

**Urban form and  
public space in  
Munich**



**City of Munich  
Department of  
Urban Planning**

# public in

**Exhibition on  
urban development**

**January 27th until March  
26th 2023**

Rathausgalerie  
Marienplatz 8

[muenchen.de/publicspace](https://muenchen.de/publicspace)

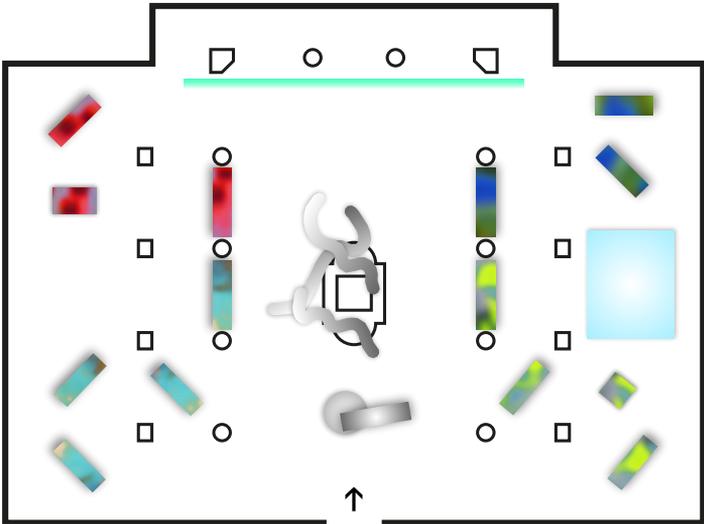
**Public spaces are key to our city. Streets, squares, parks and niches are the links between its built-up areas. Public spaces give our city the flair that enhances our quality of life. They are the venues of our economic and cultural activity, the places where we go to experience the city.**

**In cities like Munich, where property is expensive, space is scarce, and competition is great, it is necessary to constantly rethink our public spaces in order to increase their versatility, and improve the links and connections within them. Forward-looking concepts follow the needs of the people, enabling us to preserve our sense of wellbeing and allowing us to identify with our city. Accessible to all, public spaces invite us to spend time there for communication and recreation, and simply for pleasure. Transformations in transport are bringing about efficient and space-saving vehicles, while the redistribution of road spaces is creating new areas for use. But above all, public spaces are set to change as they adapt to the climate, which will alter the face of the city.**

**The new annual exhibition of the Department of Urban Planning and Building Regulation places increased focus on Munich’s public spaces. Using examples and visions, it shows how the state capital of Munich weighs up our diverse needs and expectations and creates the necessary planning framework for preserving and developing public areas so that they benefit everybody. It concentrates especially on the city centre of Munich, where the potential and challenges of designing public spaces are particularly evident.**

**The evolution of our public spaces is the result of a cooperation between numerous stakeholders, municipal enterprises, and the city’s mobility, municipal service, and other departments. The building department is, among other things, responsible for the design of public places, green areas, playgrounds, sports facilities, and municipal educational and cultural institutions.**

**We all play a part in shaping our public spaces whenever we spend time in them, make our way through them, or meet people there.**



