

Larvik indeed is beautiful just as much as it is empty & deserted. One of its most obvious shortcomings is the lack of inviting public outdoor spaces mostly caused by the *sheer dominance of car traffic*. It's beauty seems to be covered by a thin layer of dust, the city in a way is a sleeping beauty – but it is time to wake up.

A green hat or an undercut - a kind of bad haircut? Larvik is known for the world's most northern beech tree forest which is said to sit like a green hat on top of the city - in reality there is a clear boarder between the green „nature“ and the grey of the built environment below. One of the main focuses of Larvik's future development should be growing green again. The focus should be on creating an equilibrium between the city's main features : Stone, water & wood and binding those components with lots of social adhesive-create a solid base for the city's future.



1. Stop waiting!

2. Reduce grey infrastructure! Improve public & active mobility!

infrastructure such as roads and parking lots, and therefore increase the quality for the actual people, living in Larvik and visiting the city temporarily. Slow down cars. And minimize carbon and noise emissions. Increase public transport and active mobility simultaneously. Establish numerous hubs encouraging active mobility throughout the city.

3. Increase green infrastructure! Creating new paths for people and the whole variety of species!

Establish green corridors, let nature flow like water through the streets and hidden courtyards. Knit new paths of interest into the city fabric and improve existing ones. Improve grey areas like parking lots or roofs with garden Eden like green spaces : eg Larvik mineral water factory. >minimize grey >increase green >increase biodiversity

4. Shine a light on maintenance! Show respect for the built environment, take care of it!

Shine a light on maintenance! Show respect for the built environment, take care of it! Walking through the city, one comes across many valuable historic places and buildings and is astonished that some of the most unique buildings are vacant and deprived of life while just a stone's throw away from them rather average apartment blocks are being built. Discover that even old things can be beautiful and useful and that a second or third (...) life for them can easily be imagined.

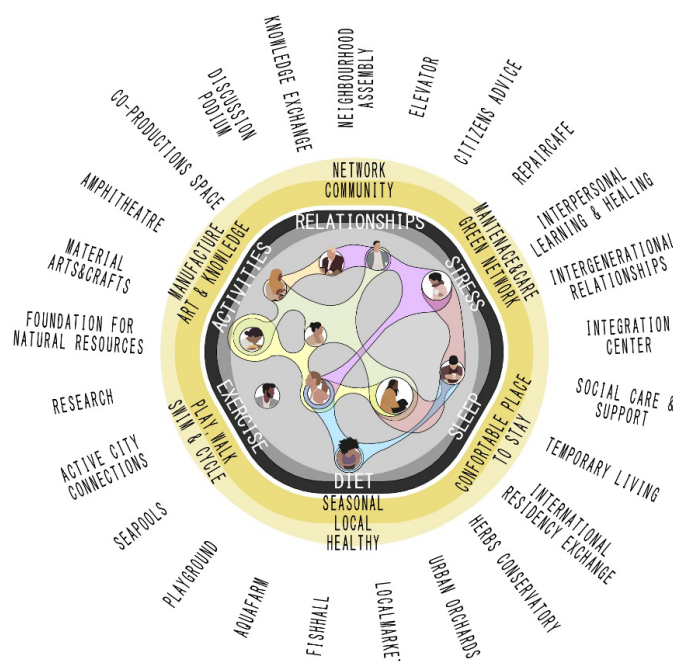
5. Shine a light on blue infrastructure! Next Station: Larvik, the horizon city

Arriving by train from Oslo Larvik is the first place to feel welcome as a train travelling visitor, this might not be the center, but one of several microcenters of this city and it definitely is a nice one. For someone from outside it does not seem like the worst option to arrive directly at the sea – it feels in a way sophisticated and elegant and reminds one of the good old spa times. The trouble starts when one gets off the train and feels absolutely lost and exposed to the busy road with no idea where to turn. So just in case Godot does not arrive this could also be a good thing to develop one of the most exciting entrances to a Norwegian city. A beautiful new coastal station, a huge public park and leisure area. It would be nice if the road could magically disappear but if not so, just slow the cars down, plant some trees and give preference to all the flaneurs crowding the place.

