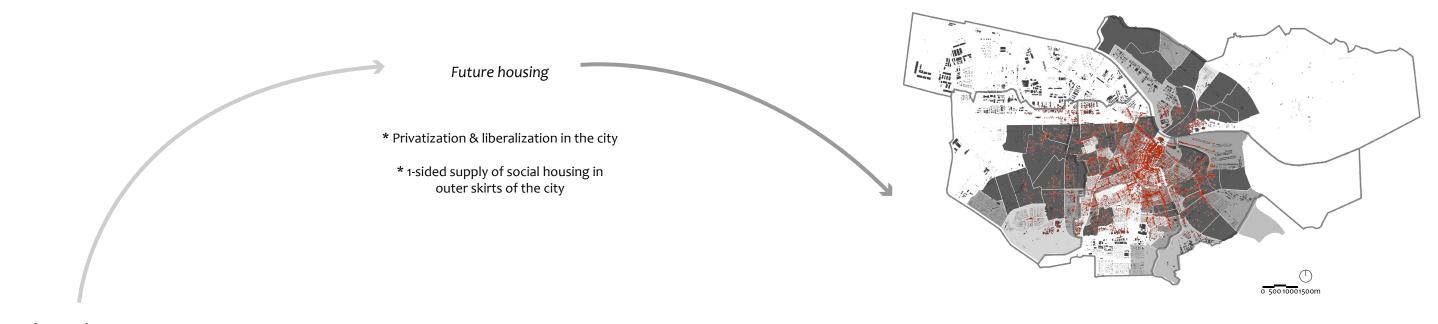
\* Neighborhood satisfaction & cohesion



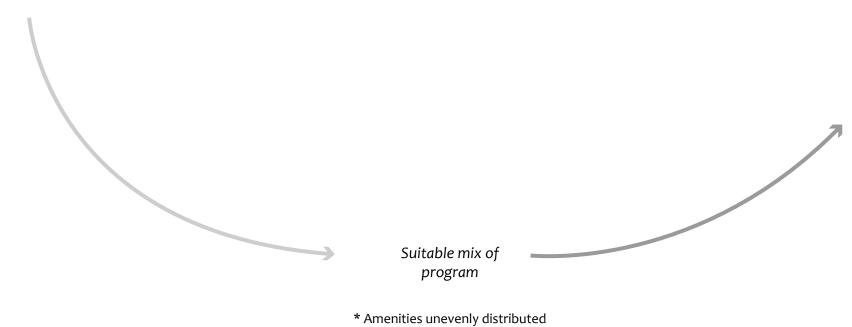




<sup>\*</sup> Amenities unevenly distributed



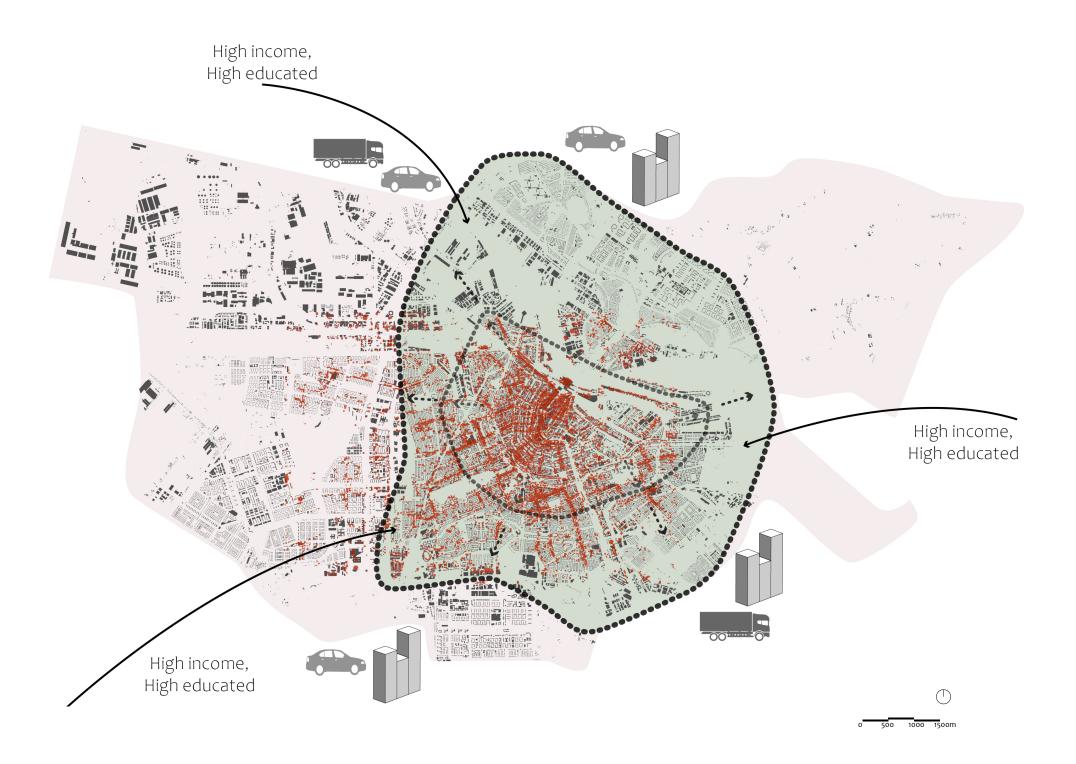
#### Transformation





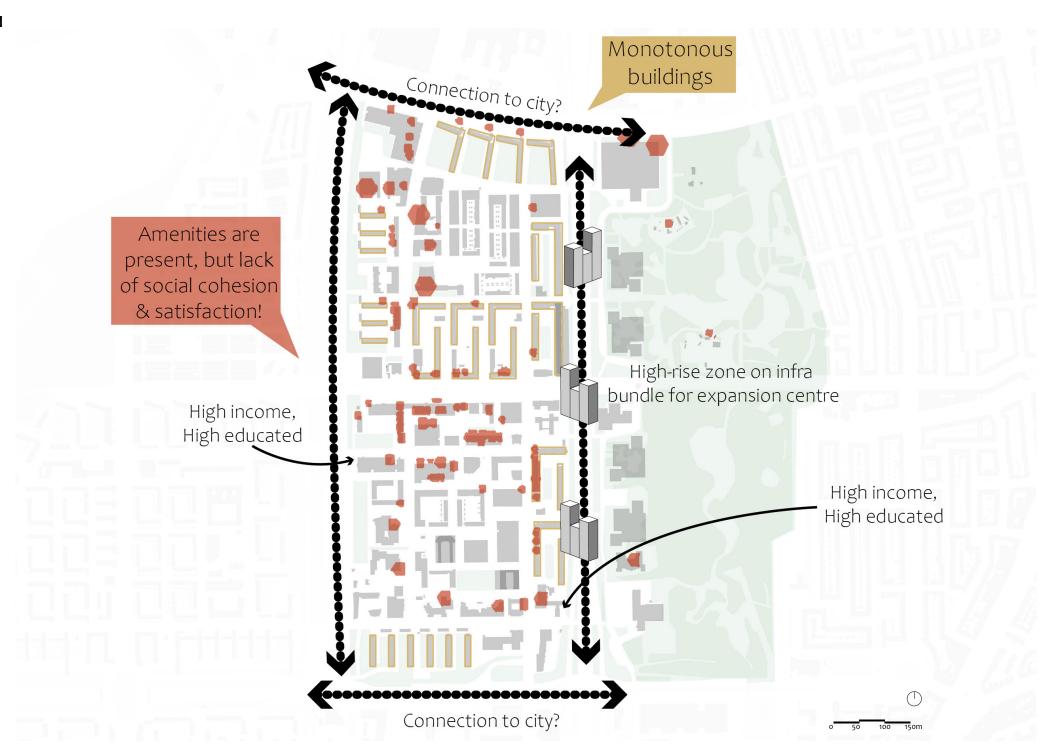
Homogeneous building blocks & a lot of open spaces

#### **Conclusion Amsterdam**

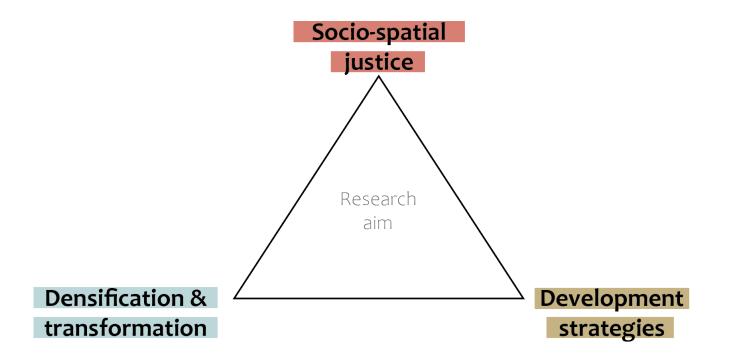


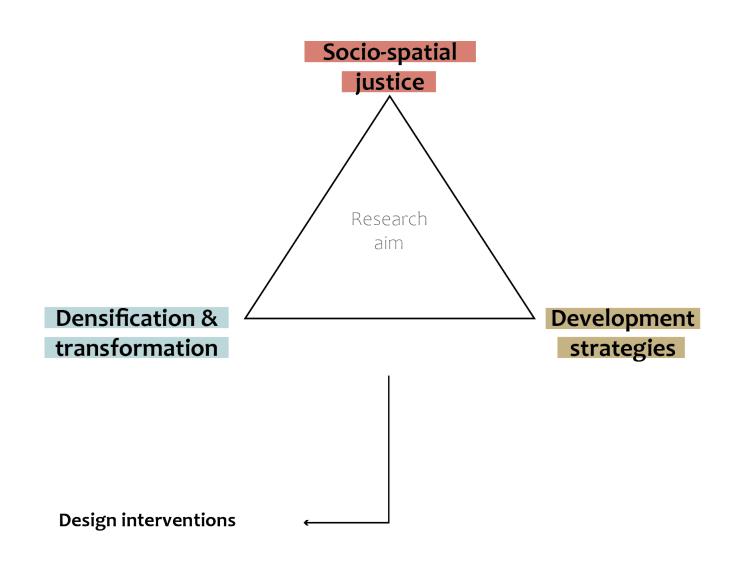
DESIGN

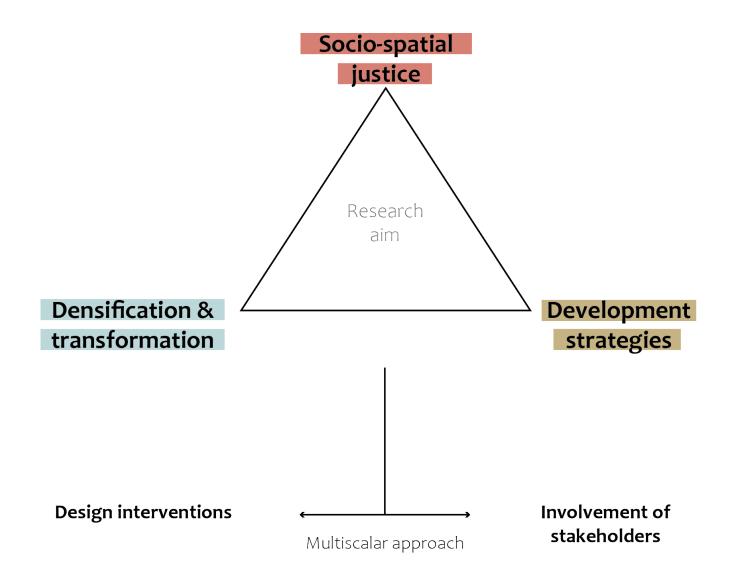
#### **Conclusion Overtoomse Veld**



To explore possibilities for densification, but simultaneously achieve social cohesion between current & new residents

