



# WieNeu+ in Innerfavoriten

Three years of comprehensive urban renewal in  
the neighbourhood

2021-2023



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## Introduction



### Introduction to this report

In 2021, the WienNeu+ urban renewal programme was launched in Innerfavoriten, a part of Vienna's 10<sup>th</sup> municipal district. The present report on three years of experience with WieNeu+ in Innerfavoriten (2021-2023) showcases the background as well as the manifold activities and projects of this urban renewal programme, all of which contribute to a climate- and future-proof city.

WieNeu+ generates important impulses for climate- and future-proof neighbourhoods for the benefit of local residents. Main focuses include the thematic areas "Buildings & energy", "Social neighbourhood" and "Public space", complemented by the cross-cutting programme segment "Knowledge and innovation management". Together with partners and local residents, exemplary and sustainable solutions are developed and practically implemented.

Urban renewal is a key topic for the future and also boasts a long tradition in the Austrian capital. In 2024, the City of Vienna is celebrating the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of its "gentle urban renewal" approach. WieNeu+ likewise contributes to this track record.

## Forewords

### Foreword by Kathrin Gaál



*Fig. 1: Kathrin Gaál, Deputy Mayor and Executive City Councillor for Housing, Housing Construction, Urban Renewal and Women's Issues. Copyright: City of Vienna / David Bohmann*

Dear citizens of Vienna,  
Dear residents of the WieNeu+ neighbourhood Innerfavoriten,

For the past 50 years, Vienna has been successfully pursuing the internationally highly respected approach of “gentle urban renewal”. This has contributed significantly to the quality of life of the people living in the Austrian capital and, hence, has engendered an extremely positive social and economic development dynamic that is reflected in wide recognition.

From the beginning, our efforts focused on the residents of the neighbourhoods up for urban renewal as well as on the aspect of affordability. Consequently, we have always been highly interested in conducting a dialogue with all stakeholders – with tenants and multi-apartment building owners as well as with local businesspeople. Obviously, priorities were different 50 years ago: e.g. improving housing standards by refurbishing old flats without toilets or running water, clearing and then greening dark inner courtyards, creating the possibility of housing / work combos or designing public spaces more attractively as places of encounter.

Now, 50 years later, our focus is on rendering the city climate- and future-proof. A milestone in the practical implementation of our Smart Climate City Strategy was the EU project “Smarter Together – Gemeinsam g’scheiter” in the 11<sup>th</sup> municipal district Simmering (2016-2021), which led to the WieNeu+ urban renewal programme launched in Innerfavoriten in 2021.

After three years, it is time for an interim stocktaking. I am impressed by the sheer variety of the projects implemented. With the “Grätzförderung” subsidy scheme, we were able to trigger important refurbishment and renovation impulses, and the “GrätzImarie” funding pool for neighbourhood projects motivated many residents to make active contributions!

Comprehensive urban renewal does not end at a building's walls but involves the immediate surroundings as well. It's all about better quality of life, about affordable housing – and about rendering the buildings of our city fit for the future.

My heartfelt gratitude goes to all those who have joined in and contributed to this programme in so many different ways, since common efforts can open up incredible potentials and opportunities. Thank you!

Yours,

Kathrin Gaál



## Foreword by Marcus Franz



*Fig. 2: Marcus Franz, Chairman of the 10<sup>th</sup> municipal district Favoriten. Copyright: Harald Schuster*

Dear citizens of Favoriten,  
Dear residents of WieNeu+ Innerfavoriten,

The year 2021 saw the launch of the WienNeu+ urban renewal programme in Innerfavoriten. The objective lay in advancing urban renewal for a climate- and future-proof city in the neighbourhood extending between Landgutgasse, Laxenburgerstrasse, Inzersdorferstrasse and Triesterstrasse, which is home to 35,000 persons.

In this project, it has always been our key concern to take the local residents onboard and to keep them informed and involved. This has succeeded very well with the “Grätzlmarie” idea budget. Overall, 29 projects by residents were implemented for a total subsidy budget of Euro 113,000. These jointly realised activities have strengthened the neighbourhood and, in this way, have improved the quality of life for all.

Moreover, the WieNeu+ area also hosts the unique “Supergrätzl” pilot project. Following a process of extensive citizen participation, its implementation phase was launched in autumn 2023. In the future, local residents and users will find more green spaces, higher quality of outdoor spaces, more safety and less traffic in this Supergrätzl: in addition to the existing 47 trees, as many as 62 newly planted trees and 94 greened areas will render it a much greener part of Vienna. Moreover, traffic intersections will be enhanced by means of 11 micro open spaces offering numerous spray mist cooling systems, water features and light-coloured pavement.

WieNeu+ highlights once more the great potential of our district and shows that Favoriten is a dynamic district that is home to many innovative projects. In this spirit, I would like to thank all those who have actively contributed to WieNeu+ so far. Finally, my deep-felt gratitude goes to all staff members who were involved in the project and have done such a great job.

Yours cordially,

Marcus Franz  
District Chairman of Favoriten

## Foreword by Otto Eckl



*Fig. 3: Otto Eckl, Head of Municipal Department 25 (MA 25) – Technical Urban Renewal. Copyright: City of Vienna*

Dear readers,  
Dear programme partners of WieNeu+,

It is with particularly great pleasure that I may present this report on three years of WieNeu+ programme work in Innerfavoriten.

The WieNeu+ urban renewal programme is domiciled at Municipal Department 25 – Technical Urban Renewal of the City of Vienna. It follows in the tradition of gentle urban renewal and continues the innovation process launched with the EU-funded project “Smarter Together – Gemeinsam g’scheiter” in the 11<sup>th</sup> municipal district Simmering. WieNeu+ contributes to enhancing the local quality of life as well as to the Smart Climate City Strategy Vienna. This is confirmed by the results of the work conducted in the first programme neighbourhood, Innerfavoriten.

WieNeu+ creates and taps synergies through intensive co-operation with other municipal departments on the one hand and with numerous partners from civil society, research and business on the other hand. This produces future-oriented solutions that moreover add significantly to Vienna’s standing in Europe.

On the basis of exemplary projects translated into reality, WieNeu+ enables us and our various partners to illustrate how Vienna’s approach of gentle urban renewal combines climate resilience with quality of life.

My special thanks go to all project partners as well as, in particular, to the entire WieNeu+ team, who work with such great commitment and confidence for the benefit of people in climate- and future-proof neighbourhoods.

With my best regards,

Otto Eckl

## Urban renewal with WieNeu+



*Fig. 4: Stephan Hartmann, WieNeu+ Programme Manager, City of Vienna – Technical Urban Renewal (MA 25). Copyright: PID / Martin Votava*

In view of the current tasks and goals of the City of Vienna as embodied in the Smart Climate City Strategy Vienna, the Vienna Climate Guide for attaining climate neutrality by 2040, the programme for phasing out oil and gas as well as numerous other policy documents and legal rules of the City of Vienna, key priority must be assigned to urban renewal and its further development. Social cohesion and community sense in times of profound changes in society or the redesign of the built city due to manmade global warming are all issues that call for solutions. In this context, the credo of “gentle urban renewal” remains an important guiding principle, also because the preservation of the historic building stock – and of the dwellings of the people living in these buildings! – is essential for sparing resource use as well as for the application of the principles of a circular economy in the construction sector.

Even after 50 years, many fundamental tenets of gentle urban renewal are still valid: understanding the concerns and needs of local residents, aiming for concrete results, looking and planning beyond individual buildings (i.e. rehabilitation of entire blocks), establishing co-ordination and interfaces between City Administration, private individuals and enterprises as well as acting across departmental and thematic boundaries.

