

# Liveable, Responsible City With an Edge

#### **A City for People**

We are proud of Copenhagen, and with good reason. The city fuses quality of life at local level with a global outlook. It is internationally renowned for its innovative approach to the climate and the environment. It has a reputation as the world's best city for cyclists. It is a living showcase for Danish architecture. But most of all, Copenhagen is a good place to be. It works. None of this came about by chance. It is the result of years of planning and development based on the needs of Copenhageners – everybody who lives in, uses, visits, works with or runs a business in the city. It is based on the life between the buildings.

Resting on our laurels is not an option. Nor should it be. An extra 100,000 inhabitants by 2025 means more of us in the same space. We will have to work harder to keep the city together – both physically and socially. Getting around will have to be easier. We will need to cope with rising water levels as a result of climate change. There will be more and more pressure on streets and open spaces, and a far greater need to manage resources. Challenges and opportunities such as these will require significant – and proactive – planning and development to release the potential of the city. The question is, what kind of city do we wish to create?

#### **Together**

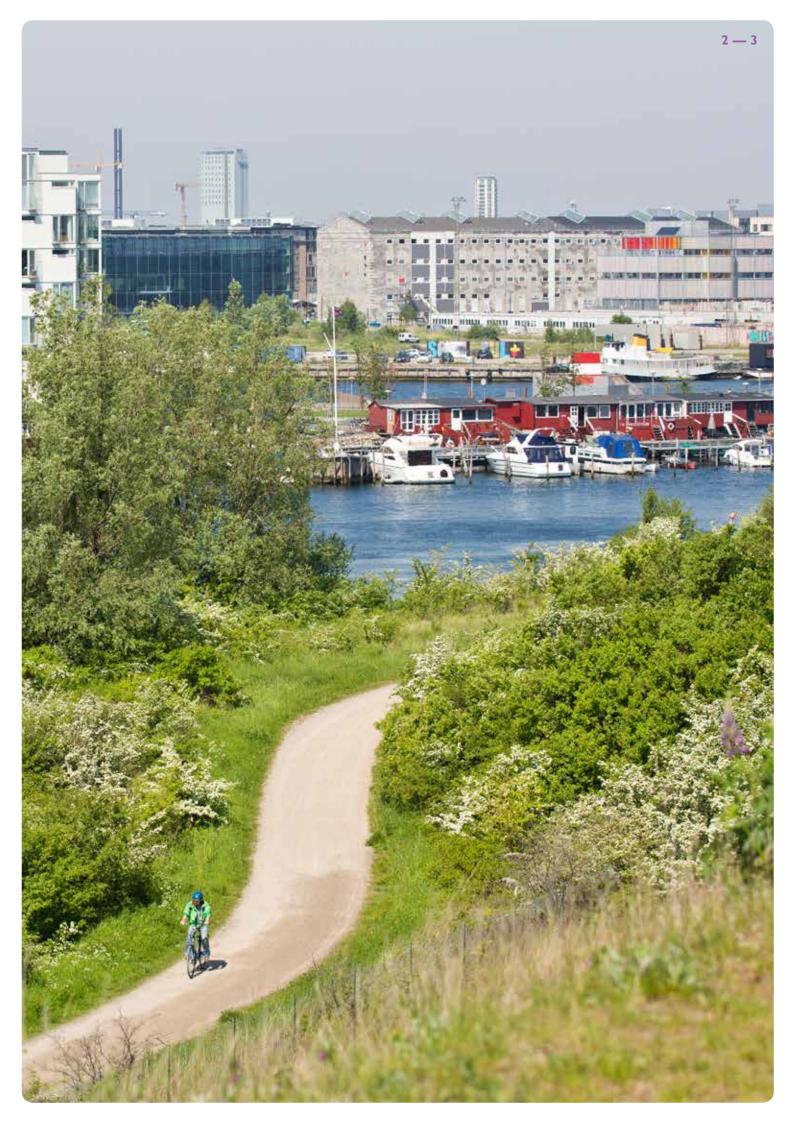
Copenhagen is a nice, well-planned city – perhaps a little bit too nice and predictable. Naturally, we must play to our strengths and by 2025 we want to see Copenhagen in the premier league of vibrant cities that act as global leaders; a more dynamic city with an edge that better reflects the diversity of its population and allows for individual differences.

