‘UPGRADING THE UTOPIA’

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Introducing flexibility of urban fabric within the scope of community-led design, in the context of mass-produced housing suburbia.

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Graduation studio: “Design as Politics”
Studio theme: “New utopias on the ruins of the welfare state”
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Theme of the DesignAsPolitics studio: “New Utopias on the Ruins of the Welfare State”

The theme of current year studio Design As Politics made me to think of the planning processes in a wider sense, including not only the social and spatial aspect, but also the political perspective, and how it relates to influencing physical form of the city. I got interested to look into such processes more deeply, from a professional perspective, to analyze the methods, strategies and consequences of planning by such a powerful organ as a state. Is it capable to fulfill the needs and hopes of society, or is it failing its ‘responsibility’ to serve its citizens?

To answer this question, I challenged myself to analyze and, especially, criticize one of the strongest welfare states in the European context – Sweden – which for long time has been an example of social democratic country, with liberal attitude to its society, and high economic performance. In the month of May 2013, there has been series of riots and other criminal actions happening in suburban areas of Stockholm, starting in the district of Husby. For many, the riots in Husby seemed to appear as an unexpected event because of Sweden’s association to the social democratic welfare state. This was the crucial point for choosing this location for my graduation work – interest in dystopia of social unrest, in the context of so thought example country of liberty, equality and social democracy.

The reason for such violent events, however, shows the other side of ‘the coin’. City center of Stockholm have become thoroughly gentrified enclave for the native middle/upper-class, while its poorest suburbs are increasingly non-white (Huttman, E. D., Blauw, W., Saltman, J., (1991) ). Since the 1990s, when liberalizations in Sweden started, Swedish big cities now belong to the most segregated in Europe (according to OECD report, 2011).

‘Million Programme’ housing development in relation with modernist planning utopia. Programmed segregation?

During the period 1945-1990, when the population in Sweden increased by 28% and the number of households by 80%, housing became a major priority of social policy. The spatial redistribution of the population, the increase in the number of one and two-person households and rapidly increasing purchasing power - all drove the demand for housing. Partly as a result of these structural changes, but also as a response to them, Sweden’s housing stock grew by 51 percent between 1960 and 1990. The house-building industry became highly industrialized and produced standardized units in all types of housing, including multifamily units during the 1960s and early 1970s.

The Swedish housing stock in general, as well as most residential areas, are generally very mixed with respect to housing type and tenure. The one exception is residential areas built during rapid urbanization in the 1960s and early 1970s. During the period 1965-74 the famous housing development Million Programme was implemented, with the aim of building 100,000 dwellings each year for 10 years. The net result was an increase in Sweden’s housing stock of about 1,006,000 new dwellings, combined with a general rise in quality, arguably at the expense of aesthetics. (Byggforskningsrådet, 1990).

The origins of the Million Programme have to be understood in the context of the Swedish welfare model combined with architectural influences from abroad, particularly the functionalist ideology most prominently expressed by the Swiss architect Le Corbusier. Social welfare policy went hand in hand with physical planning ideology. Johan Rådberg (1997) in his book entitled ‘The Dream of the Atlantic Steamer’, has claimed that the roots of Swedish housing policy after the Second World War can be traced to functionalist ideals generated by Le Corbusier and his contemporaries who emphasized the benefits of large scale collective housing over individual and small scale projects.

Among the arguments in favour of high-rise building was the shortage of land or its high cost in urban centres. Another argument for high-rise buildings was the creation of a social fabric with close neighborhood connections. It was suggested that this created opportunities to meet people, make connections and exchange ideas.
To investigate how these ideas function in a real life, I chose to analyze the district of Husby as my case study for a further project steps. This area is unique in the context of Stockholm, due to the highest percentage (85.4%) of residents of foreign background, following the range of social issues, such as high number of unemployed population, low level of highly educated people, twice as low income compared to the city as a whole. Its housing, built during the million-program development, are characterized by 78% of rental apartments (the remaining are co-operatives), and 100% of multi-family highrise buildings. It’s described as a ‘no-go place’ and LUA-neighborhood [A LUA is a governmentally labeled neighborhood where there is a “large proportion of exclusion” where extra recourses are put in order to decrease unemployment and criminality]. Husby was the initial scenery of the Stockholm riots in May 2013. Once, a place built in the dreams of the post-war era; with functioning neighbourhood units, attached with a local center, today Husby has been facing impoverishment of fundamental service functions and there are issues concerning peoples’ lack of opportunity, exclusion ‘from above’ and ‘social closure’.

The districts of Million Programme are heavily criticized for its monotonous building typology, lack of functions and poor quality of public space. It holds the reputation of deprived areas, so called ‘concrete ethnic enclaves’. The housing typology was designed to accommodate working and middle class people. But there was a lack of diverse types of housing and tenures, which basically programmed such area to contain specific population – working class – that at the construction time was mainly foreign born. This is the proof of what could be called as ‘unconsciously programmed segregation’, initiated by designing single housing typology and public space of rather poor quality, that is followed by my main problem statement:

“Stockholm has became one of the highest segregated cities within the European context, due to “Million Programme” suburban mass-production housing districts, proposed by the national government in the late 60’s, that currently are being seen as social and spatially deprived areas, accommodating people mostly of immigrant background, and facing such issues as crime and poor quality of urban environment, all together forming a negative identity of ‘concrete ethnic enclaves’.”

and a research question:

“How to increase value of such districts and create a new positive identity, in order to reduce segregation between different social groups, as well as attract and contain both local and foreign populations?”

In a case of Husby, the area has not been ‘overlooked’ for quite some years already, almost nothing was changed after the day it had been built, which can be explained partly because of its non-peripheral location. That is why there are potential profit motives for a renovation scheme like “Jarvalyftet”, proposed by municipality of Stockholm, to take place. According to the city of Stockholm, “Jarvalyftet” that started in 2009, is a long-term investment to create a social and economic development in the area of Jarva (Akalla, Hjulsta, HUSBY, Kista, Rinkeby and Tensta). Not only concerning the built environment but also social aspects such as decreasing unemployment and social exclusion, “Jarva will also be an engine for growth across Stockholm” (Vision Jarva, 2013). However, the local people, media and even a few politicians would rather called it a facelift, leaving the inside (root causes) unchanged while the face (urban form) of Jarva will be updated. The fast pace of neoliberal politics only offers fast ‘radical cures’ in order to enhance growth, that trickle down nothing else.

The project has received a lot of critique, because of its already high expenses and lack of transparency. “Jarvalyftet” is also highly doubted due to definite rent increase, which current residents can not afford. However, the potential residents [from neighboring district, called ‘Kista - Science City’, which is a workplace for more than 28,000 employees, specialising in High Tech and IT clusters, earning at least three times as much as current residents of Husby]definitely could, which means that the target groups for housing renovation is not the ones that are currently living there, but the ones that are wished to move to Husby.

So the question rises if the problem will be solved by “changing” the coveted space, through Jarvalyftet and similar projects or by simply demolishing the million program housing areas (as was suggested by the former minister of integration, Nyamko Sabuni)? Or, is it really the tangible things that need to be renewed and manipulated? Is it a policy that needs to be changed? Or the planning process?
Upgrading the utopia

In my opinion, professionals of my field [architects, landscape and urban designers and planners] are not fully entitled to change such areas within the social and political aspect, through proposing new ideas for social policies that could improve such areas. However, I strongly believe that the quality of urban environment and its form is probably the most important factor shaping societies with its qualities and weaknesses. That is why, as the base for my graduation project I chose to review initial goals and features of “Million Programme” development, inspired by modernist planning utopia, analyze the consequences of it, and what and how could be done different. The main idea of my project is based not on creating new utopian community in a new utopian urban environment, but to deal with existing condition – the results of modernist planning utopia, find the tools, strategies and methods to fix it. The main design task became to me to figure out what should be the essential actions and design tools used in order to upgrade modernist spatial concepts [Upgrading the Utopia] and then test it in the case study location – district of Husby.

Ideology

The physical environment of the city is the arena in which human activity takes place. The structure of urban space presents both constraints and opportunities which impact in different ways on the lives of the different inhabitants of a city. Women and men, the elderly, children, teenagers, disabled people, racial, ethnic or religious minorities, refugees and newcomers, migrant workers, the wealthy, people in poverty – all have contrasting needs and contributions to make and they experience and engage with the physical environment in different ways. The ways in which they participate in the social, economic and political life of the city will be diverse, and structures and patterns of urban governance need to accommodate this.

“Creating inclusive urban environment and spaces that welcome diversity and meet the contrasting needs of different social groups is central to the goal of building 'A city for All' [Beall, J.]

“Cities have the capacity of providing something for everybody, only because, and only when they are created by everybody” [Jacobs, J.]

“People themselves must have responsibility for the development and change of the world they live in” [Sen, A.]

These ideas are representing a corner stone of ideology behind my graduation project, supporting my personal manifesto:

Mass-produced housing districts inspired by utopia of modernist planning, containing mostly of one housing typology, separated functions and transport flows, and open spaces of inhuman scale, are unconsciously programmed for socio-spatial segregation. Such urban fabric is incapable of accommodating diversity of people, because it is not able to provide variety of needs.

To develop a district that is able to attract and accommodate social mixture, there must be provided conditions for local people themselves to be able to choose from variety of possibilities and incorporate their own ideas about the changes of the space they live in, in order to develop such environment that could meet the needs of them all.

, that helped me to translate it into design concept:

upgrading modernist planning utopia.
restructuring urban composition of modernist suburbia by enhancing flexibility and connectivity of urban fabric within the scope of community led design, in order to create conditions for social and spatial mixture.

, following main design goal:

To create conditions for social mixture by developing a strategy for upgrading static modernist mass-production housing suburbia into connected and dynamic living space that enables local population to be directly involved into design process – planning, constructing and managing - of housing and public space, in order to transform existing urban fabric into responsive environment that is able to react, develop and change according to the needs of all kinds of people.
Restructuring strategy and design approach

Urban models to be restructured:

1) Monocentric district and separation of functions
2) Single housing typology and closed block structure
3) Public space type and accessibility
4) Separated transport flows

Final product - GUIDEPLAN, consisting of fixed and flexible design solutions. Trans-scalar approach - flexibility gradient: from fixed proposal on a district scale to flexible on a neighbourhood and block level.

- SET OUTLINES: Street network [restructuring separated transport flows]
- FLEXIBLE INFILL - TOOLBOX: Build up area and public space:
  1) public space [empowering community and providing public spaces of better quality]
  2) housing [diversifying housing typology]
  3) urban centres [activating district]

Such form of design strategy will ensure essential actions to be provided by urban professionals, in collaboration with locals and public/private sector [such as transport flows and network] and the actual design and specific programme of build up area and public spaces [squares/parks] would be up to local community. The design ideas, would be implemented by self-building and organization practice, crowd-funding, other funds, and municipal funds, encouraging local initiatives.

