

# MIKKELI ECO CITY

A NEW ECO-FRIENDLY LANDMARK OF SOUTH SAVO

## Dossier

### Concept Explanation

The Mikkeli Eco City will be the new touristic and urban landmark and quarter right in the heart of Mikkeli. Right along the shore of the Savilahti Lake there will be a variety of urban interventions to create a diverse urban area. Park benches, street lighting and further street furniture will be implemented along the promenade. The pavement will vary with stone and wood elements reflecting the local material and nature. Close to the Rokkalanjoki river stone steps will lead to the lake and will create an inviting recreational area along the lakeside.

#### Urban Structure

The new urban layout of the Savilahti area will follow the outline of the old city grid from the 19th century and will be visually linked with the harbour area by maintaining the axis of the streets and link the old with the new city area. The urban structure is based on the perimeter block development principle. The block will be opened towards the lake, embracing the lake. Through this opening the lake will be visually linked with the green yards inside each block and enable all residents to have a view to the lake from their apartments. Additionally most blocks are divided into two zones by a north-south orientated vivid and lively meandering green ribbon which simultaneously functions also as a connection for pedestrians and cyclists through the whole Savilahti area. The divided blocks create a more open semipublic area close to the lake and the promenade with a focus on a more mixed use development and use. Here one can find small shops and restaurants. The western block area, the U shape distinguishes themselves through a more private atmosphere with semi-private green yards perfectly suitable for all kinds of leisure activities either for young and old. The perimeter U-shaped 5-7 storey blocks will have a good surface/ volume ratio therefore enable them to be more energy efficient than a more fragmented urban layout.

All the edges of the urban blocks will be slightly diagonal at the edges to give way for some small places. This will create more distinctive entrance situations for each block. Furthermore because each shape will be slightly different it will create several different urban situations in creating a vivid urban volume pattern seen from the street level.

#### Mikkeli Science Center

The new landmark clearly visible from the VT 5 Highway and by boat will be the modern and avant-garde Mikkeli Science Center. Integrated in the urban landscape with its distinctive architecture it will represent the future image of Mikkeli. The building will be conceived as a highly dynamic geometric solid representing the dynamic and future development of a growing Mikkeli as an administrative and touristic center within South Savo province. Its formal outstanding language will also work as an icon to be remembered by both visitors and residents of Mikkeli.

The Science Center using environmental friendly materials such as engineered timber will be divided in two blocks. In between the extension of the green corridor will pass through the Satamalahti Plaza and link the Science center with the northern and future southern area around the old locomotive shed behind the Vilhonkatu street.

#### Existing Structure

The existing customs house will be transformed into a tourist information center and extended by a pavilion-like structure to give the building a more inviting atmosphere.

Concerning the existing warehouses we recommend to remove some structures where they interfere with the future street and pavement layout. For those structures which will be kept, we propose a densification of the building mass by adding up to 4 more levels to create a more urban atmosphere. The lower structure therefore will remain as a reminder of the history of the harbour area and create an interesting mix of old and new architectural elements.

#### Vetruillat Area Zone 2

The area south of Vilhonkatu Street will be mainly used for office and service functions. The old locomotive shed will be transformed into a high quality conference+convention center mainly targeting business activities additional office space will be available as well.

The layout of the Vetruillat area is composed of a more campus-like area. Five 4-storey office buildings, all surrounded by an inner courtyard will form a new quarter here targeting mainly service industries. The buildings can be rented out to several businesses or function as a representative headquarter for a single company. Even a private run school or premises for several educational purposes are possible.

#### Zone 3

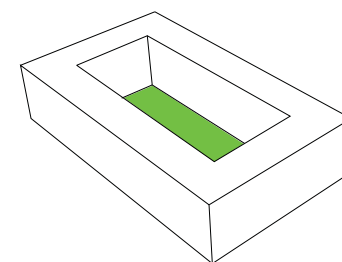
The area south of the VT 5 highway will have a well balanced mix of residential housing units and similar to the subarea 2, office complexes. Along the shore of the Saimaa lake 4-storey apartment buildings will follow the shoreline in a natural pattern. North of it a densely forested area in combination with a noise protection wall along the VT 5 highway will function as a noise buffer to reduce the noise levels caused by traffic.

The office buildings adjacent will have a very convenient location close to the street coming from Ristina and the VT 5 highway making it very suitable for businesses to relocate to this area.