This will require more than traditional planning. It will require a radical rethinking of the nature of urban development. The process must be less controlled – it must unleash Copenhageners' creativity so that everybody works together to build the city we want. As the capital, Copenhagen must interact positively with other towns and cities – not only in the region, but throughout the country and the world – and invite them to share ideas and solutions so that we can contribute to reaching the United Nations' sustainable development goals.

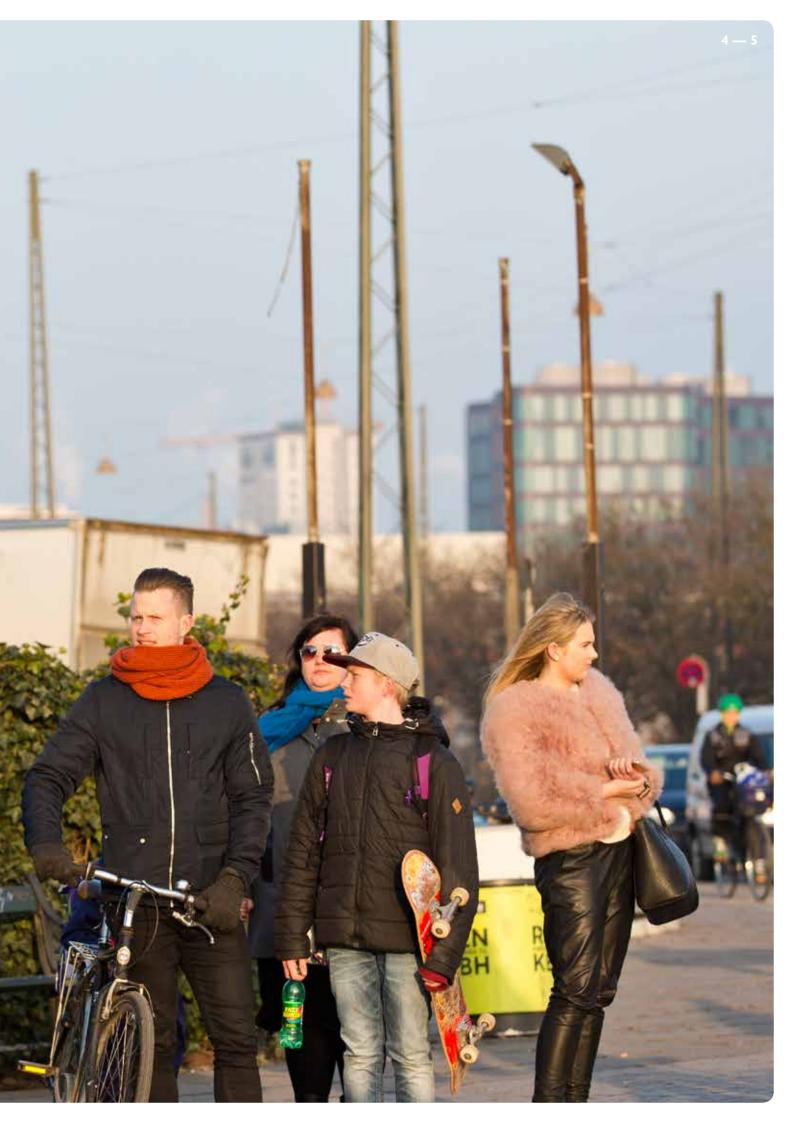
### By the People

All of us must work together to create Copenhagen. This is the vision for 2025. Everybody who uses the city – residents, commuters, companies, civic society, etc. – is invited to play an active part in developing the city and bringing it to life. The best city to live in is the one you can help create yourself.

Building on the city's great strengths of today the vision has three aims. To ensure that Copenhagen is one of the top global cities in 2025, we must all work together to create 'A Liveable City', 'A City with an edge' and 'A Responsible City'.







# A Liveable City

Copenhagen is at its best when people meet each other in its outdoor spaces. This is when the city comes to life. In 2025, it will have to serve as a venue for a wider range of activities and more freedom of choice. More and more people will want to use its open spaces, whether with others or alone in peaceful contemplation.

There will be significantly more of us in 2025, and urban life has to be just as good utilizing the same space, and equally good within and outside the inner-city neighbourhoods.

