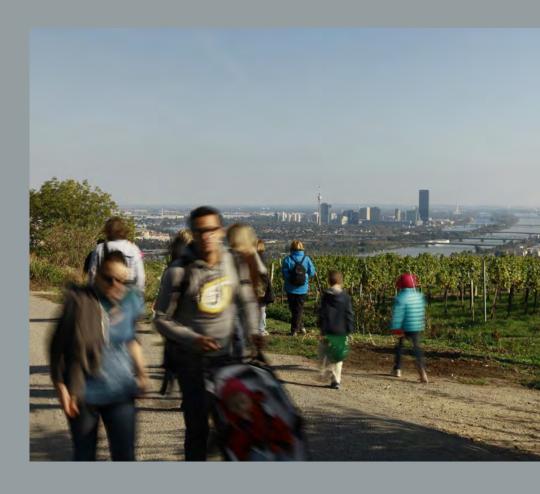


GREEN AND OPEN SPACES



SHORT REPORT





GREEN AND OPEN SPACES

SHARING THE OUTDOORS

SHORT REPORT



Vienna is growing. According to current forecasts, Vienna will have about 2 million inhabitants in the second half of the 2020s. This means that we need to create housing space, jobs and an appropriate social infrastructure, but we must also create enough high-quality green space in the city. The thematic concept "Green and Open Spaces" by the City of Vienna will set the course for green and open space planning for the next ten years. The concept thus puts the goals and objectives defined in the 2010 governmental agreement into concrete terms.

More quality of life in our city means that we need to develop more recreation zones for leisure-time activities and provide more green and open spaces close to residential areas to give children the possibility to play and run around. The thematic concept defines the necessary framework conditions.

I invite all citizens of Vienna to actively take part in planning and designing their neighbourhoods, so that green spaces will become a central element of a vibrant, urban city in which quality of life also entails social cohesion.

Maria Vassilakou

Deputy Mayor and Executive City Councillor for Urban Planning, Traffic & Transport, Climate Protection, Energy and Public Participation





GREEN AND OPEN SPACES: THE THEMATIC CONCEPT FOR VIENNA

URBAN DEVELOPMENT PLAN 2025

THE 7 CORE POINTS OF THE STRATEGIC CONCEPT - IN BRIEF

Vienna is one of the most liveable cities in the world. In the second half of the 2020s about 2 million people will live in Vienna. This dynamics is challenge and opportunity at the same time to further develop the city as a place of quality of life.

The City of Vienna thus takes targeted measures such as the development of green space close to residential areas and new large-scale recreation areas in order to maintain the more than 50% of the city as green space and make it useable.

In December 2014 the Vienna City Council adopted the thematic concept "Green and Open Spaces" as an in-depth report on the "Urban Development Plan 2025 (STEP 2025)". It specifies the statements of STEP 2025 and guides the way into the future of Vienna's green space planning. It was designed as a strategy paper for administration and politics, however, it is also a source of reference for Viennese interested in the green space concept.

- 1) Three new recreation areas for Vienna
- 2) Taboo regarding protected areas
- 3) Standards for more quality in newly developing areas
- 4) Vienna's Open Space Network connecting green and open spaces adds value
- 5) The Local Green Plan planning instrument and barometer for the supply efficiency of green spaces
- 6) Innovative approaches for the cityscape
- 7) Commitment of the citizens in green and open space

FOR EXPLANATIONS PLEASE GO TO PAGE 8 ET SEQ.

"OPEN SPACE" IN THE THEMATIC CONCEPT STEP 2025

The term open space comprises all undeveloped space, sealed or unsealed or green. Open spaces fulfil one or more of the following functions:

- ► Function for everyday life and recreation: Place for recreation, social meeting point, place of mobility for cycling and walking
- ➤ Function for the structuring of the urban fabric: Significance for the structuring of the urban fabric, orientation and identity creation
- ► Function for ecosystem services: Regarding the urban climate, air quality and water household
- ➤ Function for nature conservation: Habitat of plants and animals, the biotope network and ecosystem protection, as well as promotion of biodiversity.