 Sustainability  
Quality of Life  
 Introduction / Library

 Identity  
Urban Landscape  
 Old city model of Munich

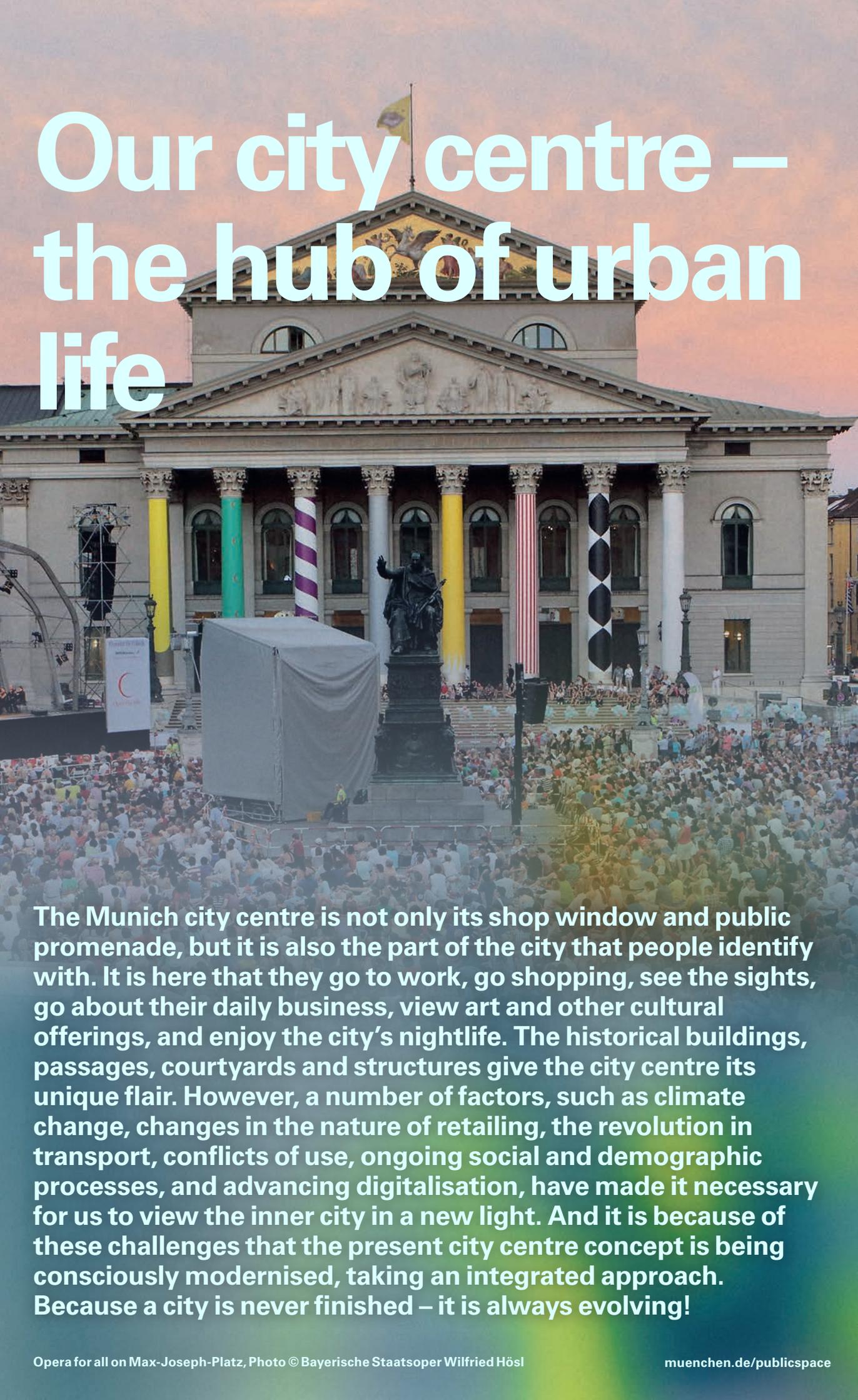
 Transformation  
Mobility

 Society  
Togetherness

# Identity Urban Landscape

**Public spaces are both meeting places and stages. City life plays out in the streets, public squares, and parks, and on street level in general. Provided they are well designed, public spaces attract people to come and spend time there, to meet others and to engage in conversation. They not only give us a sense of wellbeing, but we identify with them, whether they are under monumental protection in the old city, in a residential area, or in the outskirts of the city. Public spaces give structure to our city, while the facades of the buildings around them are the point of transition to our private lives and have their own inimitable atmosphere.**

# Our city centre – the hub of urban life



The Munich city centre is not only its shop window and public promenade, but it is also the part of the city that people identify with. It is here that they go to work, go shopping, see the sights, go about their daily business, view art and other cultural offerings, and enjoy the city's nightlife. The historical buildings, passages, courtyards and structures give the city centre its unique flair. However, a number of factors, such as climate change, changes in the nature of retailing, the revolution in transport, conflicts of use, ongoing social and demographic processes, and advancing digitalisation, have made it necessary for us to view the inner city in a new light. And it is because of these challenges that the present city centre concept is being consciously modernised, taking an integrated approach. Because a city is never finished – it is always evolving!

## Between tradition and transformation

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## Paths through the old town

The so-called Munich Nolli map shows the city's characteristic lanes and alleyways and illustrates the high level of infiltration of buildings in the old town. This type of map is named after Giovanni Battista Nolli, who in 1748 created the New Topography of Rome, the forerunner of today's "black plans", in which built-up areas are clearly distinguishable from undeveloped spaces, rendering open space structures easily discernible.

## New gateway to the city – the main station

Planning and construction is currently underway at several locations around Munich's central transport hub. For example, the main station itself is currently a major construction site, in which a new entrance building is being built to replace the terminal building that was largely demolished in 2019. Moreover, the Starnberg Flügelbahnhof station is also being given a facelift. A redesigned vehicle-free station square is envisaged as the gateway to the city centre, providing a better link to the old town via the Schützenstraße, which is also being upgraded.

## Eye-catcher at the Stachus

Wherever planning and construction is going on in Munich, there is always an element of opposition that triggers intense discussion. A good example of this is the Stachus, where the new Hotel Königshof building seeks to set a modern tone. The architecture stems from the Spanish Nieto Sobejano architecture firm, whose designs can be found shaping the cityscape at other locations in Munich. The outstanding feature of this new building is the longitudinal incision in its façade, which points the way towards the Stachus roundabout and the pedestrian zone.

## Link with the pedestrian zone

Opposite the station square is the historic Hermann Tietz („Hertie“) department store, which is now being rebuilt in line with listed building regulations. The windowless extension along the Schützenstraße dating from the 1970s will be replaced by a new building. The new, open-style architecture will feature green terraces, inner courtyards, arcades, and attractive street level functions and is sure to make the Schützenstraße an even more pleasant place to spend time in. Moreover, the pedestrian area is being extended beyond the Kaufingerstraße.