The expected outcome of such open-ended planning approach:
- shift of decision making power to local communities
- range of design tools and options, flexible guidelines giving a direction but not forcing any specific design solutions
- community involvement in each step of shaping their environment: planning, implementing, managing
- encouraged local initiatives
- transforming current urban fabric into responsive environment that is able to react and change according to the needs of residents
- district transformed into such area, which can facilitate for various groups of people, due to its flexibility and spatial dynamics.

Project methodology

The methodology of graduation project is defined in three parts: research and analysis, strategy, and design test:

- Research and analysis was used for identifying the failure of the welfare state, in a sense of researching the history, current conditions, policies, laws and acts, projects, from the political perspective, which had a negative influence on shaping cities and urban environment.

- Strategy was designed using a proposed guideplan, that provides with flexible guidelines, without forcing an actual design solution or specific programme. I have identified various methods and tools that helped me to create a toolbox for enhancing mixture, flexibility and customization of build environment in the district of Husby.

- Design test – pilot project - was itself used as a method to test and evaluate proposed concept and strategy.
Conclusion

I believe that the strategy and methods that I used, and later tested with the pilot project have successfully brought a positive solution for an initially stated problem of segregation, poor quality of urban environment and unequal opportunities. Introducing flexibility and mixture, enabling customization of space and giving power to community are the ‘way-to-go’ concepts for the current and future design practice, not only as experiment but as a corner stone for development of the city.

The main idea behind this study is to show that thinking about the diversity of our cities and societies is becoming extremely important. Current urban environments contain various groups of people of different age, sex, income, and especially cultural backgrounds, which is important considering constant population movements, both in national and international contexts. These processes are becoming ones of the most influential on shaping urban, social, economic and political conditions. However, the state is not capable to deal with such great social complexity, simply due to incompatibility of the scales - difference between personalized local community needs and standardized tools, that are used to fulfill them. In order to be able to follow and react to development of our cities, the way of planning and designing should become more open, professionals of our field should be able not only create but also listen to the people, provide conditions for various opportunities to be realised, without forcing specific design solutions that are not fulfilling expectations of users, and that, I believe, I succeeded to achieve with the proposed strategy and the result of my graduation project.
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1. INTRODUCTION:

[research framework]
TOPIAS IN THE WELFARE STATE

AND URBANISM STUDENTS
BEFORE MAY 7TH 2014

Source: http://designaspolitics.nl/teaching/design-studio-20142015-new-utopias-on-the-ruins-of-the-welfare-state/
1.1. PROBLEM DEFINITION.

CITY SEGREGATION DUE TO HOUSING DEVELOPMENT, INSPIRED BY MODERNIST UTOPIA

Stockholm has became one of the highest segregated cities within the European context, due to “Million Programme” suburban mass-production housing districts, proposed by the national government in the late 60’s, that currently are being seen as socially and spatially deprived areas, accommodating people mostly of immigrant background, and facing such issues as crime and poor quality of urban environment, all together forming a negative identity of ‘concrete ethnic enclaves’. Such urban fabric, inspired by utopia of modernist planning, is incapable of accommodating diversity of people, because it is not able to provide variety of needs, which is contributing to such districts becoming segregated within the city scale context.

The quality of such district can not be changed just by rebuilding its housing with new materials. Its spatial planning principles have to be restructured in a different way, in order to improve living conditions, create attractive and qualitative environment for local residents. These changes won’t happen without changing the planning process itself.

RENOVATION PROGRAMMES, REPEATING THE SAME PLANNING AND DESIGN SOLUTIONS AS IN THE 70’S

Proposed renovation programmes mainly focuses on rebuilding the housing blocks without changing its structure and spatial character. There is no strategic approach to improve district as a whole, leaving the roots of the socio-spatial issues stagnating in the public spaces, disconnected from build up areas.

PROFIT DRIVEN RENOVATION

Increasing rent prices after the renovation push out lower income residents out of suburban districts that are already considered to be a cheap rent option in the context of Stockholm. Higher income people can move in instead, bringing more money to the area, which follows higher possibilities for investments.
1.2. SOCIETAL AND ACADEMIC RELEVANCE, PERSONAL MOTIVATION, ETHICAL SUBSTANTIATION, PROJECT AIM AND CHARACTER OF GRADUATION WORK

SOCIETAL AND ACADEMIC RELEVANCE

In the current global trends many strong economic regions and western countries are becoming highly multicultural and racialized, which often results as a dystopia of spatial and social segregation. According to OECD report of 2011, Stockholm has became one of the highest segregated cities within the European context. Swedish “Million Programme” suburban housing development, proposed by the national government in the late 60’s, is currently being seen as a tool that created socially and spatially deprived areas, accommodating people mostly of immigrant background, and facing such issues as crime and poor quality of urban environment. The development itself was inspired by modern planning utopia, for instance ideas of the very well known architect Le Corbusier, who saw design as an active force to direct the community onto the paths of social harmony. These modernist projects nowadays are seen as mistakes, because of blind believe in aesthetics in design without involving community. Muller wrote about modernists “they did not take into account the dynamics of real cities, nor did they involve local citizens in the elaboration of the ideal city” (MÜLLER, D. B., S.P Tjallingil, 2005.).

The nowadays world requires a cooperative strategy like consensus-building to bring multiple interests together across difference. The cities that we are living in, are become more and more complex, both welfare states and developing countries, which makes our profession to be involved not only in a spatial planning and designing, but also covering social and economic aspects. So to reach the most effective solution to deal with these complex systems, many different actors from various fields must be involved. Healey (1997) sees collaboration as the way to shape coherent places in ‘fragmented societies’. “Collaborative planning is a method designed to empower stakeholders by elevating them to the level of decision-makers through direct engagement and dialogue between stakeholders and public agencies, to solicit ideas, active involvement, and participation in the community planning process. Active public involvement can help planners achieve better outcomes by making them aware of the public’s needs and preferences and by using local knowledge to inform projects.” (Innes, Judith; Booher, David (2000))

During my graduation project I tried to study and incorporate theories of collaborative planning and community involvement, in order to build a base for strategic approach following spatial design solutions.

PERSONAL MOTIVATION

The theme of current year studio Design As Politics, made me to think of the planning processes in a wider sense, including not only the social environment and urban quality, but also the political aspect, how it influences not only social image of the society, but also physical form of the city. The welfare state is a massive apparatus that has enormous power to transform not only districts or cities, but also regions and countries. During my graduation year, I tried to analyze the methods, strategies and consequences of planning by such a powerful organ as a state. Is it capable to fulfill the needs and hopes of society, or is it failing its ‘responsibility’ to serve its citizens?

To answer this question, I challenged myself to analyze and, especially, criticize one of the strongest welfare states in the European context – Sweden – which for long time has been an example of social democratic country, with liberal attitude to its society, and high economic performance. In the month of May 2013, there has been series of riots and other criminal actions happening in suburban areas of Stockholm, starting in the district of Husby. For many, the riots in Husby seemed to appear as an unexpected event because of Sweden’s association to the social democratic welfare state. This was the crucial point for choosing this location for my graduation work – interest in dystopia of social unrest, in the context of so thought example country of liberty, equality and social democracy.

ETHICAL SUBSTANTIATION

The problem of the project is dealing with such issues as inequality, segregation, social and ethnic exclusion. Taking into consideration that the location contains of very scattered population of different social and cultural backgrounds, many people coming from a very vulnerable social environments as a refugees and asylum seekers, with a limited opportunities to improve the quality of their life, it got me interested in trying to find a spatial planning method, that would consider all population groups equally involved into design process.
1.3. PROJECT AIMS, RESEARCH FRAMEWORK, RESEARCH METHODS AND WORKING METHODS

PROJECT AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

The objective of this thesis is to understand and evaluate principles of modernist planning method, both in its spatial characteristics and political aspect of planning process. Project is aimed to propose alternative planning method - shift from top-down planning to collaborative and community-led design practices in order to restructure chosen project site - district of modernist planning, in Stockholm, Sweden. Project is proposed to create spatial conditions, that could enable local population to be directly involved into design process – planning, constructing and managing - in order to transform existing static and monotonous urban fabric into dynamic and responsive environment, able to accommodate social mixture, using a guided strategy and tools of urban design.

MAIN RESEARCH QUESTION

“How to increase value of modernist districts, reduce segregation and integrate people into design process, through change of the urban fabric and its management?”

SUB-RESEARCH QUESTIONS

1. What are the spatial and social characteristics of district, designed by modernist planning principles?

2. What could be alternative planning methods, involving local communities?

3. Which urban environment can accommodate people from diverse social backgrounds?

4. Which spatial interventions can help to provide more diverse urban environment and ensure the mix of population?

5. Which spaces carry the highest potential and can attract diverse groups of people?

6. What are the most problematic spaces in the area?

RESEARCH FRAMEWORK:

- THEME 1: MODERNIST PLANNING UTOPIA. analyzing and evaluating Million programme development and modernist design principles, why it is considered as a failure of the welfare state, and how it relates to segregation of Stockholm. Identify structures and outcomes of it in the district of Husby, Stockholm.

- THEME 2: MUNICIPAL PROJECT. Investigating current renovation proposals and planning processes, to improve modernist suburbs.

- THEME 3: ALTERNATIVE PLANNING METHODS. Research on collaborative design practices, involving various actors, local residents and considering potential ones as well.

- THEME 4: ALTERNATIVE DESIGN SOLUTIONS. Research and design on restructuring modernist district - from monotonous and static environment, to dynamic, flexible and responsive urban space, accommodating social mixture.
RESEARCH METHODS

GATHERING DATA
1. statistics
   - demographics
2. maps
   - geographic context
   - demographics
   - connectivity/transport
3. history
   - history of immigration
   - history of city development
   - history of housing development
4. ongoing projects
   - municipality proposals
   - private projects
5. stakeholders
   - public/private
6. observation on the social media

LITERATURE REVIEW
(paragraph 2.8) and CASE STUDIES

MAPPING
1. social patterns (foreign background population, age, employment rates, income) in a city and district scale
2. 'Million Programme' housing development areas, its building typologies and condition.
3. Places of riots and violence, and its spatial characteristics, in MP suburbs.
4. Types, use and users of public space.
5. areas with a potential for a social interaction
6. functions and activities on the ground level, relation with surrounding public space

FIELD WORK
1. mapping of people and their actions:
   - who are residents of the area?
   - activities on the ground floor
   - gathering places
   - places of crime and violence
   - functions in the area
   - flows of people
2. interviews:
   - residents
   - planners in the Stockholm city planning department (see appendix)
   - professors of the 'social research institute of Stockholm' (see appendix)
3. visual analysis and evaluation:
   - photographs (quality and character of public space, condition of buildings, social interaction places, impression of local residents)
   - sketches (potential areas for a spatial interventions, first ideas what those interventions could be)

DRAWING
1. research by design: identifying weaknesses and potentials
2. exploring possibilities
3. summarizing conclusions
4. testing design proposals.
WORKING METHODS

The methodology of graduation project is defined in three parts: research and analysis, strategy, and design test:

- Research and analysis was used for identifying the failure of the welfare state, in a sense of researching the history, policies, laws and acts, projects, from the political perspective, which had a negative influence on shaping city of Stockholm and its urban environment.