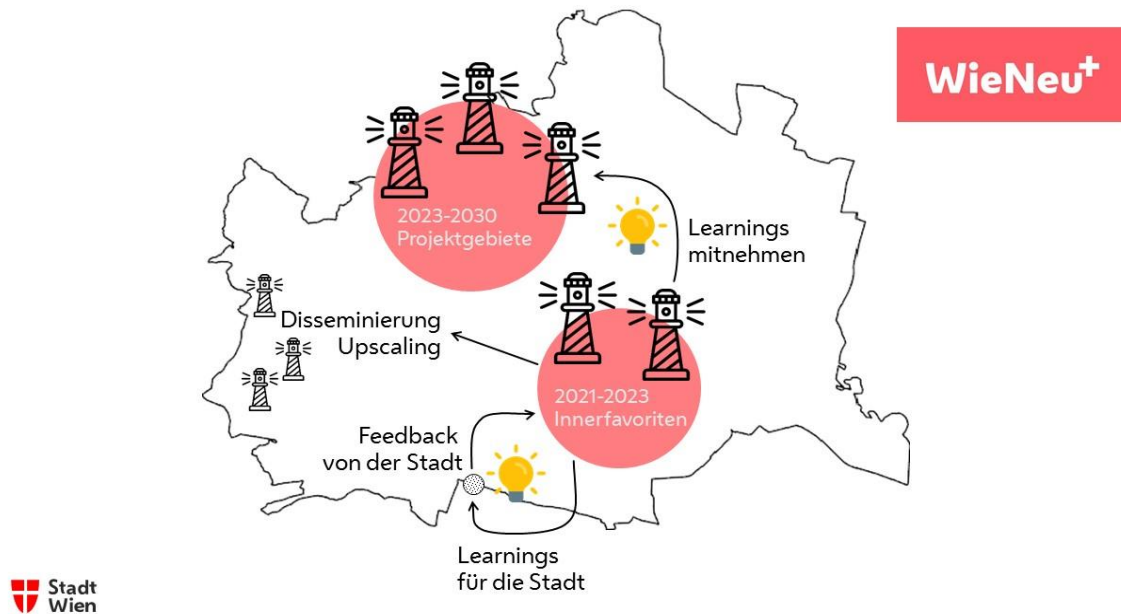


Fig. 5: WieNeu+ knowledge cycle. Copyright: City of Vienna / MA 25

### “Retrofitting” gentle urban renewal

The WieNeu+ urban renewal programme is concerned with stepping up the City of Vienna’s approach to the renewal of entire neighbourhoods. It is our objective to implement concrete solutions that meet the needs of people in the neighbourhood while also developing innovative methods and learning from the results thus achieved. While the term “retrofitting” often refers to the refurbishment or remodelling of old buildings with modern infrastructure, it takes on a different meaning in the context of WieNeu+: namely, continuing the success story of urban renewal.

This is possible due to a long-term resolution taken by the Vienna City Council in 2020, which provides for a budget framework extending until 2030.<sup>1</sup> The impulse generated by the EU-funded project “Smarter Together” in Vienna’s 11<sup>th</sup> municipal district Simmering was important to give visibility to urban renewal as a task cutting across many themes and departments and thus harbouring rich synergies and potentials for innovation. A central aspect concerns the demonstration of concrete and “tangible” solutions on the ground. For it is only in everyday practice that the functioning and numerous details of a mobility solution or of an energy and utility system in a building become truly visible. This concept of an urban living lab is implemented through WieNeu+.

The **Programme Management Group “WieNeu+ programme and special projects”** was set up in 2022 at Municipal Department 25 (MA 25) – Technical Urban Renewal. In practice, however, numerous individuals from a variety of enterprises and organisations are involved in WieNeu+ as partners; this also goes for the thousands of people who have contributed to WienNeu+ either directly or through the various “Grätzlmarie” projects.

### Strategies need methods

Every zone, or neighbourhood (called “Grätzl”), in WieNeu+ is organised as a programme that in its turn – as the first two neighbourhoods show – is composed of roughly 30 individual projects. Three (deliberately) broadly defined thematic pillars, i.e. “Buildings & energy”, “Public space” and “Social neighbourhood & neighbourhood development” structure the projects. Fruitful synergies and interfaces frequently arise

<sup>1</sup> See also : <https://www.smartertogether.at/smarter-together-2-0-im-gemeinderat/>,  
<https://www.smartertogether.at/wienu-das-nachfolgeprogramm/>,  
<https://www.smartertogether.at/regierungsabkommen-2020/>



across these thematic pillars. In addition to building refurbishment and rehabilitation, local infrastructures, lively business premises and green and open zones are among the most important elements for finding solutions to safeguard climate- and future-proof neighbourhoods. Moreover, “Knowledge and innovation management” is another important task of the ten-year programme. This segment builds on the outcomes of the individual projects (project-oriented knowledge management) and generates valuable input for the further development of both the projects per se and the entire WieNeu+ programme. It provides all partners with important, timely feedback regarding the set goals as well as with an analysis of processes and outcomes, which again becomes part of all subsequent activities.

This methodological approach also requires making contact with and assisting the owners of individual properties, entire urban blocks or streets with regard to energy solutions or refurbishment ventures. WieNeu+ specifically focuses on projects that go beyond standard solutions and are already underway. Here, programme management provides a context that enables many private and municipal partners to work together on joint projects. Key partners include wohnfonds\_wien, the Urban Renewal Offices (GB\*) and Wiener Wohnen but also the Vienna Business Agency or municipal departments of the City of Vienna charged with urban planning. Regular and direct contacts and exchanges involve the Municipal District Offices.

Another methodological element concerns the structuring of WieNeu+ programme areas into a three-year programme management phase plus preliminary preparation and post-activity follow-up. Moreover, funding incentives for the various areas are important as well: WieNeu+ “Grätzlförderung” (“neighbourhood subsidy”) for the additional cost of structural-technical innovative solutions and “Grätzlmarie” (“neighbourhood money”) as a direct subsidy pool for residents or associations on the ground. The “Grätzlmarie” subsidy scheme also comprises an advisory board composed of residents and local institutions, which was duly authorised by the City of Vienna to take the final decision regarding subsidy disbursements.

One goal for the coming years will lie in launching pilot and research projects that cover entire neighbourhoods. At the moment, the Holy Grail of tasks lies in preparing entire urban zones for climate neutrality and getting such ventures off the ground, which is currently the case for the Alliiertenviertel neighbourhood in the 2<sup>nd</sup> municipal district, where the City of Vienna (including WieNeu+) is conducting such a project.

So far, the feedback of stakeholders has yielded the following concrete added value derived from WieNeu+:

- The access to subsidies or the implementation of subsidised projects is enabled.
- Networking and know-how transfer take place.
- Valuable direct contacts with the City Administration are established.
- Co-ordination and project management render the activities of all programme and project partners more dynamic.
- Participation possibilities are made use of intensively and WieNeu+ maintains close ties with the people in the neighbourhood.
- Outcomes and know-how are collected and made available to all stakeholders.
- Understanding what does *not* work and *why* also offers valuable insights.
- WieNeu+ triggers practical implementation and gets developments off the ground.
- (Pilot) measures translate the strategies of the City of Vienna into reality and offer proof of their effectiveness.

However, what counts most at the end of the day is that the people in the WieNeu+ neighbourhoods gain (and feel) this added value.



*Fig. 6: Programme Manager Stephan Hartmann at the final “Grätzlmarie” presentation (7 July 2023).  
Copyright: City of Vienna / Martin Votava*

*“It is our vision to further develop urban renewal in order to address the big urban issues of the 21<sup>st</sup> century and to overcome often invisible obstacles through concrete implementation projects. The feedback by our project partners from expert circles and the economy validates our approach.”*

**Stephan Hartmann**

WieNeu+ Programme Manager

## WieNeu+ – the programme

The logo for WieNeu+ is displayed in white text on a solid red rectangular background. The text 'WieNeu+' is in a bold, sans-serif font, with the plus sign being a simple geometric shape.

### WieNeu+ in brief

Urban renewal in Vienna represents the further development of the existing urban structure with regard to buildings and streets on the one hand and the introduction of innovative energy solutions, sparing resource use, a circular economy and the creation of green and open spaces on the other hand. Overall, it is dedicated to comprehensive, climate-resilient transformation and, hence, constitutes an important topic for the future that can also build on a long tradition in Vienna.

WieNeu+ is a ten-year urban renewal programme of the City of Vienna that is implemented in selected neighbourhoods ("Grätzl").

WieNeu+ contributes to the preparation of climate- and future-proof solutions for neighbourhoods. In this sense, urban renewal encompasses all aspects that make up life in the built city: buildings, public space and, in particular, the people who live here and take part in these projects and processes.

The programme was launched in early 2021 in the Innerfavoriten area. Since January 2023, parts of Brigittenau (20<sup>th</sup> municipal district) and Leopoldstadt (2<sup>nd</sup> municipal district) make up the second WieNeu+ programme area, this time cutting across two districts.

Innovative solutions are pooled, implemented, analysed and rendered available for the City of Vienna on a long-term basis. The key fields of activity are:

- **Buildings & energy** – exemplary use of new technologies to attain climate neutrality.
- **Social neighbourhood & neighbourhood development** – activating participation improves the demand-oriented development of future-proof solutions.
- **Public space** in order to steadily improve the infrastructure, thereby enhancing the quality of urban life.
- The cross-cutting pillar of **knowledge and innovation management** ensures that the accumulated knowledge and the resulting innovations are relayed to the City Administration and the respective players.

## Claim and mission statement

### Claim

*Climate- and future-proof in the neighbourhood*

### Mission statement

Together, we create sustainable living conditions that safeguard quality of life also for coming generations in the neighbourhood. We improve the building stock by means of innovative climate- and future-proof solutions and generate impulses for public space and the local community that benefit the neighbourhood as well as, in due course, the whole city.

*"Together, we upgrade our neighbourhoods and render them future- and climate-proof. It's all about higher quality of life and sustainable solutions. We are interested in your ideas. Please join in! The City of Vienna supports your efforts!"*

**Kathrin Gaál**

Deputy Mayor and Executive City Councillor for Housing, Housing Construction, Urban Renewal and Women's Issues

## Core goals and messages

### We build upon the future

We make a contribution to a sustainable, climate-neutral city evolved over time.