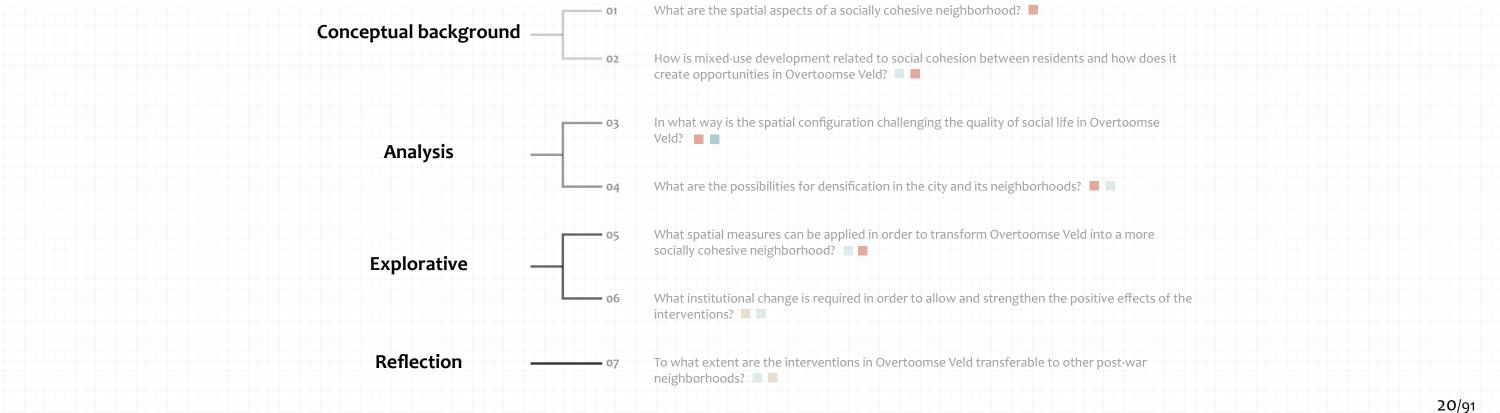


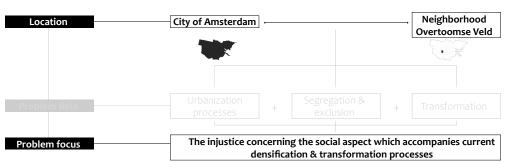




How can the **monofunctional post-war** neighborhood Overtoomse Veld be transformed into a more socially cohesive mixed-use area?

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Conclusion

Neighborhood City of Amsterdam Overtoomse Veld The injustice concerning the social aspect which accompanies current Problem focus densification & transformation processes socially cohesive neighborhood Scenario testing

Strategy which will aid in the development of social cohesion in

neighborhoods, but also creates possibilities for

densification and transformation of the city

- L Literature review
- (SA) Spatial analysis
- M Mapping
- Q Questionnaire
- FW Fieldwork
- (ST) Scenario testing
- P Pattern language
- Stakeholder analysis

Segregation & connectiveness
Centralities
Ambition to densify
Questionnaire & interviews

#### Segregation & connectiveness



"The edges feel unsafe to me. The buildings look old and in decay. The area feels quite isolated"

- Respondent questionnaire



Eyes on the street

Lively building edges

Create accessible green

Building entrances also at edge side

Safer crossings for pedestrians & cyclists

More (car) entrances in the neighborhood

Connect neighborhood streets to 3 streets which are currently easy to reach

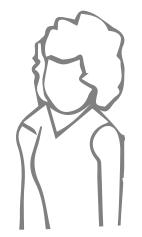


#### Centralities



"Basic needs are available. But I go to the centre to have more choice. Tram 13 and you are there in no time!"

- Interviewee fieldwork



"Am I allowed to enter? There is a **fence**, but it's **open**.. I feel like I'm **being watched**"

- Me



#### Potentials:

- Create seating possibilities & active facades
- More focus on pedestrians & cyclists, less on cars
- → â Clear accessibility & entrances towards public spaces
- Divide functions throughout neighborhood (attention to edges)
- Functions should be interrelated & active during different times & days

#### **Ambition to densify**

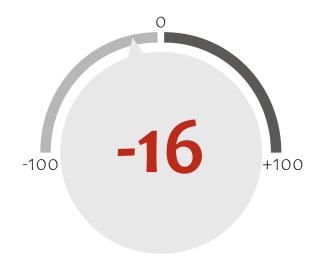


#### Potentials:

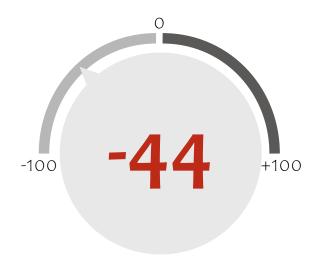
- Possible areas for densification and transformation
- Streets with high probability of being used + easy to reach
- ← Improve areas in between central streets

#### **Questionnaire & interviews**

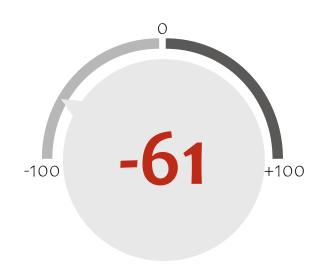
"I like living here"



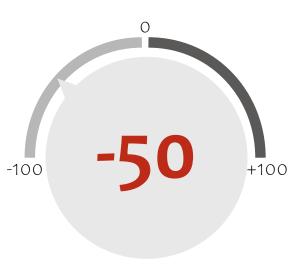
"How satisfied are you with your neighborhood?"



"If you live in this neighborhood, you are well of"



"I feel safe in the neighborhood"



Vision & design goal Scenario structure The 4 zones Pattern language In 2050, Overtoomse Veld will be transformed into a socially cohesive mixed-use neighborhood with space for a diversity of people, functions, housing and public spaces.

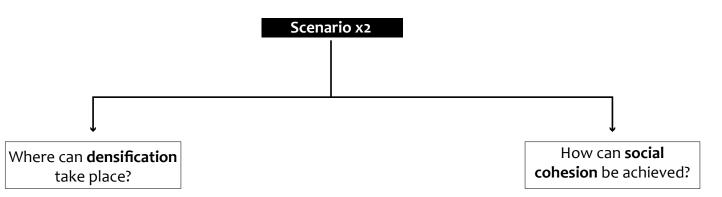
The neighborhood needs to be densified, but also well-connected to the rest of Amsterdam.

**Densification** is mainly used by the **city** to solve problems related to **housing shortage**.

However, by creating a **spatial framework** that not only accommodates densification, but also creates a better **spatial structure**, problems related to segregation and socio-spatial justice can be solved to aid in the facilitation of **social cohesion** in the neighborhood on the **short-term**.



Investigate alternatives of the urban fabric How differently people use the neighborhood Different types of densities



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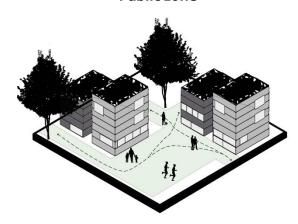


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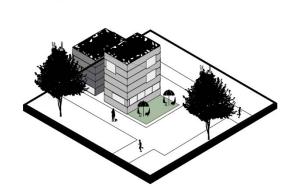
**Social cohesion** needs **social control,** which is achieved by **privacy zoning & different territories.** Each zone is recognizable by different **borders, transition spaces** and the **behaviour of people**.

(Van Dorst, 2005)

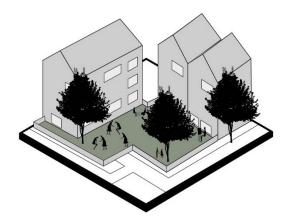




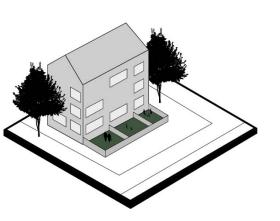
Semi-public zone



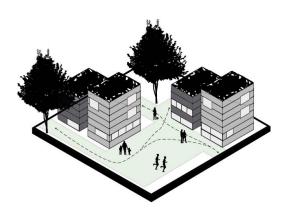
Collective zone

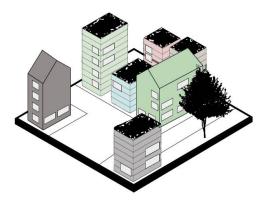


Private zone



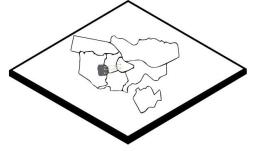
#### Public zone

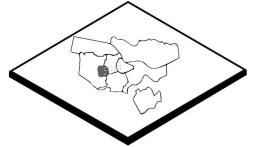


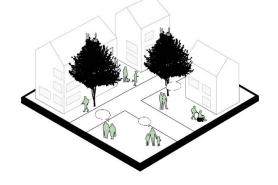


Wide range of amenities for

all residents





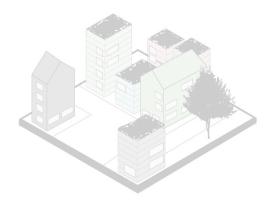


Connect to larger city network

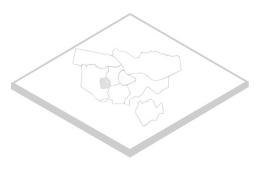
Prioritize pedestrians & stimulate encounters



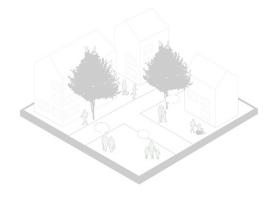
Current public zone



Wide range of amenities for

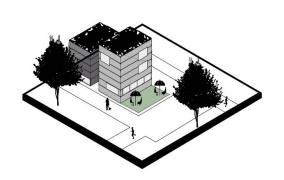


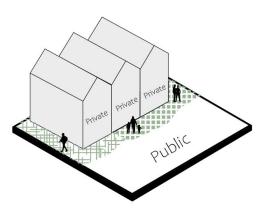
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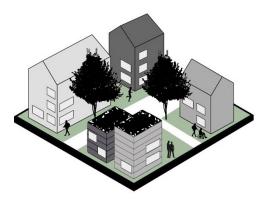
Prioritize pedestrians & stimulate encounters

#### Semi-public zone





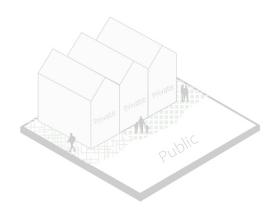
Stimulate transitions between public & private areas



Activate the streets



Current semi-public zone

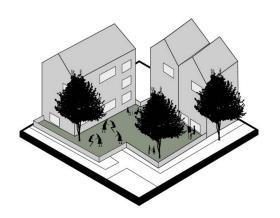


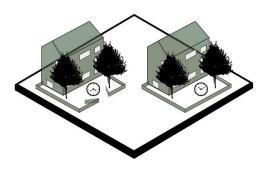
Stimulate transitions between public & private areas