- Strategy of introducing ‘guideplan’ as a planning tool, was used in order to shift towards more collaborative planning, enabling all actors to be involved, and engaging community to step forward in shaping their local environment.

- Design proposal is created by following strategic guideplan, that provides with fixed outlines and flexible guidelines, without forcing an actual design solution or specific programme. It provides with a toolbox for enhancing mixture, flexibility and customization of build environment in the district of Husby.

- Design test – pilot project - was itself used as a method to test and evaluate proposed concept and strategy.

Source: Diagram made by author of the thesis plan

1 Welfare State - A system whereby the state undertakes to protect the health and well-being of its citizens, especially those in financial or social need, by means of grants, pensions, and other benefits. [definition source - http://www.oxforddictionaries.com/definition/english/welfare-state]
II. RESEARCH: [practical and theoretical]
2.1. THEORY PAPER

Cohesive multicultural society
A review on multiculturalism and planning of diverse urban environment
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Paper abstract – For centuries, people have moved from country to country, seeking a better life, often fleeing intolerable situations, such as political conflicts, humanitarian disasters and wars in their homeland, which resulted in a process of transformation from the homogeneous to a multicultural cities in ethnic terms. The impact of such migration has been one of the most important aspects, forming cities in a global world of today. Such processes have been variously commented upon in the urban planning literature over the time. For example, Ward (1971) documented the emergence of ethnic ‘ghettoes’ in American cities between 1840 and 1920. He described how new settlers crowded into districts which provided poor quality but cheap accommodation. Gans (1971) exposed a similar form of low rent neighbourhood, accommodating either ethnic group or “single men, pathological families, people in hiding from themselves or society, and individuals who provide the more disreputable of illegal-but-demanded services to the rest of the community” (Gans, 1971). This description, while derogative shows an appreciation of social difference in the city, which directly reflects on the urban quality of the neighbourhoods and the local communities.

The objective of this paper is to review the idea of multiculturalism and its benefits, in order to see these processes not as a problem, but as the opportunity to improve and enrich urban quality of the cities.

Key words – demographic change, cultural interaction, ethnic diversity, multiculturalism, local identity, integration.

1 Introduction

A city, in a capitalist society, is a complex place. It is, at one and the same time, an expression of architectural design, home to various social and ethnic groups, the scene of business activity, the responsibility of various central and local governments. In this paper, the main focus is on the city being as a home to various social and ethnic groups, and how this relates to the processes of urban planning.

Cities today are characterized by increasing ethnic and cultural diversity and are said to be multicultural (Sandercock 1998, 2000; Rogers 2000). This raises new questions about how to maintain social cohesion in multicultural cities.

New groups in the city challenge previous spatial practices, and identifications with city and nation, thereby creating discomfort and unease among other groups of urban residents. The study focuses on the multicultural urban environment and how to produce social cohesion and cultural interchange, instead of conflict where mixture is failing.

2 Definition of multiculturalism

With large-scale immigration into Western and Northern Europe, “multiculturalism” has become a major topic of political and intellectual discourse. The terms “multiculturalism” and “multicultural society” are being put forth strongly as concepts that could help clarify the confusing picture of European immigration, both in a descriptive-analytical and in a political sense. Many are recommending the concept of a “multicultural society” as a new model for societies whose populations have become increasingly multi-ethnic through immigration.

Trying to define ‘multiculturalism’, there are quite a few uses to consider (Heckmann, 1993):
(1) First, "multiculturalism" or "multicultural society" are used as indicators of social change, referring to the changing ethnic composition of the population; an allegedly rather homogeneous population has become more heterogeneous. In this sense, "multicultural society" is a descriptive category.

(2) Secondly, the terms are used in what might be called a normative-cognitive way. This use could be circumscribed as follows: we should recognize the fact that we have become a country of immigration, that we need immigration, at present and in the future, and should accept the social and cultural consequences.

(3) A third use describes both an attitude and a norm: multiculturalism as tolerance toward others; as friendly and supportive behavior toward immigrants; as a liberal and democratic attitude which is based (among other things) on learning from the errors and fatal consequences of nationalism, chauvinism, and ethnic intolerance.

(4) Fourthly, multiculturalism is an interpretation of the concept of culture: there are no "pure," original cultures. Each culture has incorporated elements of other cultures; cultures are the result of interaction with one another; culture is continuous process and change. In this sense, the cultures of immigrants are seen as opportunities for the enrichment of one's own culture.

(5) Fifth, on a more superficial level, multiculturalism is an attitude that looks upon some aspects of the immigrants’ culture (folklore, food, for example) and sees these as possible enrichment of "our" culture. Very often, in a socio-romantic view, the immigrants are viewed as people with qualities that "we have lost" (emotions, stable social relations, spontaneity, etc.); we could learn from them.

(6) Multiculturalism as a political constitutional principle is a sixth meaning in the discussion, referring to ethic identities as a major basis for political and state organization, for the distribution of rights and resources; it means the reinforcing of ethnic pluralism, ethnic autonomy, and speaks out against acculturation or assimilation, against one "state language."

(7) A seventh, different meaning: as a critical category, multiculturalism is regarded as a well-intended, but illusory concept which overlooks the necessity for a common culture, language, and identification to enable societal and state integration and stability. The unifying and homogenizing effects of the nation-state are looked upon as an achievement that should not be easily given up.

All things considered, the main concept of multiculturalism is used to refer to an extensive range of social groups that, for various reasons, have been excluded from or marginalised by mainstream society. Examples include groups defined by nation, culture, and sexual orientation. Going beyond this definition, multiculturalism is a political philosophy that recognises cultural and ethnic diversity in a society and supports their expression and recognition as constituent elements of the social order. It assumes the right of groups to exercise their religious and civil practices, as well as equality of rights for individuals and communities.

3 Benefits of multiculturalism

In "The uses of disorder: Personal Identity and city Life" (1970), Richard Sennett argues from the perspective of social psychology to show that isolation of people in separated neighborhoods and suburbs can lead not just to lack of sympathy, but to misinformation and misunderstanding. When groups learn about one another only by means of distant, indirect, vicarious experience – through what they read or hear, or much worse, through what they see on television – they have shallow understanding, based on superficialities. Living in separate neighborhoods, they are unable to learn to develop, to be tolerant, to work things through, to compromise. To follow the same idea, Manuel Castells (2010) says, “the exclusion of the other is not separable from the suppression of civil liberties and a mobilization against alien cultures”. These ideas illustrates that the existence of multicultural, diverse cities and its communities is a healthy form of the development of our urban environment, and the opposite processes are the ones that harms our societies.

Definitions of what makes a good city have been dominated by questions of economic growth and issues of administrative convenience (Short, 1989). According to economist Philippe Legrain: “The bottom line is this: Since diversity boosts innovation and innovation is the source of most economic growth, critics who claim that immigration has few or no economic benefits are profoundly mistaken. Immigration makes for a richer life in every sense.” Also, Jane Jacobs in later works contends that diversity not only makes cities more appealing but is the source of economic productivity. Richard Florida is one more author who finds a happy reconciliation between the values of economic growth and
social diversity: “Diversity and creativity work together to power innovation and economic growth” (Florida, 2002). What both authors mean is actually that diversity stimulates creativity.

The philosopher Iris Marion Young looks to the city as the venue in which such cultural difference must flourish. Young is less concerned with issues of economic growth than Jacobs and Florida and more focused on the achievement of social justice. What makes urban spaces interesting, draws people out in public to them, gives people pleasure and excitement, is the diversity of activities they support and the people around them (Young 2000).

The positive effect of multicultural community is also mentioned in the work of Burgees and Bogue (1964), in which they argue that ethnic neighbourhoods in the city are colourful and distinctive in their variety, and creates more diverse and liberal image of the city (Burgees, Bogue, 1964).

To sum up all these beneficial ideas of multiculturalism, diversity underlies the appeal of the urban, it fosters creativity, it can encourage tolerance, and it leads city officials to see the value in previously underappreciated lifestyles.

4 Planning of multicultural urban environment

According to John A. Short (1989), the cities should be places where every citizen, no matter of his ethnic background or social class, can lead dignified and creative lives. How we can achieve this goal is the subject of this chapter.

Planning is a democratic process through which communities, with the help of planners, are able to determine their felt needs and find ways to address these needs through a deliberative and reflective process. While planners bring their expertise to bear on the deliberations, it is ultimately the community that determines the final outcome of the decisions reached. Since communities differ in their needs and socio-cultural groups within communities seek different ends, it necessarily follows that effective planning would result in a plurality of plans to suit the needs of the diverse public. Planning therefore is a multidimensional and multifaceted profession with sensitivity toward class, race, sex, and culture. This makes planning a multicultural canon (Burayidi, 2000).

Resolving the conflict between cultures in the public realm, therefore, requires planners to be tolerant, sensitive to the needs of all groups in the community, and willing to give each group due to process to be heard. According to Burayidi, there are six ways in which cultural misunderstanding between planners and ethnocultural groups on the one hand, and between different community groups on the other could occur. To be culturally sensitive means that planners must become conscious of these pitfalls and guard against them (Burayidi, 2000). These cultural differences relate to:

1) communication style (cultural differences affect the outcomes of the transactive and social learning process in planning);
2) attitude toward disclosure (cultural differences influence the types of information people are willing to share with planners);
3) attitude toward conflict (this has implications for the role that the planner plays as mediator in community conflicts);
4) approaches to accomplishing task (this may affect the way in which planners and other professionals undertake teamwork in planning projects);
5) styles of decision making (different cultural groups have different decision-making procedures);
6) approaches to knowing (this affects the procedural approach to planning).

Another approach to urban planning in a multicultural context is appreciative planning. It is a model based on mutual respect, trust, and care-based action. It is a two-way learning and problem-solving approach to planning. Appreciative planning is a multi-faceted process that unites rational and non-rational processes of social interaction and social learning to enable citizens and professionals to share the work of problem problem solving and decision-making for the benefit of their communities. By doing so, it enables planners to celebrate the valuable assets multicultural groups bring to city life and planning deliberations.