THE 5 LANDSCAPES OF THE URBAN REGION

VIENNESE LANDSCAPES

From the Vienna Woods to the Danube area, to the historic parks, from the popular vineyards to the contemporary landscape architecture, to the green oases in backyards - all these elements of the Viennese cityscape are essential features and part of Vienna's charm.

The urban development plan of 2005 (STEP 05) and its mission statement "Green Spaces of the Urban Region" already focused on five different landscapes: the Bisamberg region, the cultural landscape of the Marchfeld region, the Vienna Woods, the Danube area incl. the Lobau wetlands, Alte Donau and Neue Donau area and the terrace landscape in the south of Vienna. The mission statement "Green Spaces of the Urban Region" maintains the basis for the long-term protection of the quality of life in the city region in STEP 2025.

HISTORIC OVERVIEW

CORNER STONES
OF VIENNA'S GREEN
AND OPEN SPACE
PLANNING

More than 50% of the city are green spaces. This high share owes the city to its historic development. Large parts of woods and imperial parks were spared from urbanisation and clearance, since they were imperial hunting grounds and not accessible to the public for a long time. Then Joseph II opened the imperial green spaces. In 1905 Vienna's Wood and Meadow Belt was put under protection by the City Council. So, the first corner stones were laid for ensuring green spaces for the well-being of the general public.

Equally important for an improvement of the quality of life for the citizens was the philosophy of the First Republic of social housing and with it an improvement of the quality of living conditions and of the environs of residential areas. The municipal housing estates with their concept of quality of life, with their big courtyards and well-lighted flats started to characterise the typical urban scape of Vienna. Even today the city benefits from the green spaces of the social housing projects of that time.

Between the 1960s and the 1990s several new recreation areas developed in Vienna, such as Donaupark, Kurpark Oberlaa, the Danube Island and the Wienerberg recreation zone. They are providing leisure and recreational possibilities not only for the local population, but the entire city benefits from them. Today these green spaces are essentially structuring the urban fabric and shall be maintained in the future.

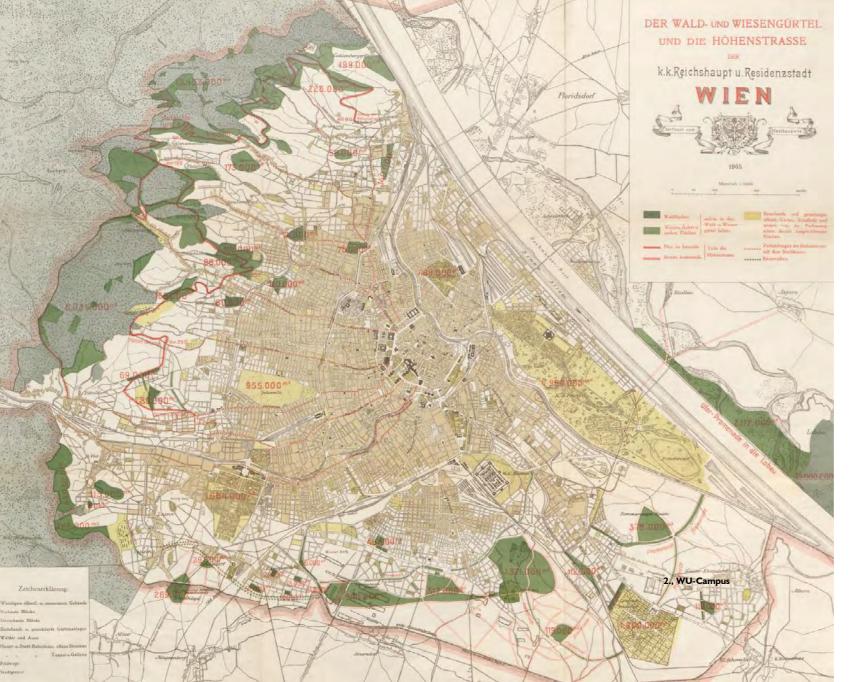
Vienna is the only metropolis in Europe which owes a national park, the Donau-Auen National Park which was protected by law in 1996 and is the last big floodplain landscape in Central Europe.

