

# EUROPEAN WATSUPS PROJECT

## WATER CORRIDOR Railway dock - Wester Plantation

Leeuwarden has been participating in the European WATSUPS project since mid-2024, of which Mechelen is the lead partner. As Leeuwarden, we are, together with Catania and Kristianstad, so-called transfer partners.

WATSUPS stands for **Water As The Source of Urban Public Space**.

The water corridor that we 'bring in' as a transfer partner in this project is a combination of projects from our Railway Dock and City Center Programs. The City Center Implementation Program 2023-2030 has been drawn up on behalf of the municipality of Leeuwarden and adopted by the Council to determine the direction for developments in and around the city center in order to make the city more attractive in the coming years. The so-called development program for Spoordok was established by the Council in 2024. Spoordok is a redevelopment of an (infill) location near the station where living and working are central and the theme of water is included as a top priority.

Various material is available from both the Railway Dock and the City Center Program and the necessary information can also be found on the municipal website.

For the Inner City Program, a group of placemaking students will have already worked on the 'Outdoor Space Harmony' component in 2024. This assignment involved redesigning the section between the Ruiterskwartier and the Zaailand on the side of the water and in front of the Harmonie.

### Roadmap

A so-called Roadmap for the Leeuwarden Water Corridor has been created showing the spots that make up this corridor. See image below (readable available). The Roadmap also lists the 6 innovations that are important in the European trajectory and for which it must be investigated to what extent we can take steps and achieve results in the Leeuwarden case.



We challenge the Placemaking students to think with us about which of the 6 innovations we can apply in which spots with great potential. Cq. where we can make those innovations visible with special interventions. This also provides insight into the transfer possibilities of projects/innovations from lead partner Mechelen. These innovations are biodiversity, water recreation, art, A.R./participation, Nature Based Solutions and inclusivity.

Because a placemaking assignment has already been carried out for spot 6 and Spoordok itself has already been the subject of placemaking research, the proposal is to focus this assignment mainly on the physical connection between the 2 programs. This therefore focuses largely on spot 4, and possibly in combination with spot 5, being the part along the Harlingervaart between Snekertrekweg/Zuidersingel and the Snekerkade/Zuiderstadsgracht. How can this place, this part along the city canal, offer more quality, do more in terms of water experience and give substance to 1 or more of the 6 innovations.