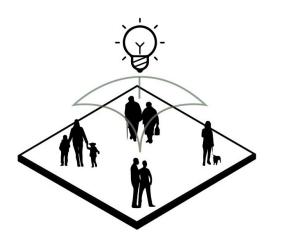
Activate the streets

### Collective zone

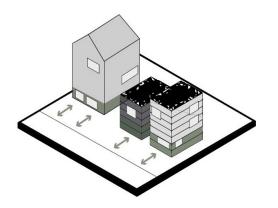




Clarity who & when the space can be used



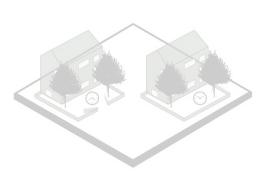
Presence of community organizations & collaboration between stakeholders



Strategic use of indoor & outdoor space



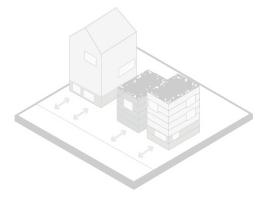
**Current collective zone** 



Clarity who & when the space can be used

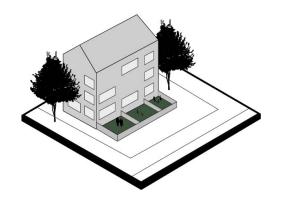


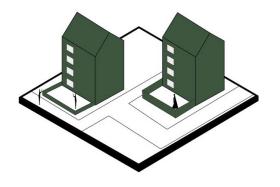
Presence of community organizations & collaboration between stakeholders



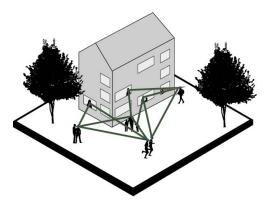
Strategic use of indoor & outdoor space

### Private zone





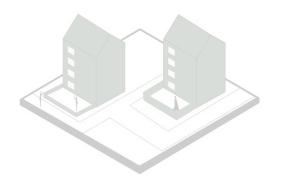
Accessible possibilities for interaction, owners decide how much



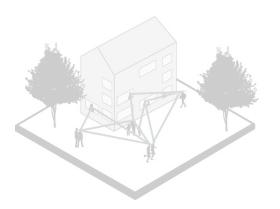
Eyes on the street from private space



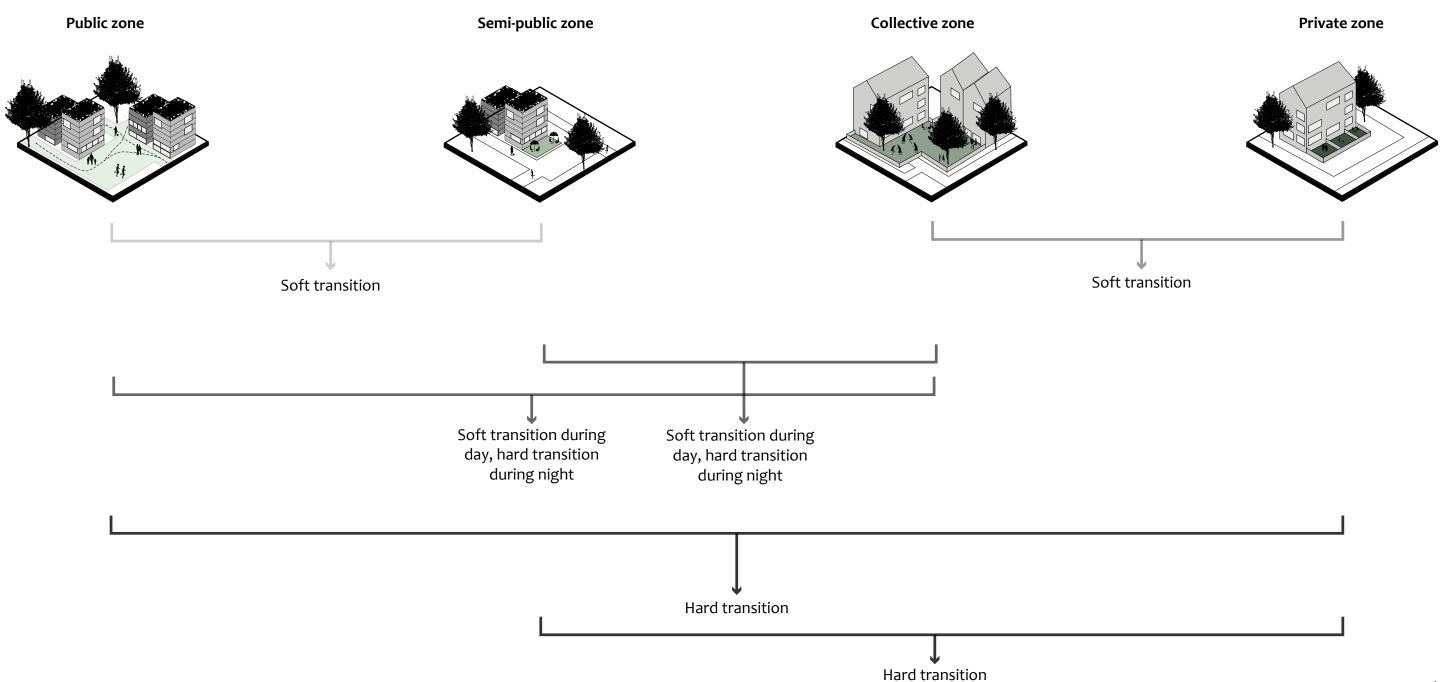
**Current private zone** 



Accessible possibilities for interaction,



Eyes on the street from private space



### Pattern language

Each **pattern** describes a problem which occurs over and over again in our environment, and then describes the **core of the solution** to that problem, in such a way you can use this solution a **million times over**, without ever doing it **the same way twice** [p.x].

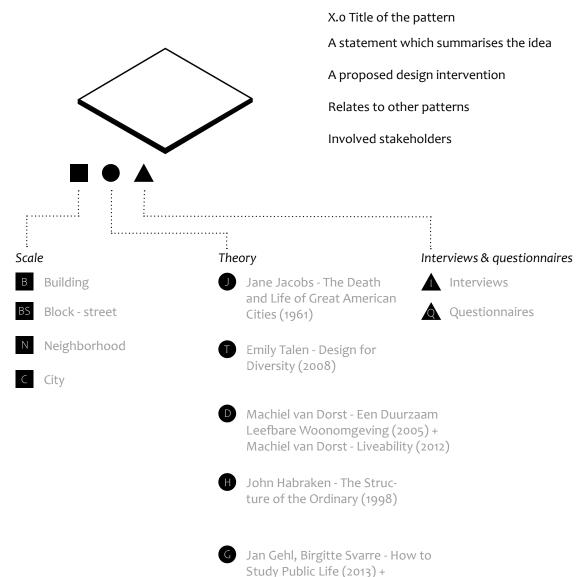
(Alexander et al., 1977)

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### A need specific for the scenario



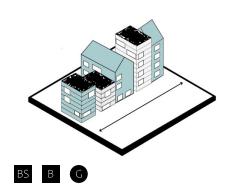
Jan Gehl, Lotte Johansen Kaefer, Solvejg Reigstad - Close Encounters

with Buildings (2006)

C City

#### Pattern language

#### Permeability & continuity in the neighborhood



#### P.1 Diverse facades

Buildings should have a diverse facade in order to stimulate movement on streets which link to the surrounding area. Groundfloor facades influence public life. According to Gehl et al. (2006), in front of active facades, pedestrians have a slower pace, there is a higher change of people stopping, and more activities can take place on the more pleasant, more crowded streets. They emphasize: "closed facades pacify while open and interesting facades activate urban users" [p.33].

Relates to: P.o, P.2, P.3, Z.4, Z.6 Municipality, landowners, residents

## A need specific for the scenario X.o Title of the pattern A statement which summarises the idea A proposed design intervention Relates to other patterns Involved stakeholders Interviews & questionnaires Scale Theory Jane Jacobs - The Death Building Interviews and Life of Great American Block - street Questionnaires Cities (1961) N Neighborhood Emily Talen - Design for

- Machiel van Dorst Een Duurzaam Leefbare Woonomgeving (2005) + Machiel van Dorst - Liveability (2012)
- H John Habraken The Structure of the Ordinary (1998)

Diversity (2008)

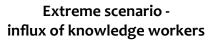
G Jan Gehl, Birgitte Svarre - How to Study Public Life (2013) + Jan Gehl, Lotte Johansen Kaefer, Solvejg Reigstad - Close Encounters with Buildings (2006) CONTEXT INTRODUCTION PROBLEM FIELD METHODOLOGY ANALYSIS STRATEGY **DESIGN** CONCLUSIONS

