

Timber neighbourhood “The Erven” wins major tender in Amsterdam region

***The Erven*, a new sustainable timber neighbourhood in Hoofddorp just outside Amsterdam, has been selected as the winning proposal for a major phase of the Lincolnpark development area. The project will deliver approximately 519 new homes built with timber and bio-based materials, forming an inclusive, future-proof neighbourhood inspired by the traditional Dutch farmstead.**

Designed around four courtyards – or *erven* – named *Ontspan* (relax), *Groei* (grow), *Maak* (create) and *Speel* (play), the neighbourhood brings together homes, greenery and shared spaces into a cohesive living environment where nature, community and architecture coexist.

The project is developed by *Timpaan* and *Blauwhoed*, with *White Arkitekter* designing several of the buildings and supervising the architectural team composed of *SeARCH*, *Space&Matter* and *Atlas Architects*, while *DS Landschapsarchitecten* shape the overall landscape design. The team is supported by *Merosch* and other local partners.

“We are extremely pleased to be realising this wonderful project in our hometown. The region faces strong pressure on the housing market, and it is fantastic that we can add so many affordable homes in *The Erven* together with *Blauwhoed*,”
– Ingeborg de Jong, General Manager, *Timpaan*

The Erven is characterised by progressive, bio-based architecture. Buildings are constructed in cross-laminated timber (CLT) with timber-frame walls insulated using materials such as straw and wood fibre. Facades use natural and reused materials including wood, reed, hemp fibre, lime and recycled aluminium. Many roofs feature reed or timber shingles, while green roofs with solar panels contribute to biodiversity and local energy production.

Circular design principles run throughout the project: foundations use recycled concrete and gravel; structures are modular and adaptable; and each courtyard includes an “*ecozolder*” – an attic designed to support local bird and bat species. Mobility hubs will provide bike parking, parcel delivery and shared electric vehicles, further reducing the neighbourhood’s environmental footprint.

“*The Erven* demonstrates how the neighbourhoods of the future can be built with nature as a starting point – in timber, bio-based materials and with community at their heart. The design concept was inspired by local traditions, but reinterprets them in a contemporary way, where buildings, nature and people form a living ecosystem,”
– Oskar Norelius, Lead Architect and Office Director, *White Arkitekter* in Stockholm

When completed, *The Erven* will offer more than new homes: it will create a living, inclusive and circular neighbourhood where sustainable materials, social resilience and ecological values set the foundation for future growth.

For more information:

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White Arkitekter is one of Scandinavia’s leading architectural practices. We work with sustainable architecture, urban design, landscape architecture and interior design for current and future generations. Our mission is to enable sustainable life through the art of architecture. Our vision is that by 2030 all our architecture will be regenerative and climate neutral through design excellence. We are an employee-owned architecture collective consisting of

approximately 500 employees with a presence in Sweden, Norway, the United Kingdom, Germany, Canada and East Africa.