- Measures to **decarbonise** the building stock were implemented.
- Showcase projects for **recycling-friendly construction** and refurbishment were realised.
- Measures to **enhance housing comfort** and **quality of life** in the neighbourhood were carried out.
- Redesign interventions in **public space** contribute to greater **atmospheric quality**.

### We foster community building in the neighbourhood

We shape neighbourhoods together with local residents.

- Goal-oriented **citizen participation** for different target groups was enabled by applying novel, specially developed participation formats.
- **Lively and attractive ground-floor zones** that allow for mixed use and revitalise the local economy as well as public space were created.
- **Social inclusion and solidarity-based interactions** in the neighbourhood were fostered.
- Measures linking **sparing resource use and social justice** were implemented.

### We promote innovation

We implement innovative and replicable **lighthouse projects** that contribute towards Vienna's Smart Climate City goals.

- The **networking** of key players for the realisation of climate- and future-proof innovations in the built environment is safeguarded.
- **Urban living labs for innovation processes** were created at neighbourhood level. Successful solutions are prepared for roll-out.
- **Knowledge and innovation management** between project partners as well as across municipal structures was likewise implemented.



## Highlights 2021-2023

- ✓ Two programme areas
- ✓ Two subsidy programmes created and operative since late 2021: “Grätzlförderung” / neighbourhood subsidy and “Grätzlmarie” / neighbourhood money
- ✓ Number of projects funded: 16 with “Grätzlförderung” (€ 1,086,119) and 51 with “Grätzlmarie” (€ 183,828)
- ✓ New subsidy scheme for entrepreneurs: “Grätzlinitiative 20+2” together with Vienna Business Agency
- ✓ Subsidies to the tune of Euro 1.6 million tapped for disbursement in Vienna
- ✓ Co-operation with 30 enterprises, six research facilities and many civil society groups



Fig. 7: A great variety of project activities: information board at GB\*East. Copyright: City of Vienna / Bojan Schnabl

## Subsidies disbursed through WieNeu+

### “Grätzlförderung” makes buildings future-proof!

With the “Grätzlförderung” subsidy scheme, WieNeu+ supports, inter alia, owners interested in implementing innovative solutions for future- and climate-proof buildings in the neighbourhood. The focus is on new ideas and solutions aimed at retrofitting existing buildings to cope with future challenges. For example, these ideas may include:

- Innovative, not yet established energy solutions
- Switch to renewables
- Reduced resource consumption (recyclability)
- Greening and adaptation to climate change
- Social infrastructure (communal areas, etc.) to create added value for the neighbourhood

The implementation of innovative solutions may receive funding for up to Euro 500,000 apiece. The subsidy rate for selected (future-oriented) interventions is between 50% and 70% and also depends on the size of the respective enterprise. Planning services (e.g. preliminary studies or feasibility studies) for such ideas are likewise eligible for funding of up to Euro 30,000.

Click here for the "[Grätzlförderung](#)" subsidy scheme.

## **"Grätzlmarie" – the WieNeu+ idea budget**

The "Grätzlmarie" subsidy pool is the idea budget of WieNeu+ and funds projects for the neighbourhood and its residents. Idea workshops are organised to support local residents, businesspeople, associations, local organisations or housing communities in developing their ideas for an even more liveable neighbourhood. Thus, the low-threshold "Grätzlmarie" pool funds hands-on projects by residents and facilities active in the neighbourhood.

*"With 'Grätzlmarie', the WieNeu+ idea budget, it's really easy for anybody to join in, participate, have a say and make a contribution. It's very low-threshold because change – specifically, adaptation to climate change – can only succeed if people are taken onboard. My special thanks also go to the local Urban Renewal Office (GB\*), which supported the numerous project initiators in their activities with strong commitment."*

**Stephan Hartmann**  
WieNeu+ Programme Manager

## **The "Grätzlbeirat" advisory board**

This neighbourhood advisory board composed of residents and representatives of young people, culture, local businesses and senior citizens selects projects for funding and takes decisions regarding the degree of support these projects will receive. In addition to this task, the "Grätzlbeirat" also serves as a multiplier to trigger project ideas. The advisory board meets at least twice per year.

The "Grätzlmarie" scheme is implemented by the Urban Renewal Office (GB\*) on behalf of WieNeu+.

For more details, please consult the chapter on "[Grätzlmarie](#)" projects, including project descriptions.

## **National and European funding**

National and European funding contributes significantly to generating new knowledge, to developing new products and services and, hence, to becoming more competitive. It facilitates or enables the funding of research and innovation projects to prepare them for commercial deployment.

WieNeu+ makes use of these additional funding options to co-operate with external partners in order to develop new solutions for the city. For this purpose, funding calls of the Austrian Research Promotion Agency (FFG), the Climate and Energy Fund and the European Commission (Horizon Europe, LIFE) are evaluated, and entries for calls are prepared through project consortia.

## Communication

### Neighbourhood network & communication

Communication is an integral part of the tasks of WieNeu+. This includes the dissemination of information regarding programme objectives, project progress and planned measures. A great variety of channels is used for this purpose, e.g. electronic media (WieNeu+ website, newsletter) and the communication channels of programme partners.

Project-related citizen participation is fostered by means of idea workshops, future workshops and other participation formats. The **Urban Renewal Office (GB\*)** is the key communication platform and on-site contact point for residents. Together with GB\*, WieNeu+ offers a wealth of participation activities in the neighbourhood that specifically target residents. A major focus is on personal interaction, e.g. through information events, activating participation or co-creation.

On request and where possible, free-of-charge **guided neighbourhood tours** addressing various specialised topics are available and conducted by team members of WieNeu+ or the Urban Renewal Office (GB\*) on a voluntary basis.

Just drop us a line and join in! For more information: [www.wieneuplus.wien.gv.at](http://www.wieneuplus.wien.gv.at)

### International exchange & visitor groups

WieNeu+ is an international flagship programme of the City of Vienna. Numerous concrete innovations are developed and implemented here to illustrate how a sustainable and socially just future can be safeguarded for cities. Visits of professionals and experts from all over the world offer an occasion for exchange to disseminate the Viennese approach also on an international scale.

Moreover, international exchange offers a possibility to think outside the box and learn about other approaches that could contribute to the ongoing development of the urban renewal methods adopted by WieNeu+.



Fig. 8: Cities4PEDs neighbourhood walk with Stephan Hartmann. Copyright: City of Vienna / Bojan Schnabl

## **Students**

As far as possible, WieNeu+ also supports students in their research in the field of urban renewal. Moreover, interesting questions are relayed to universities and research institutions in order to advance the development of knowledge for the benefit of Vienna. In addition, WieNeu+ participates in various expert conferences at university and extra-university level.



## Redevelopment campaign “Wir SAN Wien”

### WieNeu+ as part of the “Wir SAN Wien” redevelopment campaign

“Wir SAN Wien” pools the efforts of various players throughout Vienna in order to step up renovation and refurbishment activities in the existing building stock and to stimulate renewal measures in neighbourhoods evolved over time. This is a co-operation of *wohnfonds\_wien* (Fund for Housing and Urban Renewal), *Hauskunft* (which is charged with renovation counselling), the Urban Renewal Offices (GB\*) and *WieNeu+* and taps synergies that create benefits for all people of Vienna.



Fig. 9: Overview of “Wir SAN Wien” with participating programmes and institutions. Copyright: City of Vienna / MA 25

### WieNeu (formerly Vienna Block Rehabilitation of *wohnfonds\_wien*)

In the context of the **WieNeu Block Rehabilitation**, *wohnfonds\_wien* identifies not just individual houses that need to be refurbished or rebuilt; rather, **sustainable concepts** are developed **for entire urban blocks**.

When preserving Gründerzeit houses, it is essential to renew the historic built fabric in sensitive fashion. This is combined with interventions that significantly improve and upgrade the overall housing quality.

The following themes and areas are addressed in the context of *WieNeu*, leading to the formulation of suggestions for improvement:

- Stepping-up of subsidised housing refurbishment, combined with improvement of the urban structure as well as considerations for advancing a smoothly functioning mixed-use approach that takes account of existing or potential future forms of commercial use and the revitalisation of ground-floor zones
- Surveying of potentials for thermal-energetic rehabilitation, in particular by switching to more sustainable energy sources (phasing-out of fossil fuels) in co-operation with Wien Energie
- Optimising of building density on the basis of the current land use and development plan while taking account of lighting and ventilation conditions

- Desealing and greening measures (improvement of direct housing environment, activation of shared courtyard surfaces, mitigation of urban heat islands, creation of water infiltration areas, etc.)
- Public space, traffic situation

The options for property owners to improve their buildings by means of environmentally friendly measures (solar energy, rainwater infiltration, development of energy concepts, etc.) are part and parcel of refurbishment proposals.

The redesign proposals for public space take account of existing concepts of the respective municipal districts as well as of already existing plans.



