STUTTGART NEWSLETTER

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REVITALISATION OF RIVER FEUERBACH



In short

In the Feuerbach valley nearby Zazenhausen the residents will soon come across a place for recreation, cycling and strolling. Plants and animals will find new habitats. The start of construction of the REURIS project is revitalisation scheduled for autumn 2010, the opening for spring 2011. The planners aim involving stakeholders and the interested public.



First conceptional planning



First idea of plan of execution



Development of the whole valley – idealistic idea





Space for man and nature

In the Feuerbach valley nearby Zazenhausen the residents of the districts of Rot, Freiberg, Zazenhausen and the entire municipality of Stuttgart will soon come across a place for recreation, cycling and strolling. Plants and animals will find new habitats.

The sports field former used by the sports club TV Zazenhausen is going to be completely dismantled. The landscape architects of the Department of City Development and Urban Renewal are planning to remove the paved river banks of the Feuerbach and to transfer the stream course to the middle of the floodplain. Meander zones and shallow water areas will enhance the biodiversity by creating habitats with various local conditions. The meandering course is meant to be accompanied by new cycle ways and footpaths. Thus, the project is going to add to the system of green axes in Stuttgart.

In the 1930s the Feuerbach had been misused as a sewage system. Therefore it had been canalised and paved. This used to be a benefit to the adjoining owners by providing flood protection and waste water drainage and allowed the farmes to cultivate the floodplain.

In the 1990s the sports club intended to modernise its sports facilities. Since this wasn't possible at the site in the Feuerbach valley the sports field was moved. The planners used this opportunity: There have been plenty of ideas to develop the valley of river Feuerbach, now the plans for revitalisation of the pilot project are being worked out. The landscape architects succeeded in overcoming another obstacle to the realisation of the project: The gas provider EnBW could be obliged to transfer a gas pipeline at its own expense.

The estimated costs for the site realisation amount to about 860,000 Euro. The EU project REURIS provide an amount of 165,000 Euro and the Verband Region Stuttgart an amount of 85,000 Euro.

By now the former club house has been pulled down. The parking lot and the sports field have been abandoned. The license according to German water law is expected to be granted soon and will enable the landscape architects to begin the planning of execution. The start of construction is scheduled for autumn 2010, the opening for spring 2011.

The renaturation in the area of the former sports field is supposed to be only the beginning of a long-term revitalisation and sustainable development of the whole Feuerbach valley as far as Mühlhausen. The REURIS project also aims at preparing this second step by raising public awareness and promoting the stakeholder's and the public involvement.

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Public and Stakeholders' involvement

The Feuerbach valley is meant to provide space for both nature and man. Therefore REURIS aims at involving affected people, stakeholders and the interested public. Thus, a REURIS support group was established in the Department of City Development and Urban Renewal which is running the REURIS project. In REURIS they work together with experts from the Department of environmental Affairs and environmental Protection, Department of Civil Engineering, Department of Housing, Stock and Properties, Department of Garden and Parks, Department of economical Aspects, Commerce and Trade as well as with experts from Stuttgart Marketing Association and the organisation for regional planning Stuttgart.

They have brought a expert work group into being which has already met once. They dealt with the overall principles of river revitalisation projects and discussed about the obstacles on the one hand and the promoting aspects to revitalisation projects on the other hand. They shared the opinion that raising awareness for the many and diverse benefits of river revitalisation projects – in particular economic benefits – needs to become a main issue to get politics engaged.

The next workshops will deal with the following issues:

- -Overall and specific principles to be considered by site realisation
- -The importance of revitalisation projects for improving soft locations skills
- -How to get local stakeholders and general public involved and engaged?

The city council of Stuttgart and the district councils of Zuffenhausen and Mühlhausen have been informed. They support the realisation of the pilot project and agree to the idea of the sustainable development of the whole valley.

The planners are going to hold a think tank (future conference) in March 2010. Adjoining owners, residents, farmers, associations, land owners, stakeholders and the interested public are invited to participate and to bring forward their ideas and concerns. Additionally, they are going to organise various events such as a ground-breaking ceremony, visits of the building site or guided walks as well as an opening party after completing the revitalisation.



Pilot project - Plan for planning and building permission



Transfering of a gas pipeline – precondition to the revitalisation



The abandoned sports field, in the background the high-rise buildings of district Freiberg

For further information please contact

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