The appreciative planning approach can bring citizens and professional together in fruitful cooperation despite their cultural differences because appreciative planning is a process model based on flexibility rather than on a rigid, rational planning approach and its universal notions, and it allows planners to reach out to minority groups and address their social human living conditions. Appreciative planners learn to escape from the scientific, one-way problem...
solving process by engaging in networking, communication, and dialogue with community groups (Ameyaw, 2000).

Creating inclusive urban environment and spaces that welcome diversity and meet the contrasting needs of different social groups is central to the goal of building ‘A city for All’ (Beall, 1997). The physical environment of the city is, in turn, the arena in which human activity takes place. The structure of urban space presents both constraints and opportunities which impact in different ways on the lives of the different inhabitants of a city. Women and men, the elderly, children, teenagers, disabled people, racial, ethnic or religious minorities, refugees and newcomers, migrant workers, the wealthy, people in poverty – all have contrasting needs and contributions to make and they experience and engage with the physical environment in different ways. The ways in which they participate in the social, economic and political life of the city will be diverse, and structures and patterns of urban governance need to accommodate this (Beall, 1997).

The goals behind planning multicultural urban environment, should be inclusive diversity, equality and social justice. One of the most influential work in the idea of equality is John’s Rawls’s *A Theory of Justice* (1971). Rawls extends the concept of the social contract in considering what will best bind people of different ethnic and social groups. He defines society as a ‘cooperative venture for mutual advantage’ and identifies the shared concept of justice as a binding mechanism because among individuals with disparate aims and purposes a shared conception of justice establishes the bonds of civic friendship; the general desire for justice limits the pursuit of other ends. One may think of a public conception of justice as constituting the fundamental charter of a well-ordered human association.

Another very important theme line to consider is political framework. Main issues that formulates multi-ethnic societies, such as immigration and integration is very closely related to cities political attitudes and laws. Integration works both ways: it requires mainstream society to adapt to immigrants and vice versa. Young states a clear connection between social integration and political inequality - the former leading to the latter - and formal democracy often perpetuates this state of affairs. Marginalised or segregated groups do not have political influence, which remains the property of the most privileged groups, who thus dominate both political and economic resources. One model proposed by the same author to break this vicious circle is deliberative democracy (Young, 2000).

Deliberative democratic process requires the inclusion of all groups affected by political decisions, endowing smaller and weaker groups with the ability to influence political results (Young, 2000). Deliberative democracy is a model that is feasible primarily at a local level - municipalities, not higher administrative entities such as regions. Local government can encourage and allow the active participation of citizens in political agenda-setting, decision making and its translation in policy. Local governments require autonomy in formulating the policies required to deal with issues of multiculturalism irrespective of the effect decisions taken at this level will have elsewhere. Municipal government is better at responding to the demands and needs of immigrants and minorities than national government and is more suited to developing the model of deliberative democracy proposed by Young. To celebrate diversity in itself does not provide automatic answers to the many problems related to the exclusion and marginalisation that frequently accompanies immigration.

The planning theorist Leonie Sandercock (1997) terms her ideal city *Cosmopolis*. Like Young she regards urban diversity as the basis for a just city. She describes a metropolis that allows people from a variety of ethnic and racial backgrounds equal rights to city space, calls for a multiplicity of people that allows “the pleasures of anonymity,” and considers that the function of city planning should be to create urbanity. Going beyond the goals of efficiency and equity, she wishes the development of a city that provides joy.

5 Conclusions

The main idea behind this study is to show that thinking about the diversity of our cities and societies is becoming extremely important, considering constant population movements, both in national and international contexts. These processes are becoming ones of the most influential on shaping urban, social, economic and political environments. What is more, the role of urban planners extremely important in planning the cities. In order to follow such urban development of capitalist society, the new ways of planning should be thought about,
the ways that consider not only space and the mass population, but also variety of it. The goal of this paper, was to explain such phenomenon from a positive perspective, to present it not as a problem but as a possibility to enrich our urban life through accepting the fact that the places that we are living in are becoming home to people from various social and ethnic groups, and that this is exactly what we should keep in mind while planning the cities of today.

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The literature identified in the theory paper, helped me to understand the complexity of diverse society, how it reflects in the citys’ social and spatial environment. The main themes discussed were about changing the angle of planning the city, that we, urban professionals should not only consider build environment, but MAINLY the social aspect, especially from perspective of diverse cultural backgrounds, and think of it as an opportunity to create lively urban quality. I used the gained knowledge to build theoretical framework for creating design strategy, which is about a planning ‘A City for All’.
'Collaborative and Communicative planning and designing'

Utopian paradox or ‘the way to go’ towards better understanding between local communities and main governmental bodies.

A2U090, Methodology for Urbanism
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May, 2014

Abstract – Collaborative planning is often mentioned as one of the most appropriate ways of planning in relation to the network society owing to its focus on creating fair and inclusive institutional settings among public and private stakeholders. Even though this method discusses many potential outcomes, the actual democratic effects of collaborative and communicative planning processes are still being elaborated whether it is not just a naïve way of thinking how to improve urban quality.

Key words – collaborative planning and designing, communicative planning and design, government, local communities, network society.

1 Introduction

The purpose of this essay is to identify what is collaborative and communicative planning in the first place, how does it work and what kinds of effects it may cause for the society.

The structure of the paper is divided in two parts. In the first one, the overview of the meaning of collaborative planning is being explained. In the second part, the attention is put on the conditions that are needed to achieve collaboration in the planning perspective, and also what may be the consequences of this planning and designing method.

2 What is collaborative and communicative planning and designing?

There are many rules and regulations controlling relations and activities between members of society. One of such society activities scope is a planning. The question is who has to plan and decide, one planner or designer or one institution, or should be involved all participants, which are somehow related with a plan in a planning process.

There are many different ways and theories of urban planning and designing. For instance the very well known architects Wright and Le Corbusier, who represented the ideas of modernism, they saw design as an active force to direct the community onto the paths of social harmony. But is it possible through spatial and aesthetic manipulation solve the problems of the city and society? These modernist projects nowadays are seen as mistakes, because of blind believe in aesthetics in design without involving community. Muller wrote about modernists “they did not take into account the dynamics of real cities, nor did they involve local citizens in the elaboration of the ideal city” (MÜLLER, D. B., S.P. Tjallingi. 2005.).

The beginning of discussions about public participation in the planning process can be regarded to Arnsteins’s (1969) “Ladder metaphor”.

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Eight rungs on the ladder of citizen participation. For illustrative purposes the eight types are arranged in a ladder pattern with each rung corresponding to the extent of citizens' power in determining the end product.

Source: http://lithgow-schmidt.dk/sherry-arnstein/ladder-of-citizen-participation.html

1st and 2nd rungs describe that people are not enabled to participate in planning, but powerholders can "educate" or "cure" participants. 3rd, 4th and 5th allow to hear and to have a voice and to advice. 6th, 7th and 8th – shows that people can make the decisions or obtain full managerial power.

Collaborative planning emerged because of an inadequacy of traditional public participation in planning. The aim of collaborative and communicative planning was to provide opportunity for the public to be involved in the processes affecting their communities.

"Collaborative planning is a method designed to empower stakeholders by elevating them to the level of decision-makers through direct engagement and dialogue between stakeholders and public agencies, to solicit ideas, active involvement, and participation in the community planning process. Active public involvement can help planners achieve better outcomes by making them aware of the public's needs and preferences and by using local knowledge to inform projects." (Innes, Judith; Booher, David (2000))

Probably the most important matter is to be able to make a right decision or find a compromise after all of discussions, debates and negotiations. To make planning successful, the community must have an authority which is making the final decisions, and this is the "spot" where the planners get one of the most important roles: "Within communicative theory, the planner’s primary function is to listen to people’s stories and assist in forging a consensus among differing viewpoints" (FAINSTEIN, S. 2000).

3 How can urbanism benefit from collaborative planning and design? What are advantages and disadvantages?

3.1 Challenges to achieve collaborative planning and designing

Habermas (1981) argues that to achieve communicative rationality, a diverse set of interests must participate in a dialogue. For network power to emerge in a significant way three basic conditions must be in place. The first is that the actors in the network (stakeholders, agencies, and citizens) should be diverse in a way that is consistent with the full range of interests and knowledge relevant to the issues at hand. This would include, for example, diversity of values, resources, experience, and information. The second condition is that actors must be in a situation in which their ability to fulfill their interests depends on each other’s actions and in which they recognize this interdependence. This interdependence involves each player’s having something to offer that others want and something they want from the others. The third condition is a dialogue. The communication flowing through the network must be both accurate
and trusted by participants to allow the full advantage to be taken of the actors' diversity and interdependence. In particular, it is critical that the participants in the network have discourse in which all are empowered and in which sincerity, legitimacy, and accuracy of what people say can be judged (Innes and Booher 1999a, 1999b). The acronym DIAD is being used to designate collaborative networks in which diversity, interdependence, and authentic dialogue are present (Figure 1). These conditions are directly related to the flow and effectiveness of network power. If we think of a collaborative network as an organic system, diversity is a driving force which brings together the ideas, values, interests, and knowledge into a new fabric. The diversity of interests in turn provides the opportunity for creative solutions to satisfy different concerns and helps to ensure that strategies are robust and feasible. Moreover, this diversity provides a wide range of resources, information, personalities, experiences, and points of view that become the materials for innovation and learning. A sense of authenticity of the communication is, in addition, essential for players to make self-interested, rational decisions about participating in discussion or cooperating in action. They have to trust what each other says if they are going to act on it.

The hope of interpretive/communicative planning theory (Forester 1989; Sager 1994; Throgmorton 1996; Innes 1995; Healey 1997) is that, through learning how to collaborate, a richer and more broadly based understanding and awareness of locality relations and conflicts can develop, through which collective approaches to resolving conflicts may emerge. The ambition of communicative planning theory is to contribute to transforming governance - to provide concepts, critical criteria, and examples of open and participative governance through which conceptions of place qualities can be articulated, debated and used to focus and inform new initiatives and responses to change. Habermas's focus is on the normative potential of a politics which moves toward the dynamic of a “public conversation,” in which all affected parties can have a voice and be listened to. He seeks a reconstruction of the public sphere and its practices, including how political communities communicate in public arenas and how participants exchange ideas, sort out what is valid, work out what is important, and assess proposed courses of action. He argues that it is through communicative efforts that cultures and structures are formed and transformed (Habermas 1984). This idea brings to the understanding that the normative ideal of good communication is the conversation. In conversation, we must accept some common principles to allow communicative exchange to take place.