## Sustainably new

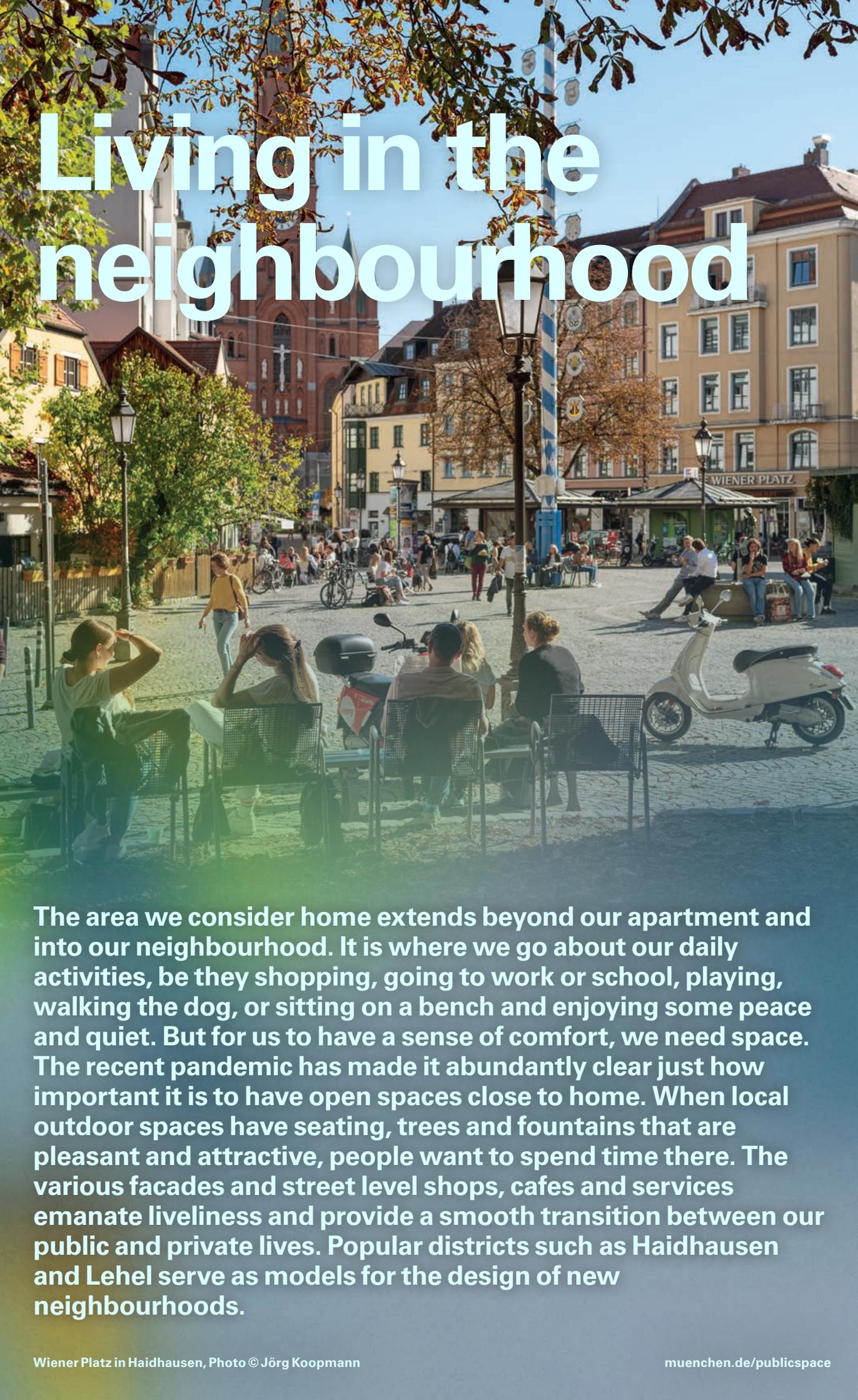
The former Postbank site south of the main station is being redeveloped according to designs by Herzog & de Meuron into the new Elementum residential quarter. The sustainable conversion envisages recycling the existing grey energy in the building by preserving more than 80 percent of the shell structure after gutting. The inner courtyard will be open to the public and serve as a lush urban garden, which will even include large trees to bring an element of nature to the city centre.

# Strong centres, strong neigh- bourhoods



Urban life is not just restricted to the inner city. There are also plenty of lively and bustling areas in residential district centres away from the city, all with their own identities. As meeting places, social, cultural and leisure facilities are just as important as squares and parks. In addition, Munich has 22 district libraries, while the Munich adult education centre (Volkshochschule) maintains facilities at 27 locations. Then there are the town houses, youth centres and senior citizens' clubs. Retail also plays an important role outside the inner city. There are currently 15 district centres, 17 neighbourhood centres and 90 local centres spread throughout the outer areas of Munich, providing residents with a wide range of services closer to home. The polycentral supply structure is an integral part of the City of Munich's centres concept.

# Living in the neighbourhood



The area we consider home extends beyond our apartment and into our neighbourhood. It is where we go about our daily activities, be they shopping, going to work or school, playing, walking the dog, or sitting on a bench and enjoying some peace and quiet. But for us to have a sense of comfort, we need space. The recent pandemic has made it abundantly clear just how important it is to have open spaces close to home. When local outdoor spaces have seating, trees and fountains that are pleasant and attractive, people want to spend time there. The various facades and street level shops, cafes and services emanate liveliness and provide a smooth transition between our public and private lives. Popular districts such as Haidhausen and Lehel serve as models for the design of new neighbourhoods.

## NEBourhoods in Neuperlach

The „Creating NEBourhoods Together Neuperlach“ venture has been selected by the EU as one of six flagship schemes for the New European Bauhaus (NEB). The NEB is a cultural project that merges sustainability with inclusivity and aesthetics. The aim of the EU’s Green Deal is that it should be implemented both with and for the people – and now it is also coming to Neuperlach. The incorporation of such aspects as co-creation and entrepreneurship aims to turn the district into a sustainable innovation landscape.

The City of Munich has already done the groundwork for turning the 50-year-old district into a place that is fit for the future with its action space concept, accompanied by ongoing urban redevelopment. NEBourhoods is expanding on this with projects for buildings, public spaces, green spaces and nutrition, climate protection, renewable energy and more. The Munich Society for Urban Renewal (MGS) supports the transfer of knowledge to other parts of the city.

## Fit for the future

Parts of the Munich city area have been upgraded, improved or redesigned in a series of urban redevelopment measures since 1976. There are currently seven such redevelopment areas in Munich. Both the federal government and the federal states have launched several urban development programmes that aim to preserve, renew and develop the functions, structure and design of urban and local districts. There are also a number of municipal funding programmes available. The involvement of residents and local stakeholders are an integral element of all measures.

## New and urban

Urban areas are a new category in the Building Use Ordinance that is being applied extensively to the site of the former Bayernkaserne barracks in Neufreimann. The mixture of shops and restaurants on the ground floor along with apartments only on the storeys above creates an atmosphere that is pleasant for evening strolls and yet maintains an urban appearance. Particular emphasis is placed on promoting neighbourliness, an attitude underlined by the envisaged neighbourhood management. The former military site will accommodate around 5,500 residential apartments, along with day-care centres, two primary schools, a grammar school, a special needs school, a music school, and sports facilities. Additional social facilities include a senior citizens’ centre, a youth leisure centre, and neighbourhood meeting places.

## Free and Outdoors

The Free and Outdoors (Umsonst und Draußen) fountain created by the artist Olaf Metzel and the landscape architects Burger Kühn is the centrepiece of the Bauhausplatz in Domagkpark. The tower-like sculpture built from a stack of park benches rises seven metres towards the sky. The combination of water and light was chosen by the local residents. It stands for a public, consumption-free space and symbolises a place that makes people feel willing and welcome to stay. The fountain was created as part of the City of Munich’s „Quivid“ art-in-architecture programme. In municipal building projects, up to two percent of the costs go towards the creation of contemporary artworks.



