

Delft University of Technology

Tour Haven-Stad Smart Mobility & Urban Development in Haven-Stad, Amsterdam

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Publication date 2020 **Document Version** Final published version

Published in Smart Mobility & Urban Development in Haven-Stad, Amsterdam

Citation (APA) Kuijper, J. (2020). Tour Haven-Stad: Smart Mobility & Urban Development in Haven-Stad, Amsterdam. In J. Kuijper, R. Cavallo, H. de Boer, & I. van der Wal (Eds.), *Smart Mobility & Urban Development in Haven-Stad, Amsterdam: 2019 Summer School* (pp. 44-45). TU Delft OPEN Publishing.

Important note

To cite this publication, please use the final published version (if applicable). Please check the document version above.

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Smart Mobility & Urban Development in Haven-Stad, Amsterdam

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2019

Summer School

Tour Haven-Stad

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Tour by the City of Amsterdam: Micha Sijtsma



Maps represent reality in a consciously filtered and scaled way. We—not only designers but anyone who wants to interfere with the built environment need maps to get an clutter-free overview of space. Moreover, we can project and infer very specific data of a location on a map creating a model and providing information that could never be perceived from a reallife visit. Nevertheless, we cannot perceive a space and its identity without experiencing it.

With a vast area of 6.5 square kilometers, Haven-Stad is almost as big as Amsterdam's city center. For such an enormous surface, maps and data are indispensable to get an overview of how space and its characteristics are arranged. We can, for example, differentiate the natural environment from the constructed harbor docks. We can project economic data about trade in industrial areas, or we can find out where the noise disturbance is located along the AIO Ring Road.

But space and its identity are more difficult to grasp by maps. Haven-Stad comprises twelve sub-areas that strongly differ from identity. The City of Amsterdam wants to retain the existing character of each area as much as possible. As part of converging to an integral answer on the main question of the summer school capturing the use of the individual areas as well as their qualities and aesthetics—that what is difficult to assess by maps only—is essential. Therefore, the real-life excursion is the vital method to experience space and its identity.

Armed by just our senses—and of course a bicycle—Arjan Klok, Micha Sijtsma, and Koos van Zanen toured us around three of the twelve sub areas, giving us a comprehensive experience of Haven-Stad's space and its different identities. Merel Akerboom shared with us relevant points of interest from the perspective of the City of Amsterdam, showing us the current issues the city is trying to solve (as indicated on the following map and pictures). Batič, J. (2011). The Field Trip as Part of Spatial (Architectural) Design Art Classes. *Center for Educational Policy Studies Journal*, 1, 73–86.

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