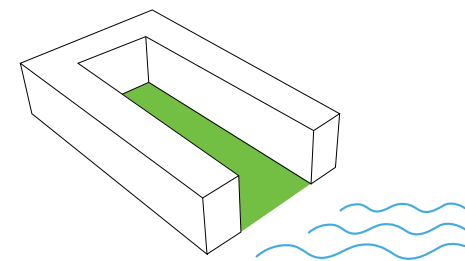
#### Saksala Area Zone 4

Right opposite the Harbor area we propose a high quality, upper level residential area in a fragmented lively pattern. Villa-like 4 storey apartment building blocks will be organized along a ring road. A pier with a small cafe not only visually combines the quarter with the lake but also serves as a possible stop for steamers coming from the Saimaa.

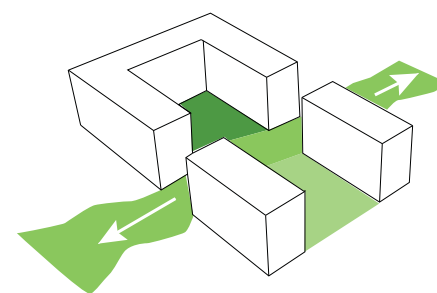
Linked by new built pedestrian bridges over the Rokkalanjoki river and the small bay north of subarea 4 and a bicycle lane this area is as well perfectly connected to the city center while keeping a certain distance, making it suitable for more calm residential area.



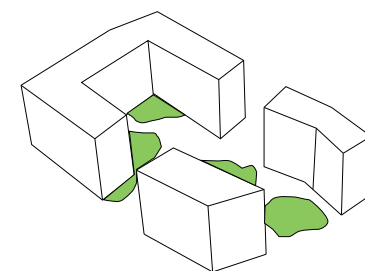
CLOSED BLOCK



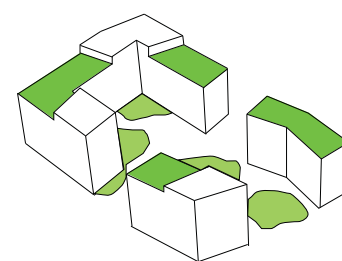
OPEN TO THE LAKE



GREEN CORRIDOR



GREEN YARD



GREEN ROOF

## Block + Area Density and Floor Area Ratio

### Subarea 1

app. area: 140000m<sup>2</sup>  
built area: 34870m<sup>2</sup>

ratio: 0,25

Floor area ratio : 1,09

### Subarea 2

app. area: 81120m<sup>2</sup>  
built area: 9645m<sup>2</sup>

ratio: 0,12

Floor area ratio: 0,45

### Subarea 3

app. area: 88700m<sup>2</sup>  
built area: 12365m<sup>2</sup>

ratio: 0,14

Floor area ratio: 0,46

### Subarea 4

app. area: 37600m<sup>2</sup>  
built area: 5377m<sup>2</sup>

ratio: 0,14

Floor area ratio: 0,63

### Overall Area Density

overall area: 694442m<sup>2</sup>  
built area: 62257m<sup>2</sup>

ratio: 0,09



## Parking Areas + Gross Floor Area Subarea 1

No.	GFA in m <sup>2</sup>	parking lots	
		total	above ground
1	2292	27	10
2	2256	26	8
3	2514	30	10
4	6714	79	10
5	6774	79	16
6	4884	57	12
7	3822	45	5
8	4008	47	5
9	9000	105	11
10	2988	35	4
11	1866	22	2
12 <sup>1</sup>	4080	40	8
13	8004	94	15
14	85	1	
15	3414	40	
16	2376	28	1
17	4446	52	11
18	434	5	5
19	2400	28	
20	3162	37	3
21	4476	53	10
22	3072	36	4
23	2880	34	7
24	2616	31	3
25	420	5	5
26	7122	83	23
27	2226	23	3
28	2340	27	6
29	392	5	5
30 <sup>2</sup>	2108	25	25
31 <sup>2</sup>	3192	37	37
32 <sup>3</sup>	4232	130	
33	4908	57	7
34	2724	32	4
35	2994	35	10
36	5082	59	19
37	2473	29	15
38	1812	21	8
39	3108	36	4
40	1686	19	19
41	240	3	3
total :	137279	1675	

