

## LARVIK (NO)

## THE LOOP

THE LOOP is a project of future, a realistic project that shows a hopeful vision of Larvik.

The project summarizes in **3 actions** the interests presented by the municipality and the citizens of Larvik:

- Connecting paths
- Providing infrastructure
- Programming adaptability

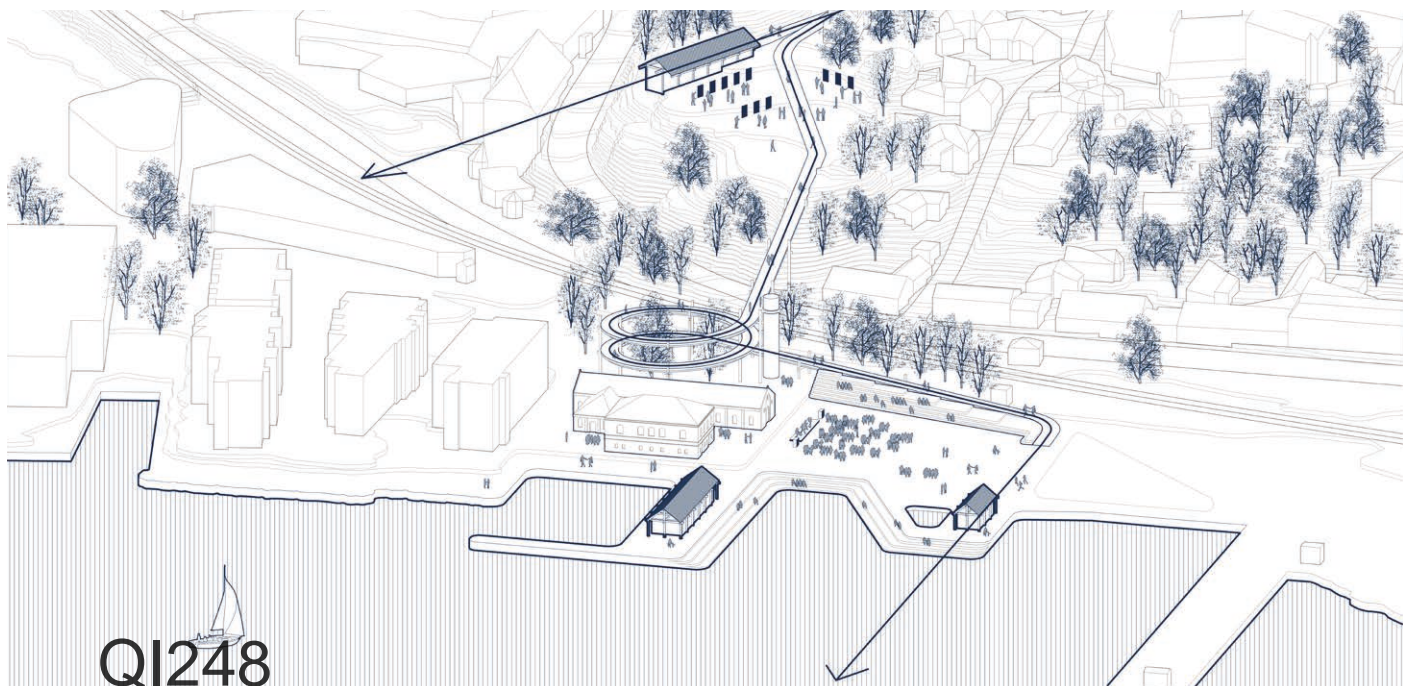
At the same time, THE LOOP proposes **3 core ideas** to achieve each of these objectives:

- Inclusiveness
- Sustainability
- Citizen Participation

The ultimate goal will be to carry out the 3 actions always keeping in mind the 3 core ideas that guarantee a shared future by all the citizens of Larvik.