3.2 Benefits of collaborative planning and designing

The diversity of interests in turn provides the opportunity for creative solutions to satisfy different concerns and helps to ensure that strategies are robust and feasible. Moreover, this diversity provides a wide range of resources, information, personalities, experiences, and points of view that become the materials for innovation and learning. A sense of authenticity of the communication

3.3 Gaps in collaborative planning
On the other hand, one of the main problems of communicative planning in practice is the gap between rhetoric and action. Communicative theorists probably would not deny the importance of these resources, but neither do their analyses rely on them. A second practical problem of communicative planning is the lengthy time required for such participatory processes, leading to burnout among citizen participants and disillusion as nothing ever seems to get accomplished. For example, organizing planning across a metropolitan area requires extending the process through multiple political jurisdictions to escape the homogeneity imposed by spatial segregation. One more problem, is that communication among designers, scientists and local actors is often complicated because they use terms that can have different meanings in different disciplines or institutions. There tends to be an underlying caution among institutional partners, when it actually comes to involving local communities in decision-making. Participation carries a range of potential costs – temporal, financial and political – if local communities object to proposals. These costs are likely to be relatively high in neighbourhoods known for their radical community politics and when regeneration projects entail large-scale residential developments. Both these circumstances, combined with inadequate participatory processes, provide a breeding ground for conflict and mistrust between institutional partners and local community interests.

4 Conclusions

The nowadays world requires a cooperative strategy like consensus-building to bring multiple interests together across difference. The cities that we are living in, are become more and more complex, both welfare states and developing countries, which makes our profession to be involved not only in a spatial planning and designing, but also covering social and economic aspects. So to reach the most effective solution to deal with these complex systems, many different actors from various fields must be involved. Healey (1997) sees collaboration as the way to shape coherent places in ‘fragmented societies’. What is required is a strategy of counter-hegemonic struggle to achieve ‘a profound transformation of existing power relations’. For planning, that transformation requires ‘counter-hegemonic planning practice’ that can destabilize the current hegemony and establish an alternative one.

5 Collaborative and communicative planning in professional and academic activity

The experience of collaborative and communicative planning and designing in TU Delt we could divide in two parts – practical, where students have to collaborate with each other, and academic – in which students are implementing this way of planning into their design proposals and strategies.

In the practical part, here in TU Delft, department of Urbanism, every student is involved into collaborative planning during group work phase. On the other hand, it would be more useful if at some points students from other fields (for instance architecture, engineering, real estate, building technology students) could also join, to actually have this collaboration and conversation between different interests.

From the academic perspective, during the projects that we are planning and designing here in TU Delft, the collaboration between different stakeholders always have to be elaborated and considered, it does not matter what scale it is being worked on, the different actors are very much involved into
research, in order to articulate the project easier, what is the aims, goals, who is it addresses for, who are the winners or losers etc.

The reason why is it so important in our projects, is because it is getting more and more important in the ‘real’ life as well. As it was mentioned before, the conversation is the key to deal with complexity of the cities, in order to reach compromise, which would satisfy both public and private interests, big and small players.

6 References


The city of Stockholm is facing an issue of social segregation. The central part of the city is mainly populated by Swedish wealthy, active population, who can afford high rent prices of the central housing options.
However the suburban areas are mainly populated with a population of immigrant background, dealing with such issues as low education level, unemployment, crime and social inequality.
In May, 2013, there were organized riots in suburban areas of Stockholm, starting in Husby and spreading through the whole city. In further chapter it will be explained how Stockholm got to this point.
The modern era of immigration can be divided into four distinct stages, with each stage representing different types of immigrants and immigration:

1) Refugees from neighboring countries (1938 to 1948)
2) Labor immigration from Finland and southern Europe (1949 to 1971)
3) Family reunification and refugees from developing countries (1972 to 1989)
4) Asylum seekers from southeastern, eastern Europe and middle East, (1990 to present) and the free movement of EU citizens within the European Union.

Diagram made by author of the thesis plan
Because of such rapid growth of population, from 1960’s Sweden started to face a huge problem of housing shortage. As a solution, government proposed so called ‘Million Programme’ housing developments, which meant that in 10 years Swedish housing stock should be increased by one million dwellings for middle-class and labor force population. In the end, about 1,006,000 new dwellings were built using the public-private partnership model. For the houses designed for the lowest-income group, the government would bear 66% of the initial costs and this would be repaid by the customers and residents in a 30-year period. For other categories such as students and blue collar workers and immigrants, the Government provided huge subsidies and incentives to building companies in order to start construction. The net result was an increase in Sweden’s housing stock of 650,000 new apartments and houses, with a general rise in quality, though arguably at the expense of aesthetics. The programme was financed partly through property tax, which later is allocated for general purposes, and can’t finance needed new residential areas.

The consequence of such housing development was that such Million Programme areas were containing the poorest population of Sweden, which mainly were immigrants. And the very important fact is that when the programme was finished, the immigration of labor force was stopped (1972) due to the lack of job opportunities for the local population. On the other hand, the numbers of refugees and asylum seekers were only growing, which resulted in Million Programme containing the population with no professional experience or higher education level, which became one of the main reasons why such areas were socially and spatially excluded (Huttman, E. D., Blauw, W., Saltman, J., 1991).
2.4. IDENTIFYING THE FAILURE. HOW DID SWEDEN GET TO THIS POINT?

RECORD YEARS

Sweden is one of the most sparsely populated countries in Europe and might be expected to be the home of low density and low rise housing. Somewhat surprisingly Sweden, together with Denmark, was one of the leading nations in Europe to build high-rise housing (Rådberg, 1988; 1991). How is it then that Sweden with its vast land, low population density and long tradition of single family housing became one of the leading nations for high-rise construction in Europe? This contradiction requires some explanation.

Urbanisation began quite late in Sweden, the fastest, most concentrated and most sustained period was in the thirty years following the end of the Second World War. During that time the population living in urban areas rose from 60 to 85 per cent. Most of this increase resulted from the movement of population from the countryside in the south and from the forests in the north. Population gravitated from the inland of northern Sweden to the industrial towns along the Baltic coast and towards the southern population centres (The Population, 1991). Immigration became increasingly important and by the late 1960s and early 1970s, substantial ethnic minority populations, principally from Finland, Greece, the former Yugoslavia and Turkey had become established in the urban parts of Sweden.

During the period 1945-1990, when the population increased by 28% and the number of households by 80%, housing became a major priority of social policy (Hårsmann & Scheele, 1997). The spatial redistribution of the population the increase in the number of one and two-person households and rapidly increasing purchasing power all drove the demand for housing. Partly as a result of these structural changes, but also as a response to them, Sweden’s housing stock grew by 51 percent between 1960 and 1990. The house-building industry became highly industrialised and produced standardised units in all types of housing, including multifamily units during the 1960s and early 1970s.

The Swedish housing stock in general, as well as most residential areas, are generally very mixed with respect to housing type and tenure. The one exception is residential areas built during rapid urbanisation in the 1960s and early 1970s, and which are recognisable in most Swedish towns and cities. They are the result of what became known as the ‘Million Programme’ which will be reviewed in the next chapter.
Through the 1920s and 1930s, modern “master” Le Corbusier experimented with a series of highly utopian urban planning concepts, stemming from his visions of an ideal city that hoped to reunite citizens with a highly ordered and open environment, elevating culture on a universal basis. In 1925, he proposed the “Plan Voisin,” an idealistic mega-project that called for the bulldozing of central Paris and replacing it with monolithic 60-story towers set within an organized street grid and ample green space. Corbusier believed the efficient plan could transform society by raising the standard of living for all socioeconomic levels, thus sparing the country another revolution. However, the “Plan Voisin” actually divided housing based on class, illustrating flaws in his utopian aspirations. The plan was outright rejected, and the frustrated architect ventured outside Europe to spread his ideas.

Source: http://www.lifeedited.com/killing-le-corbusiers-beloved-parking-spaces/
fig. 10  Le Corbusier’s ideal city

Source: http://www.lifeedited.com/killing-le-corbusiers-beloved-parking-spaces/
The origins of the Million Programme have to be understood in the context of the Swedish welfare model combined with architectural influences from abroad, particularly the functionalist ideology most prominently expressed by the Swiss architect Le Corbusier. Social welfare policy went hand in hand with physical planning ideology. Johan Rådberg (1997) in his book entitled *The Dream of the Atlantic Steamer*, has claimed that the roots of Swedish housing policy after the Second World War can be traced to functionalist ideals generated by Le Corbusier and his contemporaries who emphasised the benefits of large scale collective housing over individual and small scale projects.

One of the most famous suburbs in Sweden is Vällingby, some 10 km north east of the centre of Stockholm. Vällingby was the prototype for residential areas planned during the Million Programme period between 1965 and 1974. The expansion of the Stockholm metropolitan area was closely linked to the growth of the subway, and access to subway stations was important when planning the new suburbs. One-bedroom apartments in high-rise complexes (of eleven storeys) were built close to subway stations, with mainly three-storey housing within 500 metres. Single family housing was built beyond this zone. Public as well as commercial services like schools, nurseries, small shops and laundry facilities were located close to these houses. In Vällingby, of a total of 8,000 dwellings built, 90 percent were multifamily housing, mainly for public rental with a small proportion in the cooperative sector (Sax, 1998). The suburb was designed with a segregated traffic system including pedestrian and cycle lanes between the different neighbourhoods and Vällingby centre.

Not only housing was planned at Vällingby, one of the founding ideas in planning was the so called ‘ABC’ concept (work, housing and service centre). Jobs were supposed to be created for 50 percent of the workforce, which meant 10,000 to 12,000 jobs in the case of Vällingby. This plan proved to be too optimistic, however, as the final total only reached approximately 25 percent (Sax, 1998).

Among the arguments in favour of high-rise building was the *shortage of land* or its *high cost in urban centres*. However, whilst it could be demonstrated that a higher population density could be achieved than in low rise buildings, high density could also be achieved in low rise (3-4 storeys) areas (Rådberg, 1988). Another argument for constructing high-rise buildings was to meet *population growth*. This ‘urban containment’ argument developed in Britain after the Second World War in response to concern over how to house the people migrating to London (Jensen, 1966). However, this argument has since been rejected in relation to Sweden, because of very modest population growth by international comparison (Rådberg, 1997). One of the main arguments for high-rise buildings was the *creation of a social fabric* with close neighbourhood connections. It was suggested that this created opportunities to meet people, make connections and exchange ideas. There has been a never ending, and inconclusive, discussion in the planning literature concerning the relationship between the physical structure and the social environment (Sandström, 1989).

Source: http://www.stockholmskallan.se/ContentFiles/SSA/Biblioteket/Ncaaz_Vasterort_Vallingby.pdf
During the period 1965-74 the famous Million Programme was implemented, with the aim of building 100,000 dwellings each year for 10 years. What is less known, however, is that in addition to these building activities, a large proportion of the older unmodernised housing stock was demolished. The net result was an increase in Sweden’s housing stock of about 650,000 new dwellings, combined with a general rise in quality (Byggforskningsrådet, 1990).

