

Jury comments on selected works of Paljassaare site, Tallinn

FF007

This scheme presents a good analysis of urban scale and situation. The authors see a bigger picture instead of focusing on the architecture of single buildings. Adding a river instead of the railroad is quite impossible to implement.

The boards have nice graphics and are well presented.

Because of the schematic representation of the buildings, the spaces created in-between seem quite narrow and come across as not very pleasant. The overall scheme has some potential urbanistic values that are worth exploring further. Nevertheless the whole solution is too schematic.

SP541

The idea of a direct contact with water is good. The structure of the overall scheme has a simplicity that is rather appealing. It has an identity of many towers. The mixture of building types is quite good. The undulating bridge is a nice idea, but somewhat confusing. The entry presents a good scale for the area. The idea of offering different situations in summer and winter time for public space is clever. The intermediate space between housing is not convincing creating vague semi-public spaces. The overall feel of the scheme is too suburban for the area. The solution presents confusing urbanism and architecture.

GS567

The entry presents a good overall study of the area. The logic of the whole site is well analysed from the strategic point of view, which makes the entry a good strategy project. It does not concentrate only on the project site but sees a bigger picture. The authors show their ability to understand the city fabric and extend it to the project site, creating also a nice coastline. Architecture on the other hand is too schematic, too cliché and too much of a one-liner. Architectural part is solved by a single outstanding object with a simple form, which comes across as not a very sophisticated solution. While the scheme presents a kind of urbanism that can be filled with different types of architecture, the success of it depends very much on the quality of architecture.

WP900

The entry entails quite extensive analysis of the site, but the solution it leads to, is rather formalistic. The scheme creates a nice entrance to the area. The whole approach to the project is too megalomaniac that represents architecture with questionable quality, at the same time the scheme is totally relying on the architectural solution. The housing units opening up to the north is rather questionable.

Confusing space is created in the middle where the slanted walls-roofs come together.

QQ100

The scheme looks like a total machine. It creates a symbol, landmark, an anchor point for the whole area. It defines the space. The whole scheme as one tower can be positive. It might even do some good for Tallinn. At the same time, packing everything in a one single move could be dangerous. The whole scheme is a bit too machine-like and huge in scale.

The tower part is architecturally well-designed, although it reminds too much of the MVRDV project in Spain.

The lower level seems megalomaniacal with poor quality public spaces that are not well thought through. It has disturbing formalism in plan, but has a potential to go beyond formalism.

FJ007

The entry represents a very simple urban scheme. It has a distinctive Stockholm-like flavour in terms of the housing blocks and arrangement of the waterfront. The scheme has nothing endearing about it but it is a possible solution. The waterfront contour of Paljassaare is not sacred, one can alter it. This way more people have access to and contact with water. At the same time, the added waterfront will not serve as public space because the area around the housing units will be privatised.

The scheme has very constraining floor plans with too restricting geometry. The overall solution is quite formal and too relentless.

The jury decided to send to the Forum the entries with the following codes:

GS 567 Developing a Waterside City

SP 541 Tallinn Urb[|]an[d]

QQ 100 Urban Gears

FJ 007 Mix

Jury comments on selected works of Annelinn site, Tartu

MN 109

The entry proposes nice housing typology and structure. Good analysis is presented. The overall scheme ignores completely the area of protected plants, making it quite arbitrary and uncertain. The urban plan is also a bit vague in terms of building type distribution.

TA 365

The overall scheme has a stronger image than the entry with code MN 109. It follows the rigidity of the existing Annelinn structure, making Annelinn continue also on the project site. At the same time the scheme can be very flexible due to its simple and adaptable geometry. The built structure is well combined with landscape. The sloped roofs are a bit too prescriptive to possible architectural solution. The entry presents no certain style, enabling different types of architecture to be built which is always an aspect of good urbanism.

PL 243

The entry proposes an innovative scheme, sensitive to the surroundings, an interesting concept. The overall quality of space that will be created depends very much on the architectural quality. The authors show that they are sensitive architects and able to provide the quality that is needed. The success of the scheme depends absolutely on the client who has to follow through the proposed solution. The risk remains that through materialization the scheme might lose its intricate quality. The number of housing units is lower than was asked in the program.

BG 044

The scheme shows good connection to the existing structure, relating well to existing Annelinn. The entry provides a good combination of several types of housing, which are well integrated. The solution for the green area as central park is positive. The scheme is very thoroughly drawn through, making it spatially well understood and easy to follow. It is clearly realistic as well. The proposed urbanism has a quality that enables to be realised by several architects. Public/private spaces are well defined and resolved. In the area of the wetlands the scheme becomes quite vague and the solution questionable. This area is clearly more poorly handled than the rest of the project.

NA 124

The overall scheme is comparable to TA 365. It has the same rigidity as the Soviet blocks. The entry proposes a kind of a ring road that follows the logic of the existing road scheme. The overall concept is well thought through and clearly expressed. The authors show their real interest in creating space and what they propose is nice. The urban scheme holds the attitude that is directed more towards the public. Housing units face the street, which expresses more communal approach. The scheme holds an interesting contrast between the different densities. It shows an interesting („sexy“) housing block section. A kind of a messy building section shows the acceptance of the messiness of life. The overall scheme is rather powerful.

The jury decided to send to the Forum the entries with the following codes:

TA 365 Urban Topography

PL 243 Urban Ecosystem Design

BG 044 Pockets of Illusion

NA 124 Community Links