By means of simple, light and small constructions, it is sought to solve the existing disconnections, reconfigure the waterfront and reprogram the entire area. THE LOOP aims to function as a booster for Larvik. The method used could resemble the **urban acupuncture** theory developed by Jaime Lerner in Curitiba, Brazil and already applied in many cities around the world such as Hamar, in Norway. Following this method, small specific actions, such as the insertion of these small and simple structures and volumes, can alter the rhythms of an entire city.

Larvik will be a different city after the insertion of THE LOOP, it will be a more lively, dynamic and interconnected city. The process of change will take into account the opinion of its citizens, the sustainability of the construction and the inclusion of all inhabitants in a friendly project adapted to all kinds of people.



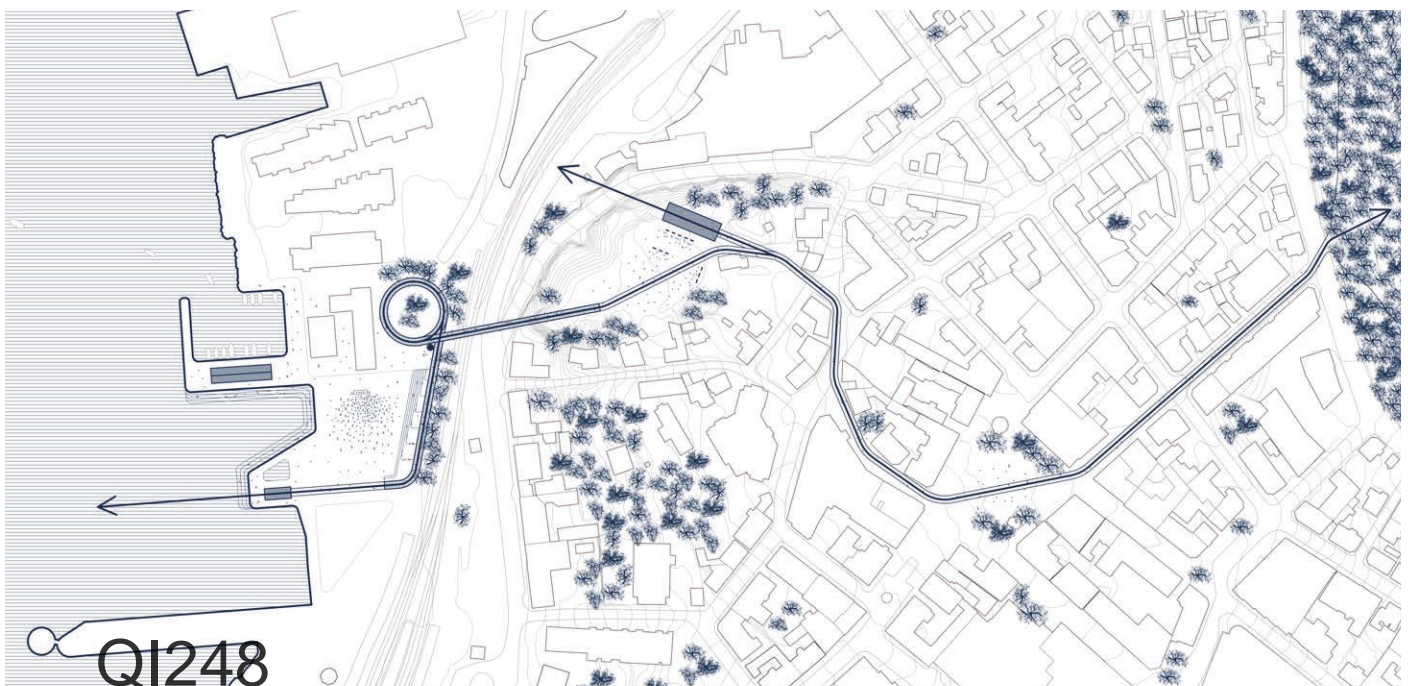
## CONNECTING PATHS w/ INCLUSIVENESS

The pedestrian and bike connection from Bøkeskogen forest through Torget square and Bøkkerfjellet park to the waterfront is a vital need for the citizens of Larvik. This new urban circulation axis will help reactivate the urban center and waterfront of the town. THE LOOP aims to generate a connection from uphill to the seafront in a faster and more lively way. The new path will also establish a 1km route ideal for sports and leisure for the inhabitants of Larvik.