In 2005 an initiative of the federal provinces of Lower Austria and Vienna brought about comprehensive protection for the Vienna Woods region. Today the UNESCO biosphere park Vienna Woods, which comprises 7 Viennese districts and 51 municipalities in Lower Austria is a model region for sustainable development with high nature value.

Nowadays, just like in former times, new green space designs and concepts are needed regarding the increase in population.

Based on the tradition green space in Vienna, the thematic concept for green and open spaces provides for new recreation areas to ensure green space supply for Vienna's future.





1. THREE NEW RECREATION AREAS FOR VIENNA

LARGE-SCALE GREEN SPACES FOR A VIENNA OF 2 MILLIONS

NORBERT-SCHEED-WALD

RENDEZVOUSBERG

LOBAU ENVIRONS

The 22nd district is the largest district in Vienna in area and the one which will face the most influx of population in the up-coming years. This dynamics requires an appropriate anticipatory securing of green space. In the next years, areas which are at the moment used for agricultural purposes only will be developed into recreation areas in order to be able to supply the population with sufficient green space. A mosaic of different living environments and recreation zones will be created in the next years by connecting individual wood areas, creating meadows and by planting predominant tree groups which will integrate agricultural land as an essential part of these recreational areas.

The upgrading of the Rendezvousberg will on a long-term basis create a new, attractive recreation zone along the Brünner Straße which will also integrate farm land.

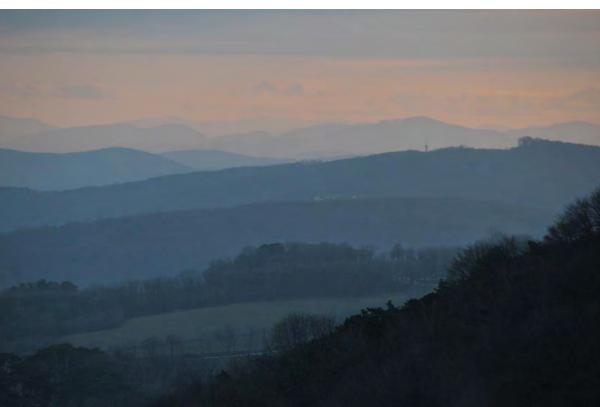
These three recreation areas are based on the idea of a network of green spaces: Green spaces should stretch from Bisamberg to Rendezvousberg to Norbert-Scheed-Wald to the Donau-Auen National Park, just like a string of pearls.

2. TABOO REGARDING PROTECTED AREAS

SUSTAINABLE TERRITORIAL PROTECTION The protection of nature and of landscapes is part of city life and this idea needs to be continued by recognising our natural and cultural heritage. Special attention should be paid to the European nature reserves in order to implement the respective EU directives (Viennese share of the Donau-Auen National Park, nature reserve Lainzer Tiergarten, protected landscapes Liesing River and Bisamberg), as well as all protected landscapes mentioned in the Vienna Nature Conservation Act. In the future they need to remain taboo for any purposes other than the purpose of protection and be available for people seeking recreation.

Biosphere park Vienna Woods





3. STANDARDS

FOR MORE QUALITY IN NEW URBAN DEVELOPMENT AREAS

The development of new urban quarters requires the securing of green infrastructure such as parks in the neighbourhood. These green and open spaces are anticipatorily secured in urban development competitions, in master plans and in the course of land use and development plans. The new standards regarding the supply of green space contribute to quality assurance in new urban development areas. They contain minimum dimensions, as well as catchment areas.

Especially children and older people need recreation areas close to their homes, such as parks and attractively designed public spaces. They are the basis for social cohesion in the neighbourhood and are crucial in making an active and self-determined life possible in their own urban quarters.

The determination of open space standards for working places are aimed at improving the attractiveness of public spaces in the environs which will then become meeting points where people can spend their time in a pleasant atmosphere.