*Fig. 10: Press conference with Stephan Hartmann, Marcus Franz, Kathrin Gaál, Gregor Puscher (left to right, 16 September 2020). Copyright: City of Vienna / Martin Votava*

## Hauskunft

- **Hauskunft<sup>2</sup>** is a free-of-charge counselling point of the City of Vienna for all private flat or house owners who wish to refurbish their property.
- It supports the owners of flats, residential buildings and condominiums in all project phases and extends counselling to all who wish to refurbish a house or flat, no matter whether with or without municipal or state funding. Building administrators and planners, too, are part of the target group.
- The Hauskunft counselling team answer all questions relating to construction, energy efficiency, housing comfort and refurbishment subsidies (also for refurbishment concepts) in an independent, practice-oriented and individual manner.

## GB\* (Urban Renewal Offices)

<sup>2</sup> <https://www.hauskunft-wien.at/>

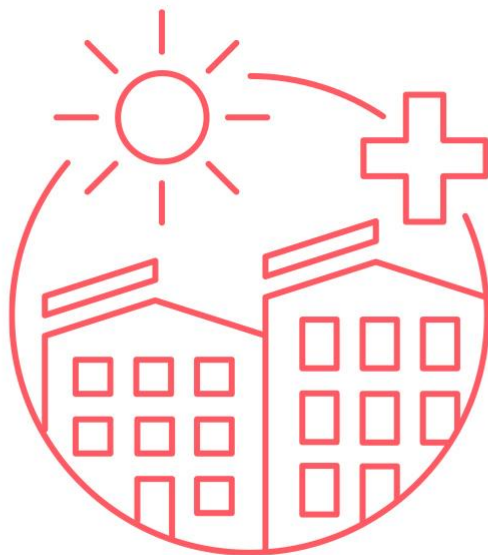
- **GB\* (Urban Renewal Offices)** is a service facility operated by the City of Vienna and currently active in six locations covering all of Vienna.
- GB\* is the one-stop-shop contact point for local residents and acts as a link between the City of Vienna and local players.
- In urban development areas which are created anew or will undergo major changes in the near future, GB\* is active on site with its GB\* neighbourhood management teams.
- The low-threshold services of GB\* are free of charge for all.
- The urban renewal strategy defined for Vienna places particular emphasis on the protection of socially vulnerable groups. In the spirit of “gentle urban renewal”, GB\* combats speculation, advocates affordable housing and offers information and counselling on all issues related to housing, the housing environment and community life.
- The experts of GB\* have backgrounds in architecture, regional, urban and landscape planning, law and social work.

In this way, “Wir SAN Wien” contributes to maintaining Vienna’s high quality of life while at the same time helping to attain the set climate targets.

## The four pillars of WieNeu+



### Buildings & energy



### Thematic focuses

The “Buildings & energy” pillar develops future-oriented projects whose primary aim lies in implementing innovative structural-technical solutions for the neighbourhood that go beyond the state of the art.

In this respect, WieNeu+ is concerned with the following:

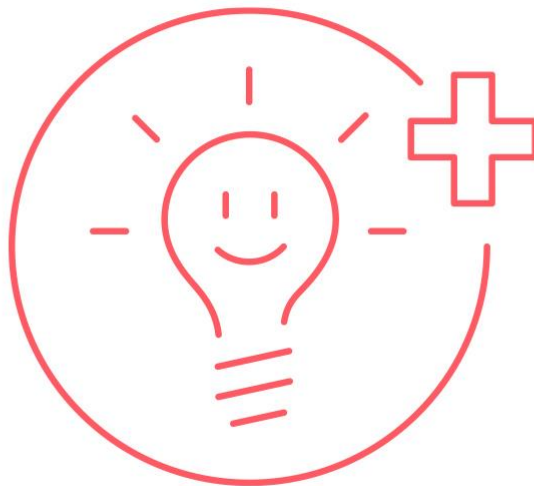
- Reducing energy consumption

- Switching to renewables
- Reducing resource consumption (recyclability)
- Greening and adaptation to climate change

Special attention is always paid to social sustainability and the safeguarding of affordable housing. Close co-ordination with `wohnfonds_wien` and Hauskunft contributes to ensuring sustainable outcomes.

Examples include pilot projects that make innovative use of geothermal and solar resources or aim at developing particularly challenging multi-property supply networks, such as anergy networks. In addition, particularly intense efforts are dedicated to fostering the potentials of building refurbishment for adopting the principles of a circular economy and recyclability.

## Social neighbourhood



### Thematic focuses

The “Social neighbourhood” pillar implements projects whose aim lies in promoting social inclusion and smooth social interactions in the neighbourhood. Moreover, measures are taken to support sustainable and resource-conserving lifestyles as well as to strengthen aspects of social justice in the programme area. A special focus is on the revitalisation of ground-floor zones, as they can contribute to rendering public space livelier and boosting local businesses.

The involvement of residents in the process of climate- and future-proof urban renewal is a key claim of WieNeu+. Active resident participation fosters integration at several levels and corresponds to the principles of “gentle urban renewal”.

WieNeu+ supports resident participation in manifold ways, including target group-specific information, activating participation methods, interventions in public space as well as such formats as co-creation, co-decision und community building.



## **GB\*: your partner on the ground**

Vienna's Urban Renewal Offices (GB\*) are at the service of all interested parties as a key on-site contact point providing advice and practical assistance.

### **Opening up possibilities**

As an on-site player, GB\* acts as a hub for information that is accessible to all people in the WieNeu+ programme area. At the interface of co-operation partners, residents, local associations and businesspeople as well as district politicians, GB\* ensures that contacts will be smooth and effective and activities can start right in the neighbourhood. Due to the small scale of the WieNeu+ projects, this intensive collaboration serves to build neighbourhood structures that can create social ties able to outlast the end of the respective project.

This is e.g. made visible in the work done in and around Quellenplatz square, where personal contacts facilitate on-site communication. "Supergrätzl Favoriten" is another project actively supported by GB\* through information, guided walks and neighbourhood-specific knowledge. Co-operation with the competent planning studios, municipal departments and committed citizens makes it possible to be always up-to-date and to support processes where required. Through its collaboration with WieNeu+, GB\* can relay local know-how quickly to higher-level authorities, thus permitting to tap this knowledge in manifold ways.

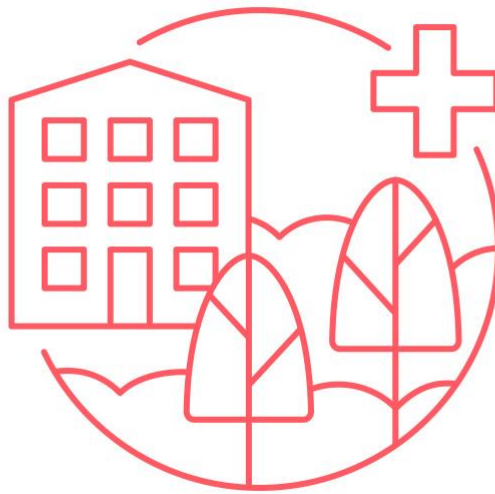
*"Three years of WieNeu+ have made many things possible in this neighbourhood and triggered changes for the future. We at GB\* are happy if processes become visible here and lead to improvements. As the on-site Urban Renewal Office, we will certainly continue to assist the projects initiated by WieNeu+ and to support the needs and concerns of the neighbourhood."*

**Eva Schmolzmüller**

GB\* staff member and co-ordinator for WieNeu+ in Innerfavoriten



## Public space



### Thematic focuses

The “Public space” pillar contributes significantly to the quality of social contacts and interactions in cities. In implementing urban renewal projects, WieNeu+ looks at the neighbourhood as a whole and strives for synergies that involve both public space and its users.

Together with the respective Municipal District Office and / or the competent City Councillor, fundamental analyses, preliminary evaluations and fine-tuning processes are initiated or co-ordinated (e.g. traffic analyses, micro-climate simulations, participation processes, etc.) on the basis of technical and political priorities as well as in co-operation with the competent municipal departments and divisions.

In addition, all projects relating to the “Buildings & energy” pillar are reviewed for their impact on public space and organised correspondingly. Participation formats implemented in public space make it possible to establish low-threshold contacts with residents. For example, liveable and climate-resilient public areas are created by means of greening, desealing and consumption-free open-air zones.

The lessons drawn from the COVID-19 pandemic as well as increasingly long hot spells, including the phenomenon of urban heat islands, emphasise the importance of high-quality, greened open spaces as a central living environment in the neighbourhood. Such spaces are more and more appreciated as places to linger in, to interact and communicate with others. A liveable city of short distances is not only attractive for residents but also beneficial for local businesses.