# Tangible city history – village centre ensembles

Until the beginning of the 19th century, Munich was surrounded by independent villages, some of which were considerably older than the city itself. However, beginning in 1870, many villages and their agricultural land were incorporated into the municipal area, frequently preserving the original form of the village centres. Today there are 18 such village centre ensembles in Munich, all of which are subject to monument protection. With their historic buildings and squares, they have grown into cherished local gems that add their own touch to the urban landscape and render former ways of living and working directly tangible. St. Martins Square in Moosach is being redeveloped as part of the urban development programme with the involvement of the local populace.

# Society Togetherness

**Public spaces are democracy in action. We need spaces where we can express our opinions, where we can experience society in all its diversity, and where we can meet as a group. We also need spaces where we do not feel compelled to buy things, places where we encounter each other on an equal footing, where things like income, age, health and ethnicity are irrelevant. However, the demands placed on them are as diverse as the places themselves. Public spaces are available for all to enjoy, which also means that conflicts of use can easily occur. This is why it is so important to distribute public spaces intelligently and renegotiate their uses regularly. At the same time, they must continue to remain open as a venue of possibility and experimentation.**

# Focus on people



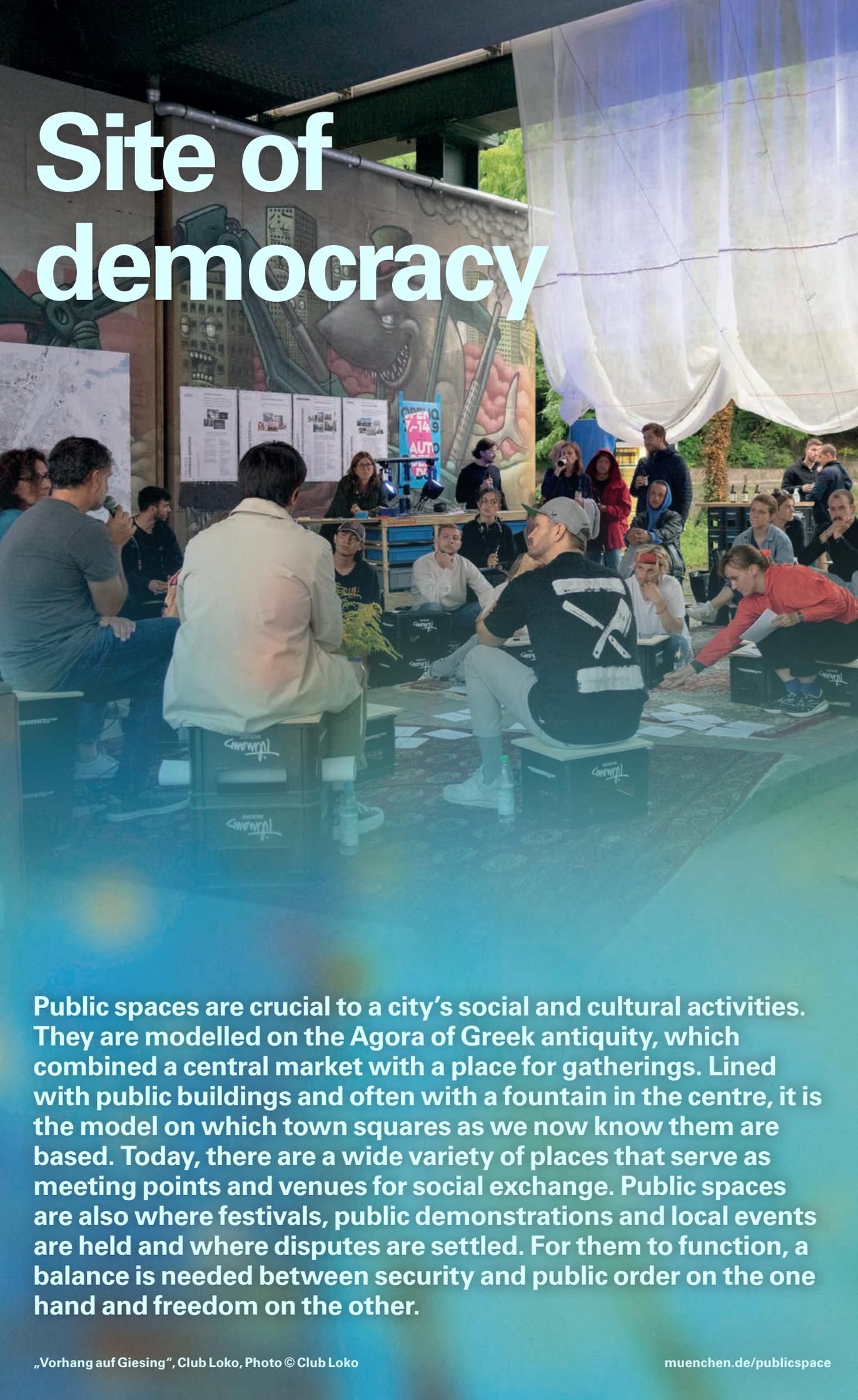
**Good quality public spaces are tailored towards the needs of the people who use them. As we move away from the age of the car-friendly city, integrated urban development now focuses on the people themselves. The emphasis is on well-proportioned urban spaces that are neither too large nor too narrow. Moreover, because the city is growing and its people demand more freedom, public spaces must be able to perform multiple functions.**

**Our public spaces are diverse, ranging from green belt landscapes, the banks of the Isar, and the parks and other green spaces throughout the city to cemeteries and allotments as well as playgrounds and sports facilities. But they also include streets, car parks, subways, cycle paths and pavements, not to mention public areas inside buildings and meeting places on street corners.**