The new Million Programme residential areas were greatly inspired by early suburban neighbourhoods such as Vällingby and Årsta. Many of the same ideas were applied, such as the adoption of ‘neighbourhood units’, the separation of traffic and a planned centre incorporating public and private facilities. One of the main aims behind the planning of residential areas was to create good democratic citizens. The means of achieving this were to build at high quality with a good range of services including schools, nurseries, churches, public space, a library, and meeting places for different groups of households. A principal aim was to mix and integrate different groups of households through the spatial mixing of tenures.
2.4. IDENTIFYING THE FAILURE. HOW DID SWEDEN GOT TO THIS POINT?

RAPID DECLINE IN HOUSING DEVELOPMENT

After the Million Programme, housing development started to rapidly decline, due to stop of immigration from non European countries. When the policy was changed to being open for people from all over the world population started to grow immediately again, due to amount of immigrants coming into Sweden. However, the housing development was not booming anymore, which basically meant that most of the new people, moving to Stockholm had to move to suburban developments.
Most of the people, both Swedish and immigrants were looking for accommodation in newly build suburban areas, because it was new and at affordable prices. However, the quality of urban environment was not fulfilling expectations of most of them. The lack of diverse housing options, poor quality and planning of public spaces, lack of amenities, made people to consider if it is a suitable area for them to live.
2.4. IDENTIFYING THE FAILURE. HOW DID SWEDEN GOT TO THIS POINT?
UTOPIA vs. REALITY

Two main points have been raised, firstly that large-scale multi-family housing areas are composed disproportionately of high-rise buildings. The second main criticism has focused on the poor quality of the outer environment, and to a certain extent, this is valid. Parking areas were not well designed, playgrounds were poor, and there was a lack of variety in landscaping. The external environment was often flat, with no contours. However, parks and forest leisure areas are close to most residential areas (Vidén, 1992).
2.4. IDENTIFYING THE FAILURE. HOW DID SWEDEN GET TO THIS POINT?

PEOPLE WITH A HIGHER INCOME MOVES TOWARDS CITY CENTRE

Because of the poor reputation in such areas, people prefer to move towards the city centre as soon as they can afford it. This means that in some time new migrants are coming, which results in ‘new poor replacing the old poor’, without keeping a constant population that are already well settled in the Swedish society. Those arriving from abroad in the ’70s could afford only to move into these distinctive Million Program rentals, while the white middle and upper classes moved into cooperative housing mainly situated in the centers. This resulted in what Irene Molina, professor of social and economic geography at Uppsala University, has called “the racialization of the city” (Keith, M., (2005)).
2.4. IDENTIFYING THE FAILURE. HOW DID SWEDEN GOT TO THIS POINT?

SOCIAL SEGREGATION

FOREIGNERS IN STOCKHOLM
Source: http://www.migrationsverket.se/

SOCIAL ASSISTANCE IN STOCKHOLM
Source: http://www.migrationsverket.se/
2.4. IDENTIFYING THE FAILURE. HOW DID SWEDEN GOT TO THIS POINT?

GROWING INCOME GAP

According to the OECD, the income gap in Sweden is still quite low, compared to United States, United Kingdom or Germany. On the other hand, these countries shows the trend of a bit more stable number, which is the opposite of Sweden, where the income gap is only growing [diagram 2].

The issues presented before, are the reasons why in the recent years, Sweden had to deal with increasing violence. These processes were identified as the main reasons for a riots in Swedish suburbs in May of 2013.


Source: OECD immigration report
2.5. STOCKHOLM VISION FOR 2040, PROPOSED BY MUNICIPALITY
‘A STOCKHOLM FOR ALL’

The main city vision for 2040, called ‘Stockholm for all’ present projects that are focused mainly on:
- integration
- education
- more jobs and enterprise
- improved urban environment

These are the main tools to fight segregation, and integrate all social groups in the urban life of the city. This vision considers several main topics, one of them is about improving the quality of suburban districts.

In 2009, urban planning department of Stockholm municipality came up with renovation plan for Jarva area - “Jarvalyftet”. According to the city of Stockholm, “Jarvalyftet” is a long-term investment to create a social and economic development in the area of Jarva. Not only concerning the built environment but also social aspects such as decreasing unemployment and social exclusion, “Jarva will also be an engine for growth across Stockholm” (Vision Jarva, 2013). But the project already has received a lot of critique in media, inhabitants and politicians, because of its already high expenses and lack of transparency. It could rather be called a facelift, leaving the inside (root causes) unchanged while the face (urban form) of Jarva will be changed, further the discourse of growth lacks to focus on the social enhancements that are needed in Jarva. The fast pace of neoliberal politics only offers fast ‘radical cures’ in order to enhance growth, that trickle down nothing else.
KISTA SCIENCE CITY AND NEED FOR RENOVATION

2.5. STOCKHOLM VISION FOR 2040, PROPOSED BY MUNICIPALITY

Jarvalyftet’ project area consists of 6 districts, all built at the same time during the “Million Programme” development. Almost all of these areas are dealing with the same social and spatial issues, except district of Kista, which is divided into housing area and Science City. Kista Science City is a working place for almost 40,000 people. It is called Swedish silicon valley due to its economic productivity and high investments. However, it provides with just a few housing facilities within the area. Municipality of Stockholm have prepared a renovation programme for a neighbouring areas, which should improve the districts, and most probably could accommodate potential new residents, that are working in Kista.

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2.5. STOCKHOLM VISION FOR 2040, PROPOSED BY MUNICIPALITY

LINEAR RENOVATION PROCESS

NEED FOR RENOVATION

PLAN, PROPOSED BY MUNICIPALITY

RESIDENTS ARE MOVED OUT TEMPORARILY

START OF RENOVATION PROCESS

RENOVATION FINISHED. RENT PRICES INCREASE AT LEAST 20%

PROFIT GENERATION FOR PRIVATE AND PUBLIC BODIES

newly built area is expected to attract more investments and residents with higher income
The quality of such district can not be changed just by rebuilding its housing with new materials. Its spatial planning principles have to be restructured in a different way, in order to improve living conditions, create attractive and qualitative environment for local residents. These changes won’t happen without changing the planning process itself.
“Järvalyftet is a project presented as a major investment in the districts Husby, Akalla Rinkeby, Tensta and Hjulsta from the City of Stockholm. The project extends until at least 2030 and several billion in treasure chest. We megaphone has protested that it is presented as improvements in the areas rather seeks to attract residents with higher incomes and in a way, forcing us who live here to leave.”

“Megaphone organizes youth of the suburbs in the fight for social justice. By mobilizing force that repression breeds in the suburb, we want to create a society free of racism, sexism and class oppression. We use a variety of methods and strategies, depending on how the situation allows and requires”.

Source: http://megafonen.com/

Source: http://www.arbetarmakt.com/2013/05/husby-kann-din-fiende/
MEGAFONEN PROGRAMME

1. MEGAPHONE REQUIRES that the people in the suburbs to have influence policies, which in turn affects our lives every day. We believe that people in the suburbs have to be able to participate in all important political decisions. Empty promises of dialogue fooling anybody - we want to decide! We do not accept that politics ends up in a few people’s hands that determine the lives of others. Without the power of the people - no justice!

2. MEGAPHONE require development and investment in public services in the suburbs. We believe in a jointly-owned utilities. We know that the need for improved health care in our areas is large, and therefore we oppose the massive sell-out and cut the campaign in our suburbs. The municipality and those in power seem less and less interested in paying for the service that is our right. Therefore, we say, stop the slaughter of public services!

3. MEGAPHONE REQUIRE that it be spent on social activities in the suburb. We believe in public venues such as civic and youth centers fulfill an important function in our area. We defend these uncompromisingly from cuts and privatization. But we do not stop at defending available, we want to see greater investment in new activities that develop the suburb! Megaphone requires that this part out of the welfare prioritized and developed - for people’s needs and with the people’s participation.

4. MEGAPHONE requires a fair education and full secondary competence in all schools in the suburbs. We believe that the single most important thing for young people in the suburbs are education - schools with proper resources to give our young people a high level of expertise. Today, school results in primary schools around the suburb totally unacceptable. Many times not even half of the students high school eligibility when they leave high school. We demand equal and fair education where all pupils leave primary school with high school eligibility. It requires a greater focus on the issue of state and municipal politicians. This is a serious problem that we require politicians acute grabs!

5. MEGAPHONE requires work for everybody in the suburbs. WE BELIEVE the right to work and struggle to reduce high unemployment in our regions, both among adults and young people. Too many who live in the suburbs are without jobs leading to increased alienation. That must be our politicians’ major priority that everyone in suburbia who want work to get it. Megaphone fighting for more jobs and better working conditions.

6. MEGAPHONE REQUIRES that the security and surveillance measures are replaced with social investments. We believe that the solution to the crime found in, among other things, more jobs and better schools. Rulers answers to the social problems in the suburbs are more police and patrolling guards. These funds are inhibitory for suburban residents development. The idea is that it should make us feel safer by more uniformed people watching us. But sustainable security can come only if one focuses on the elements that shape people’s lives in a positive way.

7. MEGAPHONE requires a housing policy that recognizes everyone’s right to housing! WE BELIEVE the right to housing, and that it must go ahead of all economic interests. Therefore, the ongoing divestments and ombildningarna direct attacks against our homes and lives. Extreme rent increases and conversions to tenant makes homelessness in big cities is increasing, and many in the suburb it difficult to cope rents. This while both municipal and private landlords blowing tenants by ignoring the maintenance and service. NO to the privatization of our homes and landlords who tampers! YES to building affordable rental units that provide all of Sweden a worthy home!
2.6. CONCLUSIONS

PROBLEM DEFINITION:

Stockholm has became one of the highest segregated cities within the European context, due to “Million Programme” suburban mass-production housing districts, proposed by the national government in the late 60’s, that currently are being seen as socialy and spatially deprived areas, accommodating people mostly of immigrant background, and facing such issues as crime and poor quality of urban environment, all together forming a negative identity of ‘concrete ethnic enclaves’. Such urban fabric, inspired by utopia of modernist planning, is incapable of accommodating diversity of people, because it is not able to provide variety of needs, which is contributing to such districts becoming segregated within the city scale context.

The quality of such district can not be changed just by rebuilding its housing with new materials. Its spatial planning principles have to be restructured in a different way, in order to improve living conditions, create attractive and qualitative environment for local residents. These changes won’t happen without changing the planning process itself.

RESEARCH QUESTION:

How to increase value of modernist districts, reduce segregation and integrate people into design process, through change of the urban fabric and its management?
Creating planning method that could enable local population to be directly involved into design process – planning, constructing and managing - in order to transform existing static and monotonous urban fabric into dynamic and responsive environment, able to accommodate social mixture, using a guided strategy and tools of urban design.
3.1. THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK

1. need to shift from top-down linear planning process to collaboration and encouraged community participation:

“Change life! Change Society! These ideas lose completely their meaning without producing an appropriate space. New social relations demand a new space, and vice-versa.” [Lefebvre, H.]