incl Science Center : 153279m<sup>2</sup>

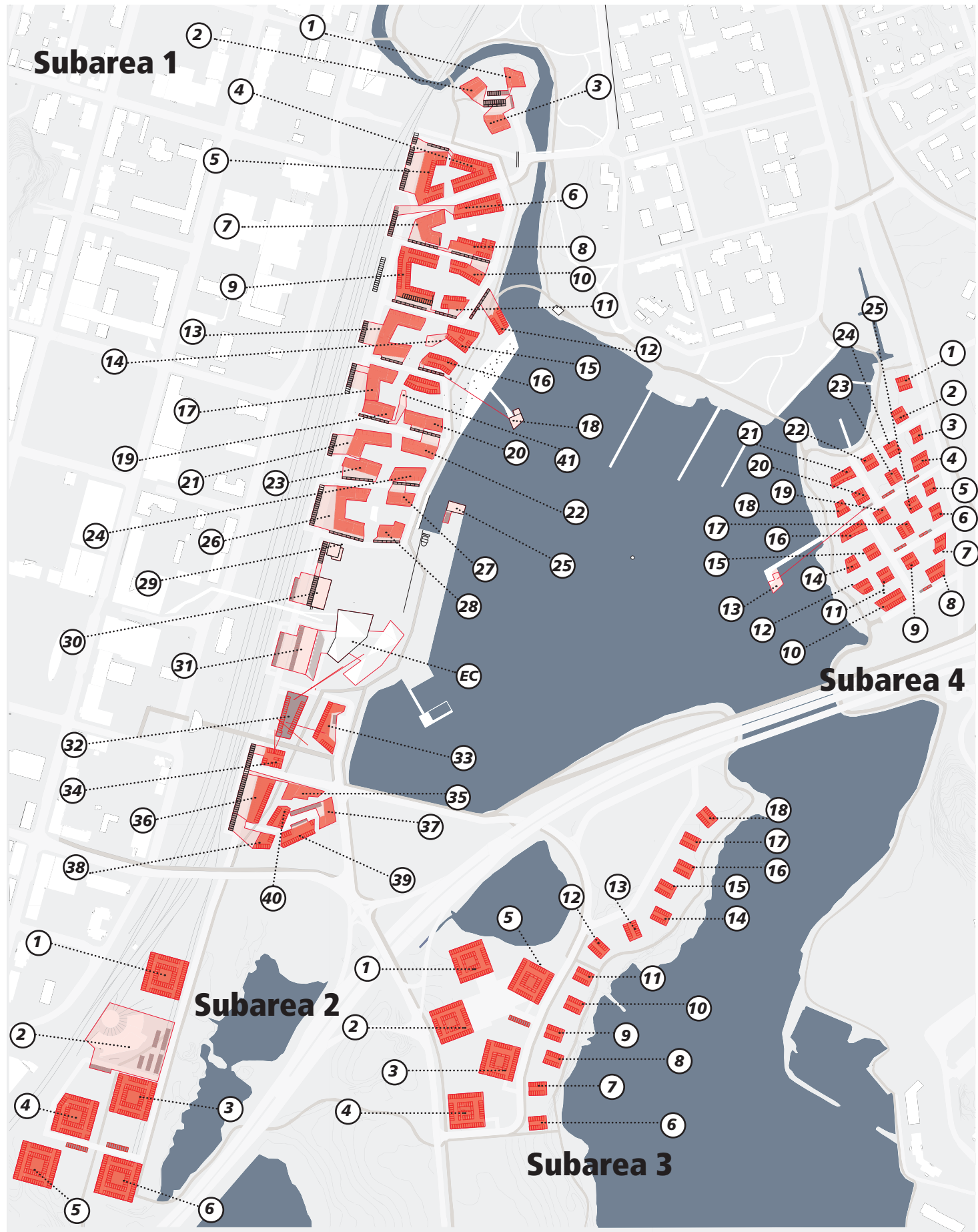
### Subarea 2

No.	GFA in m <sup>2</sup>	parking lots	
		total	above ground
1	6048	88	
2 <sup>2</sup>	6291	74	50
3	6048	76	
4	6000	70	
5	6048	70	
6	6048	70	
total :	36483	448	

2) No. 2 shares 18 lots from building No. 1 and 6 lots from building No. 3

### Subarea 3

No.	GFA in m <sup>2</sup>	parking lots	
		total	above ground
1	5300	63	
2	5300	63	
3	5300	63	
4	5300	63	
5	5300	63	
6-18	1224	14	
total :	42412		483



### Subarea 4

No.	GFA in m <sup>2</sup>	parking lots	
		total	above ground
1	904	11	
2	904	11	
3	752	09	
4	1180	14	
5	752	09	
6	752	09	
7	844	10	
8	1304	15	
9	904	11	
10	1824	22	
11	904	11	
12	860	10	
13	340	4	4
14	836	10	
15	904	11	
16	1428	17	
17	904	11	
18	836	10	
19	904	11	
20	904	11	