## Understanding needs

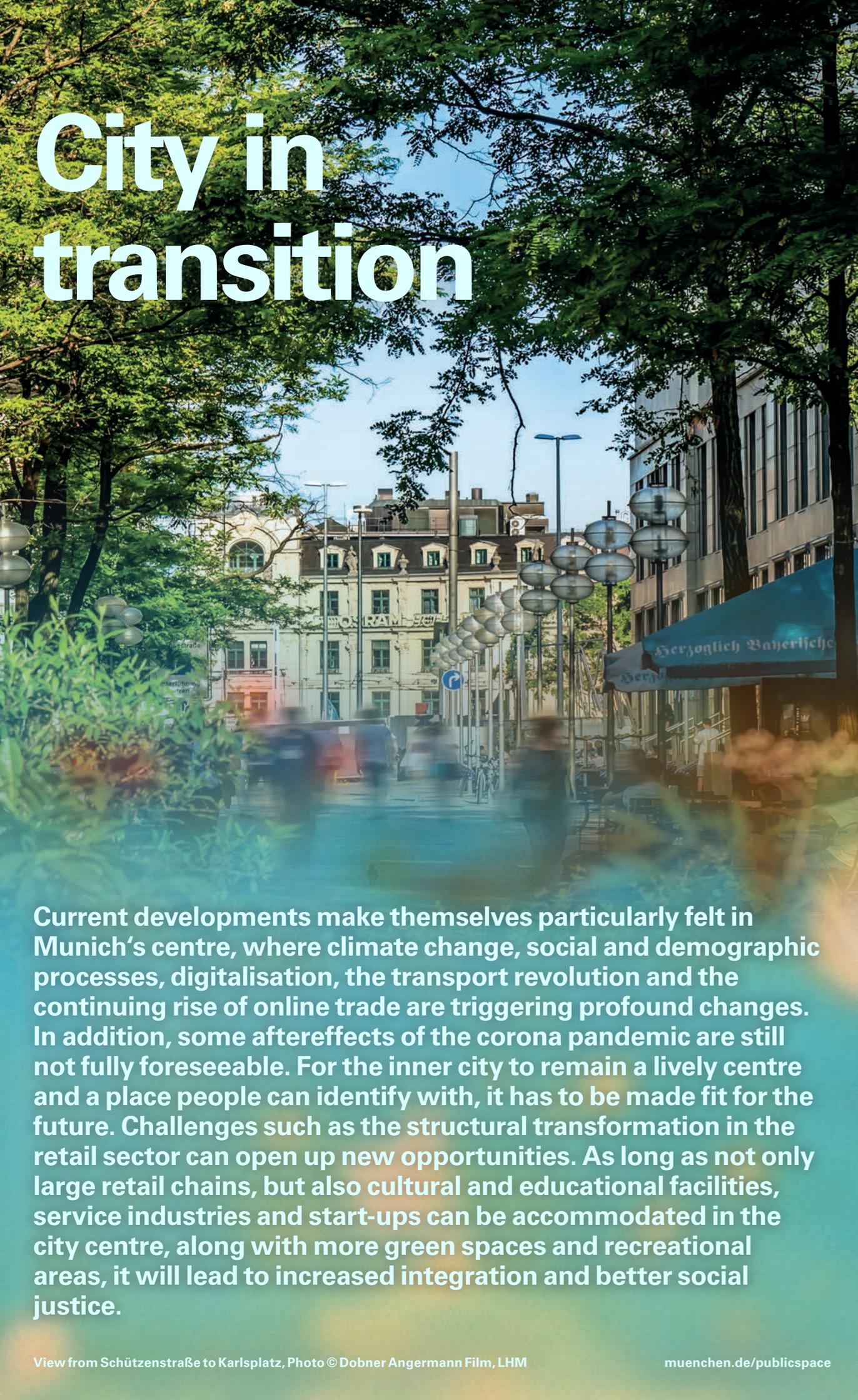
So who are the people who will be using Munich's public parks, squares, streets and recreational areas now and in the future, and in what ways will they want to use them? What needs do people expect these spaces to fulfil? And who are the different user groups? The City of Munich has conducted a comprehensive socio-spatial study to investigate these questions. The survey comprised 1,170 observations, 1,200 on-site interviews, and 2,950 questionnaires, as well as walks and focus group surveys, conducted at a total of 102 locations between 2019 and 2020. It was carried out by Gehl Architects and is a key project of the Freiraum M 2030 concept study, which itself forms a strategic basis for the long-term development of open spaces in Munich, within the framework of Perspektive München.

# Site of democracy



Public spaces are crucial to a city's social and cultural activities. They are modelled on the Agora of Greek antiquity, which combined a central market with a place for gatherings. Lined with public buildings and often with a fountain in the centre, it is the model on which town squares as we now know them are based. Today, there are a wide variety of places that serve as meeting points and venues for social exchange. Public spaces are also where festivals, public demonstrations and local events are held and where disputes are settled. For them to function, a balance is needed between security and public order on the one hand and freedom on the other.

# City in transition



Current developments make themselves particularly felt in Munich's centre, where climate change, social and demographic processes, digitalisation, the transport revolution and the continuing rise of online trade are triggering profound changes. In addition, some aftereffects of the corona pandemic are still not fully foreseeable. For the inner city to remain a lively centre and a place people can identify with, it has to be made fit for the future. Challenges such as the structural transformation in the retail sector can open up new opportunities. As long as not only large retail chains, but also cultural and educational facilities, service industries and start-ups can be accommodated in the city centre, along with more green spaces and recreational areas, it will lead to increased integration and better social justice.

## Neighbourhood culture

„The Luise is whatever you make of it“ – this is the banner under which the new Luise cultural centre, directly next to the district administration department in Ruppertstraße, has been providing spaces for art, culture and civic involvement over an area of 800 square meters since 2021. The centre’s programme ranges from exhibitions, dance, theatre and concerts to workshops and advisory services, and it also runs the Democracy Café. It is codesigned by associations, stakeholders and residents of the districts of Ludwigsvorstadt, Isarvorstadt and Sendling and is supported by the cultural department. Its aim is to promote cultural involvement and exchanges within the districts. This explains why the cultural centre is as much a place for the local art and cultural scene as it is for interested residents.

## Always something going on

Whether markets, open-air concerts, sporting occasions or other events – there is always something going on somewhere in Munich. While many people are enthusiastic about attending, there are others for whom the hustle and bustle can be too much. The traditional Christmas market occupies around 20,000 square meters of artisan stalls and mulled wine stands in the heart of the city from the end of November until the Christmas feast. The Odeonsplatz is the backdrop for markets and other events on virtually every summer weekend, while concerts and summer cinema are hosted at the Königsplatz.