4. VIENNA'S OPEN SPACE NETWORK

CONNECTING GREEN AND OPEN SPACES ADDS VALUE

The future goal is that every Viennese will be able to reach the closest segment of the open space network within a distance of approx. 250 m. The idea behind this is to build a network of high-quality green and open spaces of different characteristics. Large-scale green spaces, parks, smaller spaces of ecological importance, streets with green elements — they all will be connected to each other.

This network brings about many benefits, e.g. attractive thoroughfares which can be used on foot or by bike, an improvement of amenity and recreation quality in the close environs of residential areas or working places and a positive impact on the urban climate, as well as on the fauna and flora.

The close mesh of green and open spaces ensures that people of limited mobility also have access to high-quality spaces of leisure and exercise in their closest vicinity.

The network concept also includes linking and connecting Vienna's open space network to the environs of the city.

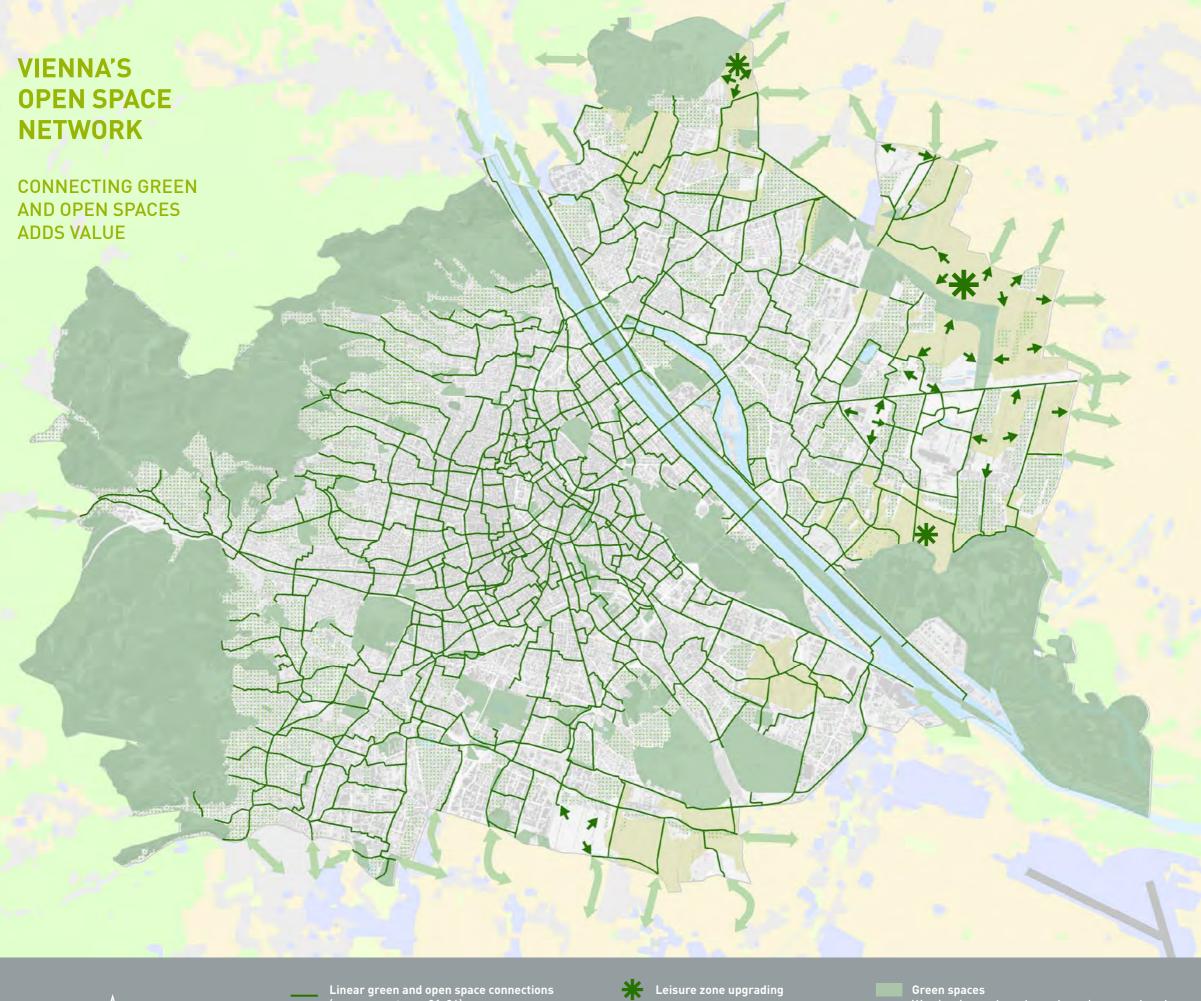
Vienna's open space network (fig. p. 10-11)