To make Copenhagen more liveable, the City of Copenhagen will focus on:

# **Better Everyday Life in Urban Spaces**

Urban spaces need to be arranged to accommodate a greater number of every-day activities. The city must be hospitable and clean, and it must be easy to get to where you want to go. Urban spaces must provide a secure and functional framework for a wide range of activities: transport, work, relaxation, sport, meetings, reflection, celebrations, markets, culture, debates and much, much more. When we develop communities and facilities, the top priority must always be everyday life. We need to be more creative about how we use the available space.

#### The World's Best City for Cyclists

Bicycles are part of what makes the city tick, and therefore Copenhagen must still be the world's best city for cyclists in 2025. With more cyclists on the streets, we will need to work hard to make room for everybody, including less experienced cyclists, and provide more bicycle parking for them all. Bikes are good for the health and the environment and should be a source of pleasure and atmosphere.

# **More Urban Nature**

Copenhagen's green and blue areas endow it with an air of calm and balance. In a growing city, it is more difficult to find space for big new green areas, so they must be woven in wherever and whenever we get the chance. Nature will have to thrive in unexpected places, resulting in a multitude of smaller patches of green and blue.

# **TARGETS FOR 2025:**

- Copenhageners spend 20% more time in urban spaces
- 90% of Copenhageners consider their neighbourhood lively and varied
- Two thirds of Copenhageners consider the city clean
- 50% of trips to work and study in Copenhagen are by bike
- 70% of Copenhageners are satisfied with bicycle parking
- 75% of Copenhageners consider Copenhagen a green city



#### **BY THE PEOPLE**

Copenhagen will only become more liveable if everybody wants to make greater use of our urban spaces. We will involve all users more actively in the development of local communities and facilities.

Many people in Copenhagen are already keenly involved in debates about the future of the city, but we also want to hear from groups that don't normally come forward.





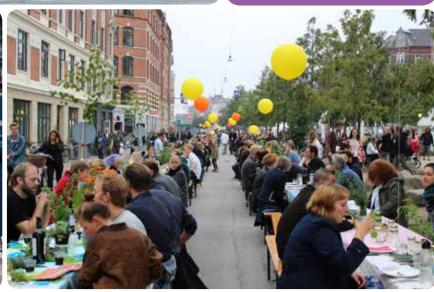


# **OUTLOOK 2050**

In 2050, Copenhagen is a city for everybody. It is intimate but spacious. A lush, green city, through which various forms of transport easily glide.