The proposed path will create a new axis that connects the 4 main poles of the urban center (Bøkeskogen - Torget – Bøkkerfjellet - waterfront). THE LOOP will be the emblem of the **new interconnected town**. However, the path will not be the same throughout this journey. In the project area the road rises to save the existing height different with a local wooden structure. From the park to the forest, the proposed connection consists only of a differentiated pavement or an enlargement of the pedestrian and cycling space

The path has been designed to meet all the needs of different users in Larvik. A maximum slope of 1:20 allows **comfortable circulation for all**: elderly, cyclists, children, wheelchairs... Furthermore, the path will not only be a transport route, but along the path will be included various programs determined by citizen participation and changing throughout the year. The path itself will be different depending on the time of year and the functions that can be seen in the Bøkkerfjellet park or in the waterfront new esplanade will be flexible.

The care and inclusiveness of all the inhabitants is the basis for a **future of coexistence** in Larvik.



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**PROVIDING INFRASTRUCTURE w/ SUSTAINABILITY**

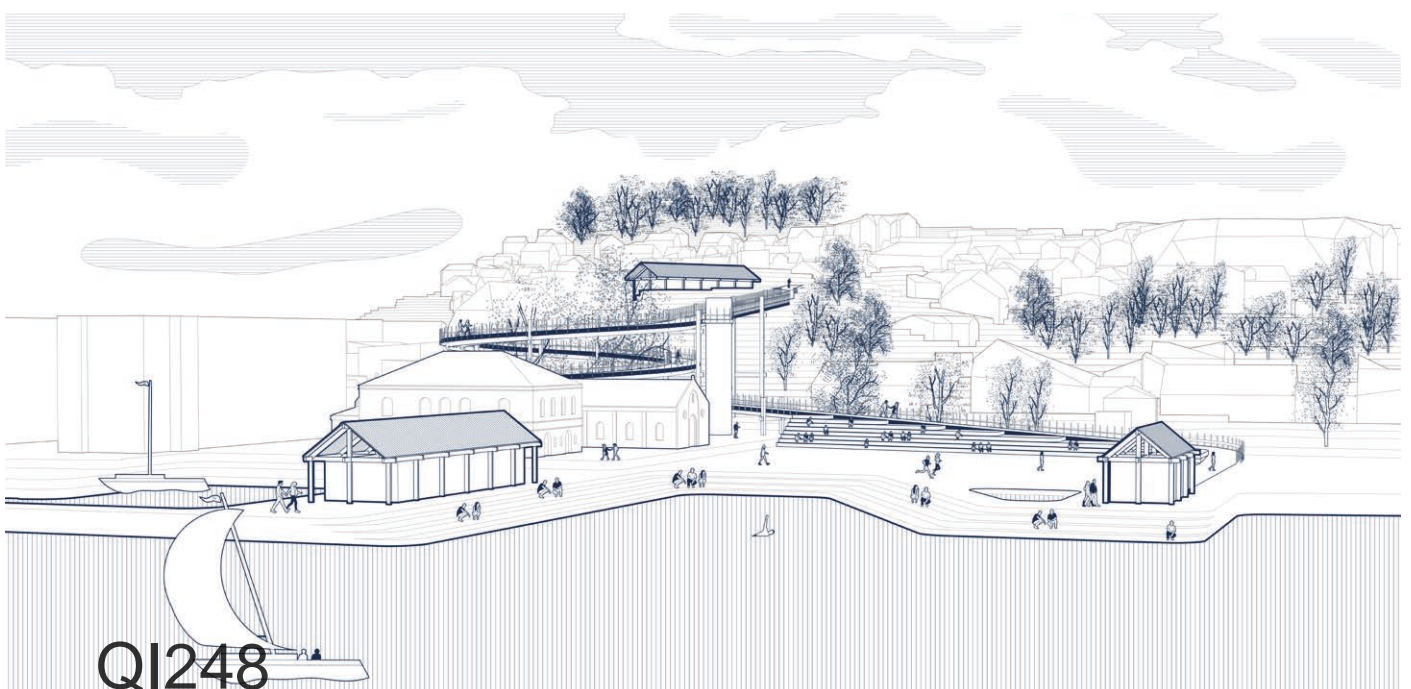
The public library and the waterfront are crucial elements of Larvik's social and cultural life.

