



City	Lillestrøm, municipality of Skedsmo
Location	20 km. East of Oslo (capital)
Population	Ca 14 000
Study site	Ca. 6,4 ha.
Site of project	Ca. 2,0 ha.

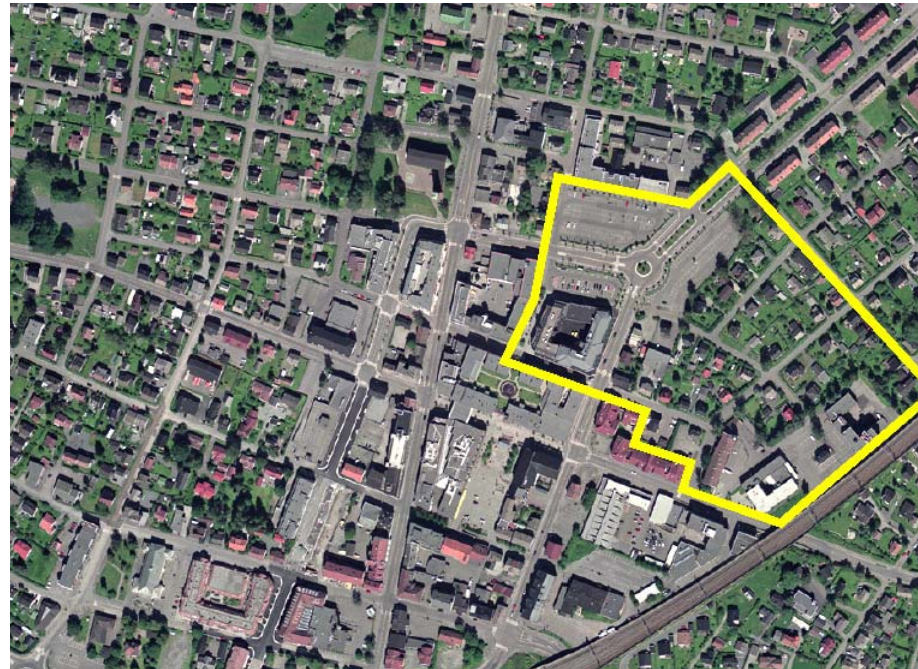
TOPIC

The main focus is to transform an existing city square into an innovative, sustainable public space and adding new mixed use buildings. The operation is part of the City's strategy to extend the city centre and give it a new dynamic in order to prevent sprawl.

An expanding multicultural population within the natural city borders ask for new answers in order to prevent city sprawl. The town of Lillestrøm, is located 20 km. East of Oslo (capital) in southern Norway as part of the larger city conurbation. How can new ideas for public spaces and structures create an identity for Lillestrøm as a sustainable and competitive knowledge based town? How can a concept for shaping new building mass open up for a new dialogue between public space and buildings, which intensify the qualities of urban living? The municipality of Skedsmo is asking for innovative ideas, methods and concepts for dealing with Stortorvet as a main public space in the town of Lillestrøm. How can the design deal with the Nordic climate, for instance the challenging sun and light situations, and the changing use of public space throughout the seasons? How can the new public space reflect Lillestrøms ambitions as the centre for knowledge based businesses dealing with renewable energy in the Oslo region. The European competition could play a key role in this discussion, demanding intelligence from later projects to come.

TERRITORIAL SCALE : CONURBATION

The development of the Oslo city region shall take place along the longitudinal impact of the infrastructure, simultaneously addressing the large scale of an urban band, and the local scale with its fingers. The town Lillestrøm (one of the fingers) is one of the main nodes in the Oslo region. Located close to Oslo Airport Gardermoen (1997) has given Lillestrøm an increased centrality and importance in the city region of Oslo. By the new high frequency railway both Oslo City centre and the national airport is within 10-12 min travel. Regional plans state that increased growth shall mainly take place within the existing urban area. Lillestrøm has developed around the railway station, on the basis of a considerable wood mill industry. Decline of traditional industry has led to the increasing regional economic importance of the town's research and development community which origins from national defence institutes established her during the latter half of the 20th century. Due to this, and a number of regional public service functions, there is a large amount of commuting to the municipality. Intensifying and transforming the urban structure for further growth are the main challenge.



URBAN SCALE : STUDY SITE

The study area is dedicated to the challenge of scale in a small town. Study area indicates the borders of the urbane city centre. Higher density is possible, (and wanted). The public space, and especially the buildings localisation in the transition between the urban centre and the adjacent detached housing area, should be important issues in the design. The study area is a transition between an important car entry point to the towns centre and the pedestrian areas within the urban centre. The space (study area) between the centre and the characteristic centrally located detached housing requires smart solutions for adjusting to a distinctly low-density part of the town. Development in this transition zone represents a special challenge for planning and architecture as it asks for a holistic conceptual definition with a compatible urban structure and the right morphology.