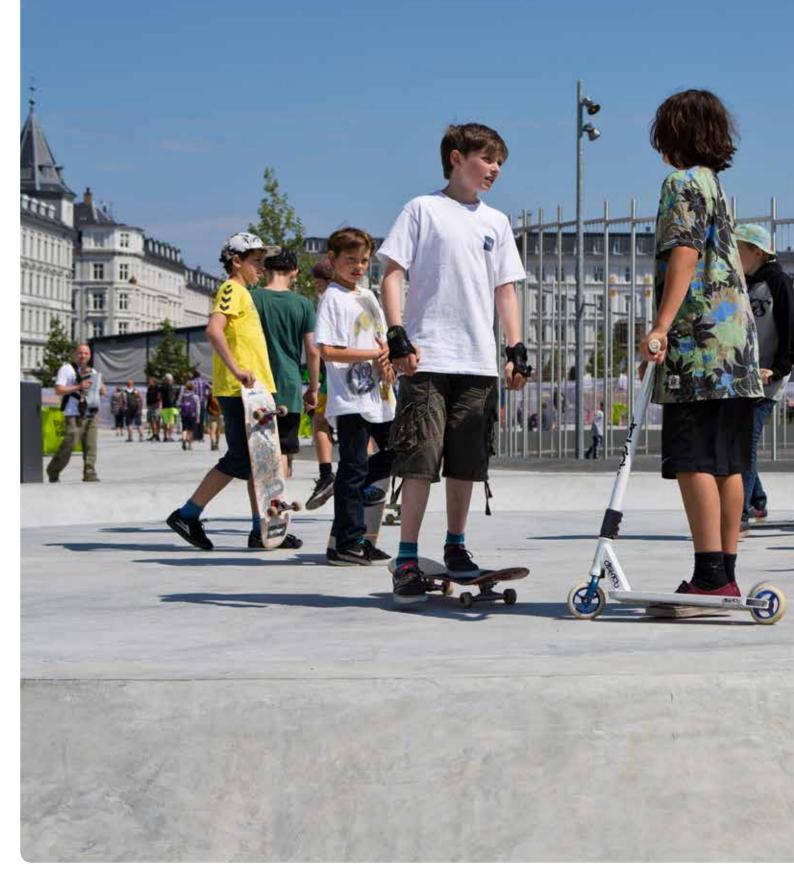


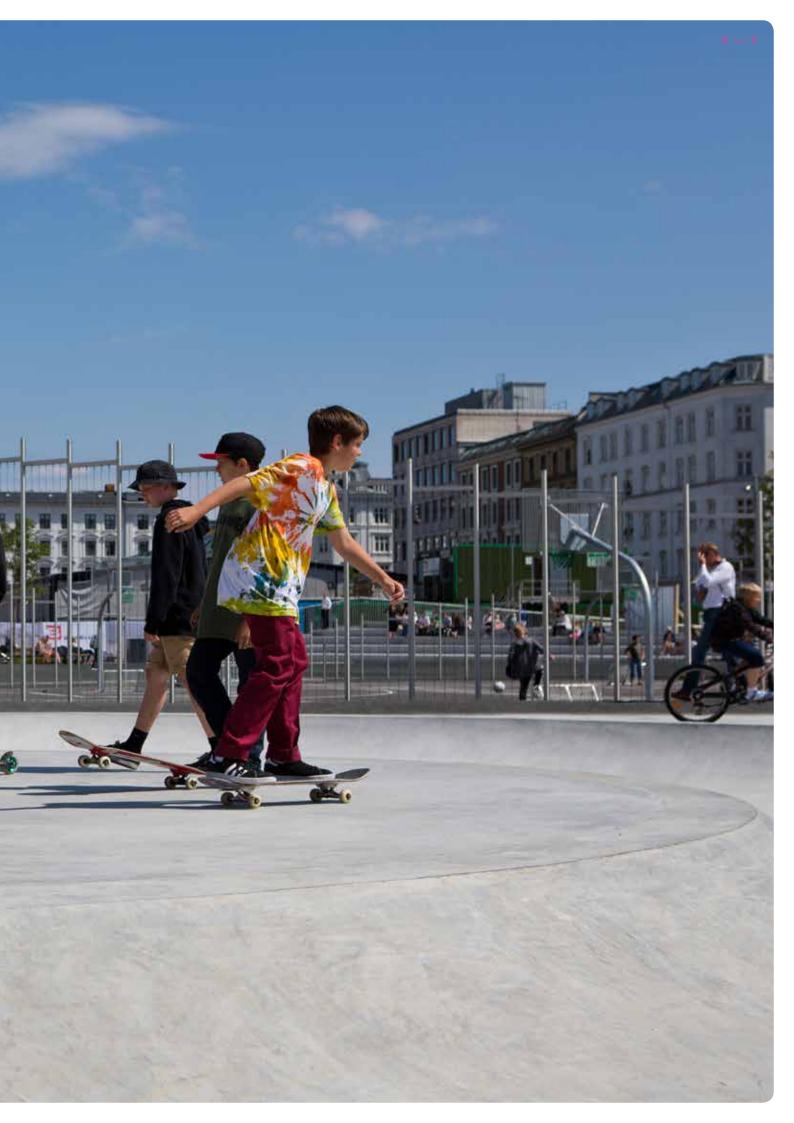




"You can see that the open spaces and green places are popular, they are used a lot. It's cool, people get out more and they are together more".

Aji, 27, Brønshøj-Husum





# A City With an Edge

The clash of contrasts is what infuses a metropolis with its unique sense of vibrancy. Contrast between neatly trimmed parks and rough-and-ready, regenerated industrial sites. Between Michelin-starred restaurants and street kitchens. Between modern, experimental architecture and 300-year-old buildings.

We need to pave the way for the city's diversity to play an even more prominent role. It would be good if Copenhagen were even bolder and had more of an edge. We need room for wild, creative initiatives and architecture that evokes strong emotions – without the city breaking at the seams and becoming divided.

To make Copenhagen a city with more of an edge, the City of Copenhagen will focus on:

#### **Flexibility and Creativity**

Cities that don't constantly change become drab and predictable. We want a more flexible and dynamic Copenhagen that reflects the myriad of lives lived here. There will be room for experimental projects that may have a limited lifespan. There will be freedom to start up and test new things. Buildings and areas will change their function over time. We must have the courage to surprise and innovate.