No.	GFA in m <sup>2</sup>	parking lots	
		total	above ground
21	1348	16	
22	904	11	
23	904	11	
24	904	11	
25	904	11	
total :	23904	298	

**TOTAL:** GFA 256.384 m<sup>2</sup> parking lots 2918

Annotation to Subarea 1: 1) Building with 2 levels underground parking 2) m<sup>2</sup> refer only to added building mass above warehouses 3) Parking garage: 100 lots for Science Center, 17 lots belong to block 33, 11 lots belong to block 34

## Green Areas and Parks

### **Subarea 1**

green area: 33115m<sup>2</sup>

### **Subarea 2**

green area: 41170m<sup>2</sup>

### **Subarea 3**

green area: 44723m<sup>2</sup>

### **Subarea 4**

green area: 20582m<sup>2</sup>

### **Other Areas**

green area: 27952m<sup>2</sup>

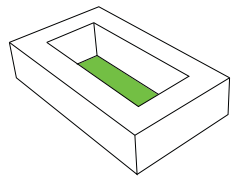
### **Total Green Area:**

green area: 167.542m<sup>2</sup>

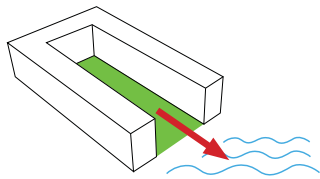


# Mikkeli Eco City

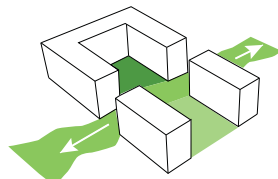
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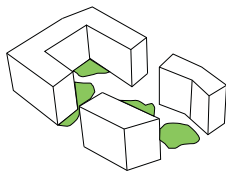
CLOSED BLOCK



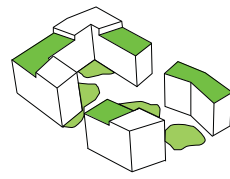
OPEN TO THE LAKE



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VIEW FROM HIGHWAY

Concept

The Mikkeli Eco City will be the new touristic and urban landmark and quarter in the heart of Mikkeli. Right along the shore of the Savilahti Lake there will be a variety of interventions to create a diverse and interesting urban area. Park benches, street lighting, piers, terraces and a small floating public swimming pool and further elements will be implemented along the promenade. The pavement will vary with stone and wood elements reflecting the local materials used and the surrounding forests. Close to the Rokkalanjoki river stone steps will lead to the lake and will create an inviting recreational area along the lakeside.

Urban Structure

The new urban layout of the Savilahti area follows the outline of the old city grid from the 19th century and will be visually linked with the harbour area by maintaining the axis of the streets and link the old with the new city area. The urban structure is based on the perimeter block development principle. The block will be opened towards the lake, embracing the lake. Through this opening the lake will be visually linked with the green yards inside each block and enable all residents to have a view to the lake from their apartments. Additionally most blocks are divided into two zones by a north-south orientated vivid and lively meandering green ribbon which simultaneously functions also as a connection for pedestrians and cyclists through the whole Savilahti area.

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BIRD VIEW

# Mikkeli Eco City

## Context

### Mikkeli+ Harbour Area

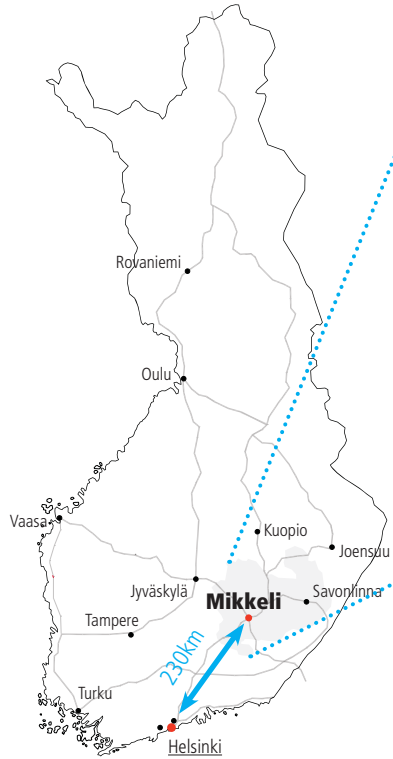
Mikkeli is the administrative and touristic center and at the same time the largest municipality in South Savo. It is situated in the heart of the Saimaa lake area.

