

Sustainability Program for Car Parks

Gothenburg is first in Sweden with a sustainability program for multistory car parks. The municipal Parking Company has developed a sustainability program for multistory car parks that was adopted in April 2014. The program is a policy document and a tool for all future new construction, reconstruction and renovation of car parks. It also provides the basis for the procurement of consultants/contractors and specifies which guidelines and requirements that applies.

An ongoing project is the construction of so-called Rain Gardens close to the car parks. Besides giving aesthetic and ecological values with increased greenery, the Rain Gardens are specially designed to clean the polluted rain water around the car park and take care of stormwater locally so that flood risk will decrease.

The Parking Company recognizes that there may be a strong paradox between sustainability and parking facilities. Hence the purpose of the sustainability program is to ensure that new construction, reconstruction and renovation of car parks are as sustainable as possible. Since green certifications of car parks are not yet available, the Parking Company has initiated a dialogue with Sweden Green Building Council to investigate the possibility to carry out pilot projects in collaboration with SGBC with the aim of establishing a standard for sustainable car parks.

The intention of the program is to contribute to a sustainable urban development - socially, economically and ecologically. Besides helping to reduce the climate impact, multistory car parks are to be built and tailored to meet the expected climate changes. To achieve the goal of car parks that contribute to an attractive city and sustainable mobility, five focus areas are identified. Each with different requirements and guidelines formulated. These are:

- Climate and resource efficiency – for example early analysis of climate and water effects, material LCA and LCC to determine material selection, recycling of materials, smart energy solutions, water and waste management in the construction process and in the completed car parks.
- Sustainable mobility and parking – encourages sustainable mobility, behavior change and improve public health by for example integrated bicycle parking, changing rooms for bicycle commuters and service stations where pumping and charging of electric bicycle is possible. Car parks may be equipped with real-time information on public transport, parking space for carpooling as well as charging stations for electric cars if appropriate.
- The green city - encourage and take into account green and blue values, for example through green roofs and walls, strengthening of local biological diversity and surface water management.
- Collaboration and quality - early collaboration with stakeholders, residents and visitors to ensure a correct and effective use of space and sustainable urban development.

- Safety and attractiveness- for example analysis of traffic and pedestrian flow patterns to create safe environments, sustainable architecture, comfortable, secure and attractive parking. Car parks should also meet the requirements of quality, safe and comfortable parking service to be granted the European Standard Parking Award.

More information (in Swedish):

Sustainability Program for Car Parks:

<https://www.p-bolaget.goteborg.se/globalassets/hallbarhetsredovisningar/hallbarhetsprogram-parkeringshus.pdf>

About Rain Gardens (automatic translation possible)

www.goteborg.se/regnrabatter