## City in transition

How do we wish Munich’s city centre to develop by 2040? What goals, strategies and measures do we need to adopt to master our present-day challenges? What roles do climate, culture, mobility, urban development, the retail trade, restaurants & catering, and tourism play? And what does all this mean for our public spaces?

Over a period of one year, the Department of Urban Planning and Building Regulation is developing a vision of the future, together with Munich residents and stakeholders from urban society, politics and administration, under the banner of „Planning ahead for the inner city“. It is all part of the Perspektive München urban development concept and aims to cover all key issues and to act as a guide for the next 20 years.

## Thinking, debating, planning – together

The public and participation phase of the inner city upgrade concept commenced in October 2022 with a digital kick-off event. Over the following three weeks, Munich residents were invited to submit suggestions online concerning a range of topics relating to the city centre. Further events will be held with the aim of developing a vision for Munich’s city centre. Goals and measures for the inner city will be developed throughout the summer by comparing the current status quo with the vision for the future.

# One city for all



Our public spaces belong to each and every one of us. They are places where each of us can come and go as we please. At the same time, they have to satisfy a wide range of needs. Young people, for instance, use parks and outdoor spaces differently to pensioners or families with children. Social or cultural differences can create barriers, while for some, roads or stairways are obstacles that can be difficult to overcome. We also have different perceptions of security in public places. Integrated urban development needs to take into account the various requirements and offer solutions. This ensures that streets, parks and squares are equally accessible to all and that the whole community feels that their public spaces really are theirs.



# Creating free spaces

Munich has a long tradition of civic involvement. There are many ways in which local people can become involved in planning processes and help shape their city. Particularly when it comes to planning public spaces, more and more stakeholders are coming up with new ways of improving urban coexistence. They seek out empty spaces in the city and show how it is possible to rethink the uses of such areas with creative temporary functions and spectacular activities. The city is happy to support such new ideas, even if they are somewhat unconventional.

Another way of developing new spaces is to turn them into urban gardens. There are many projects and initiatives in Munich devoted to communal gardening activities. Their philosophy is that planting and harvesting vegetables with other people is not only fun, but also more sustainable, because it conserves resources and minimises the use of transport. In this way, urban gardening creates a link between urban development and nutrition!

## Inclusive from the start

The idea of Freiham is that it should mirror the diversity of urban society. This new district in the west of Munich, which will one day be home to over 25,000 people, is being planned so that everyone who lives there feels comfortable and able to manage everyday life – regardless of age, gender, education or handicap. The aspect of inclusivity has been a major planning element from the outset. All paths and outdoor meeting areas will be barrier-free, and housing will be offered in a variety of forms to suit people both with and without disabilities. The recommendations compiled by the planners in conjunction with experts and users range from orientation signs in public spaces and the use of low-contrast lighting to inclusive leisure activities and minimal distances. The project has received funding from the Free State of Bavaria.

