

Town Boulevard Plan with key pilots projects

Central Artery Masterplan, Genk, Belgium 2016. The City of Genk has a polycentric urban structure with a grid plan. The development of the central artery, known as the Europlaan, will better link the town center and its periphery. The project integrates a future tram line to the Genk Central Station and identifies new development opportunities that enhance the town center as a green city.

The existing central artery is a 4-lane auto-oriented thoroughfare. By reducing the number of car lanes and optimizing routes with multiple transit options, space is recuperated to increase the proportions of sidewalks and extend greenways from the periphery into the city. Furthermore, instead of extending the center along the tram line outside the city center, the design intensifies existing sites and limits eastwest urban expansion. The city is made more compact and dense, as a walkable destination.

Outside the central district, the redesign of the Europalaan restores the basic shape of the Dorpsbeek River Valley by making the transit corridor into a "Parkway." The parkway concept separates car, tram, bicycle and pedestrian networks and creates a thick natural corridor. The loosely bundled pathways that make up the parkway take advantage of topographical contours and natural features to create attractive connections.

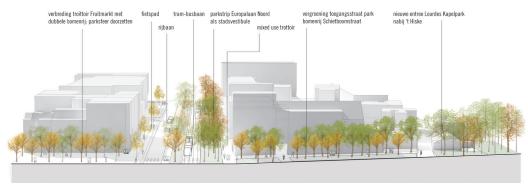
At pivot points, where new and old transit modes and nature and city come together, strategic interventions are defined. Architectural and landscape projects include: a new multi-modal transit hub at the east end, a public food/ market zone with tram stop and office tower marking the west end, and numerous public spaces and mixed-use block developments at key north-south nodes.

Urban Designer, Masterplan 1.2 Sq. mi. (3.1 Sq. Km.)

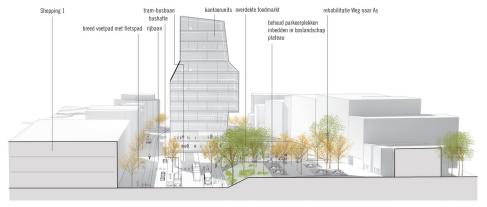
ORG Permanent Modernity w/ ZUS Landscape



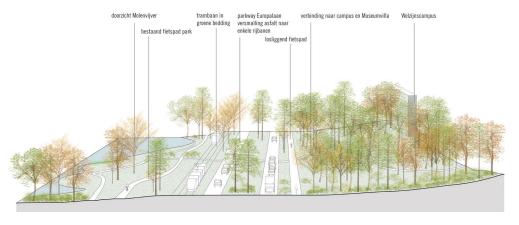
Proposed Transit Hub



Separated auto and tram network including new pedestrian corridor to existing greenway



Proposed new development, market, and transit stop at the entrance to the urban center



Tranist and landscape corridors outside the urban center



View entering Genk from the West at New Multi-moda transit station (Image Credit: ORG & ZUS)



View entering Genk from the East parkway (Image Credit: ORG & ZUS)