#### Unique Neighbourhoods that Belong Together

While contrasts are important, Copenhagen must avoid growing into a divided city. Getting around and across it has to be easy, safe and inspiring. A city with an edge depends on its people and businesses daring to be different, so it is important that all types of people have the opportunity to live here. Neighbourhoods must all be attractive and organised in a way that supports both the individual choice and the emergence of new communities.

#### **TARGETS 2025:**

- · A majority of Copenhageners consider Copenhagen a city with an edge
- 70% of Copenhageners find that they have plenty of opportunity to get involved at local level
- · Twice as many volunteers take part in the development, care and maintenance of the city
- The number of deprived areas is at least halved
- 90% of Copenhageners find it easy to get around the city
- At least 70% of new social housing is placed in school districts with less than 20% social housing











# **BY THE PEOPLE**

Perhaps the most important contribution to a city with an edge will come from the people themselves. Those who have the willingness, creativity and vision to make an original mark on the city must have better opportunities and more flexible frameworks to do so.

We believe that involving those who are willing and able to make a difference will generate new communities, life and cohesion.

# **OUTLOOK 2050**

In 2050, Copenhagen welcomes change and provides space for the unknown. It is a unified city, and deprived areas are a thing of the past.



"It would be a highly positive move if the municipality spreads events throughout Copenhagen, so people get out more and use the different parts of the city, which are so very varied in character".





# A Responsible City

In 2025, taking responsibility for the environment and resources isn't something we can opt into or out of. It is a responsibility that must be assumed by all of us – the citizens, companies and the municipality.

Copenhagen is one of the world's most ecological and climate-friendly cities, but we still have a long way to go. We want to be sustainable and adapt the city to cope with climate change. We must continue to work hard to ensure that the increasing number of people who live in the city can use it in good conscience – safe in the knowledge that future generations will have the same possibility and pleasure.

To create a more responsible city, the City of Copenhagen will focus on:

#### First Carbon Neutral Capital City

In 2025, Copenhagen will be the world's first carbon neutral capital city. As well as being an important milestone in the fight against climate change, this will have other positive effects, in the form of less noise, cleaner air, healthier citizens and more green jobs.

#### **No Waste of Resources**

In 2025, we will not be able to afford to squander resources. We must make far better use of the city's waste. Copenhagen must be a leader in the circular economy and make less of an impact on the Earth's resources, via sharing schemes, reuse and even better frameworks for involving the people of the city in the green transition.

#### Climate-proof With Greater Value

We want Copenhagen to be a more robust, resilient city, ready to cope with the climate of the future. Facing this challenge will involve establishing new green urban spaces, turning the city into a living showcase for the world which can contribute to exports of Copenhagen solutions and a green economy.

#### **TARGETS 2025:**

- · Copenhagen is carbon neutral
- 75% of all trips in Copenhagen are on foot, by bike or by public transport
- · Number of homes suffering from severe noise pollution is more than halved
- · A majority of the Copenhageners use sharing, swapping and reuse schemes
- The risk of flooding is reduced by 30%, and climate proofing has benefitted 160,000 Copenhageners









# **BY THE PEOPLE**

We will only succeed in creating a sustainable city if everybody plays a role.

All Copenhageners can play their part by adopting more responsible consumer behaviour, e.g. sorting waste, leaving the car at home, using sharing schemes, recycling and more careful use of resources such as clean drinking water, electricity and heating.