“Creating inclusive urban environment and spaces that welcome diversity and meet the contrasting needs of different social groups is central to the goal of building ‘A city for All’” [Beall, J.]

“Cities have the capacity of providing something for everybody, only because, and only when they are created by everybody” [Jacobs, J.]

“We can reinvent entire regions starting from the heart of local communities and building outwards” [Myrick, Ph.]

“People themselves must have responsibility for the development and change of the world they live in” [Sen, A.]

2. planning for social diversity: flexibility of space

“Women and men, the elderly, children, teenagers, disabled people, racial, ethnic or religious minorities, refugees and newcomers, migrant workers, the wealthy, people in poverty – all have contrasting needs and contributions to make and they experience and engage with the physical environment in different ways. The ways in which they participate in the social, economic and political life of the city will be diverse, and structures and patterns of urban governance need to accommodate this” [Beall, J.]

“Flexibility of space and community participation are on the contrary tools for creating a place that is able to accommodate diversity of people as well as their needs. It contributes to shifting from the producer/consumer dichotomy to the new model of ‘prosumer’, which enable each and everyone to be creators of their own environment and contribute to the processes that build local identity.”

3. design ideas on flexibility/temporarity/re-use/mixed-use for restructuring modernist district:

“Flexible architecture consists spaces that are designed to respond easily to change throughout its lifetime. The benefits of this form of design can be considerable: it remains in use longer; fits its purpose better; accommodates users’ experience and intervention; takes advantage of technical innovation more readily; and is economically and ecologically more viable. It also has greater potential to remain relevant to culture and social trends” [Kronenburg, R.]

“Temporary uses are seen as tools of empowerment: revealing the possibilities of space” [Temel, R.]

“A design is not seen as the beginning of a linear process but as a phase in a continuous cycle of creation and recreation, use and re-use” [2012 Architecten Mission Statement]

“Old ideas can sometimes use new buildings. New ideas must use old buildings.” [Jacobs, J.]

“Intricate minglings of different uses in cities are not a form of chaos. On the contrary, they represent a complex and highly developed form of order.” [Jacobs, J.]
PROJECT AIM: To create spatial conditions, that could enable local population to be directly involved into design process – planning, constructing and managing - in order to transform existing static and monotonous urban fabric into dynamic and responsive environment, able to accommodate social mixture, using a guided strategy and power of urban form.

3.2. DESIGN FRAMEWORK

PROJECT AIM: To create spatial conditions, that could enable local population to be directly involved into design process – planning, constructing and managing - in order to transform existing static and monotonous urban fabric into dynamic and responsive environment, able to accommodate social mixture, using a guided strategy and power of urban form.

THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK

Consider planning as a collaborative process

Use the existing - improve it, upgrade it!

Planning as a changing cycle - flexible design proposal

Introduce flexible mixed-use spaces - for diverse urban quality, to encourage social mixture

Engage civic participation and provoke community-led design
3.3. PLANNING METHOD - GUIDEPLAN

FINAL PRODUCT - GUIDEPLAN, consisting of fixed and flexible design solutions. Such form of design strategy will ensure essential actions to be provided by urban professionals, in collaboration with locals and public/private sector [such as transport flows and network] and the actual design and specific programme of build up area and public spaces [squares/parks] would be decided by local community.

The expected outcome of such open-ended planning approach:
- shift of decision making power to local communities
- range of design tools and options, flexible guidelines giving a direction but not forcing any specific design solutions
- community involvement in each step of shaping their environment: planning, implementing, managing
- encouraged local initiatives
- transforming current urban fabric into responsive environment that is able to react and change according to the needs of population
- district transformed into such area, which can facilitate for various groups of people, due to its flexibility and spatial dynamics
3.4. INVOLVEMENT AND RESPONSIBILITIES

FLEXIBLE INFILL

- Neighborhood level
- Block level
- Private space

Design:

- Implementation:

- Management:
3.5. MAIN DESIGN GUIDELINES

CONCEPT

Restructuring urban models of modernist suburbia by enhancing flexibility of urban fabric within the scope of community led design, in order to create conditions for social and spatial mixture.

SPATIAL MODELS TO BE RESTRUCTURED

- Monocentric district model
- Separated functions - work/play and live
- Separated transport flows
- Mototype housing typology and block structure
- Public space type and accessibility
- Policentric urban model
- Mixed-use urban centres
- Mixed transport flows
- Customized and flexible housing
- Diverse and flexible public space
3.6. DESIGN APPROACH

GUIDEPLAN STRUCTURE

SET OUTLINES/FIXED FRAME
URBAN MODEL & STREET NETWORK

1) Policentric urban model [introducing neighbourhood centers]
2) Mixed-flows street network [restructuring separated transport flows]

FLEXIBLE INFILL/TOOLBOX
BUILD UP AREA AND PUBLIC SPACES

1) flexible public space [empowering community]
2) customized housing [accommodating diversity]
3) programming mixed-use urban centres [activating district]
IV. PROJECT SITE AND CONTEXT: [evaluating spatial aspects of modern planning]
The chosen project area is a district of Husby, located in the North-East of the metropolitan area of Stockholm, in the borough of Rinkeby-Kista. The district was built as a part of the ’Million Programme’ housing development from the 1960’s and 1970’s. The intention was to reduce the problem of housing shortage for the labour force and middle class residents of both Swedish citizens and immigrants. By now, the area is mostly populated by people of the foreign background, and rather low percentage of native Swedes. The area mainly consists of housing, and have a tendency of shrinking public services and facilities.

This site was chosen due to high concentration of social problems, such as low education level, high percentage of unemployment, high number of people living only from the welfare of the state and the poor quality of urban environment. It also was a district were the riots of 2013 started.
Currently the district of Husby represents monocentric urban model, which means that most of the functions are concentrated in one central area, leaving the rest of the neighbourhoods with no activity and livability.
DISTRICT CENTER: main activity node
4.3. SEPARATED TRANSPORT FLOWS

STREET TYPOLOGIES

MAIN DISTRICT STREET

TYPICAL NEIGHBORHOOD STREET

PEDESTRIAN ROUTE
One of the most common design principles used in Million Programme housing developments is a separation of different transport flows, in particular, cars and pedestrians. The diagram above, illustrates how these separate networks are structured in the district of Husby (grey - cars, yellow - pedestrians). Such spatial model decreases accessibility within the district, deactivates streets, which makes it less visible and safe.
The district of Husby is surrounded by large open green areas, that are part of the Jarva Natural Park. By the beginning of this development, these large green open spaces were promoted as one of the main qualities of this area. However, it does not play any role to any of the districts in Jarva region, it works more as a barrier between them, due to no connections or any kind of activity.

Husby itself is quite a green district, with many ‘forest’ looking spaces, and semi-private courtyards, on the other hand, these spaces doesn’t function as a space for a public use, and often creates a visibility issues.
Public spaces between the apartment blocks are often filled with buildings for parking facilities. The public space in the central area of the district lacks of lively urban quality, due to considerable amount of functions, building typologies and condition.
Public spaces are often surrounded with buildings with no/lack of function and access on a ground floor. The main pedestrian street, and the main route that connects public spaces in the central part of Husby, does not function as a main activity corridor, due to blind walls which make place closed and unsafe. Same ‘corridors’, together with a locations of the overground parking facilities, also happens to be a most common places for a criminal activities.
4.4. TYPES OF PUBLIC SPACE

NEIGHBORHOOD GROUND FLOORS - NO CONNECTION BETWEEN BUILDING AND THE STREET
4.5. HOUSING TYPOLOGY

SINGLE HOUSES
SEMIDETACHED
MULTI-FAMILY BLOCK APPARTMENTS

4896
Despite the fact, that one of the main goals for the Million Programme housing developments was about providing various types of housing, the district of Husby consists only of multi-family blocks. The structure of the block, is also one of the reasons, why streets within the neighbourhoods are un-active, uninviting to stay. The buildings have no connection to the street/public space, due to no access to the buildings from a public side, and only from semi-private courtyards.
V. DESIGN PROPOSAL
[upgrading the modern utopia]
5.1. POLICENTRIC URBAN MODEL

Monocentric urban model, concentrating most of the functions in one central area, leaving the rest of the district with no activity, unlively environment and lack of facilities.

Introducing secondary/neighbourhood centers to activate the whole district, create more dynamic environment and diversify spatial quality, provide activities not only in the central commercial area of Husby, but as well within each of the neighbourhoods, with more community oriented facilities.

To activate the district, bring vitality and livability to the neighbourhoods, there is proposed concept of introducing secondary centers/neighbourhood centers. Each neighbourhood will contain of housing blocks and local centre, oriented to communal activities, small retail shops and public spaces. In order to choose a particular location within each of the neighborhoods, there was proposed a set of criteria, such as:

- central location [same distance, from all sides of the neighbourhood]
- existing activities [using existing assets, enhancing them]
- undefined spaces and poor quality buildings [space for new activity, new typology, more quality]
- car access [for servicing local functions mostly]
- green space [recreational activity, improved space for communal uses]
5.1. POLICENTRIC URBAN MODEL

CRITERIA FOR DEFINING LOCATION OF SECONDARY CENTER

Source: Diagram made by author of the project
5.1. POLICENTRIC URBAN MODEL

CRITERIA APPLIED FOR EACH NEIGHBORHOOD

NEIGHBORHOOD 1

Source: Diagram made by author of the project

NEIGHBORHOOD 2

NEIGHBORHOOD 3

Source: Diagram made by author of the project
NEIGHBORHOOD 4

NEIGHBORHOOD 5

NEIGHBORHOOD 6

Source: Diagram made by author of the project
DISTRICT CONCEPT - PROPOSED CENTERS:
DISTRICT CENTER: main activity node
5.2. MIXED TRANSPORT FLOWS
PROPOSED STREET TYPOLOGIES

In order to change existing transport network, I propose to change street typologies by mixing different transport flows. A diagram above, illustrates proposed new street typologies that includes these means of transportation:
- car/public transport, cycle, walking [main traffic artery, joining Husby with the rest of the city]
- car, cycling [main traffic corridors, joining neighbourhoods, within Husby]
- cycling, walking [ corridors, joining public spaces and neighbourhoods, and recreational routes towards Jarva National park]
- cycling, walking, and car access, with pedestrian priority [ along neighbourhood centres, in order create more active environment and provide better access through the district by all means of transport, however putting pedestrians as a priority, due to higher activity level in such areas]
- pedestrians only [central area of the district/ main pedestrian route/main activity corridor, joining public squares, functions and other activities in the centre of Husby]

By implementing proposed street typologies, it is expected Husby to become more connected and accessible. At the same time proposed changes should contribute to creating active, diverse, dynamic and safer district, due to variety in street type, activity and speed level.

