

# NOVA GORICA, SLOVENIA



## FIRST STEP IN BUILDING THE STRATEGY

Nova Gorica is a border town which sprung up only 60 years ago as a Modernistic 'city in park'. The green areas are Nova Gorica's identity. A great deal of green spaces may also be the reason why they are mostly taken for granted without acknowledging their proper value. Latterly the ownership of the publicly used land turned from social to private. The economic growth is based mainly on casinos. Consideration on strategic planning of green areas has just begun.

**Maja Šinigoj**  
**Municipality of Nova Gorica**  
**Sofija, April 2008**



**GREENKEYS**

## ABOUT NOVA GORICA



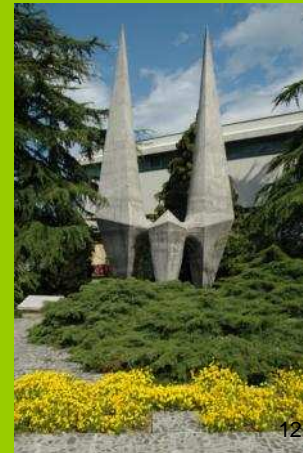
**20.000 inhabitants  
on the border with Italy  
new town - since 1947  
a Modernist, green town**



# URBAN GREEN AREAS

# GREEN AREAS OF NOVA GORICA

## Modernist green spaces



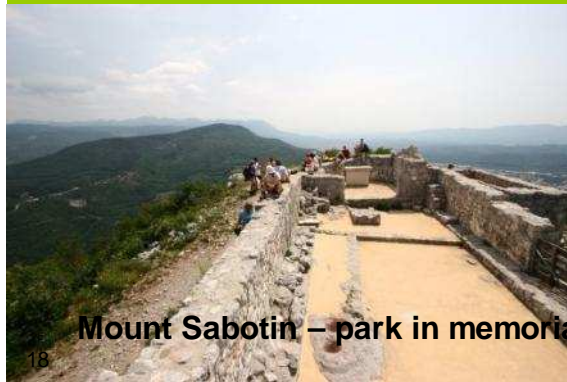
green avenues



green spaces in neighbourhoods

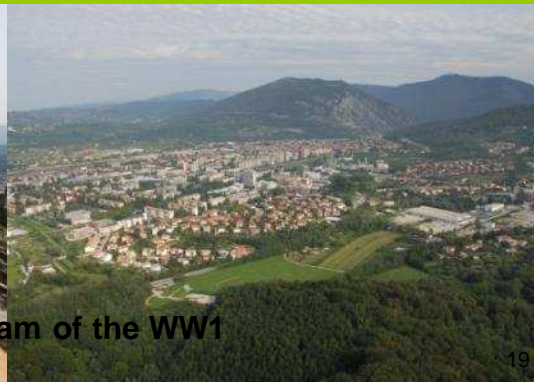
## OPEN GREEN AND RECREATIONAL AREAS

## GREEN AREAS OF NOVA GORICA



Mount Sabotin – park in memoriam of the WW1

18

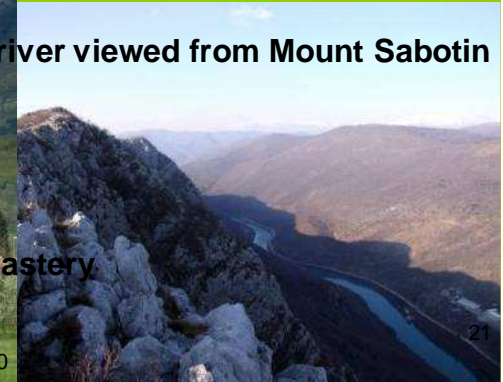


19



The Sveta gora Monastery

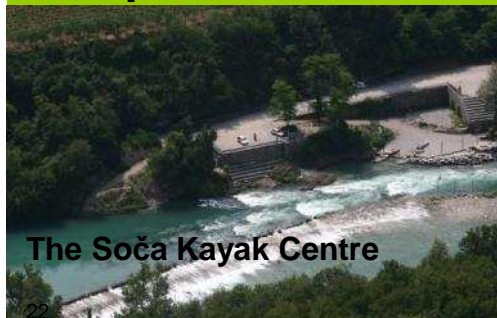
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21

open green areas reachable within 1 hour

open recreational green areas

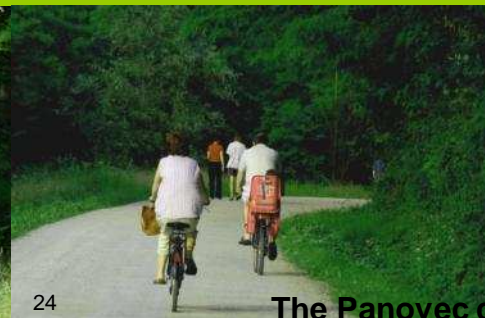


The Soča Kayak Centre

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The Panovec central recreational area