The 2 scenarios

Soft scenario - influx of students



Soft scenario - influx of students

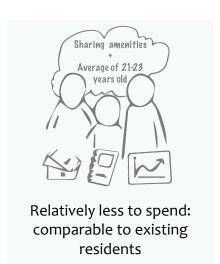


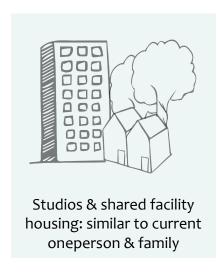


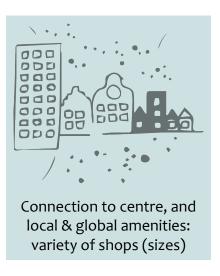












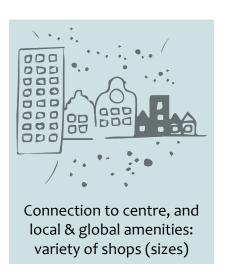
### Spatial strategy



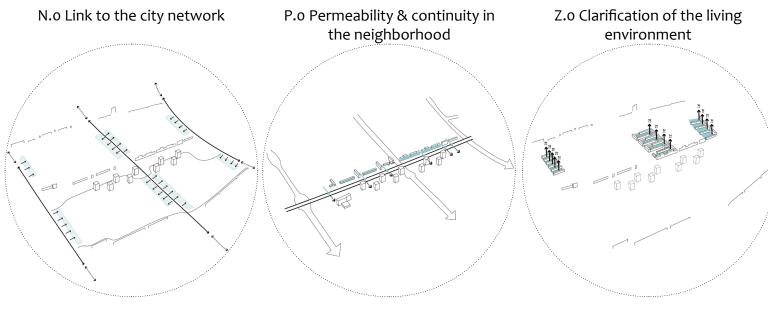
comparable to existing

residents











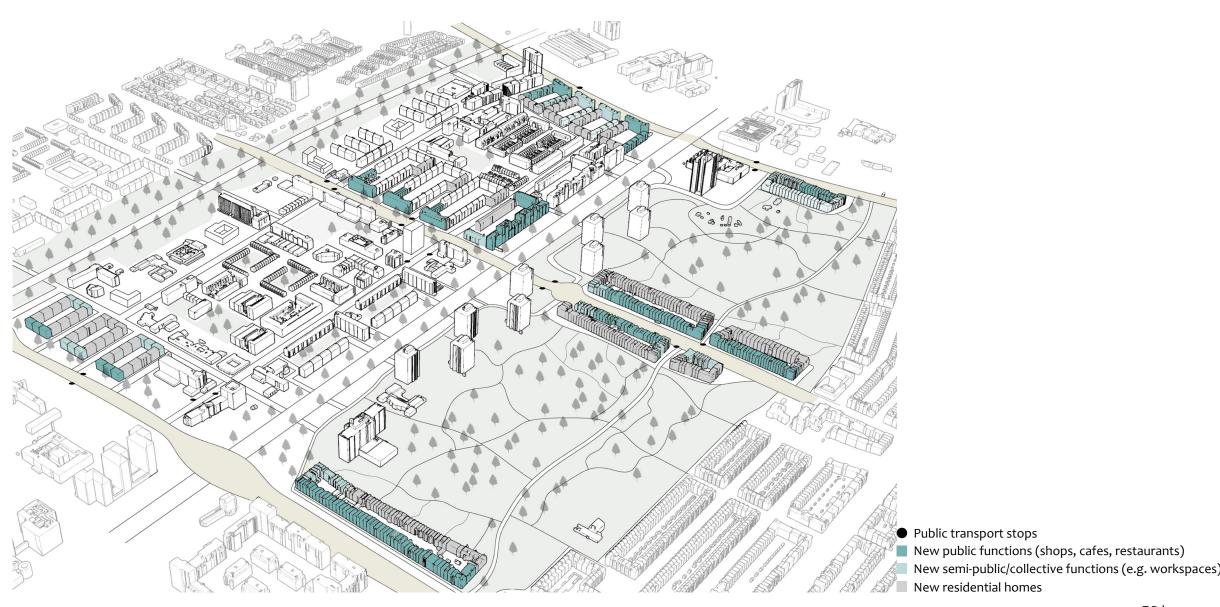
#### Soft scenario

## Enhance the existing, densify where possible

Moderate diversity: densification of buildings (2070 new apartments)

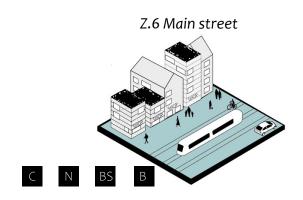
More public investment & involvement of social housing corporations

Residents have more to say in transformations

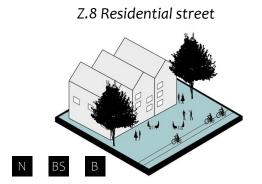


CONTEXT INTRODUCTION PROBLEM FIELD METHODOLOGY ANALYSIS STRATEGY **DESIGN** CONCLUSIONS

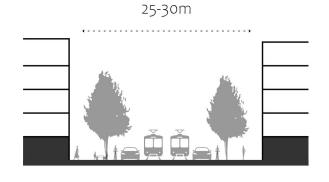
## 3 important patterns

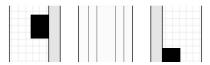




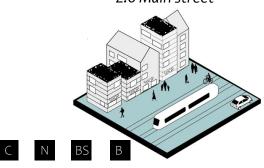


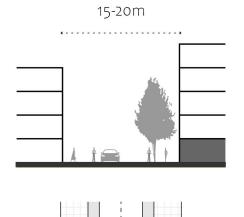
## 3 important patterns





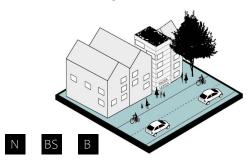
Z.6 Main street

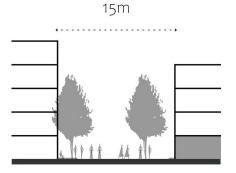


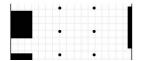




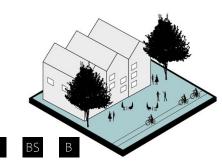
Z.7 Neighborhood street



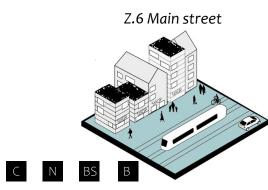


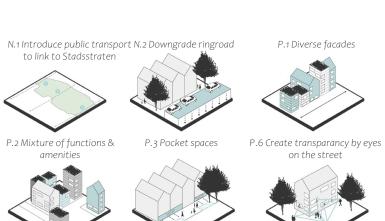


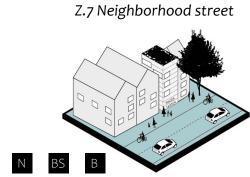
Z.8 Residential street

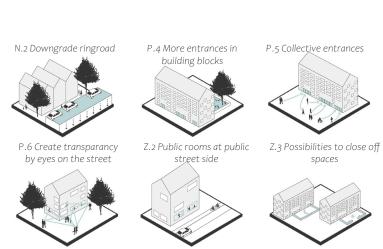


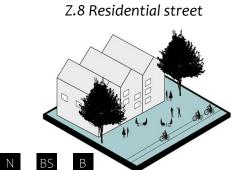
### 3 important patterns

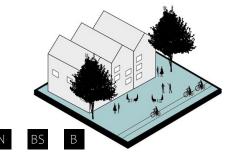














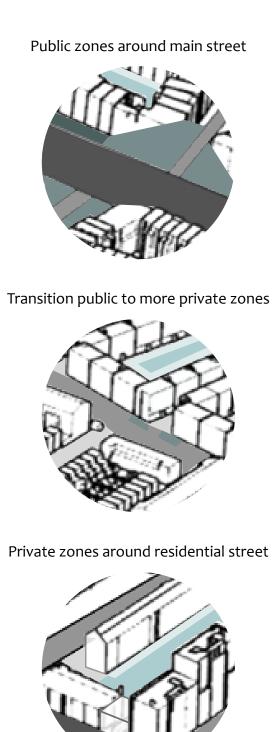




Main street

Public zoneSemi-public zoneCollective zonePrivate zone

Neighborhood streetResidential street





CONTEXT INTRODUCTION PROBLEM FIELD METHODOLOGY ANALYSIS STRATEGY **DESIGN** CONCLUSIONS

# New housing in the park Public zones around the main street







CONTEXT INTRODUCTION PROBLEM FIELD METHODOLOGY ANALYSIS STRATEGY **DESIGN** CONCLUSIONS

## New housing in the park Public zones around the main street

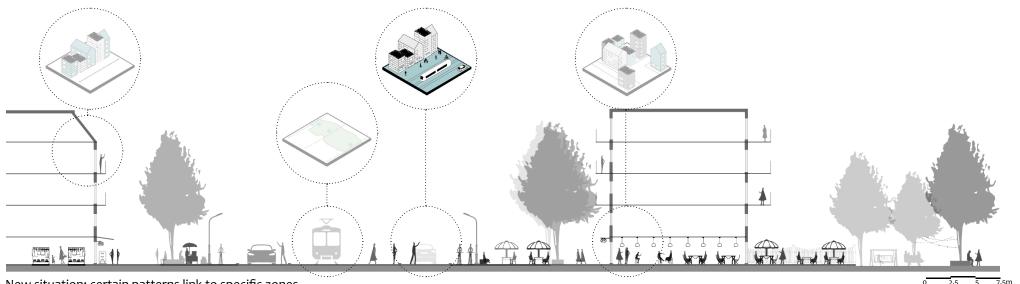
• Cut off corners to stimulate the transitions into the park



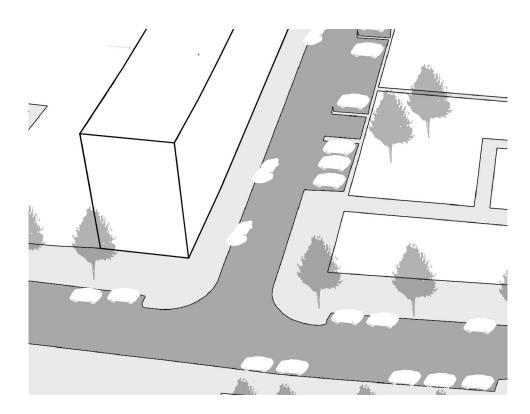






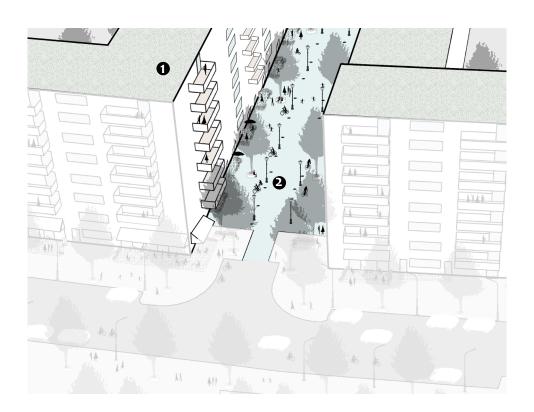


# Development in the neighborhood The transition from public to more private zones





# Development in the neighborhood The transition from public to more private zones





 Existing housing completely owned by social housing corporation (Gemeente Amsterdam, 2019)

Initiate co-creation for the transformation of the more private streets

## Development in the neighborhood The transition from public to more private zones



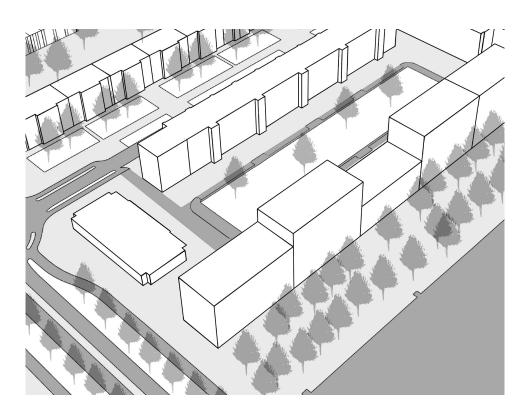


 Existing housing completely owned by social housing corporation (Gemeente Amsterdam, 2019)

Initiate co-creation for the transformation of the more private streets

**3** Public investment and involvement of social housing corporations needed for new housing

# Existing housing with private & collective yard The more private zones around the residential street







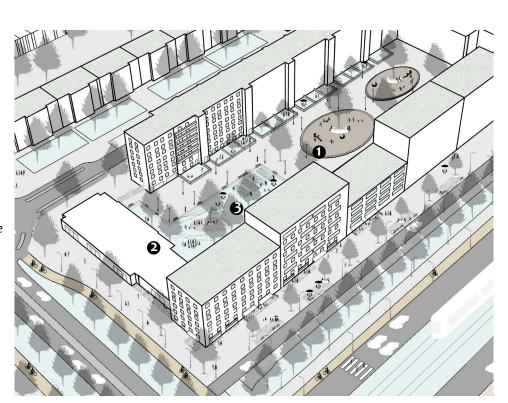
DESIGN CONTEXT INTRODUCTION PROBLEM FIELD METHODOLOGY

### Existing housing with private & collective yard The more private zones around the residential street

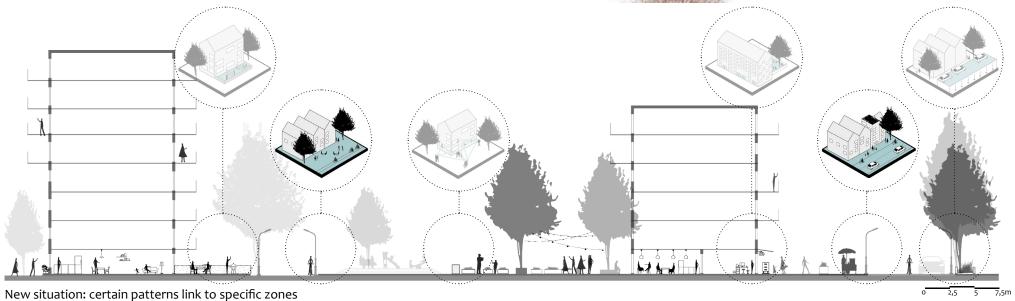
1 Initiate co-creation for the transformation of the collective spaces