Table

Green and open space standards for Vienna



GREEN AND OPEN SPACES	CATCHMENT AREA (m)	SIZES (hectare)	m² per inhabitant		
Neighbourhood	250	< 1	3.5		
Residential area	500	1–3	4.0	8.0	13.0
Urban quarter	1,000	3–10	4.0		
	1,500	10-50			
Region	6,000	> 50		5.0	
+ sports ground					3.5
+ green spaces per working	2.0				











Green settlement areas City quarters with a comparably low degree of development density and a high degree of urban greening



Green spacesWoods, vineyards and meadows, large-scale urban green spaces (e.g. Schönbrunn Palace Gardens),
Parks and cemeteries (>10 hectares)



Mainly agricultural landscape

5. LOCAL GREEN PLAN

PLANNING
INSTRUMENT AND
BAROMETER FOR
SUPPLY EFFICIENCY
OF GREEN SPACES

The "Local Green Plan" is a planning method based on old planning instruments which were further developed for urban planning. Different types of open spaces are worked out, defined and assessed regarding their supply efficiency for the citizens. The "Local Green Plan" is thus a standardised tool for urban development planning which serves the collection of basic information for quality assuring procedures (competitions, cooperative planning procedures) and the design of land use plans.

Local Green Plans are based on 12 open space types: Open spaces in Vienna range from linear pedestrian zones to green axes to wide open, semi-public green spaces to protected areas.

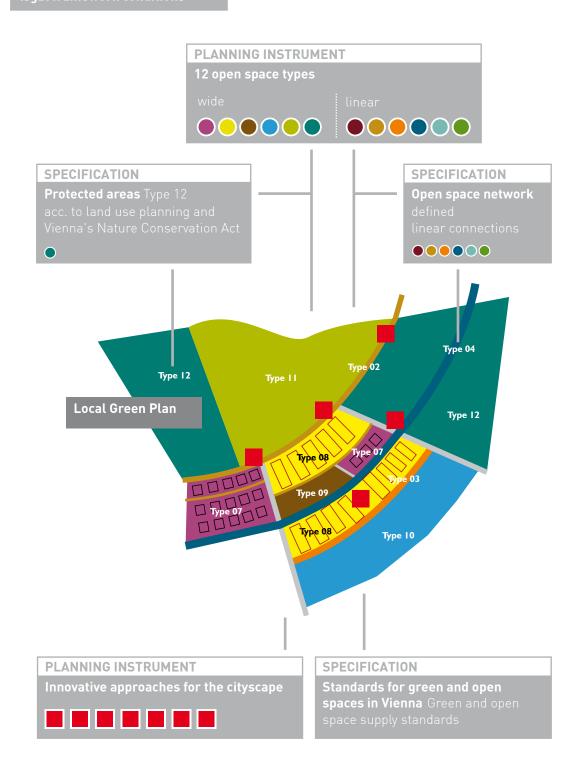
Overview

linear and wide open rural and urban spaces

urban open spaces rural open spaces lively streets and pedestrian zones p. 14-15 greened streets streets with adjacent green spaces green axes green ways green corridors open spaces with restricted access p. 16-17 semi-public green spaces parks multi-purpose land modul green space protected areas

SPECIFICATIONS

strategies, thematic concept, legal framework conditions





LINEAR **OPEN SPACE TYPES**

TYPE 01 LIVELY STREETS AND **PEDESTRIAN ZONES**

EXAMPLES: MARIAHILFER STRASSE, STEPHANSPLATZ, ROTENTURMSTRASSE



Fields of action

- Creating of tree locations which give the space a special character and function as visual orientation in streetscapes
- Upgrading of open spaces in streets to micro open spaces
- Strengthening of ecological components in the design of public places
- Promoting of responsibility of the individual by taking innovative approaches for the adoption of public space (promotion of façade greening etc.)