The City is well connected with Finland's public transportation network by rail and bus and just app. 230km away from the Finnish capital Helsinki.

The New Harbour Area will be perfectly linked to that network by direct links via two pedestrian flyovers to the train and express bus terminal. Furthermore there will be a new local city busline connecting the harbour waterfront area with the rest of the city.

In addition Mikkeli has the potential to become an even more popular destination since through his new landmark the Mikkeli Science and Eco center. Since the harbour area is directly linked with the Savilahti and Saimaa Lake system and via the Saimaa Water Channel with Vyborg in Russia and further on with the Baltic Sea it is highly suitable for as starting point for touristic activities by boats, sailing ships and steamers.

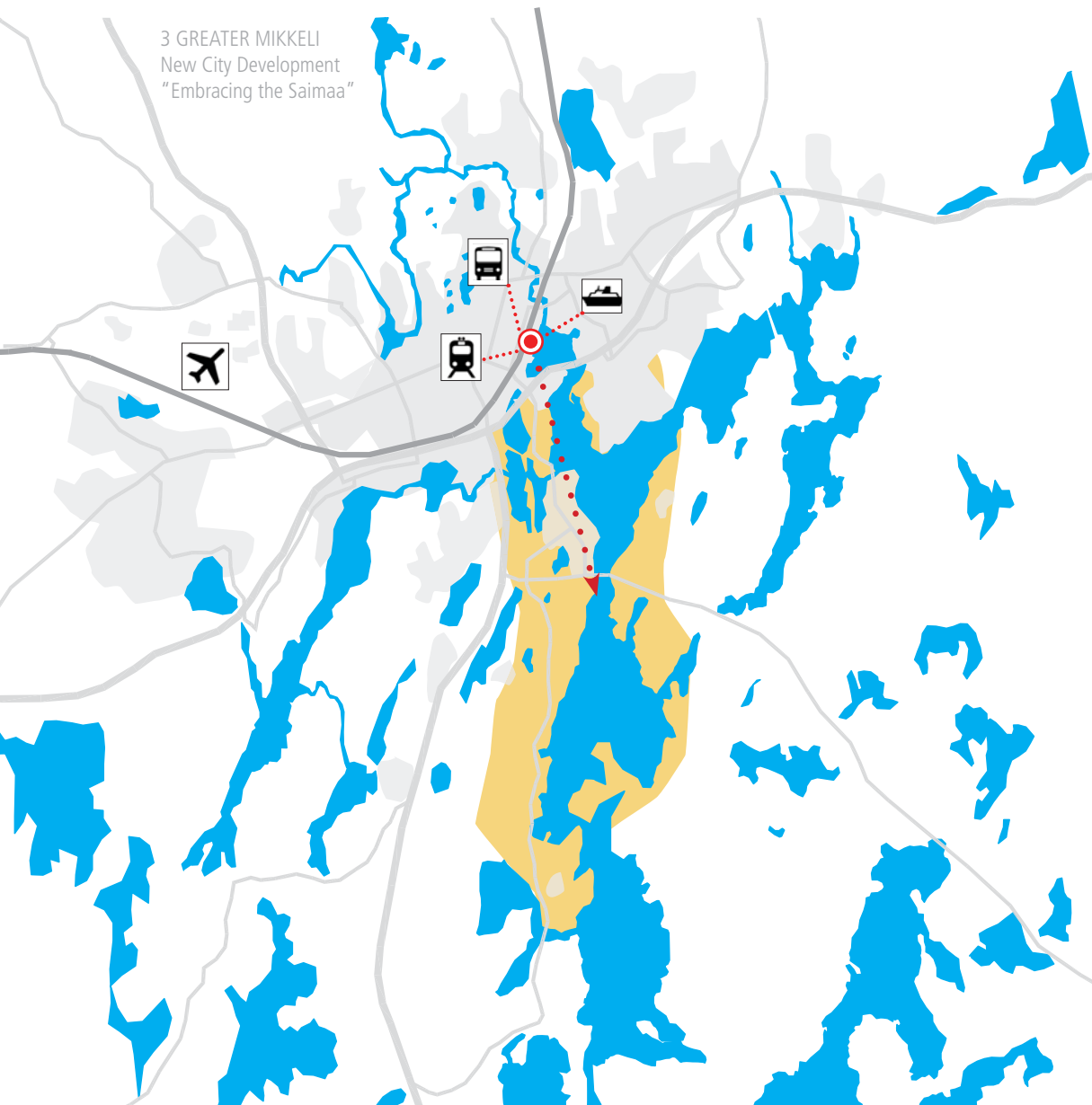
Since it is the logical goal to further develop the cityscape around the Savilahti and Saimaa area, the new harbour area at Savilahti area can will be the nucleus and initiator for the further expansion of Mikkeli. Also the new cycling network will be linked to the further extensive network around the lake area in the south.