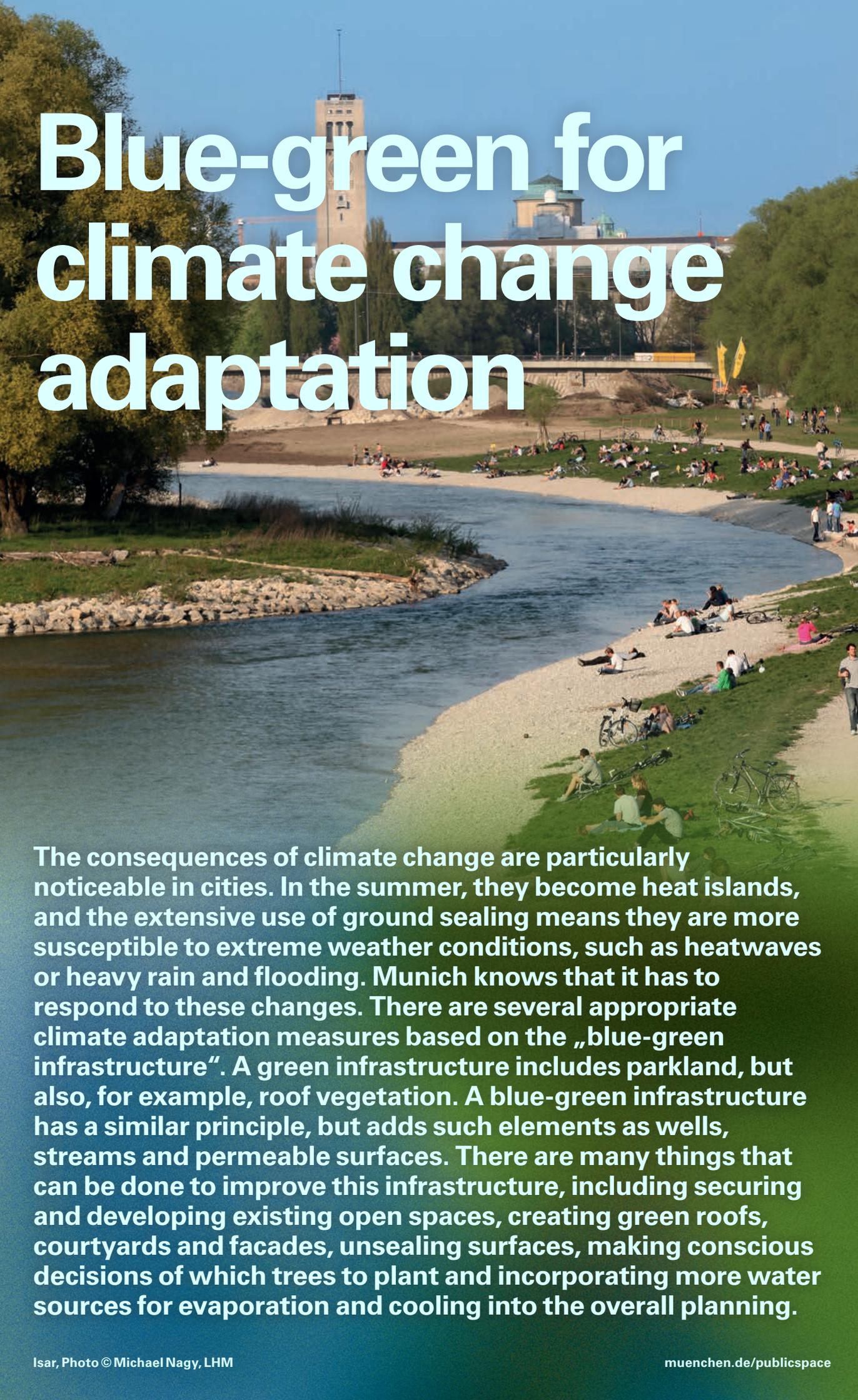
Creating free spaces

## Right next door

City terraces are another new form of outdoor meeting place. With weatherproof furnishings, they can be installed every year from 1 April to 31 October. Opening one merely requires an application to the District Committee and Regional Administration Office. The idea beyond them is to make the city's neighbourhoods more attractive and enjoyable to spend time in. They are open to all residents of the city, wherever they live, and there is no compulsion to consume anything. A great alternative to the balcony at home!

# Sustainability Quality of Life

**Public spaces are vital when it comes to environmental protection and perform a key role in adapting to climate change. They are a habitat for flora and fauna and are important for our recreation and wellbeing. But public spaces are scarce and the pressure on them is great. Whether our parks, the floodplains of the Isar or the scenic landscape of the Munich green belt, the city has to both safeguard and develop the spaces we have. At the same time, it has to plan new green areas and open spaces with great care and all due farsightedness, whilst also occasionally enabling something new and unusual to develop.**

A scenic view of a riverbank in Munich, Germany. The river flows through a lush green area with many people sitting on the grass and a sandy bank. In the background, a large building with a prominent tower is visible under a clear blue sky.

# Blue-green for climate change adaptation

The consequences of climate change are particularly noticeable in cities. In the summer, they become heat islands, and the extensive use of ground sealing means they are more susceptible to extreme weather conditions, such as heatwaves or heavy rain and flooding. Munich knows that it has to respond to these changes. There are several appropriate climate adaptation measures based on the „blue-green infrastructure“. A green infrastructure includes parkland, but also, for example, roof vegetation. A blue-green infrastructure has a similar principle, but adds such elements as wells, streams and permeable surfaces. There are many things that can be done to improve this infrastructure, including securing and developing existing open spaces, creating green roofs, courtyards and facades, unsealing surfaces, making conscious decisions of which trees to plant and incorporating more water sources for evaporation and cooling into the overall planning.

# Network of open spaces

A large flock of sheep of various colors (white, brown, black) is grazing in a lush green field. The sheep are scattered across the frame, with some in the foreground and others further back. The field is filled with tall grass. In the background, there are several trees with green foliage under a clear blue sky. The overall scene is a peaceful rural landscape.

**Creating new open spaces as well as securing and developing existing ones are the key goals of Munich's urban development activities. The green belt, regional landscape parks, green corridors and park miles, open space axes, and other large and small parks all serve as animal and plant habitats as well as places of recreation for people. They also fulfil key ecological functions, for example for water balance and air exchange, and are an important aspect of climate change adaptation. These open spaces need to be better linked to create a more diversified green network that will connect the urban zones with the regional outdoor landscapes.**

## Sustainable neighbourhoods

The City of Munich is conducting the Green City of the Future project together with partners from science and research to examine how building layouts in the city, large tree protection, unsealed courtyards, green facades, and climate adaptation measures can be better accommodated into structural concepts, development plans and competitions and to determine the relevant needs of residents. The effects of green and water areas on the microclimate are also being analysed in selected districts, as are ways of improving them and ensuring they are taken into consideration at an early stage in the planning. This is all the more important in a growing city like Munich because aspects of density and sealing can exacerbate the problems brought about by heat and heavy rain. At the same time, it is also necessary to create residential space. The research project combines both approaches.

## A greener city centre

Munich's inner city is set to become much greener and provide a better visitor experience. The goals of the Open Space District Concept include providing more trees and places to sit, with new open areas and fewer parking spaces. The framework plan includes examining where changes are possible and how existing open spaces in the inner city can be improved and more closely connected. The aim is for them to serve as places where visitors can wind down and cool off, take a break in familiar surroundings, and not feel compelled to buy anything. The plan also focuses on the city's historical heritage, as well as the important effect that green spaces have on the urban climate. It also takes into account the onward implementation of the plan for the urban course of the Isar.

Network of open spaces

## Green axes through the city

The draft STEP2040 urban development plan contains eleven so-called „park miles“. These are green corridors that lead from the city's large parks into the green belt with the aim of better connecting the city's districts. They cross a variety of urban landscapes, including sports grounds, allotments, green areas of public facilities, agricultural land, small parks, and biotopes. The City of Munich intends to gradually develop these park miles, provide them with paths, and ensure that they remain permanently free of buildings. In this way, they will serve as cool air corridors and places of recreation for the city's residents.

## Space for animals and plants

With thousands of animal and plant species, Munich is a veritable hotspot of biodiversity. To preserve it, the city long ago declared part of its area as a protected zone. It is currently being expanded to include a series of biodiversity zones, i.e. essential spaces set up to preserve biodiversity in Munich. For some animals, such as the green toad or the southern damselfly, this is the last remaining place in which they occupy a wide area. Conservation of species takes up a lot of room – extinction can only be prevented by securing their habitats!

## Protection of trees

Trees are our biological evaporators. They also provide shade, cleanse the air and reduce traffic noise. They not only serve as habitats for birds, small mammals and insects, but they lend shape to landscapes and benefit our climate. Which is why they need to be protected! Munich's Tree Protection Ordinance allows for scope for tree protection in approval procedures and ensures the provision of replacement trees.

