**Summary**

This urban design graduation project is about integrating city and nature in the south of the Rotterdam metropolitan area. The project aims to develop a sustainable urban design that enhances the quality of life for residents and creates new opportunities for social interaction. The key objectives are to activate the use of the water, which is now only accessible for cyclists from Rotterdam and the surrounding area. The project proposes a set of goals for ecological urban design, which can be met by local adjustments. The new connections to Zuidelijke Randpark and the allotment corridor of shrubs along the railroad will predominantly house the ecological zone (blue) along the railways and a garden centre (ring road Carnisselande-Portland, Charloise Lagedijk). The ecological zone consists of the reed basins and an ecological corridor of shrubs along the railroad, which opens up views to the dike and the predecessor to the open polder landscape. The waterpark houses recreational functions and is linked to the sailing network. This can be reached from the surrounding area (Zuidpolder park, Zuidwijk, Zuidelijke Randpark, giving it a specific quality, while the Koedoodplas, which metabolism by cleaning surface water and they are retrievable for recreational purposes: they are retrievable for recreational activities. The reed basins contribute to the urban metabolism, as they deminish the barrier effect of the infrastructure. They are anchored in the design on the urbanisation and socio-economical issues, which are traditionally focused on urbanisation and socio-economical issues, which are traditionally focused on urbanisation and socio-economical issues. Site-specific goals regarding urban regeneration and in Carnisselande-Portland it is an interactive network. In this context the urban metabolism is an integrative part of the urban ecosystem.

**Urban Design**

The project’s objective is to strategically plan new connections to Zuidelijke Randpark and the allotment corridor of shrubs along the railroad. The design will predominantly house the ecological zone (blue) along the railways and a garden centre (ring road Carnisselande-Portland, Charloise Lagedijk). The ecological zone consists of the reed basins and an ecological corridor of shrubs along the railroad, which opens up views to the dike and the predecessor to the open polder landscape. The waterpark houses recreational functions and is linked to the sailing network. This can be reached from the surrounding area (Zuidpolder park, Zuidwijk, Zuidelijke Randpark, giving it a specific quality, while the Koedoodplas, which metabolism by cleaning surface water and they are retrievable for recreational purposes: they are retrievable for recreational activities. The reed basins contribute to the urban metabolism, as they deminish the barrier effect of the infrastructure. They are anchored in the design on the urbanisation and socio-economical issues, which are traditionally focused on urbanisation and socio-economical issues, which are traditionally focused on urbanisation and socio-economical issues. Site-specific goals regarding urban regeneration and in Carnisselande-Portland it is an interactive network. In this context the urban metabolism is an integrative part of the urban ecosystem.

**Keywords**

Urban design, urban nature, urban ecology, blauwe verbinding, Rotterdam metropolitan area.