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| PROJECT TITLE | RUSH FOR REST |
| GROUP NUMBER | 2 + 8 |
| TUTOR | Joanna Szwed , Faculty of Architecture Cracow University of Technology Marzena Krupińska , Skanska SA Robert Strzeński , Horizonte Studio |
| PARTICIPANTS | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Anna 2. Elżbieta 3. Weronika 4. Michał 5. Jakub 6. Maja 7. Ligia 8. Michał 9. Katarzyna 10. Jarek 11. Krystian 12. Maria 13. Magdalena 14. Elżbieta 15. Sylwia |

DESCRIPTION OF THE PROJECT

INTRODUCTION: Superściezka project carried out by the group 2+8 aimed to create a space for everyone. Everyone, meaning not only the inhabitants of the nearby blocks of flats but also children, young people, adults, the elderly as well as office employees, cyclists, the clients of nearby institutions and pedestrians. Facing a busy thoroughfare, tall and ugly noise barriers, as well as big, grey car parks, planning the project was difficult. However, to all these obstacles the group responded with numerous ideas that could radically change the area between the two roundabouts.

Since the very beginning of the workshop, group 2+8 consisted of 20 participants, three tutors and a secretary. Such a big and diversified group was a success. Cooperation of architects, landscape architects, builders, students of land management, interior designers and most of all – the inhabitants, resulted in a unique project called “Rush for Rest”.

COURSE OF THE WORKSHOPS: The first workshop in Małopolska Garden of Arts was just the beginning of the road to Superściezka. The group analysed the area as a whole and assigned certain functions to it. So they used a lot of markers and sheets of paper. During the second workshop, the group came prepared and ready to start manual work. The tutors brought a lot of pictures that inspired the group. Then, everyone could implement their ideas into a model. It was also a time to look into the arrangement of Eile square. After a lively discussion, the group designed and divided the square in such a way that it could be used by absolutely everyone.

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Dawid Hajok Fundacja Aktywnych Obywateli im. Józefa Dietla +48 507 093 897 dawid.hajok@aktywniobywatele.pl

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The third meeting looked completely different – the group visited the area, particularly the Krakowski Szkolny Ośrodek Sportowy (Cracow School Sports Centre). Hence, the workshop was dedicated mostly to that area. More participants and the presence of the centre’s employees facilitated the task. The last workshop was a work against the clock. There was only an hour and a half for the project. The rest of the time was for preparing the presentation recapping the work. After the four workshops, there was a lot to recap!!

OUTCOME

The fort – after numerous discussions, the group decided to emphasise the historic aspect of the forts nearby Mogilskie roundabout. The beginning of the path is supposed to arouse interest of the passersby and the cyclists and to encourage them to stay and explore the path a little longer. To achieve that, the group planned open-air exhibitions that could be arranged along the whole path. The priority is to restore the neglected ruins and to create seats composed into the walls of the fort. A waterfall would complement friendliness and attractiveness of the area. Other ideas consisted of green areas and visual elements with a characteristic form or colour, that would repeat along the whole path, making it more consistent. The most popular idea included large human-like shapes (figure).

Eile square – Eile square is one of the two key areas of the space. A place used by everyone, regardless of age or profession. Thus, the idea to create a park where everyone could do something interesting – relax, play, work or have lunch. For this purpose, a barrier or a safety buffer must be created between Powstania Warszawskiego avenue and Superścieżka. Mild altitudes or high plants would be perfect. The bicycle lane and a pavement must be withdrawn from the street so they could mildly cut through the square. The ideas for the square also include natural shades, using plants as living architecture, fountains, small catering outlets and integrated sanitary spaces, integrated seats and recreation space for the elderly.

Car park area, the front of “żyłtkowiec” (a characteristic building raised in 1960s) and a planned building of Małopolska Regional Development Agency – everybody agreed that this is the most difficult part of the area. Nobody, however, was discouraged. The group provided many ideas to “refresh” the car parks, since they probably cannot be replaced. One of them consisted of indented parklets, i.e. green isles with seats. Other idea included a car park for food trucks right next to the square. It would be another incentive to visit the place. Many participants also mentioned painting and replacing the car park surface, that after office hours would turn into a skate park. This idea also requires integrated elements such as low barriers and lighting that would change colours after dark. Alternative surface could be made of geogrids, overgrown with grasses. It would create an effect of green car park.

The premises of Krakowski Szkolny Ośrodek Sportowy (KSOS) – Without any doubt, this area needs disassembling of the existent noise barriers and opening the premises to the users of Superścieżka. This idea was supported by everyone; the inhabitants, architects, parents and children who attend KSOS. Unlike the Eile square, this area is supposed to be mostly dedicated to sports and recreation. Necessary measures to be taken include replacing the asphalt surface of the pitch with tartan and adapting the pitch to serve various functions. Also, the renovation must include the bleachers that will also keep a ball inside the pitch. The situation of the pitch should also be slightly redefined, in order to avoid a “bottleneck” by the avenue. Moreover, the group came up with the idea of a mini golf field, climbing wall, a playground for older children, sitting platforms near the avenues, chessboards, ping pong tables and open-air gym.

Marshal’s Office – the square in front of the building should be a public square. The group proposed water, green areas with seats and lighting consistent with the rest of Superścieżka. Also in this area it

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is necessary to disassemble noise barriers and open the space to the users. The barriers should be replaced with natural protection that would separate pavement from the busy street. This function could be served by green isles.

GENERAL VISION: The work of group 2+8 resulted in a consistent vision of Superścieżka. It consists of blending the path with the neighbouring areas, i.e. Vistula Boulevards but also the botanic garden that should be open to the Powstania Warszawskiego avenue. But this is not everything. The group provided a bold idea of a light, green footbridge in an arch form. Organising recurring events, such as breakfast fairs or art fairs, would surely help the area to be more recognisable. Superścieżka should serve two functions. Bicycle lane is supposed to be a “transit route” for hurrying people, the pavement however should be placed nearer the building, indented into the area to serve people who would like to stay a little longer. Also details must not be forgotten. They are, for example, collision-prone zones on Superścieżka, that is exits of Powstania Warszawskiego avenue. Pedestrians and cyclists should be privileged, not the cars – the path must not decrease in the places where it crosses with the traffic.

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