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Lijak recreational centre for parachuting and horse riding

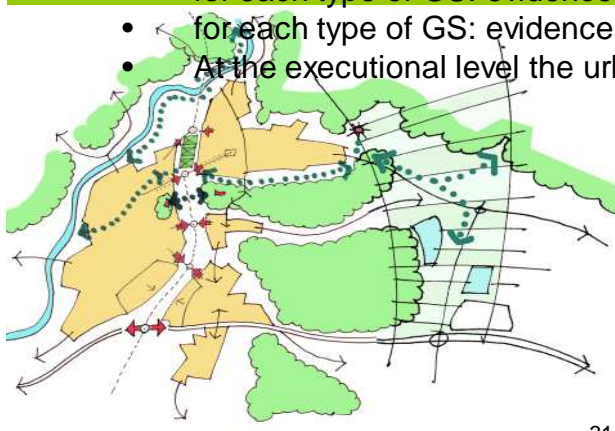
## URBAN GREEN SPACE STRATEGY AND OTHER POLICIES



**There is no legally binding spatial legislation for development of the GSS in Slovenia, but a working version of such a document has been created by the city administration while working on this issue.** Consequently we now have a preliminary draft of the Green Space Strategy, which includes the vision, goals and guidelines (like green strategy typology) for modifying appropriate spatial documents and administrative acts (such as the town's urban plan, its strategic and implementing part, ordinance on the maintenance of public areas, ordinance on the city appearance)

### **The urban plan of Nova Gorica includes the concept and main issues of development of green spaces**

- types of GS: urban GS (Modernist GS, GS in neighborhoods, green avenues, parks, historical parks, cemeteries, rose gardens,...), recreational areas (also open GS), other GS (corridors along the rivers and infrastructure)
- for each type of GS: evidence of all green spaces, the quality, problems and insufficiencies, policies (including guidelines)
- for each type of GS: evidence of equipment (including equipment of children's playgrounds, recreational paths,...)
- At the executional level the urban plan will result in concrete guidelines set for each type of green space



## PILOT PROJECT – HARDWARE LEVEL

## CITY PARK OF NOVA GORICA



All annual estimates anticipate investments considering documents prepared before the beginning of the project. Documentation undergoes standard law procedure, which involves public, external and internal experts, and political will.

In addition, public lighting infrastructure, paths and resting equipment have been installed in the area.



# PILOT PROJECT - IMPLEMENTATION

# CITY PARK OF NOVA GORICA



In the time when actual urban planning methods are neither critical to the real situation nor productive in terms of the elaboration of a positive developmental alternative, when urbanism is becoming just a mere exploitation of a momentary programmatic need, loosing all its generative potential, we posed in front the intention to formulate a sustainable and ecologically sensitive operational concept which will try to sustain the pressure of the contemporary urban conditions.

the software layer of programmatic transformation is sustaining:

## 1. 'bottom up' strategy:

/the development of a planning strategy is starting from the in situ research towards the definition of the strategy  
an absolute need to jump from the 'TOP DOWN' planning approaches to the 'BOTTOM UP' planning models, where the profession should define the basic parameters of spatial transformation, that enable safe, ecological and functional spatial use. Citizens are thus enabled to freely act and transform their peace of urban green, resulting in a diversity of programmatic actions.

**through participation and observation:**

### \_ the indirect inclusion of public - the concept of 'participation of the user'

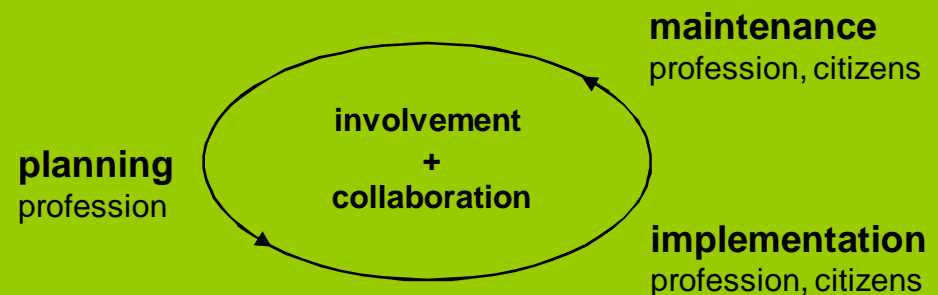
/it enables to expose citizens wishes; questionnaire and the workshop