Improved visibility of community organizations to stimulate interest and facilitate participation

Community organizations require a **good collaboration**with the **municipality** 







### **Conclusion soft scenario**

## The importance of street patterns

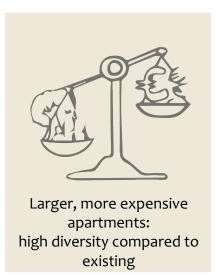


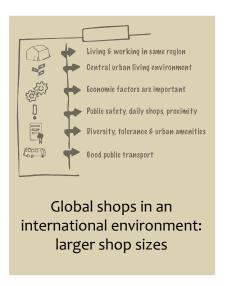
- Public zone
- Semi-public zone
- Collective zone
- Private zone
- Main street
- Neighborhood street
- Residential street

## Extreme scenario - knowledge workers



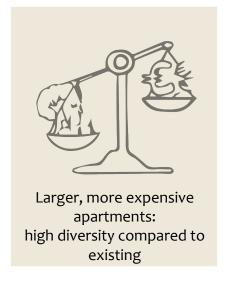




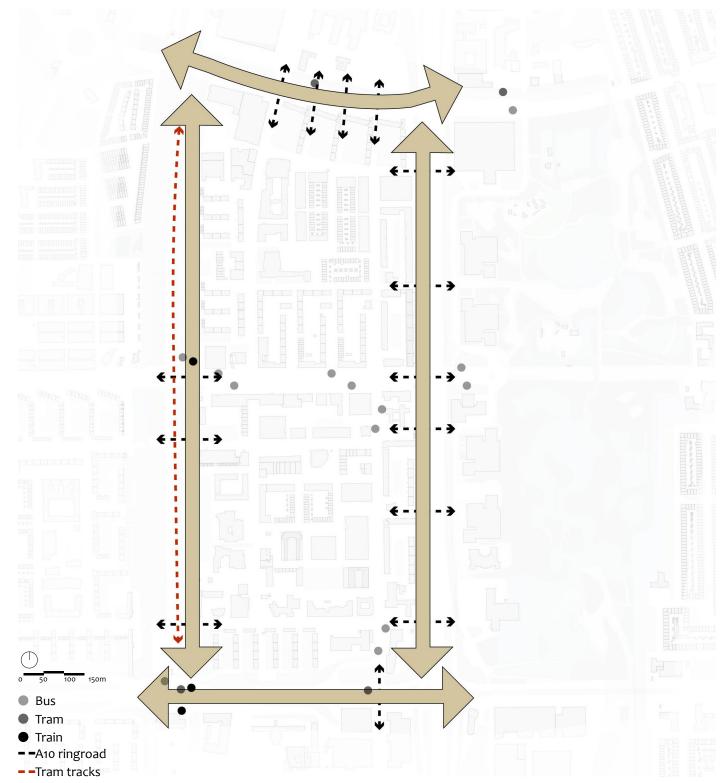


### **Spatial strategy**



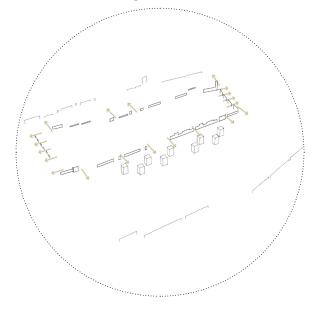




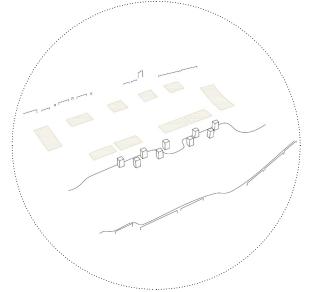


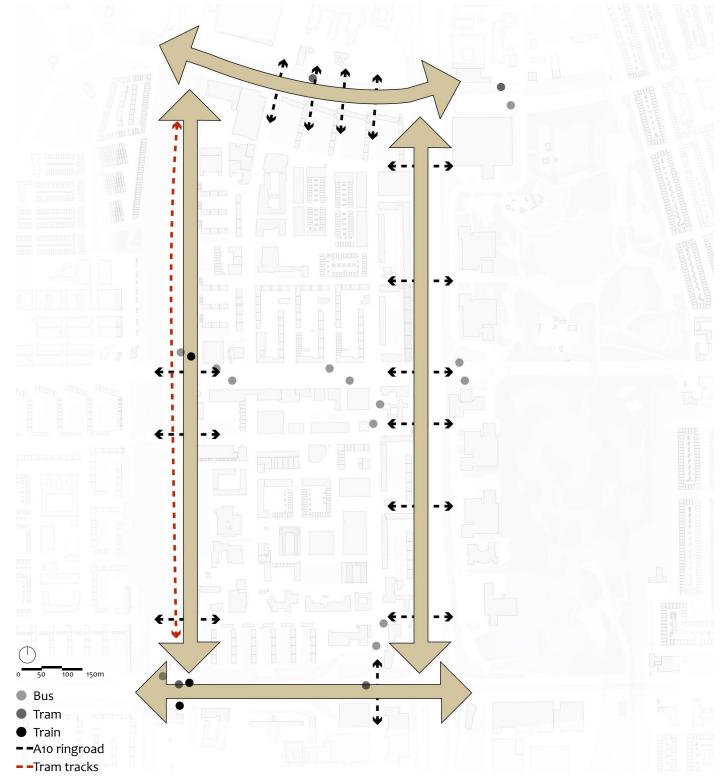
## 2 needs (large scale patterns)

T.o More transitions from & to the neighborhood



G.o Creating a variety of spaces





#### Extreme scenario

## New building typologies & a larger variety of spaces

High diversity: densification of mid-high building blocks (3150 apartments)

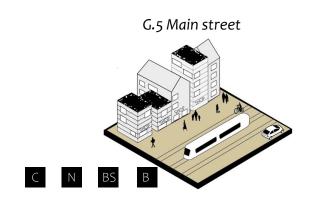
More involvement of private developers

Residents have less to say in transformations

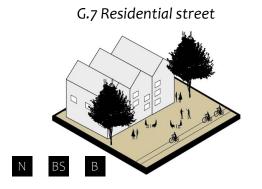


CONTEXT INTRODUCTION PROBLEM FIELD METHODOLOGY ANALYSIS STRATEGY **DESIGN** CONCLUSIONS

## Street patterns

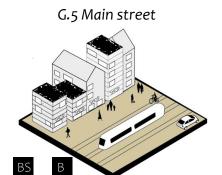


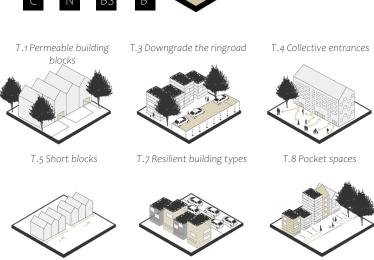


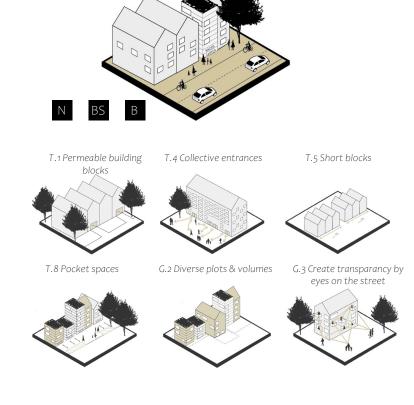


### Street patterns

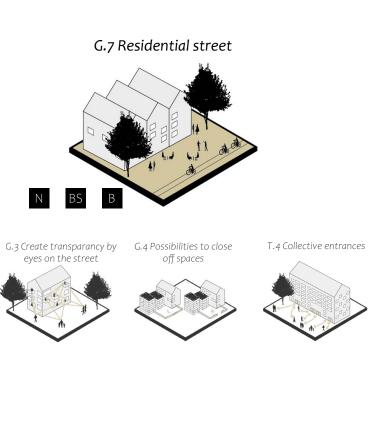




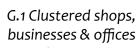


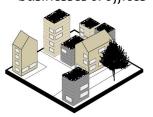


G.6 Neighborhood street



### Patterns related to diverse spaces







G.5 Main street











G.6 Neighborhood street





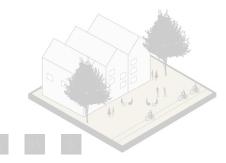








G.7 Residential street



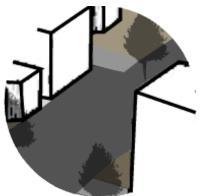


off spaces

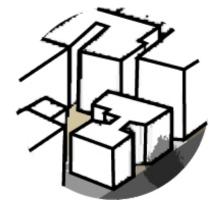


Private zone

The public zones: the front side

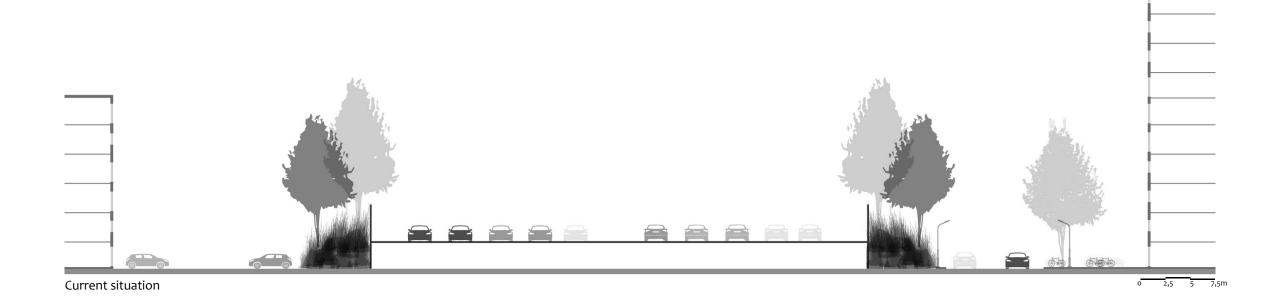


The more private zones: the back side



The downgrade of the ringroad The public zones - the front side





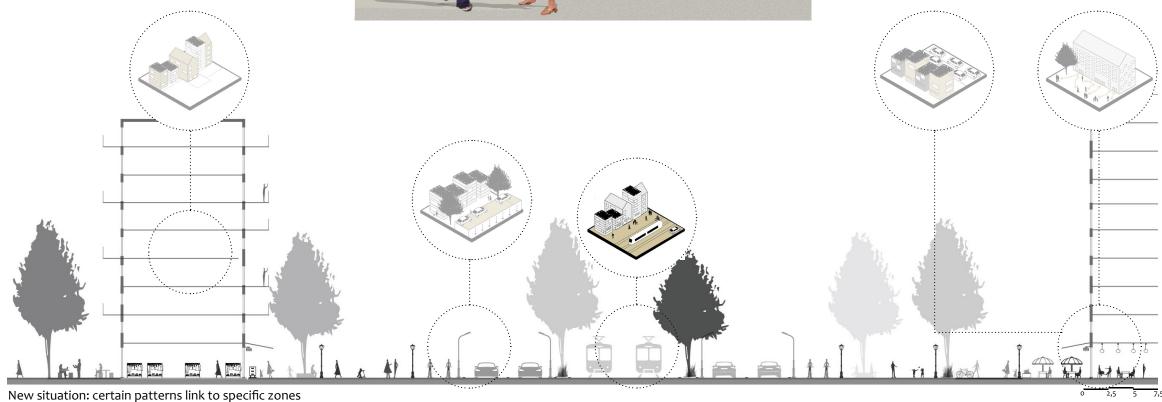
CONTEXT INTRODUCTION PROBLEM FIELD METHODOLOGY DESIGN

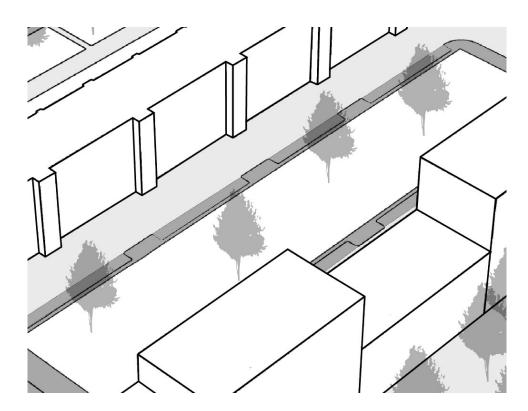
## The downgrade of the ringroad The public zones - the front side