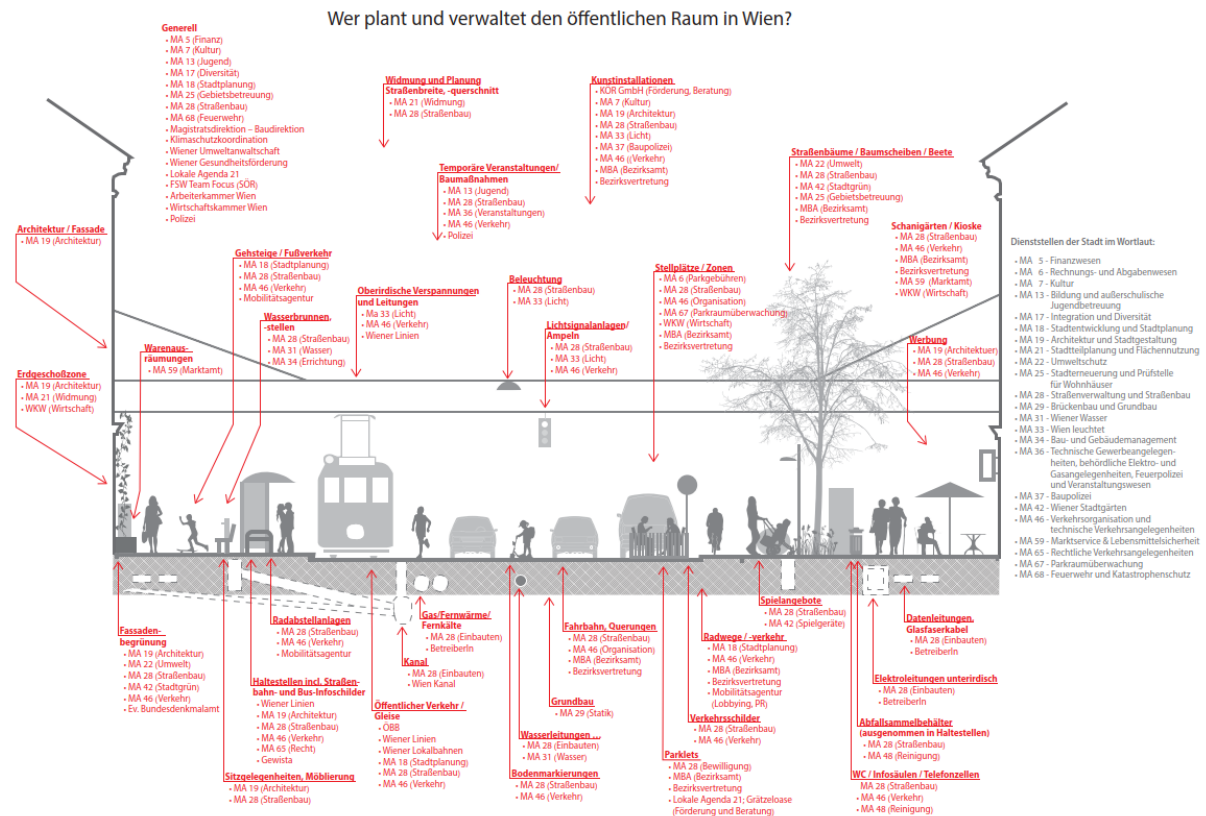


Fig. 11: Who plans and administers public space in Vienna? (City of Vienna, Municipal Department 18 – Urban Development and Planning, 2018, p. 56 f.)

## Knowledge and innovation management



## Thematic focuses

The “Knowledge and innovation management” pillar is the red thread that runs through all programme activities of WieNeu+. It is embedded in the system outlined by the Smart Climate City Strategy of the City of Vienna as well as other framework documents of the City Administration.

One of the key tasks of WieNeu+ lies in developing and realising innovative solutions that contribute towards social and climate-just urban renewal and create added value for the people in the neighbourhood.

These innovative solutions (“urban living labs”) are implemented as **real-life labs** at a small-scale neighbourhood level (see text box). Pilot-type solutions that demonstrate potential for the future under urban living lab conditions are prepared for roll-out in the city or within the scope of activities of implementation partners.

Towards this goal, the “Knowledge and innovation management” pillar employs an interdisciplinary approach: long-standing experience, such as that gained during the previous project “Smarter Together”<sup>3</sup>, has shown that the projects generate innovative added value as a result of co-creative collaboration between various stakeholders.

In addition to realising innovative projects, another focus of WieNeu+ is on the further development of framework conditions and processes for the roll-out of innovations.

### WieNeu+ project environment in the city

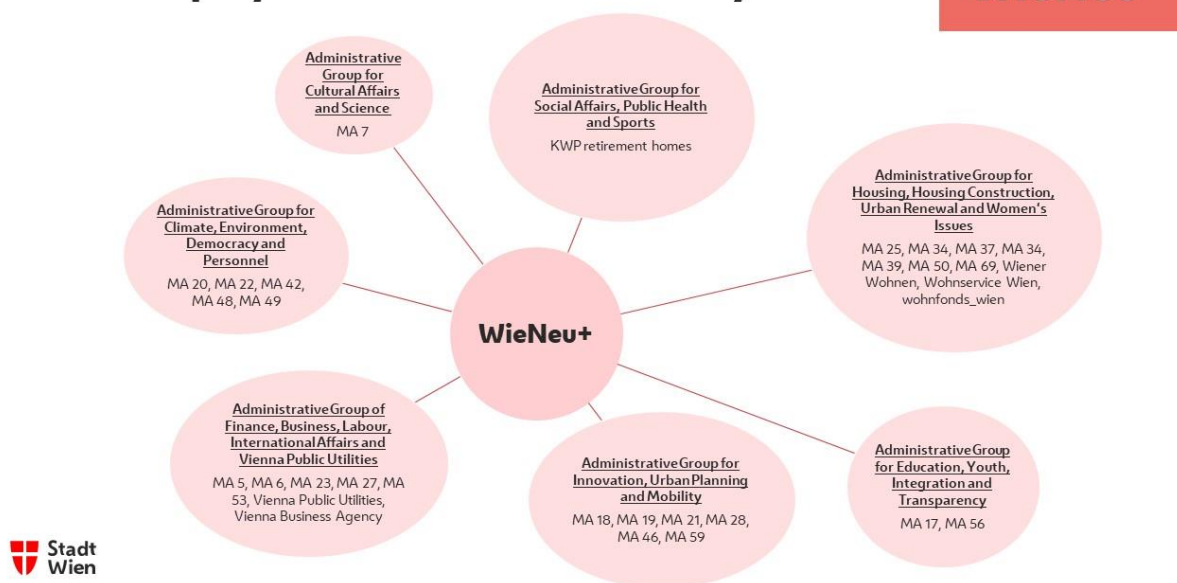


Fig. 12: Project setting of WieNeu+ within the Vienna City Administration. Copyright: City of Vienna / MA 25

The projects are subjected to continuous **monitoring** and evaluated on the basis of concrete **indicators**. These indicators were developed in co-operation with UIV based on those of the Smart Climate City Strategy Vienna and are measured so as to generate timely feedback regarding the effectiveness of the solutions adopted.

<sup>3</sup> See also: <https://www.smartertogether.at/>

The “Knowledge and innovation management” pillar contributes to a common understanding of the objectives and underlying **values** (keyword: common vision).

### What is an “urban living lab”?

“‘Urban labs’ are experiencing a major boost in Europe as a novel form of urban administrative practice and citizen participation. ... ‘Living labs’ are generally described as participatory platforms for open innovation processes that involve the users of products or services in the development processes for these products or services.”

Thomas Höflehner: “Urban Labs als neue Impulsgeber einer integrativen Stadtentwicklung” (“Urban labs as new impulse generators of integrative urban development”, 7 August 2017)<sup>4</sup>

## Knowledge and innovation management together with UIV

The “Knowledge and innovation management” pillar is in particular supported by **UIV Urban Innovation Vienna**, the climate and innovation agency of the City of Vienna. UIV assists and accompanies projects above all through monitoring and evaluates the impact of WieNeu+ projects on the basis of indicators specifically geared towards the objectives of the Smart Climate City Strategy Vienna.

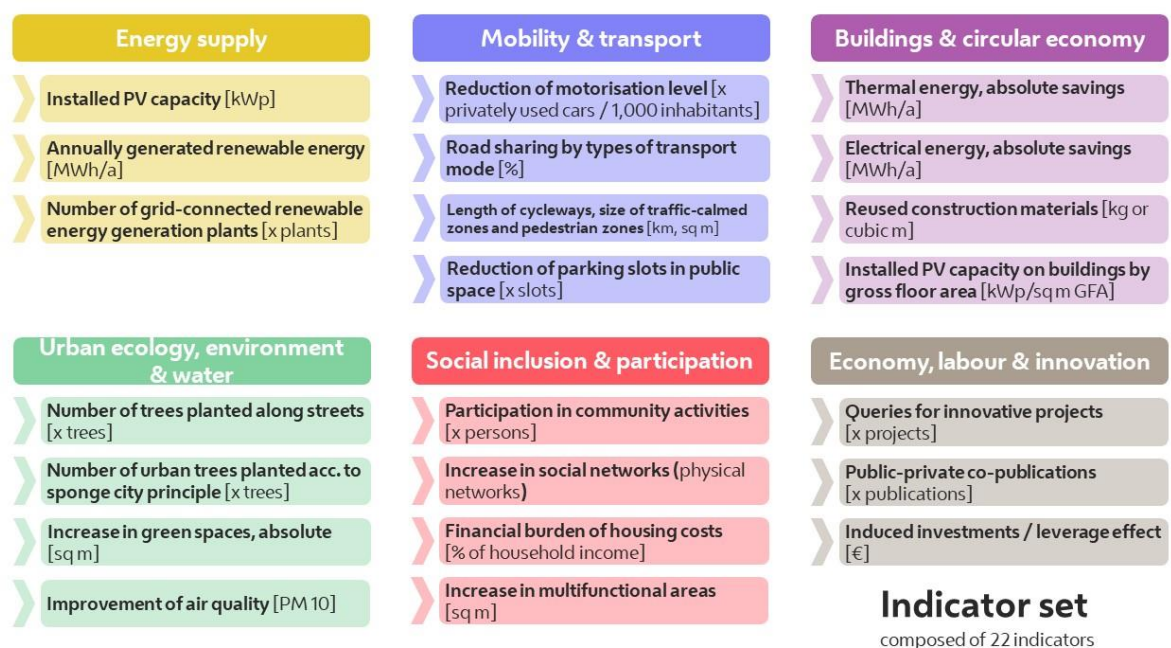


Fig. 13: Set of indicators for WieNeu+ (UIV)

“We are happy to contribute, through knowledge management, towards the dissemination of the experience made with exciting WieNeu+ projects, in this way triggering further innovations.”