Make the sea tangible and enjoyable for everyone. Keep it public!

6. Empower people! Library or rather a learning infrastructure or infrastructure to learn in!?

a library is a reservoir for knowledge, a covered public space, a platform for debate and exchange, a free space, a space to contemplate among others. The Larvik library should be a series of different platforms to learn and evolve. The overall theme is to empower people, facilitate them with tools to take part and create.



Foundation for natural resources and research rundown buildings next to Larvik mineral factory

a place to learn about the use and existence of natural resources in soil and water in and around Larvik. A place for local companies to share knowledge and invest in creating new knowledge for a better future and a more sensitive approach to nature. Learning from local and international examples of good practice by means of lectures, exhibitions, experiments & scientists in residence.

international residency exchange place(s) of wisdom & curiosity

Different vacant small scale spaces throughout the city like the fire tower on Bokkerfjellet. Curious to know how other cities function in terms of... choose a topic according to the current resident.

Podium & discussion new building on former parking lot, next to Bokkerfjellet

Located on the intersection of two new important paths in the city fabric : center-indre havn-path & the protected gardens path the new building is a place to focus and contemplate, a place to debate and work on the city as a social and democratic necessity. A place to imagine and discuss the next utopia, for trial and error and above all a place for documentation of both.

Material : arts & crafts former women factory

a place to do learn about the beauty of working with material, whether to transform it into artworks or crafts. A place to think with hands, to create something tangible.
>>lectures, exhibitions, experiments, artists and craftsmen and craftswomen in residence.

Care & Maintenance former Romberggata school

Maintenance and care should both be overall topics for the whole city, but should also physically manifest in a central space in Larvik's center. It will be a place to seek and give advice, a place to take care and be taken care of, a place to take time attentively and dedicate it to someone or something. A place to arrive.
>>social first aid – daycare - all generations - inclusion - mentoring -informal education

Temporary living parking lot between Torget & Brannvaktsgata

A central spot to sleep and stay right in the middle of the city center. A place for tourists, newly arrived, a shelter for those in transition.

Co-work-co-production former libraries around Torget

A place for a learning economy. A place like a tree nursery for new entrepreneurs – a place to start from in an environment of mutual development and support. Larvik needs a better economy for a better future and many empowered people to fill vacant spaces with new life.

The Kon-Tiki curiosity cruise

In honor of Thor Heyderthal and his unrestrained curiosity this will be an adventurous place to discover the vast beauty and diversity of aquatic life. Above sea level this will be a playground like learning environment, under the water there will be an aquafarm for cultivating algae.

The „cruise“ will be operating between Larvik indre havn, the nearby nature reserves of Malmoya Island and the historic Fredriksvern in Stavern.

LOCAL MARKET - FISHHALL TOLDKAMER

A vibrant place dedicated to learning about food culture, a place to develop and experiment with taste and ingredients. Take your favorite dish away and enjoy in Bridge Park or linger around at picnic tribune with your favorite company, enjoy!!!

PLAYGROUND – BUA Aqua (TOLDKAMER)

an indoor playground and part of the BUA network – offering children and young people a consumption free space and equipment to play and try new sports.

URBAN ORCHARDS a garden Eden like green space built on top of the Larvik mineral water factory

>>minimizing grey – increasing green – heat reduction – biodiversity

Center-Indre Havn-path elevator & bridgepark

The new path connects Bokeskogen with the Larvik waterfront. Along the path people will discover all kinds of public indoor & outdoor spaces with diverse spatial qualities and a multilayered program.

The solution to cross the vertical barrier between city centre and harbour is a subtle intervention – leaving Bokkerfjellet nearly untouched it is a scenic walking and cycling path without barriers. The elevator connects Bokkerfjellet and Bokkerveien – a green Bridge park connects the separated parts of the city.

PROTECTED GARDENS PATH an open backyard, public but quiet and intimate – an important new green connection within the city – outdoor exhibition space, a string of varied outdoor spaces and scenic outlooks, a hidden treasure to be discovered right next to the historic gardens;

OTHER like green pergolas above parking spaces, green avenues, smaller neighborhood plazas & gardens ...