### \_ the direct inclusion of public - the concept of 'observation of space'

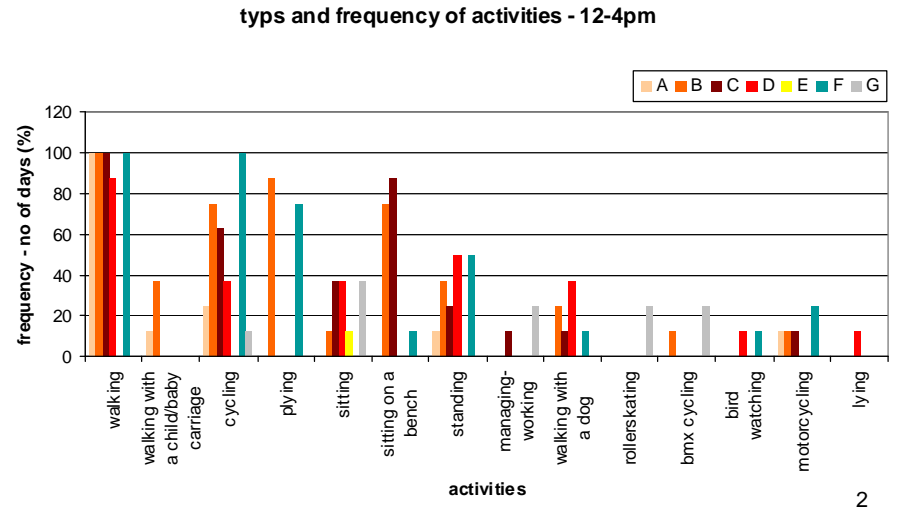
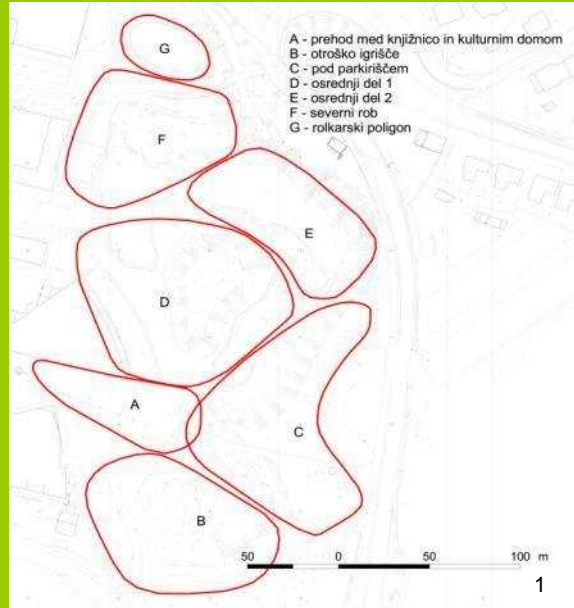
/is determining the actual state and use of space; observation

## 2. 'ephemerality' - cyclical process:

/the planning strategy should enable the cyclical process of spatial transformation to prevent spatial degradedness



observation and behavioural mapping of the park



**Statistics**

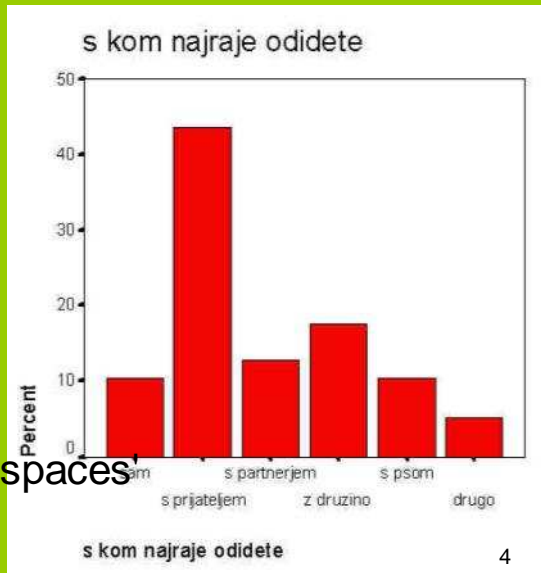
s kom najraje odidete

N	Valid	250
	Missing	0
Median		2,0000

s kom najraje odidete

	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid sam	26	10,4	10,4	10,4
s prijateljem	109	43,6	43,6	54,0
s partnerjem	32	12,8	12,8	66,8
z družino	44	17,6	17,6	84,4
s psom	26	10,4	10,4	94,8
drugo	13	5,2	5,2	100,0
Total	250	100,0	100,0	



questionnaire: 'enjoying our urban green spaces'