Waltraud Schmid, UIV

<sup>4</sup> See also: <https://www.smartertogether.at/urban-living-labs-im-fokus/>,  
[https://epub.wupperinst.org/frontdoor/deliver/index/docId/7360/file/7360\\_Reallabore.pdf](https://epub.wupperinst.org/frontdoor/deliver/index/docId/7360/file/7360_Reallabore.pdf)



## Involving programmes & partners from all over the city

WieNeu+ maintains partnerships with numerous municipal and quasi-municipal institutions as well as private players from the fields of economy and research to bring about the concrete implementation of projects.

The practical realisation of projects in the context of WieNeu+ is safeguarded by continuous exchange with both the districts and various municipal departments and divisions of the different administrative groups of the City of Vienna.

WieNeu+ co-operates and co-ordinates its activities directly with 23 municipal departments, many institutions close or related to the City Administration as well as over 30 enterprises. WieNeu+ also closely fine-tunes its activities with numerous climate-relevant municipal programmes, such as the “DoTank Circular City Wien 2020-2030” or “Phasing out Gas” programmes.

Maintaining a **hands-on partnership** on an equal footing with all programme partners is an essential part of the **programme style** of WieNeu+.



*Fig. 14: WieNeu+ at the Smart City SuMMit 2023, Climate Lab. Copyright: Vienna Business Agency / Philipp Liparski*

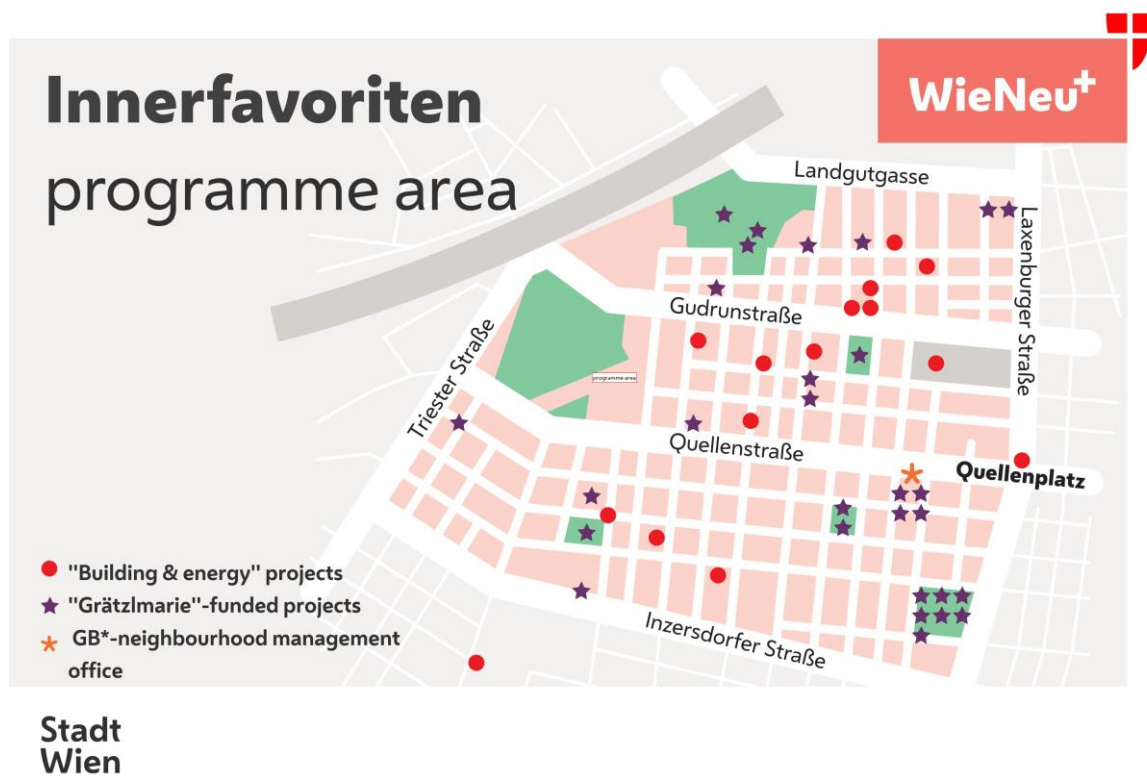
## Triggering processes, setting the course for the future

It is the primary claim of WieNeu+ to generate strategic impulses for urban renewal.

In some cases, the results and innovations developed by WieNeu+ are implemented in other neighbourhoods and projects already during the run of the programme. In other cases, concrete, actually built project results can only be realised in the neighbourhood after the WieNeu+ programme period has ended. In view of the – often quite long – time horizons of large-scale urban design plans, WieNeu+

functions as an initiator that sets a key course for the future in the early phases of such projects. Knowledge and innovation management makes an important contribution towards this goal.

## Innerfavoriten



### Portrait of a neighbourhood

The Innerfavoriten programme area is defined by the neighbourhood extending between Landgutgasse and Inzersdorfer Strasse as well as between Triester Strasse and Laxenburger Strasse. It is inhabited by around 35,000 persons.

This neighbourhood is very densely built up, with a large part of the structures dating from the Gründerzeit period and, in many cases, requiring refurbishment. Correspondingly, the area's dwellings, too, are in urgent need of renovation overall. The streets, which form a grid pattern, are devoid of trees, while the parks are used intensively by the residents as extensions of their living rooms. In the summer months, Innerfavoriten becomes a massive urban heat island. The "Supergrätzl" pilot project presents particularly promising potentials for the further development of public space.

With WieNeu+, innovative solutions are tested in Innerfavoriten as pilot projects that will serve as examples for the entire city.

### Area analysis

Analysing the programme area in question is a fundamental phase in the preparatory process for WieNeu+. Its main goal lies in gathering and evaluating comprehensive information regarding a specific area to be able to take informed decisions on upcoming projects and measures. This analysis comprises such aspects as the urban structure, social dynamics, the economic status quo, environmental factors and



infrastructure conditions. The area analysis helps to identify weak points as well as potentials that can serve as the basis for developing targeted projects that contribute to a climate- and future-proof neighbourhood.

By the same token, possible synergies between the programme pillars “Buildings & energy”, “Social neighbourhood” and “Public space” are addressed as well.

The findings of the area analysis are grounded in an analysis of the status quo, define goals for the different pillars and, finally, highlight numerous opportunities and potentials for activities, e.g.:

#### **Architecture – status quo**

- Gründerzeit street grid
- Residential area with some forms of commercial use remaining
- In urgent need of refurbishment
- Potentials for extensive, innovative projects due to transformation and vacant premises
- Urban heat island in the summer months

#### **Architecture – goals**

- Targeted and systematic activation of existing architectural-structural potentials to foster sustainable neighbourhood development in Innerfavoriten
- Socially just, resource-conserving, climate-neutral and climate change-adapted improvement of the Innerfavoriten building stock
- Heat-mitigating design of buildings and open spaces attached to buildings in Innerfavoriten (the “Cool Zones” intervention for “Grätzl 20+2”, the successor programme area, is derived from this)

#### **Architecture – ideas for further development**

- Discussion of passive housing construction potentials with Municipal Department 21 (MA 21) – District Planning and Land Use and wohnfonds\_wien (e.g. attic storey conversion and redensification)
- Survey of counter-productive stimuli that impede climate-friendly refurbishment (which factors prevent climate-friendly refurbishment?)