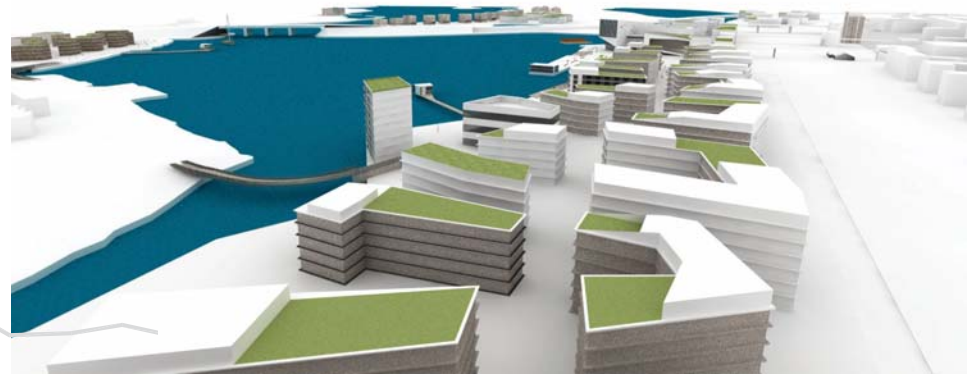
1 FINLAND



2 SOUTH SAVO + SAIMAA LAKE SYSTEM



Perspective Promenade 1



Birdview from North



A- A Section North-South scale 1:2000

# Mikkeli Eco City

MASTER PLAN



# Mikkeli Eco City

## ANALYSIS



FIGURE-GROUND DIAGRAM SCALE 1:4000



Street System



Pedestrian Network



Visual Links with Savilahti



Green Zones and Parks



Bicycle Lane Network



D-D Section Subarea 3  
scale 1:2000



C-C Section East-West  
scale 1:2000





# Mikkeli Eco City

## ANALYSIS FUNCTIONS



Perspective Plaza by Night



Perspective Promenade 2



**young family**

We appreciate that everything is so close, so we don't need to go by car to do our shopping. And our kids love to play in the green garden in our yard!

**elder couple**

We like the mix of different people we live together in our yard. The activities at the EcoCenter. Ah and not to mention the cafe on the pier on weekends!

**middle-aged couple**

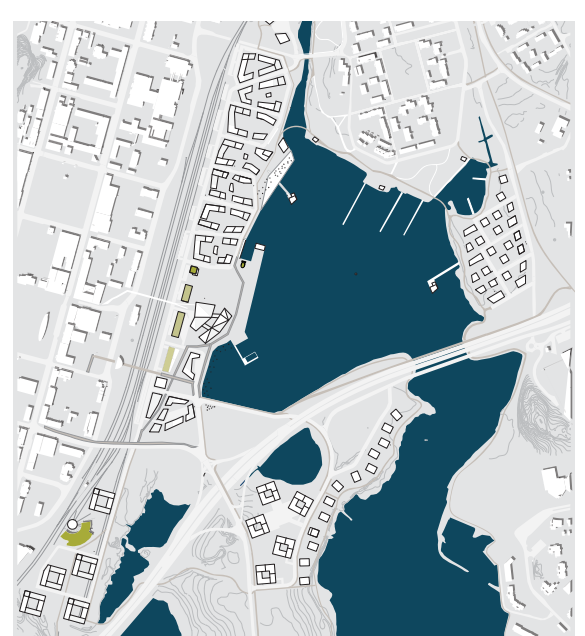
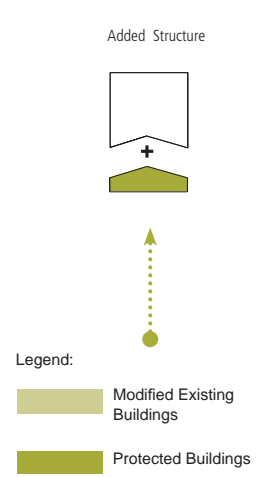
We like the community in our house and the view to the lake. And of course the short distances to the market.