# Into the fresh air

A large crowd of people is sitting on a grassy hill, enjoying the outdoors. The scene is captured from a high angle, showing the vastness of the gathering. The sky is clear and blue, and the grass is a vibrant green. The people are dressed in casual summer attire, and many are looking towards the camera or taking photos. The overall atmosphere is one of relaxation and community.

Having an open space close to home greatly benefits the health and quality of life of a city's residents. It is important that these spaces are easy to reach, even for people who do not have a car. There is large choice of places where we can relax and spend our leisure time, such as bathing lakes, playgrounds, parks and meadows, as well as local neighbourhood squares. People go to these places for many different reasons, and it is important that their various needs are duly considered in planning processes. Parks and other green spaces, for example, should be flexibly designed to enable a wide range of uses.

The City of Munich is not only renovating the existing facilities but also building new ones, to ensure that the residents of Munich will continue to have plenty of sports and swimming venues going forward. As part of the sports construction programme, they are designed in such a way that they can be used as efficiently as possible.

## Outdoor training in the park

In addition to sports facilities for schools and clubs, low-threshold offers are now taking on an increasingly important role for people wishing to exercise outdoors. The city is increasing the range of offers available and has installed approximately fifteen outdoor training devices in Riemer Park. The site is particularly notable in that it has something to offer all generations. In addition to power training facilities, there are slacklines for young balance artists as well as special facilities for older people.

# Transformation Mobility

**Public spaces need the transport revolution! To increase their welcoming qualities and create room for social encounters, the limited available road space is being reorganised in favour of pedestrians, cyclists and a stronger public transport system. A substantial proportion of the city's space is devoted to road transport and overground parking areas. It is here that much is set to change. The future of mobility in Munich will be efficient, dependable and climate-neutral. The city's vision by 2035 is for 80 percent of roadways to be reserved for environmentally friendly forms of transportation, such as bicycles, local public transport, and electric vehicles.**



# An old town that is accessible and inviting

To maximise the amount of space available in the old town for pedestrians, cyclists and public transport, the volume of car traffic will be reduced along with the current number of 2,200 street level parking spaces. Sendlinger Straße has already been converted into a pedestrian zone, and other streets are set to follow. New parking regulations will be introduced along with intelligent urban logistics concepts, while to promote cycling, measures such as the old town cycling ring (Altstadt-Radring) will be put in place. These policies are envisaged in the concept for a predominantly car-free old town. In the valley, preliminary measures to increase the amount of space for pedestrians are to be implemented before the end of this year.

## Streets full of life instead of cars

The „Summer Streets“ project shows how different life can be when cars are temporarily barred from the roads. Launched as a pilot in 2019, car free streets in summer are now a permanent fixture as an alternative use of public space. Along with parklets and pavement cafes, street areas are transformed into new recreational spaces in the summer months, enabling people to meet, play games and exercise in their locality, with no compulsion to consume anything.

## Working together for innovation

The State Capital of Munich is a member of the MCube (Munich Cluster for the Future of Mobility in Metropolitan Regions) network coordinated by the Technical University of Munich. It brings together multiple stakeholders from science and business, the public sector and society in general. Its goal is to develop sustainable transport solutions for the city and local region, and it also aims to be seen as a model for other countries. The cluster's current projects include reducing car use in residential areas to support a liveable city (known as the AQT project) and electric vehicle and charging point sharing in residential districts.

## Simply cycling

Cycling is set to become a far safer and more appealing option in the city. The old town cycling ring will be implemented step by step, as called for by a citizens' initiative. One lane of the Blumenstraße has already been made ready for cycle use, and the number of parking spaces has also been reduced. Step by step, the city council is deliberating on a further set of measures, as set out in a second citizens' initiative under the banner of „Munich Cycle Ruling“ („Radentscheid München“). Moreover, Munich's first high-speed cycle link will connect the city centre with Garching and Unterschleißheim. A further high-speed cycle link to Markt Schwaben is also being planned.

## Alternatives to your own car

From the beginning, the process of planning new neighbourhoods and renovation projects gives due consideration to innovative mobility concepts. With short distances, good public transport both to and from the district as well as within it, and shared mobility offerings, life without a car can be a viable option. Two mobility points have been set up at the Domagkpark in the north of Schwabing. E-transport bikes are available that can be used for local shopping, while e-scooters and rental bikes can be used for more extensive trips. This saves costs and fuel. Small vehicles and estate cars are also available for longer distances. The Domagkpark cooperates with several vehicle sharing services and operates an online carpooling system as well. It also served as a model for the Prinz-Eugen-Park in the east of the city. According to a local council resolution, up to 200 mobility points are to be provided throughout the city by 2026.

# City of short distances



For shopping, going to the doctor, picking up the kids from the kindergarten, or visiting a gym, it is generally preferable to walk or use a bike. A city of short distances envisages that all the important places that we visit on a daily basis should be located a maximum of ten minutes away on foot or by bicycle. To support this aim, the City of Munich plans entire new neighbourhoods rather than just residential areas, i.e. not only apartments, but also workplaces, shops, schools, day-care centres and social and cultural facilities. Green areas and leisure facilities should also be within easy reach. Such mobility interfaces, i.e. locations where many transport routes come together, make ideal locations for creating new jobs on a large scale.

An aerial photograph showing a cityscape with a river in the foreground, green fields, and modern buildings in the background. The text 'Mobility spaces' is overlaid in large white letters.

# Mobility spaces

**An International Building Exhibition (IBA) devoted to the theme of mobility spaces aims to initiate innovative projects that improve the quality of life in the Munich Metropolitan Region and the surrounding region and to harmonise changes in mobility with sustainable housing and open space development. The concept of mobility includes more than just transport, as it also considers cultural, social and spatial factors. Concrete projects show how a growing region can reshape community life, work and travel while at the same time remaining a place where people like to live. Municipalities and stakeholders are invited to participate in this ten-year course of action for the future.**

**For more than 100 years, International Building Exhibitions have been recognised as effective instruments for solving pressing questions of the future. It is hoped that the impetus initiated by IBA projects will improve people's living conditions, strengthen the local economy, and trigger a profound paradigm shift.**