6th district, inner Mariahilfer Straße, oedestrian zone

TYPE 02 GREENED STREETS

EXAMPLES: PRATERSTRASSE, HASNERSTRASSE, LASALLESTRASSE



Fields of action

- Developing greened streets into the leading type for open space
- Improving of amenity function and the socio-spatial value through high-quality design and urban furniture
- Opening up of streetscapes for yet unusual uses for strengthening adoption (play along the way)
- Ensuring realisability of greened streets at the level of land use and development plans
- Ecological and traffic safety related aspects need to be taken into account by applying the General Design Guideline for Roadside Planting in Vienna as a basis of uniform high-quality designs and facilities.



2nd district, Lassallestraße

TYPE 03 STREETS WITH ADJACENT GREEN SPACES

EXAMPLES: RINGSTRASSE, WINARSKYSTRASSE



Fields of action

- High-quality maintenance and preservation of historic gardens adjacent to historic streets
- Improving the amenity quality of heavily used streets to strengthen the boulevard character
- Maintenance and renewal of tree locations
- Visibility of the adjacent green spaces (e.g. no intransparent fencing)

Ist district. Ringstraße

The famous boulevard connects many historic green spaces such as Stadtpark, Burggarten, Volksgarten, Rathauspark and Maria-Theresien-Platz.



TYPE 04 GREEN AXES

UP TO 30 METRES WIDE, SUCH AS WIENTAL (WIEN RIVER VALLEY): NIKOLAISTEG TO DANUBE CANAL, SCHREIBERBACH



Rural segments are in the foreground, the green structure accompanying the street (tree lines, hedge corridors, meadows, etc.) are the predominant unique feature.

Fields of action

- Renaturalisation of green axes with special focus on shore areas
- Sufficient dimensioning and high-quality implementation of newly planned projects in urban expansion areas
- Preservation and development of green axes as fresh air corridors
- Construction of necessary braces to bridge existing barriers (e.g. opening up passages, establishing of walking and cycling bridges)



19th district, green axis along Schreiberbach

TYPE 05 GREEN WAYS

WIDTH OF MIN. 30 METRES, EXAMPLES: LIESING RIVER VALLEY, OUTER WIENTAL (WIEN RIVER VALLEY) BETWEEN WEIDLINGAU AND NIKOLAISTEG. DANUBE CANAL



Superordinate green space connections of great significance for the urban climate, the landscape balance and the biotope network.

Fields of action

- Increasing their ecological potential by transforming them in a nature-inspired way
- Improving passability for people walking and on bicycles
- Ensuring connections to the environs



23rd district, Liesing River

TYPE 06 GREEN CORRIDORS

MORE THAN 50 METRES WIDE, EXAMPLES: CONNECTION ALTE DONAU/MARCHFELD CANAL, RIGHT AND LEFT SHORE OF THE DANUBE, DANUBE ISLAND



Superordinate green space connections of great significance for all four network functions of green and open space: For everyday life and recreation, for the structuring of the urban fabric, for ecosystem services and for nature conservation

Fields of action

- Maintaining and preserving existing green corridors, wherever possible with a width of 100 metres
- Connection to areas with insufficient green space and to the environs
- Closing of gaps for optimisation of the overall function of the green corridor



21st district, Marchfeld canal

WIDE OPEN SPACE TYPES

TYPE 07 OPEN SPACES WITH RESTRICTED ACCESS

EXAMPLES: GREEN RESIDENTAL
ZONES, ALLOTMENT AREAS, SWIMMING
FACILITIES, OPEN SPACES OF SCHOOLS



Fields of action

- Creating of innovative approaches for (temporary) opening for new types of use
- Ensuring high-quality green and open spaces at building sites through construction-site related landscape design concepts for areas which need to be horitculturally designed according to the Building Code for Vienna