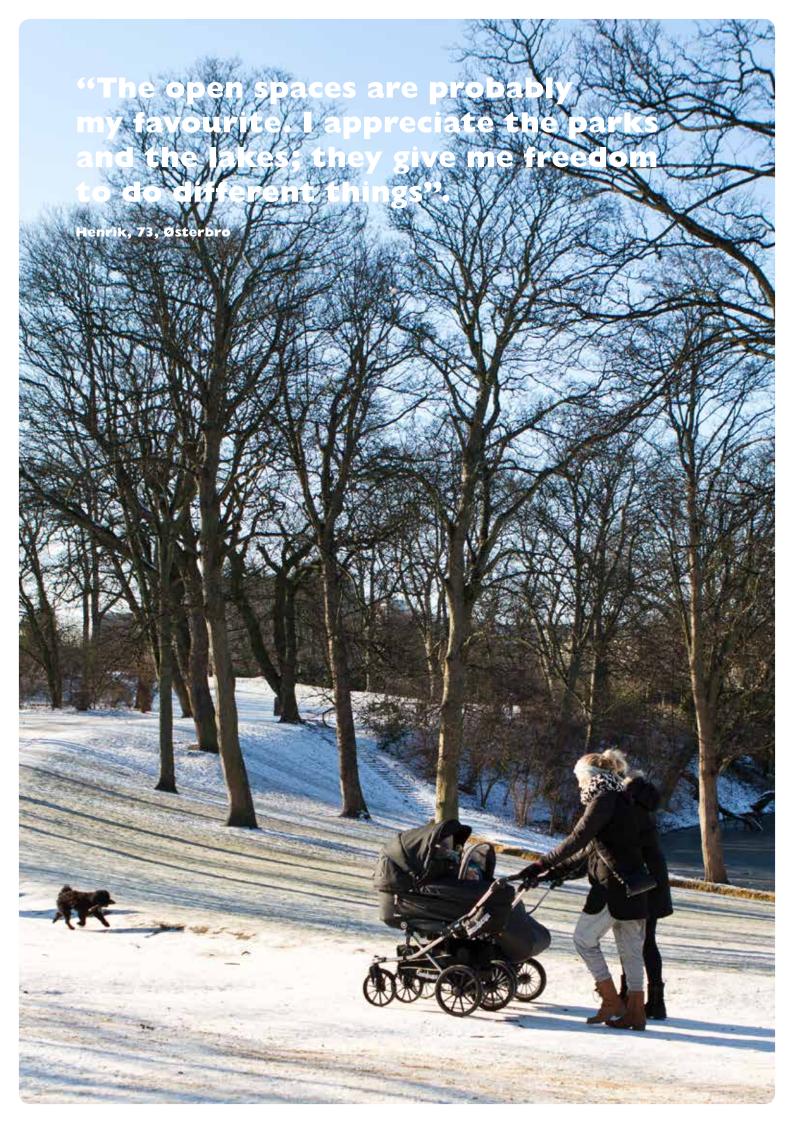
# **OUTLOOK 2050**

In 2050, Copenhagen is fossilfree, with clean air, no waste and no traffic noise. We have shown the world how to cope with climate change for the benefit of everybody.









# This Is How We Measure

TARGETS FOR 2025	WHERE WE STAND
Copenhageners spend 20% more time in urban spaces	I hr 44 mins per week in 2013
90% of Copenhageners consider their neighbourhood lively	and varied 59% in 2013
Two thirds of Copenhageners consider the city clean	33% in 2014
50% of trips to work and study in Copenhagen are by bike	45% in 2014
70% of Copenhageners are satisfied with bicycle parking	33% in 2014
75% of Copenhageners consider Copenhagen a green city	68% in 2015
A majority of Copenhageners consider Copenhagen a city with an edge	32% in 2015
70% of Copenhageners find that they have plenty of opportunity to get involved at local level	47% in 2015
Twice as many volunteers take part in development, care and maintenance of the city	Approx. 1,700 in 2014
The number of deprived areas is at least halved	6 in 2015
90% of the Copenhageners find it easy to get around the city	82% in 2015
At least 70% of new social housing is placed in school districts with less than 20% social housing	31 in 2015
	31% reduction of CO <sub>2</sub> from 2005-2014
75% of all trips in Copenhagen are on foot, by bike or by public transport	67% in 2014
Number of homes suffering from severe noise pollution is more than halved	About 35,000 in 2012
A majority of Copenhageners use sharing, swapping or reuse schemes	22% in 2015
The risk of flooding is reduced by 30%, and climate proofing has benefitted 160,000 Copenhageners	Risk level unchanged

"Copenhageners are really good at using local amenities. The more opportunities there are, the more people will use their communities. It enhances the quality of life".

Peter, 40, Nørrebro

#### WHAT IS 'CO-CREATE COPENHAGEN'?

'Co-create Copenhagen' is a vision with aims and targets for technical and environmental issues towards 2025. The three aims of the vision: 'A Liveable City', 'A City With an Edge' and 'A Responsible City' are to be realised on the basis of the municipal plan for Copenhagen. The vision will also strengthen and interact with a number of other municipal policies and strategies.

2015
City of Copenhagen
Technical and Environmental Administration

TMF Design
Photo by Ursula Bach, City of Copenhagen, Colourbox, Troels Heien