- **1** Downgrade ringroad creates easier transitions
- 2 (semi-)public or collective ground floor functions in plinth of existing & new buildings

Involvement of *private*developers for the creation of new buildings













Variety of spaces require good collaboration between different stakeholders





• Variety of spaces require good collaboration between different stakeholders

**2** Privacy zoning also achieved in a vertical manner





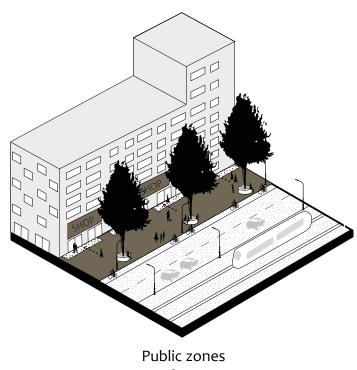
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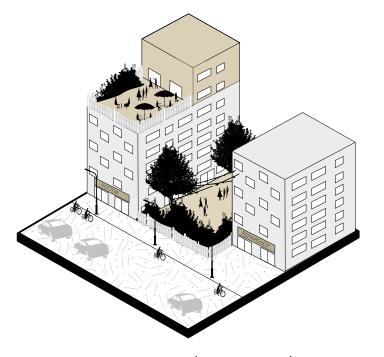
**2** Privacy zoning also achieved in a vertical manner

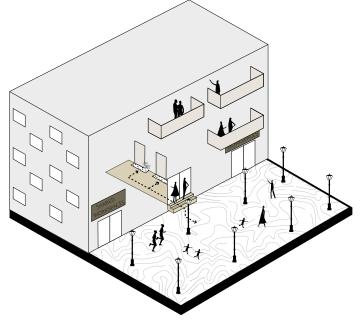
Street crossing the block always accessible, inner courtyard only for residents

#### Conclusion extreme scenario

## The importance of street patterns & vertical privacy zoning







+ main street

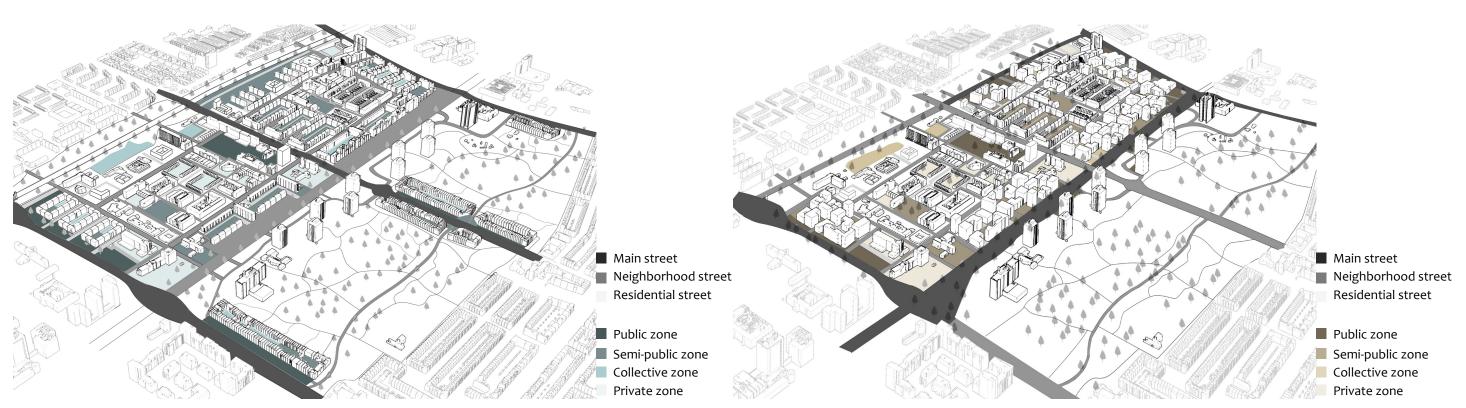
Semi-public zones + neighborhood street

Collective zones (also vertically) + neighborhood street

Private zones (indoors) + residential street

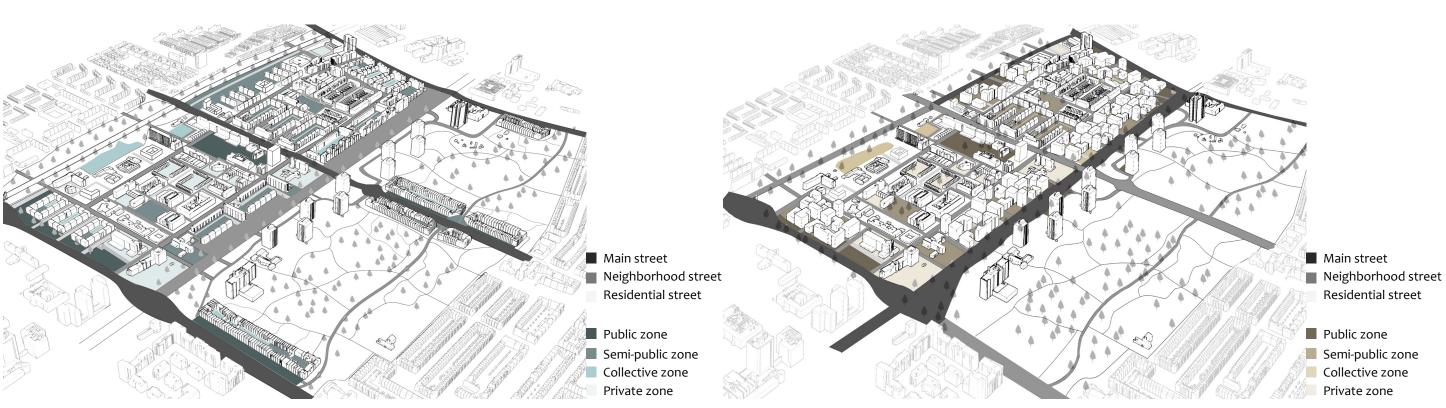
- Public zone
- Semi-public zone
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Differences in development strategies, building configuration, stakeholders & zones



Differences in development strategies, building configuration, stakeholders & zones

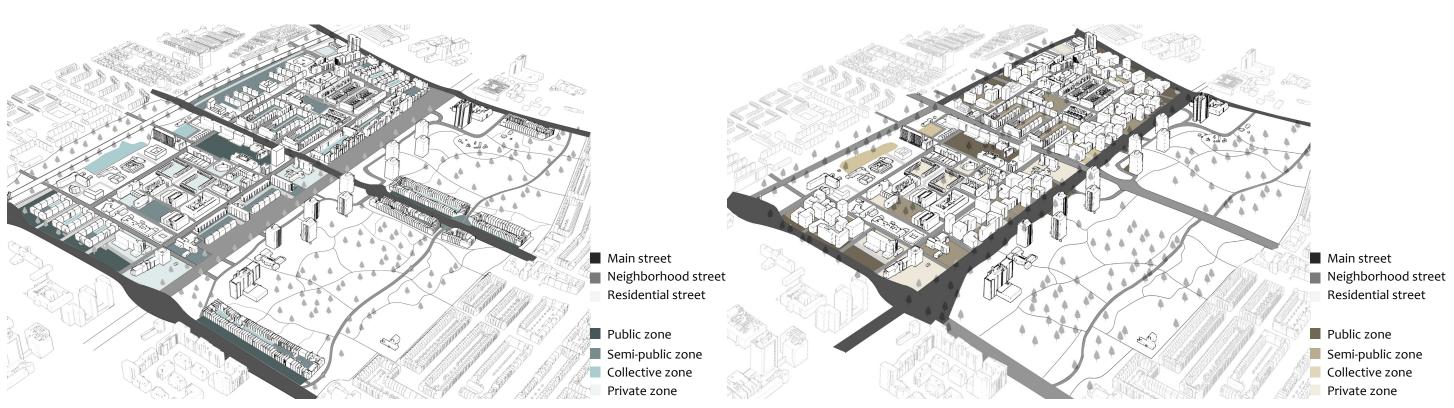
Pattern language can be universal to a certain extent



Differences in development strategies, building configuration, stakeholders & zones

Pattern language can be universal to a certain extent

Patterns related to streets can be prioritized

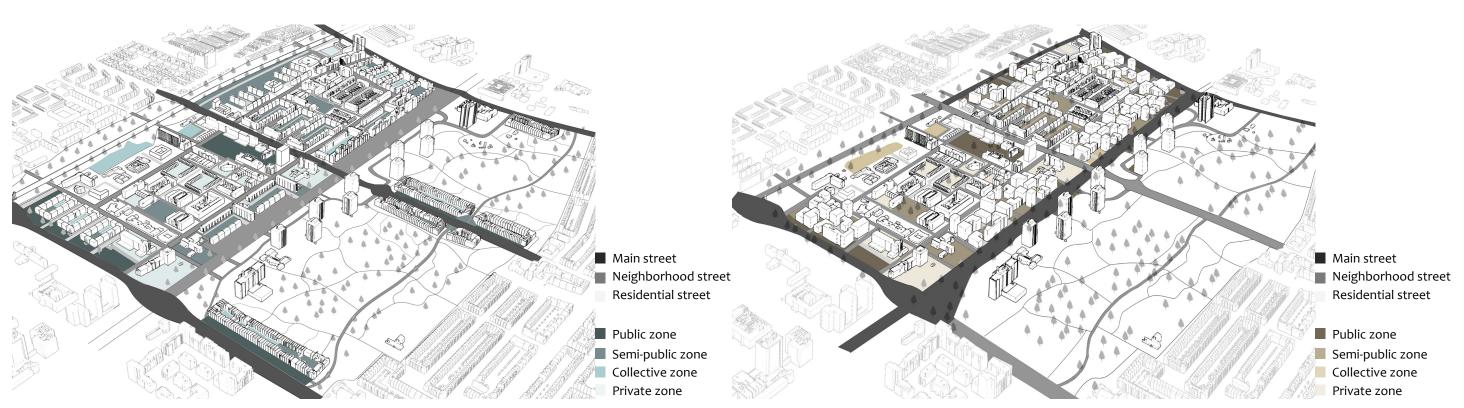


Differences in development strategies, building configuration, stakeholders & zones