14th district, Wolfersberg

TYPE 08 SEMI-PUBLIC GREEN SPACE

EXAMPLES: MUSEUMSQUARTIER, SEMI-PUBLIC, COMMONLY USABLE OPEN SPACE IN SUBSIDISED HOUSING, CEMETERIES, ALTES AKH



Fields of action

- Maintenance of passability for the general public by avoiding gated communities with different types of access limitation
- Ensuring neighbourhood-related green space through respective specifications in competitions and cooperative planning processes.
 The goal is to avoid the relocation of playing areas in residential quarters to parks or indoor playgrounds.
- Ensuring high-quality green and open spaces at building sites through construction-site related landscape design concepts for areas which need to be horitculturally designed according to the Building Code for Vienna



21st district, Donaufelder Straße Siedlung Autofreies Wohnen (car-free residential quarter)

TYPE 09 PARKS

EXAMPLES: HERKLOTZPARK, DONAUPARK, TÜRKENSCHANZPARK ETC.



Fields of action

- New plans and redesigns need to implement the General Design Guideline for Parks in Vienna of the Municipal Department 42 (Parks and Gardens) to ensure quality
- Development of new additional innovative financing models (compensation measures, cooperation with local players, e.g. in the fields of sports and gastronomy)
- Implementation of contemporary landscape architecture as an innovative approach through the use of natural succession (zones of extensive transformation)



5th district, Bruno-Kreisky Park

TYPE 10 MULTI-PURPOSE LAND

EXAMPLES: AXIS TELEFONWEG-PONYSEE



Various arable areas, fallow land and areas for agricultural production, as well as areas with low relevance for the network function of green and open spaces whose development is not determined yet

Fields of action

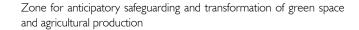
- Investigation of different options of use with the requirement of resource-efficient building, especially in areas with high-quality soils
- Definition of specific goals of development and use (e.g. agricultural development plan)



22nd district, field at the Süssenbrunner Straße

TYPE 11 MODULE GREEN SPACE

EXAMPLES: FORMER TRAIN STATION BREITENLEE, RENDEZVOUSBERG, LOBAU FORELAND



Fields of action

- Securing land with foresight by defining it in the land use and development plan, through purchase and agreement of use
- Ensuring of agricultural development goals
- Designing development concepts for landscapes of superordinate significance (e.g. Lobau Foreland)
- Valorization of fallow land regarding leisure functions and in accordance with the respective nature conservation goals
- Protection of areas with development potential
- Set-up of a landscape account platform for spatial coordination of ecological and landscape-relevant compensation and replacement measures
- Intensified coordination with the city environs in the development of new cross-border recreation zones
- Development of new implementation strategies and adjustment of existing ones, such as a garden show in large-scale green space projects



21st district, Rendezvousberg



TYPE 12 PROTECTED AREAS

EXAMPLES: VIENNA WOODS, LOBAU WETLANDS, LAAER BERG, URBAN WILDERNESS AT THE DONAUPRALLHANG (3RD DISTRICT, NATURAL MONUMENT)



Protected areas according to Vienna's Nature Conservation Act, international criteria and the Building Code for Vienna (Sww category – protected zone Wood and Meadow Belt, Spk category – protected parkland); these areas are often used for agricultural, forestry or garden purposes; however, their protective function is predominant.

Fields of action

- Ensuring protection status
- Further development based on the high degree of public interest in natural regions and landscape



I 6th district, Vienna Woods view from the Jubiläumswarte platform

6. INNOVATIVE APPROACHES FOR THE CITYSCAPE

GREEN SPACE INTERVENTIONS IN DENSELY DEVELOPED URBAN AREAS

Very often it is difficult to supply citizens – especially those living in densely developed urban areas - with sufficient open space.

