

Life Cool Square

The risk of flooding and heat stress is increasing in urban areas all over the world, including Groningen. Spatial measures are needed to make the city cooler and to limit flooding. For Damsterplein we created the LIFE COOL SQUARE project. This project looks at solutions and ideas to transform the stony public space into a green and liveable environment.

Greening and more biodiversity

We create green islands on the square, consisting of different tree and plant species. This increases biodiversity.



Combatting heat stress

Heat lingers longer in the city than in the countryside. We want to bring the temperature down by, among other things, creating shady places with plants and trees.



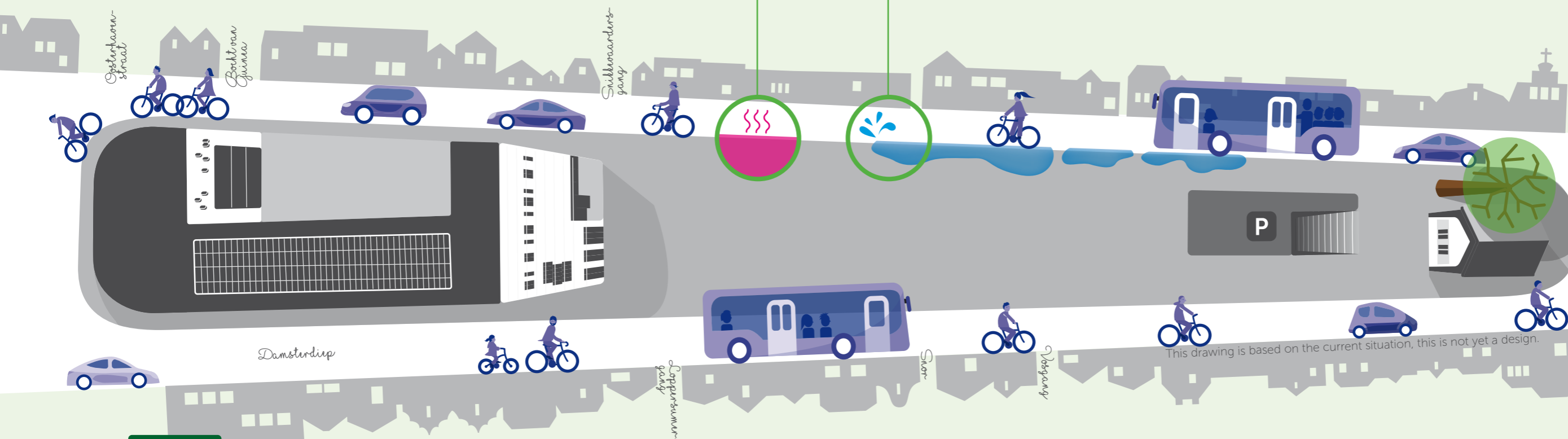
Limit flooding

We use natural solutions to limit flooding. Removing bricks makes it easier for the soil to absorb water. We are also looking at options for water storage.



A place for relaxation and activities

The square will provide space for small events and activities. Benches will be placed so that visitors can sit in the sun (or in the shade).



Involvement of local residents, raising awareness

Local residents are involved in the development of the plans from the start. Local residents are given the opportunity to create facade gardens and contribute to a green environment.



Reuse of water in dry periods

The water that we collect in the water storage can be used for the plants and trees during dry periods.



Collecting/sharing knowledge

Together with the Hanze University of Applied Sciences, we are mapping out the effects of the new layout. We share the knowledge and experiences we gain during the project with local residents, knowledge institutions and cities throughout Europe.



Creating a nice meeting place

Benches will be built around the trees and plants. Damsterplein must become a square for everyone. That is why we pay a lot of attention to good accessibility.