Pattern language can be universal to a certain extent

Patterns related to streets can be prioritized

Ensures a certain degree of transferability

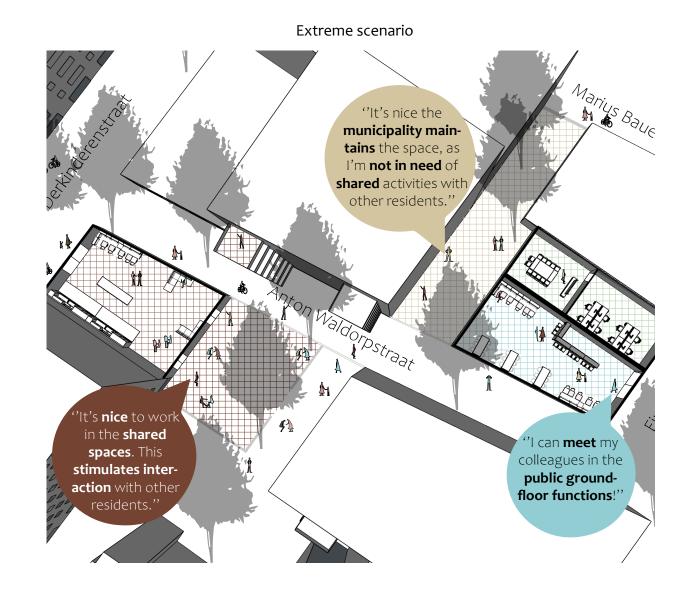


#### Considerations

#### Soft scenario



- Existing resident: oneperson household, in need of shared space
- New resident: student in studio, prefers a more individual life



- Existing resident: oneperson household, in need of shared space
- New resident: foreign knowledge worker, prefers spontaneous encounters
- New resident: Dutch knowledge worker, not in need of shared activities





Rethinking densification proposals & catering the social the social aspects in these



Rethinking densification proposals & including the social the social aspects in these

Focusing on potentials of existing structure & current residents



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Privacy zoning can be expressed in different ways, but is of crucial importance



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Variety of zones relate to:
- A variety of streets
- Functions (available throughout different times & days)
- Different housing typologies



Rethinking densification proposals & including the social the social aspects in these

Focusing on potentials of existing structure & current residents

Privacy zoning can be expressed in different ways, but is of crucial importance

Variety of zones relate to:
- A variety of streets
Functions (available throughout different times & days
- Different housing typologies

Importance of different stakeholders

# THANK YOU!



## A SOCIALLY COHESIVE OVERTOOMSE VELD

A research project on how the monofunctional post-war neighborhood Overtoomse Veld can be transformed into a more socially cohesive mixed-use area

Roos Jeronimus | 4494520 Graduation presentation | June 30th Delft University of Technology | Urbanism First mentor | Birgit Hausleitner Second mentor | Lei Qu

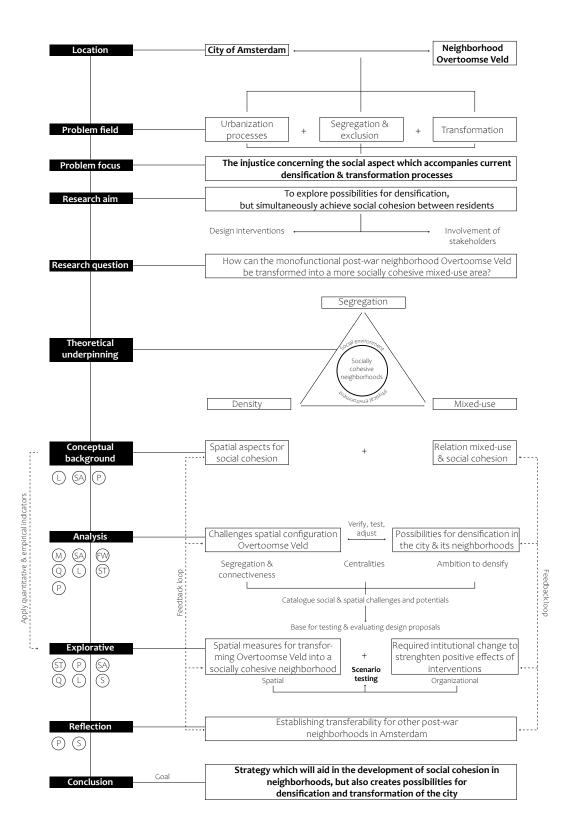


\* All figures are made by the author unless indicated otherwise

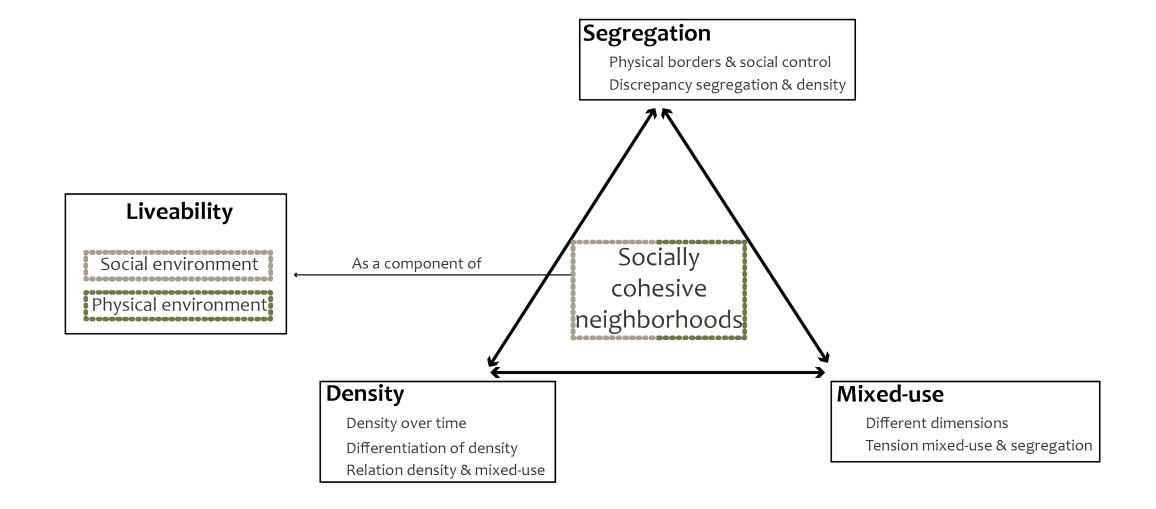
## EXTRA SLIDES

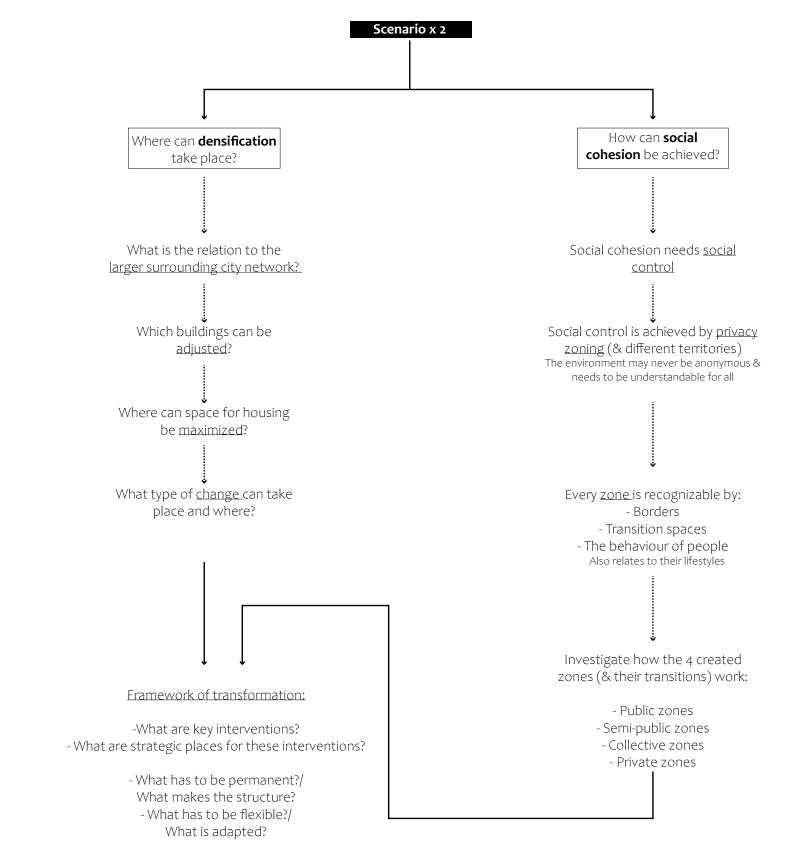
#### Research structure

- Literature review
- (SA) Spatial analysis
- M Mapping
- Q Questionnaire
- FW) Fieldwork
- (ST) Scenario testing
- P Pattern language
- (S) Stakeholder analysis



## Theoretical framework





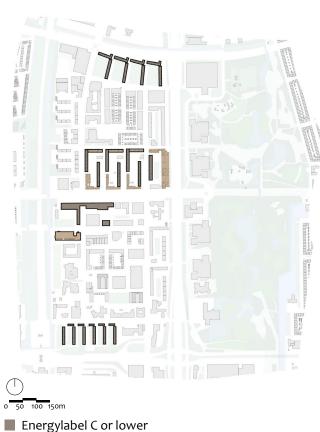
Scenario structure

## Where can densification take places?

#### Soft scenario

Extreme scenario

#### Which buildings can be adjusted around the 3 streets?



- Low FSI, GSI or building quality
- ☐ Built before 1960
- Over 50% owned by social housing corporations