Façade greening, courtyards and roof greenings bring about an enormous added value for urban areas with high density. Therefore further development of greenings of buildings or rainwater management needs to be promoted.

There is potential in the multi-use of areas owned by the municipality such as swimming facilities, open spaces and sports facilities of schools, as well as private green and open spaces such as green spaces of palaces. They should increasingly be available to several user groups based on the ideas of protection of resources and green space equity. Especially in densely developed areas existing deficits in supply with green and recreation zones can be reduced.

Multiple-use of attractively transformed playing and sports facilities in expansion areas should also contribute to the development of green and open space supply for local residents.

2nd district, Krieau "vitalization" of the city by roof greening of a supermarket





COMMITMENT **OF THE CITIZENS**

IN GREEN AND OPEN **SPACE**

Involvement creates identity. Making use of the special local knowledge and the creativity of the citizens, as well as knowledge about the different requirements of the different users bring about a high level of quality for green and open spaces. Participation of the citizens in planning processes, in the implementation of citizens' projects such as urban gardening, as well as designing micro open spaces develop a new kind of responsibility of the residents for their own urban quarter. In the future the citizens should get even more opportunities to actively

The relatively recent trend of urban farming with its neighbourhood gardens and self-harvesting plots reflects the passion for producing your own food and are a social factor.

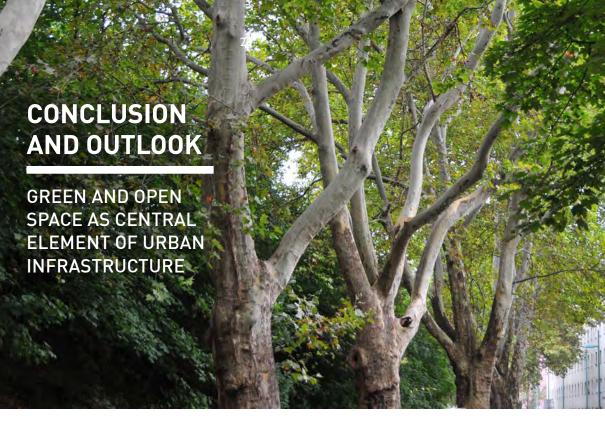
Small, unused remaining areas can also become valuable open space elements. Cooperations of local residents and/or business people create little treasures in urban open space which also serve identity creation in the neighbourhood and motivate people to take on individual responsibility.

In all types of participation and involvement of citizens in public space, however, it is important that as many areas as possible remain available for the public.

21st district, Orasteig The association "Wilde Rauke" whose members are mainly residents of the Orasteig housing estate, operates one of the biggest CSAs (Community-Supported Agriculture) in Vienna on a 6,000 square-metre plot owned by the City of Vienna between Marchfeld canal and Stammersdorf.







The growth of the city in the following years calls for measures of quantitative and qualitative development of usable green and open spaces. Protected areas continue to remain untouchable for settlement development, though and are available for the Viennese for recreation purposes.

Compact types of housing are going to be realised based on a resource protecting urban structure and possibilities for recreation are going to be created close to residential areas in accordance with the idea of a "city of short distances".

Standards on green space supply support the intention to ensure these necessary open space in preparation of big city development projects which makes it possible to develop open spaces on an equal level with other infrastructural services of the city. Based on the idea of green space equality, high-quality green space is then not only preserved to exclusive residential quarters, but is also available in areas of affordable housing.

The development of three new large-scale recreation areas – "Norbert-Scheed-Wald", Lobau Foreland and on a long-term basis the Rendezvousberg – the green belt around Vienna will be closed further and will be upgraded for people seeking recreation with the inclusion of agricultural activities.

The large-scale recreation areas are going to connect to other green structures of the city – similar to a nervous system – and are going to compose Vienna's open space network ranging from the outskirts of the city to densely developed urban areas.

The share of green spaces and of water bodies play an essential role for the urban climate. The green space strategy of the City of Vienna is at the same time a strategy to adjust to the climate which includes the creation of "classic" types of green space, as well as unconventional types of greening such as roof and façade greenings.



LEGAL NOTICE

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SHORT REPORT

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