

VOEDSEL PARK AMSTERDAM

FOR US AND FOR THE FOLLOWING GENERATIONS:
AN OPPORTUNITY NOT TO BE MISSED





VOEDSELPARK AMSTERDAM

On the western edge of Amsterdam lies a unique opportunity: the Lutkemeerpolder, covering a total of 43 hectares. Currently planned to become a business park, this area has a much greater and still largely underestimated ecological value for the city and wider surroundings.

We can develop the Lutkemeerpolder into an agro-ecological landscape park, a buzzing center of life, a pillar in urban food policy and an exemplary international project for the food transition. We want to do this in collaboration with the neighbourhood, with the values of inclusiveness, diversity and connection taking the lead.

For us and for the following generations

An opportunity not to be missed

Rarely do we have such a great opportunity to leave a mark on the way the city develops for future generations. Not a theoretical possibility, but a very real and concrete opportunity. An opportunity that is both substantively and financially justifiable and feasible. Not an easy one, because it takes political courage and a return to decisions made in the past. But what major step towards a sustainable future and away from 'business as usual' does not require that?

From the last to the front runner

The Voedselpark plan fits in perfectly with international trends for new integral forms of use of space. All over the world people are working on the food transition. Agroecology, sustainable and social agriculture with as few external inputs as possible, with healthy soils and local products, involving many people and a fair income for the producers. In the coming years, the European Commission wants to ensure that the area under organic farming expands significantly.

The Netherlands is one of the last in Europe in this area: 'Time is running out to make great strides in the food transition'. Progressive cities in Europe and elsewhere in the world are already working to in-

tegrate agriculture and the city. Successful and inspiring examples already exist in cities such as Leuven, Brussels, Ghent and Paris, as well as in landscape parks in Barcelona and Valencia. It is also striking how much social and financial support these projects manage to generate. Much closer to home, Rotterdam is working on the impressive plan Rotterdam de Boer op.

Amsterdam is still far behind the European leaders in the areas of food and urban agriculture. That can change in an instant. Our plan for the Voedselpark Amsterdam fits in seamlessly with the objectives of the current council.

The scale of the climate and biodiversity crisis is revealing itself at a rapid pace. This requires a new perspective and a renewed appreciation for the natural capital that is already available in our immediate vicinity: the healthy, uncontaminated soil and biodiversity of the Lutkemeerpolder.

In this way, many of the objectives of the council can be achieved. For example: short chains, reducing packaging material, but also co-creation, involvement and other forms of land ownership and management: core values in future-proof agriculture and urban development.

Future-proof agriculture and urban planning

Agroecological urbanism, agroecological landscape parks, the commons, and the donut economy are the new ideas that herald this future-proof agriculture and urbanism. We can bring these together in a progressive project, the agro-ecological landscape park in the Voedselpark Lutkemeer, which will put Amsterdam on the map throughout Europe. This is precisely where the only opportunity for Amsterdam lies, because the Lutkemeer is the last piece of land around the city that is so suitable for agriculture due to its fertile soil.

Voedselpark is inspired by the publication of IPES FOOD and Grain: Transforming : A long food movement: transforming foodsystems by 2045. A beautiful vision of the future that we can only achieve if we start now.

We want to make that start in Amsterdam, here and now! In doing so, we make use of the broad involvement of Amsterdammers, residents as well as entrepreneurs and experts, and the natural capital that has already been built up in the Lutkemeer.