A **new library** building will enjoy a premium location on Larvik's town center. It will be placed on a border on the Bøkkerfjellet park in direct connection to the Torget square and to the new path that connects to the waterfront. The views from the Gamle brannvakta fire house will be preserved while the new building will host a flexible, adaptable and dynamic space for the XXIst century together with the best view of the Skagerrak sea.

The new waterfront will **re-shape the seaborder** of Larvik. The actions to create a new dynamic area will include:

- The re-opening of the fishing harbour in direct connection with the Toldkammer buildings that will be re-program to host a fish market and street food markets.
- A new harbour building which shall include technical spaces for the fishing harbour and a kayak club.
- Leisure and bathing areas with big stepping terraces towards the sea to fully enjoy the proximity of the water.
- A new sauna building with its own pool aside.
- The adaptive esplanade that will host different activities throughout the year.

All new constructions will be made according to the most demanding considerations for the environment. **Timber from local forests** in Vestfold and Telemark will be the main material of any new construction. Recycled elements will complete the roofing and enveloping of the new buildings. The entire **life cycle** of the materials used will be **100% sustainable**.





**PROGRAMMING ADAPTABILITY w/ CITIZEN PARTICIPATION**





The revitalization of both the Bøkkerfjellet park and the waterfront will increase significantly the liveability of Larvik. New programmes will appear to re-stimulate the axis Bøkeskogen - Torget - Bøkkerfjellet - waterfront. A combination of outdoor and indoor spaces will be necessary taking into account the local weather and always looking for the best views of the Skagerrak sea and the surrounding landscape.

**The citizens of Larvik will be the driving force** behind the programmes to be carried out in the area. Their contributions will be especially relevant to activate and revitalize the park and the new esplanade next to the waterfront. Both spaces have been designed to be flexible in order to be adaptive to different scenarios.

By means of **citizens workshops, debates, talks and panel discussions** all people's inputs will be taken into consideration. Citizen participation offers an opportunity to develop public spaces in a way that will reintroduce the citizen into its built environment. All this meetings will try to bring everyone's idea into the forming of new programs to take place in the project area. The aim of the project is to provide adaptive and flexible spaces to be able to accommodate all of them into the new citizens areas.

One of the big challenges in this case is to be able to make the waterfront attractive throughout the whole year. THE LOOP is proposing the best possible conditions to make this happen: a combination of **outdoor and indoor spaces** as well as big **adaptive surfaces** to host different kind of events and activities.

The diversity of society will be reflected in playgrounds, sports areas, cultural events, concerts, outdoor markets, ice-skating rings, open air exhibitions, covered and uncovered reading areas...

 <p>Nora</p> <p>"My friends and me we love to play in the park but we miss playgrounds and organized games"</p>	<p>SCENARIO 1A_CHILDREN'S PLAYGROUND</p> 	 <p>Maja</p> <p>"Larvik is lacking in cultural events such as talks and debates. The reconfiguration of the area is an opportunity to offer flexible spaces"</p>	<p>SCENARIO 1B_CULTURAL EVENT</p> 
 <p>Noah</p> <p>"I am a painter and I know that we need outdoor or indoor spaces to expose our art to the citizens of Larvik"</p>	<p>SCENARIO 1C_OPEN AIR EXHIBITIONS</p> 	 <p>Kasper</p> <p>"Is there a better place in the world to read than a park? a bench, a good view over the sea..."</p>	<p>SCENARIO 1D_READING AREAS</p> 