



City of Gothenburg

Kvillebäcken – Gothenburg’s new sustainable urban district

Kvillebäcken district is a new landmark in many ways. Kvillebäcken is trying to unite the city, across the river and between different neighborhoods. Initially the new market hall worked as an icebreaker attracting people from whole Gothenburg to the neighborhood. Once there they also discovered the vibrant mix between the old and new parts of the neighborhoods.

Municipally owned company Älvstranden Utveckling AB and seven other real estate developers are managing the project together in a joint venture. Together a program for sustainability has been worked out and Kvillebäcken is the first district in Gothenburg implementing the city's Programme for environmentally-adapted construction (see other action). All buildings are environmentally-certified.

Examples of innovative elements include safe bicycle wardrobes to increase everyday biking and decrease car usage, short term energy storage in buildings to even out the district heating requirement and vacuum systems that handle waste and recyclable materials. In this setting, where environmental technology is applied in an urban environment, an innovation platform is under development with Business Region Göteborg to promote commercially-driven environmental development and knowledge dissemination. Construction is ongoing with 50 percent already finished. During the construction time empty areas are being used for urban farming by private individuals and restaurants.

From spring 2016 there will be an electric cargo bike pool in Kvillebäcken. The bicycle pool is a pilot project and a part of the Elmob Project that aims to use Gothenburg as a test bed for various types of electric vehicles.

Kvillebäcken is now also included in the Green Gothenburg visit program which makes it possible for foreign visitors to get guidance on environmental activities in the district.

The delegation for Sustainable Cities was set up by the Swedish government in 2008 to provide support for projects promoting sustainable urban development. Several of the projects that received support are in the Gothenburg region, including Kvillebäcken. The project is an important showcase for Gothenburg, displaying how sustainable cities can be created in practice. Overall, the project will try out many new solutions and technologies and thus contribute to knowledge development and export of sustainable solutions.

More information:

About Kvillebäcken (in Swedish):

<http://kvillebacken.se/>

The delegation for Sustainable Cities (in English):

<http://www.hallbarastader.gov.se/bazment/hallbarastader/en/start.aspx>

The Elmob Project (in Swedish)

<http://www.businessregion.se/sv/branschutveckling/demo-och-utvecklingsprojekt/elmob-elfordon-hallbart-resande>

Green Gothenburg (in English):

<http://www.greengothenburg.se/>