

With her project, the author addresses the very typical issue of watercourse development in urban areas. This task plays an important role especially in Kladno, where large parts of the former landscape have been reshaped in the course of industrialization. From this starting point, a basically coherent concept is developed in the thesis, which embeds the partial restoration of the stream courses in an overall open space structure.

The analysis of the site makes clear which sections of the stream courses can be activated, but also points out barriers and restrictions. However, in-depth statements about the existing urban green system are missing. Therefore, the central question remains partly open to what extent the watercourse system can be conceived as part of the urban green infrastructure. Also, in a project of watercourse development, it should be essential to show the topography with elevation layers also in corresponding site plans in an easily readable way.

In the planning concept, functional principles for individual watercourse typologies are developed first. This is basically a good approach and can help to plan appropriate measures in the entire urban area. However, the drawings remain very superficial as pictogram-like sketches. Here, more in-depth explanations of the conversion principles would have been helpful. For example, that could show the urban context, with schematic representation of the accompanying vegetation or paths.

The approach of developing a linear green-blue network for the entire city with the integration of the water system is innovative and future-oriented. The representation developed for this purpose is very conceptual, but also remains superficial for the reasons already mentioned, since no other structuring green spaces are represented in addition to the green corridors.

The author's effort to combine the development of the waterway with a qualification of the public spaces is positive. She attaches great importance to the connectivity of the spaces as an essential function of green infrastructure. In many cases, paths run parallel to the watercourse, and the vegetation elements can be the basic structure of a newly created open space system. But this represents only a part of the potentials of a future watercourse system. Further proposals for the rainwater management or the use of the water bodies as purification plants, which could be of importance especially for Kladno, are missing in the project.

The opportunity to create a new local center by restructuring the Baumax site is also recognized. However, the design for this place seems somewhat schematic. With the proposal to create a rural-style pond according to the historical cliché, the potentials of the place are not nearly used. It would be important, on the other hand, to create an urban and multifunctional public space as a convincing compensation for the relocation of the Baumax store.

The very well considered conceptual approaches are difficult to read also in some other site plans. The chosen graphics are not suitable for clearly conveying spatial situations, nor is it always easy to read off the changes in comparison to the existing situation. The accompanying sketches are basically well suited to explain individual spatial situations in a simple way, but lack „the one“ convincing, eye-catching perspective that could explain the goal of the entire project.

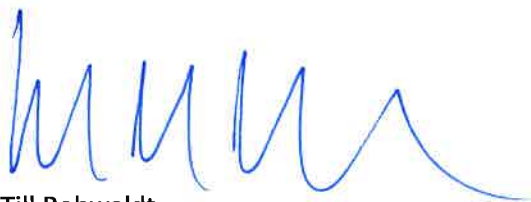
Overall, the project makes an important and stimulating contribution to the future development of Kladno's green-blue infrastructure. It is strategically and long-term conceived, but cannot convince in all points, especially in the design part.

Recommended mark: C

Questions:

- What are the possible pitfalls of implementing such an intervention? What would be the necessary strategic steps? Did you think of the possibility of some kind of phasing? Are there some parts that are more important than others?
- Did you think of a better site to which could be moved the functions you do not consider suitable for their current location?

In Prague, 7.6. 2023

A handwritten signature in blue ink, consisting of several stylized, connected letters that appear to be 'Till Rehwaldt'.

Till Rehwaldt