**single**

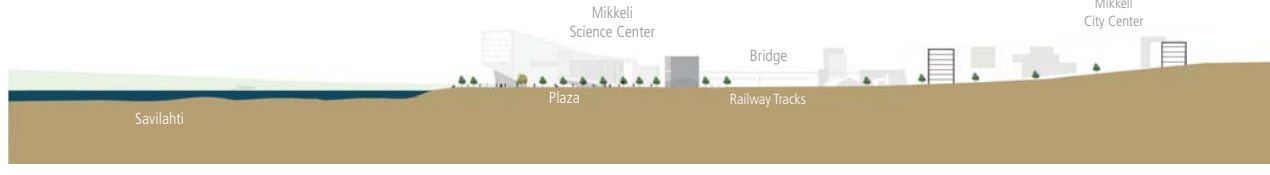
I like the cycling paths around the lake and of course the cinema in the Center! And the bars and cafés along the promenade!

**tourist**

The first thing we noticed was this modern futuristic Science Center. Yeah, and the promenade with its green gardens behind. Very interesting!



B-B Section Subarea 2  
scale 1:2000



Section Plaza  
scale 1:2000

# Mikkeli Eco City

## ECOLOGICAL CONCEPT



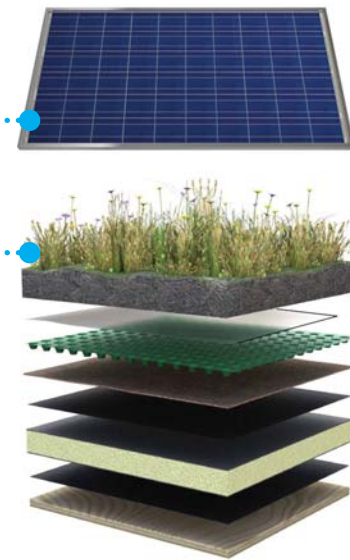
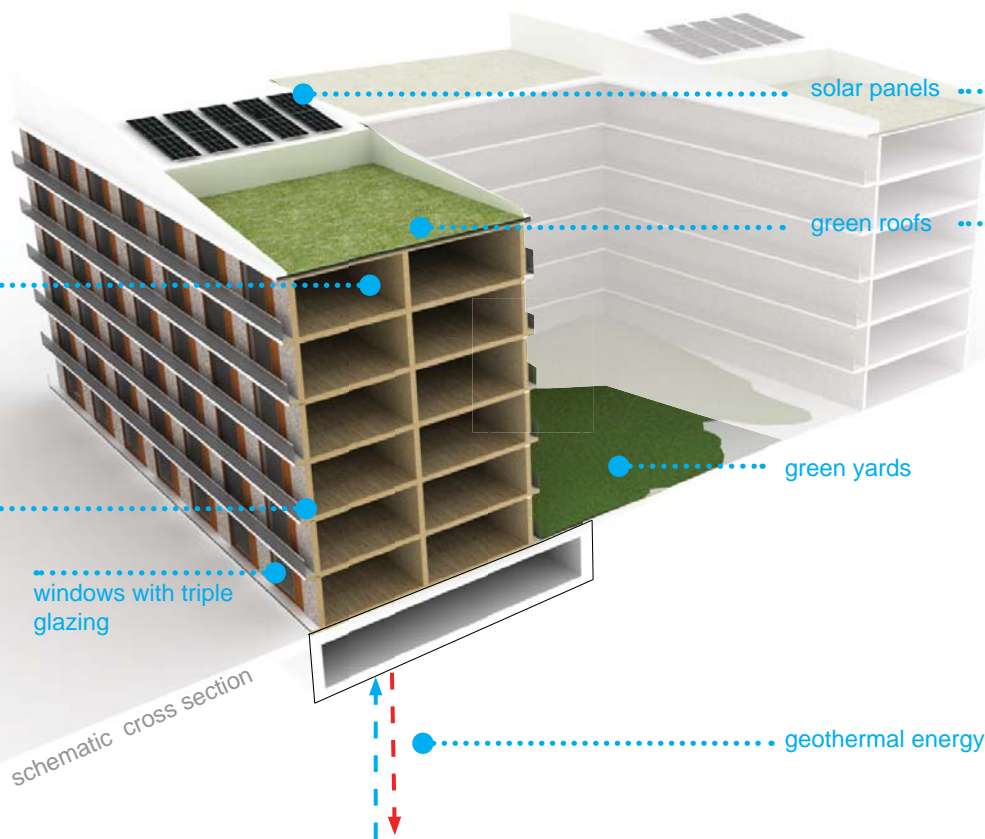
locally made timber panels and slabs made of CLT timber

