



Municipality area	328,3 km ²	Population	504 635 (2006)
GDP per inhabitant	27 169 € (2003)	Trend	stable
Area of green spaces	all open spaces: 213,11 km ² (public)urban green spaces: 72,71 km ²		
Area of green spaces per inhabitant	422,3 m ² (all open spaces) 144,1 m ² (public urban green spaces)		



Dresden and its green structure

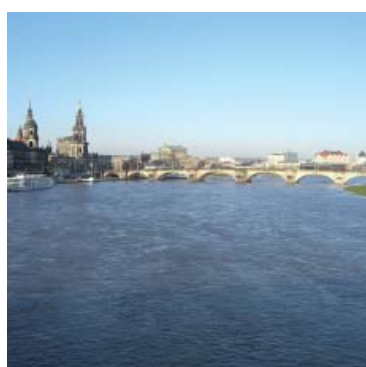
Dresden is located within the Elbe valley in the south east of Germany: a location that can be demonstrated to have had a large influence on the city and its surrounding landscape.

There are several notable urban landscape elements in the city and these include:

- two nature protection areas;
- seven landscape protection areas; and
- many nature monuments.

The biggest open space is the Dresdener Heide - a forest park adjacent to the built up area in the north-west of the city.

In general Dresden is well supplied with green spaces. In some of the districts built during the Wilhelminian era (Gründerzeit), however, quantitative deficits occur. Such deficits can be found in Neustadt, Friedrichstadt and Pieschen. Most of the parks and green spaces benefit from being well maintained and in good shape.



Urban green space strategy

The challenges and approach to building an urban green space strategy

In Dresden, like in Germany as a whole, several different planning instruments already exist which can address urban green space issues. Some of the instruments are based at the neighbourhood level. They include:

- the Layout Plan (Bebauungsplan) which is legally binding; and
- the Green Structure Plan (Grünordnungsplan) which is 'informal' and not legally binding;

At the city level:

- the Integrated City Development Concept (INSEK);
- the Landscape Plan;
- the Land Use Plan (Flächennutzungsplan); and
- the Concept for Urban Rehabilitation or specific land uses such as the Allotment Garden Development Concept, the Playground Development Concept and Cemetery Development Concept.

The organisation of the work to formulate an urban green space strategy is closely linked to the need for and the decision to prepare a strategy to achieve integrated solutions for urban open spaces. It is also linked to the ongoing strategic approach within Germany for the reorganisation of administrative bodies (Verwaltungsmodernisierung). The main challenges in building the green space strategy include the joining together of these concepts into a long term strategy, the securing of financial support for long-term maintenance and the matching of the concepts with the goals of the administrative bodies' reorganisation.

Another challenge is the need to strengthen the position of green spaces against 'built infrastructure' and 'traffic' during the process of local decision making. Decisions and financial considerations in the past have mainly favoured the built environment due to known 'hard facts'. These have occurred even against the known and demonstrated desires and needs of the citizens. This situation is currently subject to change due to the rising awareness of climate change and the pursuit of a positive air quality balance in the city.

Description of the urban green space strategy

Mission, vision and goals

Main goals:

- To re-organise the Urban Green and Waste Management Office according to green typologies, their planning, construction and maintenance.
- To amalgamate the concepts of the green typologies into a Green Master Plan, that amplifies the synergies between special planning and the management of urban green spaces.



The concept and main issues**Main issues:**

- internal evaluation of existing documents and data to analyse the prospects for optimisation
- further development of the green typology concepts and the Master Plan
- optimise the application of common instruments
- secure financial resources for the maintenance of urban green spaces

Guidelines, recommendations, standards**Maintenance concept:**

A maintenance concept exists for all the green spaces which is based on 5 levels of attention. These range from very intensive care of the highly public interesting and representative places through to extensive care of the near-natural areas.

Important tasks and actions

Build up the Strategy Group with staff of the Urban Green and Waste Management Office. In a second step involve staff from adjacent offices, including the Environmental, Urban Planning, Business Development and Real Estate Offices, together with external stakeholders.

Preparation of a declaration for the City Council aimed at securing political and financial support for further development of the Master Plan Green as the urban green space strategy.

The Strategy Team will continue with green space strategy development after the completion of the GreenKeys Project.

**Good practices/lessons learnt**

- To use different sources of funding and create a localised programme to collect funds e.g. as City Green Programme (Fonds Stadtgrün) or "Adopt a tree" Programme.
- To develop urban green space strategy in the absence of a dedicated responsible body or institution and to gain the acceptance of all related parties.
- To obtain political support for a process that runs unsystematically.

Pilot Project Dresden - Blueher Park



Level 0 - overall city flexible boundaries
Level 1 - neighbourhood pilot project
Level 2 - pilot project Blueher Park
Level 3 - realisation funded by GreenKeys

Green Project > Reconstruction of the Blüher Park

Key data

Area	16,0 ha
Targeted users	Residents of the nearby neighbourhood of Seevorstadt. Visitors interested in historic/archaeological monuments. Users of recreational facilities.
Responsible body	Department of Urban Green and Waste Management
Size of the project	medium
Progress of the project	Completed in May 2008



Short description of the project

The general goal of the Project is to improve existing green space. The final target is to develop an open public garden in a significant historic and archaeological location.

The parts of the city that are influenced directly by the project include:

1. The axes between the eastern part of the medieval city centre with the city hall, including the central public transport square and the Grosser Garten: the biggest of Dresden's parks towards the east,
2. The city ring that separates the inner-city from the adjacent parts of the town,
3. the southern residential area of Seevortadt and the Bürgerwiese park, and
4. The former technology site Robotron and the neighbourhood Pirnaische Vorstadt in the north.



Objectives and goals for the improvement

- To develop a public park with a significant historic/archaeological value,
- Improve the recreational value
- Enhance the accessibility and urban integration of the Blüherpark as a green link into the inner city

Challenges and Problems

Negotiations between the different municipal departments (Heritage protection, State Department of Archaeology, Culture Office, Real Estate Office) concerning the type of development, because of their various responsibilities in the area.

Negotiations between the municipality and other stakeholders and owners of the adjacent site (school, museum, Office Complex Lingner-Stadt). Also with the owner of a part of the land to be developed (not all the land is municipal property).

A negative reaction from local inhabitants due to the closing of the former Herbs Garden. As a result of strong PR activities within GreenKeys the positive perception of the advantages of the renovated park area could be gained.

The sensitivity of the site due to its archaeological value.



Actions undertaken

In 2005 the communication process was commenced and the necessary permissions for the site development were obtained. During 2006 site surveys and the archaeological excavation of the area were begun, together with communication with stakeholders and other land owners. Site clearing and excavations continued into 2007. This year also witnessed the involvement of all stakeholders in the planning and design of the park. Some initial construction activities started. In May 2008 the implementation of the project was completed as scheduled.

Maintenance Concept

The maintenance of the Green Project will be incorporated into the regular maintenance scheme the municipality manages for all its urban green spaces.



Good practices/lessons learnt

- The use of different public relations tools and activities to involve various kinds of stakeholders,
- Effective negotiations with internal and external experts to bring about a common purpose between the municipality and the stakeholders,
- Funding was acquired from different sources (Municipal funds, GreenKeys, Private Heritage).