## Where could space for housing be maximized?

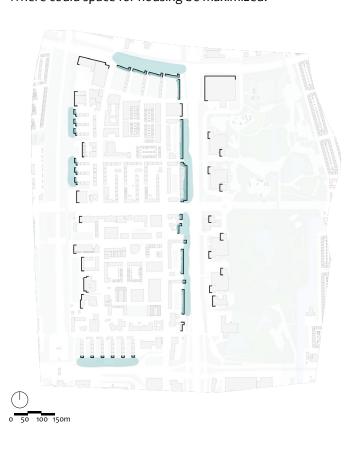


#### Which buildings can be adjusted on the edges?

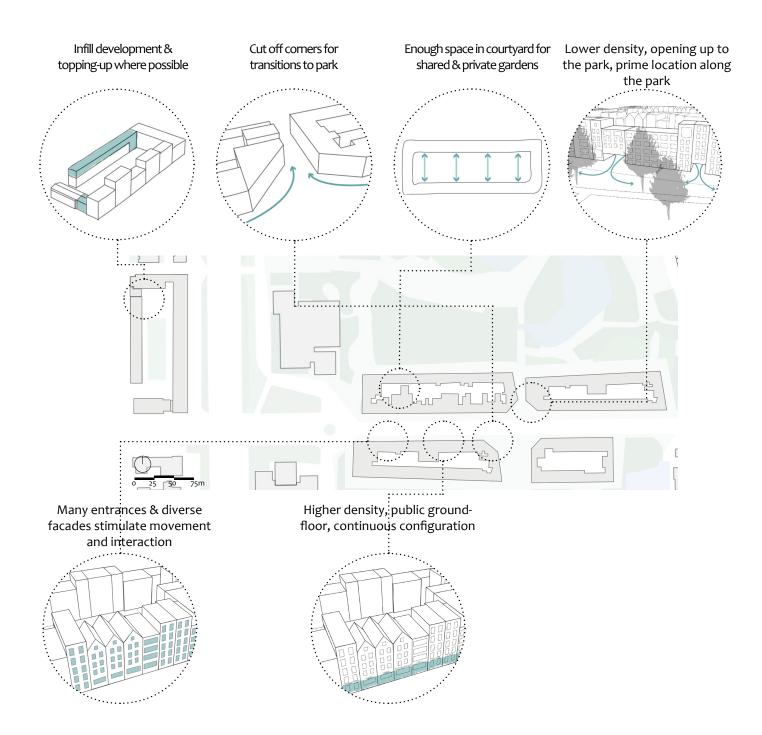


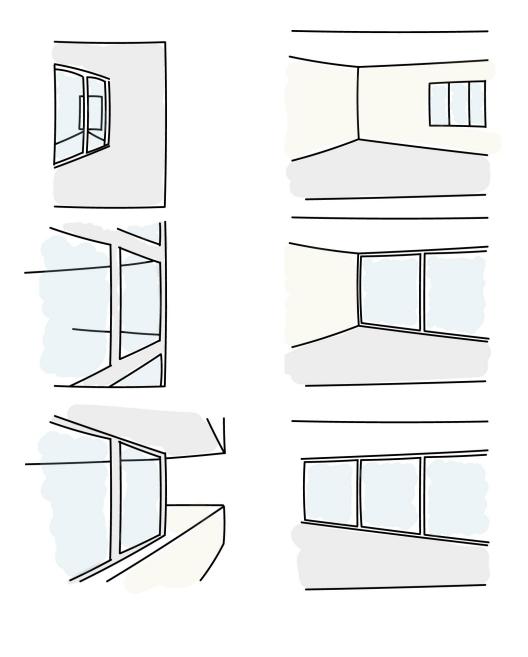
- Energylabel C or lower
- Low FSI, GSI or building quality
- ☐ Built before 1960
- Over 50% owned by social housing corporations

## Where could space for housing be maximized?



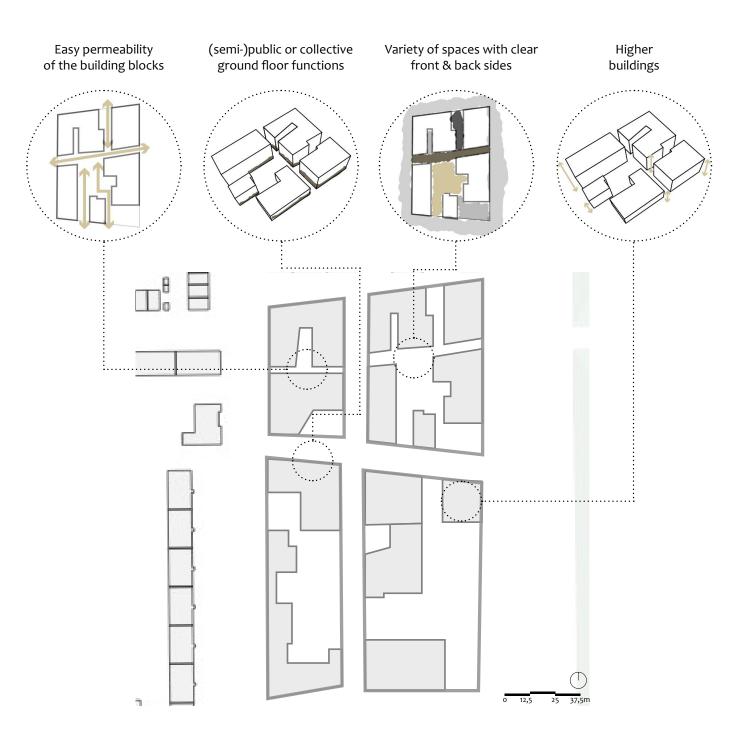
## Soft scenario: needed qualities configuration





Adjustments to existing facade to create more light, air & outdoor space

## Extreme scenario: needed qualities configuration



## Comparisons Omgevingsvisie 2050 (Gemeente Amsterdam, 2021) & this project

Gemeente Amsterdam

Large project-related investments in accessibility, green and public spaces

Investing in station Lelylaan

Car as guest in city centre

Starting developments station Lelylaan

Car as guest in post-war city districts

2021-2030

2031-2040

2041-2050

This project

Downgrading ringroad

Where possible, adjustment & transformation of different roads in the neighborhood

S1: Infill development & transformation of existing housing

S1: New functions in buildings which will not be transformed or demolished

S2: Demolishment of poor quality housing and start of building new

Creation of new public transport stops in the neighborhood

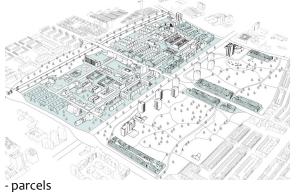
S1: Start building new housing in the park

S2: Continuation of building new housing

Transformation & upgrading of (existing) public spaces which will now be surrounded by new and transformed buildings

## S1: Who is involved in what redevelopment?

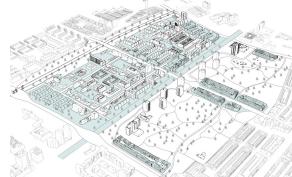
## National government



#### Developers

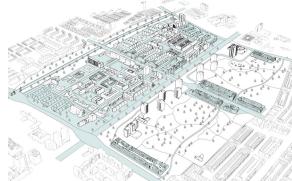


## Municipality



- parcels/public spaces
- new buildings
- downgrade A10

## Current/new residents

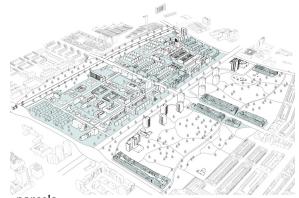


- new housing
- new functions
- public spaces
- infrastructure & roads

Residents are mainly interested, but they can have a saying in the transformation of spaces in this scenario.

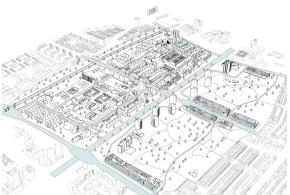
#### Province

- new buildings



- parcels
- new buildings

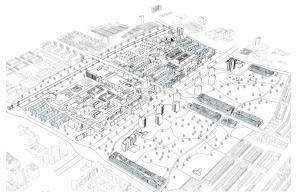
## Local/global retail owners, cafes & restaurants



- new functions
- public spaces
- infrastructure & roads

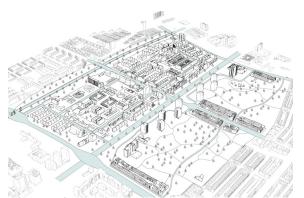
They are mainly interested. Together they can have some saying in the transformation, but it is limited.

## Social housing corporations



- social housing in new buildings

## Transport businesses



- downgrade A10
- infrastructure & roads

## S2: Who is involved in what redevelopment?

## National government



parcelsnew buildings

#### Developers



- new housing

## Municipality



- parcels/public spaces
- new buildings
- downgrade A10

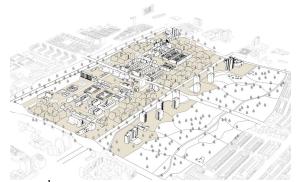
## Current/new residents



- new housing
- new functions
- public spaces
- infrastructure & roads

Residents are mainly interested. Their power is very limited in this scenario.

#### Province



parcelsnew buildings

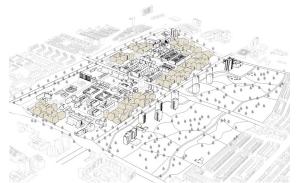
## Local/global retail owners, cafes & restaurants



- new functions
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## Social housing corporations



- social housing in new buildings

## Transport businesses



- downgrade A10
- infrastructure & roads

## Main differences scenarios

Soft strategy	Extreme strategy
New residents <i>partly simila</i> r to current residents ( <i>students</i> ). This results in a <i>lower variety</i> of <i>spaces</i> than scenario 2.	New residents mainly <b>different</b> than current residents ( <b>knowledge workers</b> ). <b>Higher variety</b> of <b>spaces</b> and <b>clarity</b> needed between the <b>front</b> and <b>back sides</b> of <b>buildings</b> .
Local & global shops. This results in a variety of shop sizes.	Mainly <b>global</b> shops to create a more international environment. These shops require larger spaces.
<b>Moderate diversity of block types</b> . New buildings in the park, limited adjustments to existing buildings.	<b>High diversity of block types.</b> Transformation to mid-high rise blocks. Moderate diversity between the new blocks.
<u>Stakeholders</u> Current residents can be included in the transformation of the existing spaces.	<u>Stakeholders</u> <u>Current residents will probably have less to say</u> in the decision making process, as the focus is on building new housing. However, gentrification needs to be prevented as there is a risk of only building for new high-income, high educated.
Involves probably <b>more public investment</b> as private developers cannot built large new, expensive housing in the neighborhood and existing housing will mainly be adjusted.	More involvement of private developers. Their main goal is making profit, which is probably easier in this scenario as larger, more expensive, new housing can be built.
Much <i>involvement of social housing corporations</i> as their main goal is not to make profit. On top of this, a clear need of social housing is present in this scenario.	Higher diversification of stakeholders due to new housing.
Zones The creation of different zones of privacy will mainly happen in a horizontal way. Besides public and shared outdoor spaces, (front) gardens as private outdoor spaces are present in the neighborhood.	Zones The creation of different zones is, besides horizontally, also created in a vertical manner. The application of mid-high rise blocks and (semi-)public or collective functions on groundfloors, leads to apartments which are located on upper floors. The transition to private zones therefore happens indoors, which also asks for clear transitions inside buildings.
	Therefore, a variety of spaces is needed where the <b>public zones</b> are really <b>accessible</b> and <b>readable</b> to all, so <b>everyone uses it.</b>
<u>Density</u> Softer adaptations: mainly focusing on which <b>buildings</b> can be <b>densified.</b>	<u>Density</u> Structural changes: focus on <b>block &amp; areas</b> in the neighborhood which can be <b>densified.</b>
<b>2070 apartments</b> added, mainly oneperson (studios) and family (shared facilities) housing. 4600 are needed for 9400 people.	<b>3152 apartments</b> added, mainly oneperson houses with varying (larger) sizes. 4600 are needed for 9400 people. Proportionately, density of residents is less compared to the soft scenario.
Patterns 3 patterns related to streettype have many relations to other patterns which target the clarification and transition to specific zones.	<u>Patterns</u> Patterns related to <b>type of street</b> have many relations to other patterns which target the transition and goal of certain zones.
Therefore, patterns related to achieving privacy zoning and creating a clear compartmentation of space are important.	Patterns which aid in the <i>diversification of the building configuration</i> and creating a <i>variety of spaces</i> pop-up as having many relations to other patterns.

Patterns which aid in the *clarification of zones* are again important.