The proposed fixed urban structure of centers and connecting network of diverse street types enables district to become more dynamic, accessible and safer environment. Proposed neighborhood centers activate Husby from within local communities, which creates new dynamics of the area, transforming it from ‘bedroom’ neighborhood, to a diverse and lively urban environment. Solutions for new street typologies are proposed according to the new dynamics, it differs in various contexts, such as: slow/fast connections, centre/housing neighborhood character and commuting/leisure functions.
5.3. PROGRAMMING NEIGHBORHOOD AND DISTRICT CENTRES

SUGGESTED PROGRAMME FOR NEIGHBORHOOD CENTRE

IMPLEMENTATION and MANAGEMENT - COLLABORATIVE ACT:
- crowd-funding
- D.I.Y. solutions,
  use of man power
- NGO funds
- municipal funds

100% COMMUNAL SPACE

COMMUNITY AND LEISURE ACTIVITIES

ALTERNATIVE EDUCATION
DISTRICT CENTER: main activity node
5.3. PROGRAMMING NEIGHBORHOOD AND DISTRICT CENTRES
SUGGESTED PROGRAMME FOR NEIGHBORHOOD CENTRE

This content of common area, should ensure improvement in social life, and tackle some social issues as low level of education/employment, by encouraging such activities as knowledge sharing, professional education, workshops to build a skills and other types of alternative educational initiatives. The community activities are about building social cohesion and sense of belonging by organizing events, discussions and community meetings. And the provision of facilities for leisure should give more livability for space, encourage local people to organize cultural events, or just a relaxing initiatives as for example cinema evenings or community dinners.

**TYPE OF EDUCATION**

- **professional training:**
  - workshops, knowledge sharing on teaching skills and how to start local business

- **design & construction skills:**
  - building public space as a common act to increase sense of belonging
  - learn how to D.I.Y.

- **cost saving and environmental benefits:**
  - resource sharing/swapping
  - recycling

- **healthy lifestyle:**
  - growing your own food
  - collective workouts
REQUIRED FACILITIES

- community center

- temporary structures

- easy to assemble, prefabricated modules for urban furniture

- open and second-hand market, recycling facilities

- urban garden

- parks and space for outdoor activities
5.3. PROGRAMMING NEIGHBORHOOD AND DISTRICT CENTRES
SUGGESTED PROGRAMME FOR NEIGHBORHOOD CENTRE

TYPE OF ACTIVITY:

COMMUNITY AND LEISURE ACTIVITIES

> community meetings:
  - idea generation and discussion
  - community engagement and participation

> community events [celebrations, sport events, open dinners, etc]:
  - relation between community members
  - active community

> public/community art:
  - improving environment
  - learning artistic skills
REQUIRED FACILITIES

- community center
- event space
- temporary structures
- open-gallery
- empty floor/facade for painting
5.3. PROGRAMMING NEIGHBORHOOD AND DISTRICT CENTRES
URBAN DESIGN TOOLBOX FOR CENTRE ACTIVATION

In order to activate both neighbourhood and district centres, there is proposed a set of tools, that can be used to change the characteristics of the central area, make it active, connected, visible and mixed.

- concentration of diverse activities/mixed use [Mixed use causes safe and mobile environment in individual building scale and community scale. This principle does not only increase mobility of environment, but also facilitates social control in public spaces. Different uses such as shops, offices, residential units are available in the local community and different building named mixed use. It could ensure the livability of urban streets and squares in a whole of the day. It means that a suitable combination of the different function is necessary. A real local center include various functions such as bus stop, residential units, park, mall, shops for daily need, post office, cafe, bank, library, clinic, playground and sport centre, etc. If the local community center includes various uses with multifunctional potential; therefore spaces include sustainable function.]

- active ground floors [The frontages are often the favorite places for socializing, sitting or watching public life. A livable frontage is created by carved pillar, stairs, and shelves. Therefore, it encourages people to stay or rest and creates life and experience in the streets consequently. The attractive street frontages should provide a favorite view by numerous entrances and transparent façades that link outdoor and indoor spaces to create livable urban space (Gehl, 2002, 36), it also contributes to cohesion in spatial structure]

- easy access by all means of transport

- visible entrances [It means that you could see the spaces in the local center easily from any point. It is provided by specific building height, architectural typology, public art, vegetation or lighting of the areas. If the area is visible, it is more public and safe].
The proposed transformation of public spaces should ensure activities that generate new experiences of urban space through sharing and building knowledge, resources, social networks, and other activities. This contributes to improving the quality of life of local people, pointing the way towards more ecologically, economically and socially sustainable modes of urban life and relationships to the urban environment. The public spaces are expected to become such places, that encourage local communities to shape their own environments the way they want it to be - reacting to the needs of various groups of residents, and being planned designed and implemented by collective decision and collaboration of local residents and actors. There is a toolbox provided to reach this goal:

- undefined space transformed to communal property [encouraged community participation, community led design approach, proposed programme that could tackle such social issues as low education and employment level, aswell as enhance the feeling of belonging and social cohesion]
- hierarchy and network of public spaces [diversity of urban spaces, to create dynamic district character. It presents different spaces for people with different characteristics in different circumstances to select a suitable, relaxing space for themselves. It could be provided by considering various areas for seating, chatting, resting and eating, aswell as provided activities and facilities]
- visible entrances and pathways [recognition of public space]
- urban furniture and vegetation [good public space provides various types of places for sitting (such as bench, chair, stair, and platform) and a shelter from wind and sun. The facilities could be provided by a common action, using creativity of the residents and possibly recycled materials, to create such places that are important for community]
- encouraged public and community art, and other cultural initiatives [encouraged creativity for improving spatial quality of the area, aswell as variety of activities and various events]
The main tool for transformation of public spaces is the change of undefined space [that currently is municipal land without a function and facilities], to a communal property. Such process would enable people to create such environment as they want, by empowering them to participate through the whole design process: planning, implementing, managing. Through positioning the space as a zone of communication, exchange, and collaboration, it is supporting the development of community. The newly used spaces in the neighbourhoods, would also play a huge role in activating and improving the quality of urban environment.
5.4. MANAGING THE PUBLIC SPACE

RECLAIMING UNDEFINED AS COMMON SPACE
5.4 MANAGING THE PUBLIC SPACE

PROPOSED PUBLIC SPACE NETWORK

The proposed hierarchy of public space, is divided into main and secondary (following the centers of either district or neighborhood). Main/central public spaces differs from a neighbourhood spaces, by concentrating more diverse activities, higher densities, and function on a ground floor along all the perimeter, whereas in the local public spaces, the quality is based more on every day activities, and access and transparency of the ground floors.

However, each public space has a communal property zone, to encourage local activities in each neighbourhood.
5.5. DIVERSIFYING MASS-PRODUCED HOUSING

POTENTIAL BUILDINGS TO BE TRANSFORMED

Diversifying housing typology and renovating current buildings by using such tools as flexible space, variation, expansion and customization, in order to accommodate social mixture - people of different incomes and needs.

Current housing typology is proposed to be transformed into flexible housing that can adapt to the changing needs of users. Socially, it empowers the user to take control of their own dwelling, demographically, it enables housing providers to adjust to new living patterns and configurations of users.

These ideas are proposed to be implemented through restructuring existing buildings:

- parking, into new housing types
- existing housing, changed through customized renovation
5.5. DIVERSIFYING MASS-PRODUCED HOUSING

CHANGING THE BLOCK STRUCTURE
5.5. DIVERSIFYING MASS-PRODUCED HOUSING

CUSTOMIZED RENOVATION

Transformation of existing housing typology:
- integrating public and shared spaces on a ground level [to change the structure of the block, make it more accessible on a ground floor, that would contribute to the better connectivity between building and the street] and possibly the rooftop
- allow entrances to the buildings from the street side, not only courtyard
- personalized facade options
- possible extensions of space through extending area of balconies
- flexible building interior
5.5. DIVERSIFYING MASS-PRODUCED HOUSING

PARKING TRANSFORMATION INTO NEW HOUSING TYPOLOGIES

Transformation of parking facilities includes of a few steps:

- integrating public and shared spaces on a ground level [to change the structure of the block, make it more accessible on a ground floor, that would contribute to the better connectivity between building and the street]
- adding extra floor for parking on top [due to need of parking for neighbouring blocks, and added housing units]
- new housing typologies on top of the parking [new types, based on flexible and customized design solutions]
MODULAR SEMI-DETACHED HOUSING

OPTIONS:

- TYPE OF MODULE
- MATERIAL [EXTERIOR]
- INTERIOR CONFIGURATION
- SIZE OF SPACE
- POSSIBILITY FOR EXTENSION
5.5. DIVERSIFYING MASS-PRODUCED HOUSING

EXTENSIVE SEMI-DETACHED HOUSING

OPTIONS:

- MATERIAL [EXTERIOR]
- INTERIOR CONFIGURATION
- POSSIBILITY FOR EXTENSION
5.5. DIVERSIFYING MASS-PRODUCED HOUSING

SHARED MODULAR HOUSING

OPTIONS:
- SIZE OF SPACE
- POSSIBILITY FOR EXTENSION
5.5. DIVERSIFYING MASS-PRODUCED HOUSING

CONCLUSIONS

PRICE RANGE
- affordable
- luxurious

DESIGN
- mass-produced
- total customization

FACILITIES
- basic
- extended:
  - private
  - shared
- enabled possibility to choose
5.7. FINAL GUIDEPLAN

The main idea was to change current planning method through specific qualities of urban fabric, to create conditions for change and diversity, which means that urban environment is able to react and be redeveloped according to the changing needs of population. Spatial concept was based on NOT forcing particular design, instead - giving directions and proposing options. By doing so, the decision making power is transferred from top - down bodies, to the local actors.
VI. TESTING THE GUIDEPLAN
6.1. PROGRAMMING AND PERSONALIZATION
6.2. MANAGING THE PUBLIC SPACE

FLEXIBILITY

FACILITIES
6.3. DIVERSIFYING HOUSING TYPOLOGY
6.4. FINAL STAGE
WHO WINS?

STOCKHOLM MUNICIPALITY:
- improved most problematic districts of Stockholm
- reduced issue of segregation between city districts
- changed character and image of suburban areas, general quality increase
- provided accommodation for HIGH-TECH employees - potential residents
- attracted new investors to the area
- efficient use of environment
- renovated housing
- enhanced livability
- increased safety
- local integration
- inclusive design process - everybody counts
- increased accessibility

RESIDENT OF HUSBY:
- opportunity to choose type of environment
- equal opportunity to decide
- possibility for customization of personal space
- sense of belonging
- opportunity to create, build and manage
- improved quality of environment: lively, diverse and safe
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