#### **Inhabitants, community life and social aspects – status quo**

- High population density
- Large households
- Many non-Austrian nationals
- Average age slightly below the average for Vienna as a whole
- High unemployment rate
- Educational facilities for various age groups
- Lack of nursing and healthcare facilities

#### **Inhabitants, community life and social aspects – goals**

- Involving inhabitants in the sustainable transformation of Innerfavoriten
- Creating suitable spaces for neighbourhood / community activities in Innerfavoriten

#### **Inhabitants, community life and social aspects – ideas for further development**

- Planning and creating event / community spaces
- Citizen participation procedure for Quellenplatz square (GB\*)
- Participatory idea budget (GB\*)

#### **Open spaces, public spaces – status quo**

- High degree of soil sealing and scarce green spaces
- Marked shortage of green and open spaces – massive pressure of (over-)use
- Inhabitants suffer from overheating in the summer months

#### **Open spaces, public spaces – goals**

- Creating an adequate network of high-quality public green spaces (parks) in Innerfavoriten
- Creating / preserving greened, shaded streets and pedestrian routes with high atmospheric quality in Innerfavoriten

**Open spaces, public spaces – ideas for further development**

- Initiative to involve residents in caring for the “green infrastructure”
- Developing a concept for public space
- Temporary interventions to highlight how public space can be used in new and different ways

**Mobility – status quo**

- Low degree of car ownership
- Well connected to public transport network
- Few cycleways
- Many 30 km/h zones

**Mobility – goals**

- Promoting active, future-proof mobility across target groups in Innerfavoriten
- Offering good and varied public transport options in Innerfavoriten
- Ensuring good and safe walking and cycling routes in Innerfavoriten (e.g. see report on the mobility of children and young people in the Triesterviertel section of the neighbourhood)<sup>5</sup>

**Mobility – ideas for further development**

- Planning the gradual implementation of the “Supergrätzl” concept

**Economy – status quo**

- Highly diverse ground-floor zones
- Many local shops – some manufacturing businesses remaining in-between
- Many enterprises – many sectors
- Low purchasing power

**Economy – goals**

- Supporting entrepreneurs in developing environmentally friendly and heat-reducing measures
- Revitalising local businesses in Innerfavoriten and strengthening their resilience
- Creating / preserving lively, attractive ground-floor zones in Innerfavoriten

**Economy – ideas for further development**

- Supporting the activation of vacancies, e.g. by means of interim use
- Supporting local businesses, e.g. by means of new neighbourhood subsidy schemes

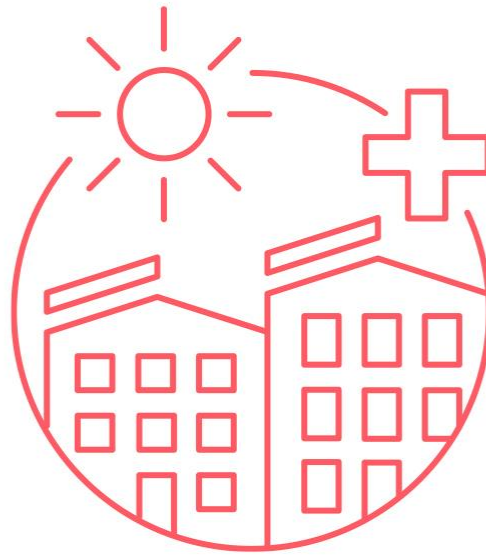
**Outcomes**

On the basis of the area analysis and in-depth thematic workshops with local players, project potentials were identified and subsequently formulated. These are consistent with the themes and goals of WieNeu+ and contribute towards a climate and future-proof 10<sup>th</sup> municipal district Favoriten.

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<sup>5</sup> See also: <https://www.wien.gv.at/bildung/schulen/bildungsgraeztz/mobilitaet-triesterviertel.html>

## Buildings & energy



### WieNeu / Block rehabilitation zones Gudrunstrasse I & II

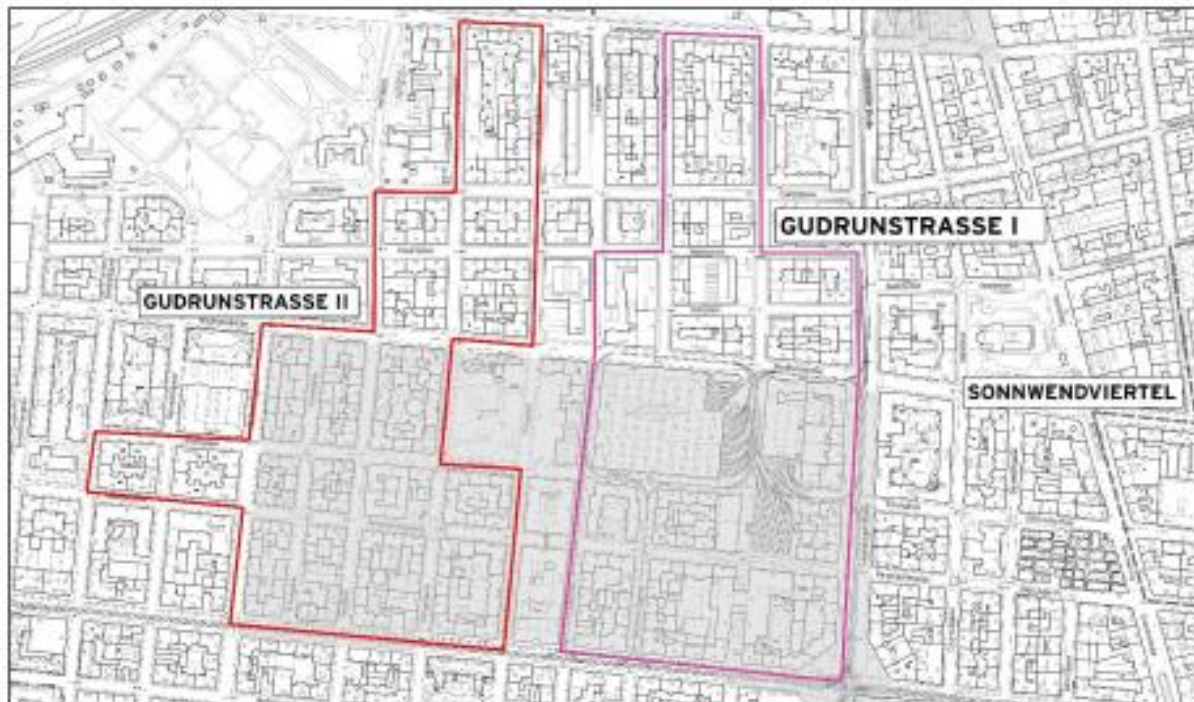
Partners: wohnfonds\_wien, architect DI Leopold Augusta (formerly Timo Huber + Partner ZT GmbH), Trimmel Wall Architekten ZTGmbH  
Project period: 2017-2021

wohnfonds\_wien defined two WieNeu zones (formerly “block rehabilitation zones”) in the WieNeu+ programme area to serve as a planning and working basis: Gudrunstrasse I and Gudrunstrasse II.

In co-ordination with the Municipal District Office and the City Administration, wohnfonds\_wien employed a multi-tier procedure to develop sustainable concepts for the upgrading of two block rehabilitation zones in Favoriten. Preliminary surveys conducted by GB\*East showed an urgent need for building refurbishment, above all in the section between Quellenstrasse, Landgutgasse, Neilreichgasse and Laxenburger Strasse, with an above-average share of sub-standard flats (15% in category D – the lowest category – as per 2001).

When defining the block rehabilitation zones, this very big area was divided into a western part (Gudrunstrasse II) and an eastern part (Gudrunstrasse I).

A total of 32 urban blocks comprising 226 properties with very dense, heterogeneous architectural and ownership structures, including residential and commercial buildings of varying sizes, offers opportunities but also calls for solutions that, encompassing several buildings and blocks, can prove pioneering for climate-resilient and resource-conserving urban renewal.



*Fig. 15: Boundaries of block rehabilitation zones Gudrunstrasse I and II. Copyright: wohnfonds\_wien*

#### **Block rehabilitation zone Gudrunstrasse I & redesign of Quellenplatz square**

This zone extends across 15 urban blocks encompassing 91 properties with a very heterogeneous architectural structure that consists of Gründerzeit apartment blocks with perimeter development, densely built-up courtyards as well as residential and office buildings dating from various post-war periods (after 1945). Moreover, several blocks classified as suitable for the construction of commercial buildings and the Favoriten tram depot are located in this zone.

The block rehabilitation concept comprises measures that aim at renovating the old building stock and transforming as many sub-standard flats as possible into dwellings with modern amenities. To improve lighting and ventilation, these rehabilitation projects are to be combined with improvements of the overall urban structure, e.g. by tearing down shed roofs.

Another conceptual focus is on proposals to re-organise the tram depot and identify new ways of blending housing and sustainable commercial use.

Redesign measures to improve the situation along Laxenburger Strasse and in Quellenplatz square were suggested as a means to upgrade public space.

#### **Block rehabilitation zone Gudrunstrasse II**

This zone extends across 18 urban blocks comprising 135 properties. The project led to the development of a comprehensive model concept for the block rehabilitation zone Gudrunstrasse II to safeguard energy-efficient, socially just and environmentally friendly block rehabilitation. Moreover, it was planned to realise a demonstration building as a flagship refurbishment project with resource-conserving urban redensification.

In addition, a participatory planning process was held together with residents and relevant stakeholders to formulate an intervention master plan for this block rehabilitation zone. This was accompanied by measures for the greening of buildings and of the urban environment.

