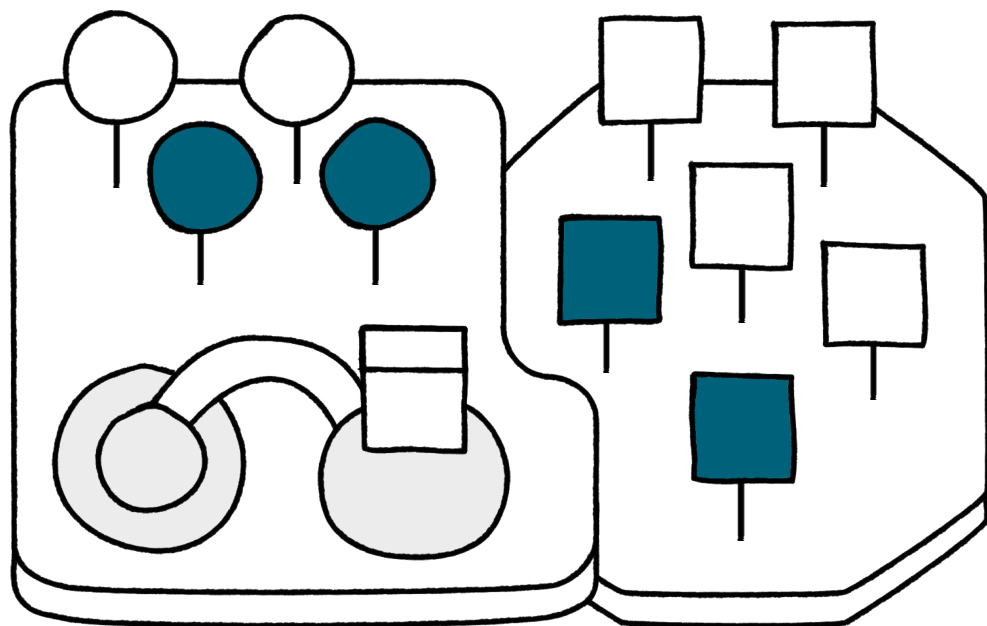


20 Pratteln

Designing the outside space at the Längi property



Time frame

November 2016 – March 2017

Stakeholders

Political executive
Civil society
Private investor builders
Management

Typologies (space types)

Outside space
Living environment



Design quality criteria

Designability
Opportunities to interact



Structure-related quality criteria

Collaboration
Participation and identification

The starting point

The area surrounding the property at Längistrasse 33 in Pratteln looked neglected and did not offer many attractive recreational or meeting options for the resident children. The property management company, Liwa Immobilien, was made aware of this by the municipality and agreed to invest in an upgrade. Residents' ideas and wishes for the environmental design were to be recorded and reviewed together with the property management company for feasibility.

Pratteln municipality was mainly responsible for the coordination. The project was launched as part of including residents, especially children, and using targeted support from the municipality. The neighbourhood works arose from the national "projets urbains" project, in which Pratteln took part from 2008 to 2015. In this context, the KinderKraftWerk association had already been regularly engaged since 2012 for participative projects in the development of the Aegelmatt and Rankacker neighbourhoods.

Aims

Upgrading the property's outdoor spaces through simple measures.

Target group

- The residents of Längistrasse 33
- Neighbours

Project progression

This project came about when neighbourhood residents made a request to the neighbourhood development staff. In mid-November 2016, the residents held their first meeting with representatives of the property management company in order to collate and gather ideas and wishes. This feedback was used by Lashaia Gartenbau AG to create a suggested outdoor space design. Once the property management company had agreed in principle, the suggestion was discussed with residents in a meeting at the neighbourhood meeting point. The results of this discussion led to adjustments in the planning: at the residents' request, two parking spaces were created at the edge of the area, which was a key aspect for the acceptance of the redesign plans among residents due to the lack of parking spaces in the neighbourhood. Alongside planting to delineate the property from the neighbouring one, funding was also secured for a large net swing, a pergola with a barbecue spot and link paths with marl stone surfacing. At the end of March, all project partners jointly planned the implementation, which took place in mid-May at a "get involved" day with a barbecue afterwards. Alongside the residents and children, the property administration company tradespeople, the KinderKraftWerk association staff and the neighbourhood development team also took part.

Success factors

- The openness of the property management company towards the project and interest in active cooperation.
- Good collaboration between the project partners, i.e. municipality, property managers, KinderKraftWerk, Lashaia Gartenbau.
- Sufficient budget to implement desired plans.
- Willingness of residents to help in the implementation.

Challenges

The "get involved" day had to be postponed due to the weather. Luckily, residents were also available on the rearranged date. Everyone pitched in with high motivation.

Conclusion

Although the project was small in comparison with other projects, it had great potential as the property management company took part with great enthusiasm from the outset. This meant it was involved in all planning phases and maintained a dialogue with the residents. The residents' enthusiasm was palpable from the outset, too. They then actively helped on implementation day and identified with the project. This is important in any neighbourhood development project, as the municipality's and neighbourhood development team's initiative can only ever be a starting point. Projects like these need the enthusiasm of all participants in order to be successful.

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