Programmatic intention:

Create an urban strategy for small scale residential area to become a part of a new urban structure. The development will be in steps and has to include the participation of people living in the area. Establish of soft mobility network and connections to the new urban park (Stortorvet).

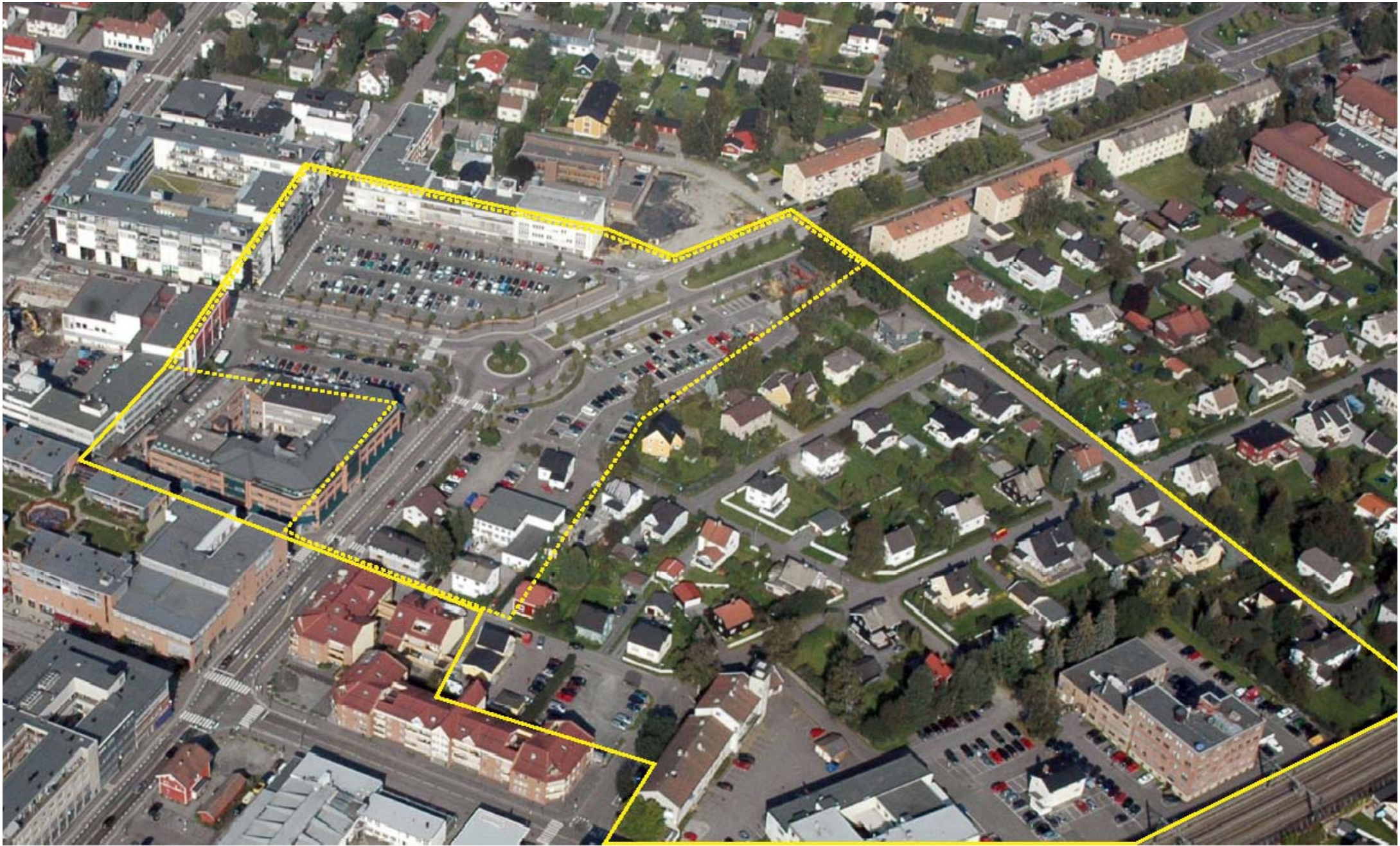


PROXIMITY SCALE : SITE OF PROJECT

The site is located in the outskirts of the commercial centre next to one of four major access points. The urbane centre asks for further development, and the site represents an important public space in the town next to private detached houses and public buildings. Skedsmo municipality is the owner of the site and wants to establish a building structure towards east, and an urban, public park towards vest.

Programmatic intention:

Establishment of an innovative public space that include a park with extrovert activities, for instance connected to a building which contributes to capture, and strengthen, the town's spirit as a knowledge base. Design a new public space as an extension of the town centre connected to the existing green structure and the soft mobility network.



— Study Area
- - - Site



Parkalleen view towards west



The site from north-west, view towards the detached housing



Stortorvet: parking and main entrance to the cinema



Main roundabout, cinema in the background