# PUBLIC EVENTS

# CITY PARK OF NOVA GORICA



children  
play, school in park



adults  
peace, art, yoga,  
hiking



youth  
skating, biking,...



decision makers, politicians  
publicity, press, awareness

## EXPERIENCE WITH CO-FINANCING

## CITY PARK OF NOVA GORICA

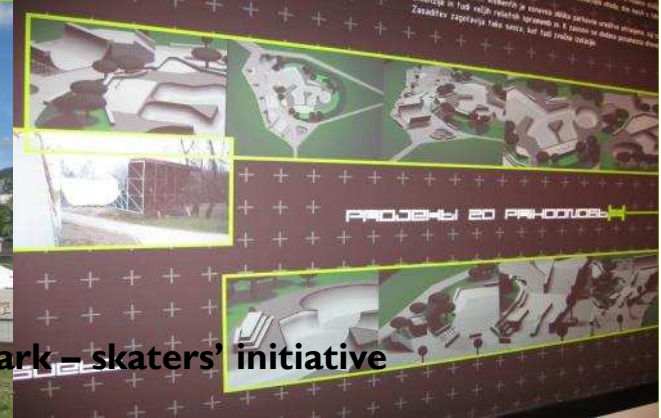
### Children's playground

- artistic action involved art installation – a field of flowers made of waste plastic; the flowers were sold to people, money raised from this event went into building the children's playground. The event attracted a lot of publicity.
- publicity - rise in public awareness, rise in interest for co-financing the project
- project was co-financed by the City Municipality, local casino, other small companies, citizens



### Parking house & Skate park

- big hotel company needs a parking house near one of its hotels, where a skate park is located
- because of the skaters' initiative, execution plan contains an underground parking house with a skate park on its roof; City Municipality owns the land so the company can build the parking house under execution plan conditions



1. **The vision of Nova Gorica is the city in green, healthy and pleasant environment, the city of well designed and maintained green spaces (GS), which are always accessible to the public.**
2. **The urban plan of Nova Gorica includes the concept and main issues of green space development**
  - types of GS: urban GS
  - evidences for each type of GS
  - on executional level, urban plan will result in concrete guidelines, set for each type of green space
3. **The experiences acquired through greenkeys project will be included into subsequent work**
  - guidelines collected through the software part of the pilot project ('bottom up' system of planning)
  - public event was very successful and citizens were highly satisfied, so events will be organized every year
  - investment was well accepted and it is 'alive'. Municipality or other investor will probably continue with other small investments
4. **Tasks and actions for the future**
  - to prepare exact register of all green spaces,
  - to include the guidelines for the Municipality's decree of managing, maintaining and protecting green areas,
  - to organize a public event every year
5. **The annual public event could have a good influence in the sense of**
  - encouraging/stimulating the use of different green spaces
  - Enhancing the awareness of users, politicians, land owners, managers and others, raising awareness of the importance of urban green spaces – as a result of this also increased interest of private companies, donators, politicians, etc. to invest in public green spaces
  - defining the green system of the city (in urban development plan) – urban green spaces, green corridors, the quantity and density of playgrounds...

Photographs:

1. Humar, J.; 2007, Enjoy your city park
2. Ravnikar, E., 1947, ..
3. Geodetski zavod Slovenije, 2002, ortofoto posnetek Nove Gorice
- 4.-8. Caharia, L., 2007
9. Poša, J.; Komel, B; 2007
10. Batič, J; 2007
11. Poša, J.; Komel, B; 2007
- 12.-13. Caharia, L.; 2007
14. Poša, J.; Komel, B; 2007
15. Batič, J.; 2007
16. Poša, J.; Komel, B; 2007
17. Caharia, L.; 2007
18. Arhiv Mestne občine Nova Gorica
19. Caharia, L.; 2007
- 20.-22. Arhiv Mestne občine Nova Gorica
- 23.-25. Caharia, L.; 2007
- 26.-28. Arhiv Mestne občine Nova Gorica
- 29.-33. Dalla Valle, S.; 2007, Urbanistični načrt Nove Gorice
- 34.-35. Geodetski zavod Slovenije, 2002, ortofoto posnetek Nove Gorice
36. Arhiv Mestne občine Nova Gorica
- 37.-38. Humar, J.; 2007, Enjoy your city park
39. Humar, J.; 2007, Enjoy your city park
40. Jurca, N.; 2006

Tables:

- 1.-2. Goličnik, B.; 2007
- 3.-4. Filipič, P.; 2007