outer clt timber walls covered with cellulose insulation



windows with triple glazing

schematic cross section



solar panels

green roofs

green yards

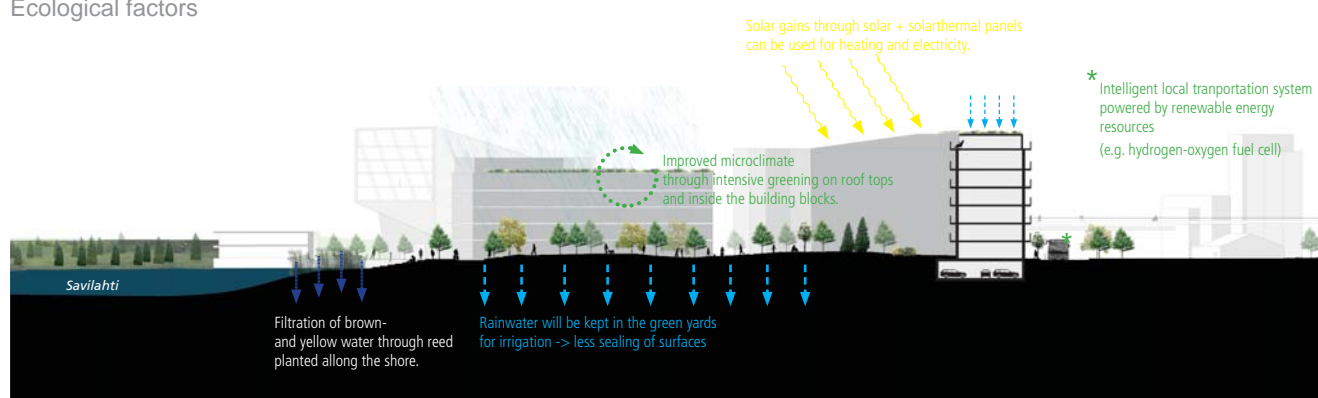
geothermal energy



Legend:

- park
- Veturiallit wetland
- green roofs
- further green areas
- green courtyards
- shore with reed

Ecological factors



Solar gains through solar + solarthermal panels can be used for heating and electricity.

\* Intelligent local transportation system powered by renewable energy resources (e.g. hydrogen-oxygen fuel cell)

Improved microclimate through intensive greening on roof tops and inside the building blocks.

Filtration of brown- and yellow water through reed planted along the shore.

Rainwater will be kept in the green yards for irrigation -> less sealing of surfaces

schematic section green courtyards + promenade

## ECOLOGICAL CONCEPT

In order to reduce the emission of CO<sub>2</sub> we propose a concept based on a variety of combined actions to reduce the carbon footprint within the area.

The new urban structure is designed to enable new residents to fulfill their daily needs within a walking distance and tries to reduce the use of cars.

A good connection to the public transportation system and a new bridge over the railway tracks will link the harbour front with the city center. All the residential housing blocks are designated to have a mixed-use function with shops and premises for services and social and other activities.

A new busline powered by renewable energy resources (e.g. hydrogen-oxygen fuel cell) can help to further integrate the area with the rest of Mikkeli especially for elder or handicapped people. Furthermore specially designated parking lots close to the buildings can be reserved only for hybrid electric vehicles.

For all the new construction the use of timber (e.g. engineered cross-laminated timber) for multistorey buildings will help to fulfill the goal of a low-carbon quarter since it is one of the most renewable and environmentally resources. In addition windows with triple glazing and insulation made of cellulose (e.g. recycled paper) will be used to avoid thermal losses.

A high percentage of the roofs will be transformed into extensive green areas in order to replace the sealing of ground for the new buildings and for retaining rainwater which can also be filtered and used as greywater in households. Furthermore it creates an additional elevated garden for each block. The layer of soil will provide an additional roof insulation avoiding further thermal losses. Furthermore we propose the use of solar panels and solarthermal panels for heating of water and electricity on the roof as additional measures.

In addition an analysis of potential exploitation of geothermal energy needs to be determined. Biogas through transformation of yellow water in the area can be used heat and power generation. The biogas plant can be situated in the in the green area up north of Rokkalanjok River.

The reed on the river bank and shore of the river can be used to retreat brownwater for irrigation of parkland or clean lake influent as well as giving the shore a distinctive visual nature.