## Outcomes

WieNeu block rehabilitation is an instrument that has proven its suitability for the targeted strategic and systematic launching of architectural and urban design developments in a neighbourhood or block rehabilitation zone as well as for activating local property owners and supporting them in concrete implementation measures. Often, such initiatives only become effective after some time and after expiry of the project period. The interaction of different municipal institutions, too, is strengthened by WieNeu (WieNeu+, Hauskunft, various municipal departments, planners and GB\*).

### **“Da geht no was!” – optimising building utilities**

Partner: Municipal Department 25 (MA 25) – Technical Urban Renewal

The project “Da geht no was!” (which translates roughly as “There’s room for improvement!”) focuses on the savings potentials of building utilities.

In addition to thermal-energetic refurbishment, optimising building utilities is key for enhancing energy efficiency and, hence, reducing the cost of space heating. Moreover, it is frequently possible to implement such measures for relatively little money.

However, if utilities are not optimised, the theoretical energy savings calculated before practically refurbishing a residential building often cannot be attained. The project “Da geht no was!” developed implementation-oriented solutions to remedy this situation.

There may be many different reasons why building utility optimisation is sometimes overlooked. In many cases, existing heating systems are not comprehensively renewed, and interventions for individual flats are either not implemented at all or only half-heartedly. This, too, has many different reasons. Some tenants or landlords / landladies may refuse such measures. Disagreements may arise between flat owners in condominiums, complicating the implementation of optimisation measures. Even if subsidies are in place, obstacles arise when some stakeholders are unable or unwilling to bear the cost. In particular, the operative heating system often is not consistently monitored after renewal.

“Da geht no was!” is based on findings established by the EU-funded project “Smarter Together” in Vienna’s 11<sup>th</sup> municipal district Simmering ([www.smartertogether.at](http://www.smartertogether.at)).

For a total of five residential buildings of varying age and with different heating systems (two properties owned by Wiener Wohnen, two owned by ÖSW, one owned by BWSG), three separate studios specialising in building utilities analysed the status quo and developed concepts to boost building utility efficiency.





## Da geht no was!

Optimierung von  
Heizungsanlagen  
im Bestand

Stadt  
Wien

Fig. 16: Information sheet "Da geht no was!" for heating system optimisation in existing buildings

### Outcomes

The studies indicated six measures that are not tied to individual flats but can be implemented in any existing building to improve the efficiency of its heating system:

1. Reduction of connected load in buildings supplied with district heating
  - The contractually agreed connected load influences the billed costs.
  - Often, renegotiating tariffs does not make economic sense, since new supply contracts may entail less favourable terms and conditions.
2. Adaptation of heat curve
 

Hydraulic balancing

  - Costs are strongly dependent on the specific building and its hydraulic system and may range from Euro 100 to Euro 1,000 per flat.
3. Insulation of fittings and distribution pipes
4. Switch to high-efficiency pumps
5. Installation of thermostatic valves
6. Reduction of flow temperature after thermal refurbishment

If these six measures are implemented, energy savings of 5% to 40% can be achieved. The implementation of the measures identified requires varying levels of (financial) commitment. For example, insulating fittings or adjusting the flow temperature are methods that offer a very good cost-benefit ratio. Conversely, hydraulic balancing often proves less cost-efficient.

However, one challenge lies in finding expert professionals able to implement these measures, as they may require specialist know-how.

Information sheet ["Da geht no was! Optimierung von Heizungsanlagen im Bestand"](#) (873 KB PDF)

Perspectives:

The potential implementation of these measures is currently being evaluated by all owners. Above all the financing of the various interventions still constitutes an obstacle. Since recently, Kommunalkredit Public Consulting (KPC) is also funding building utility optimisation in multi-apartment buildings.

Information: a link about subsidies for heating system optimisation in multi-apartment buildings (German) can be found [here](#).

<https://www.umweltfoerderung.at/privatpersonen/heizungsoptimierung-mgw>

Further recommendations were analysed by the project partners:

- Building utility optimisation is an issue that should be increasingly promoted vis-à-vis associations, chambers and platforms.
- A list of competent enterprises able to handle the planning and implementation of projects for building utility optimisation should be compiled.
- A dedicated training centre for heating engineers is needed to combat the shortage of skilled personnel (e.g. a specialised college for heating engineers in Vienna).
- Reducing the connected load of district heating systems should also entail financial benefits (supply contracts with Wien Energie).

## **“My Favorite”**

Partner: Räume für Menschen\_Architektur (RfM)

“My Favorite” is a study focusing on sustainable urban transformation in Favoriten. It was prepared by the studio RfM Räume für Menschen\_Architektur (Jutta Wörtl-Gössler and Uli Machold). Together with the project partners GESIBA and Wien Energie, concrete properties located in the WieNeu+ programme area were taken as examples to investigate pioneering refurbishment and energy solutions. The study was based on the predecessor project “[Smart Block Geblergasse](#)”, where multi-property refurbishment procedures were examined and applied.

In the context of the “My Favorite” project study, five specific GESIBA-owned properties located in the WieNeu+ neighbourhood were examined for their transformation potentials and possible synergies with each other as well as with the surrounding urban quarter.

The following aspects were analysed:

1. Innovative refurbishment of different building typologies with special attention paid to recyclability
2. Sustainable energy supply that is based on an energy network between the properties, geothermal heat and PV and is suitable for expansion in order to function as a solution for the surrounding urban quarter
3. Design of public space, which is to be transformed in connection with the installation of the energy network

Objectives:

- Sustainably transformed, densified buildings with climate-resilient inner courtyards
- Desealing, lively ground-floor zone and strengthening of the ecosystem
- High-quality, healthy and traffic-calmed / traffic-free living in an urban quarter

The following GESIBA properties were analysed: Inzersdorfer Strasse 99, Angeligasse 97-99, Fernkorngasse 48, Fernkorngasse 44 and Inzersdorfer Strasse 113.

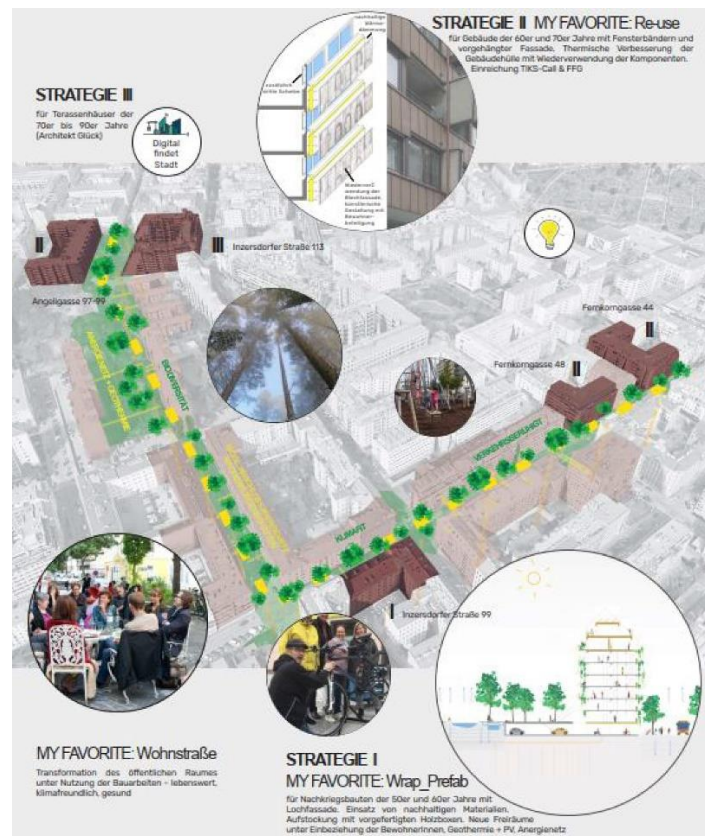


Fig. 17: "My Favorite" urban quarter approach. Copyright: rfm

## Outcomes

### Limited-profit / non-profit housing associations as initiators

Due to their mandate vis-à-vis society and their size, limited- and non-profit housing associations boast particular scaling potential and, thus, can implement flagship projects for sustainable, socially just and climate-friendly building refurbishment. The innovative and recyclability-oriented refurbishment strategies developed also take account of their transferability to other buildings. Moreover, solutions that embrace more than just one building harbour special opportunities, as the predecessor project "Smart Block Geblergasse" has shown.

### Challenges and added value

In the context of the Limited-Profit Housing Act (WGG), financing at the scale of individual buildings poses challenges. Multi-property, technically feasible solutions are more complex but also more cost-efficient. Further challenges lie in the statutory framework conditions, in the introduction of circular economy principles, in ensuring affordability for tenants and in communicating the added value of innovative energy renovation to tenants and developers.

### Co-operation

The various stakeholders collaborate to tap inherent opportunities: the synergetic use of excavation works in public space harbours special potentials for the setting-up of energy networks or for upgrading or refurbishing district heating systems (return and waste heat utilisation, etc.), the simultaneous development of resilient open spaces, the joint handling of construction tasks, etc. Furthermore, the implementation of projects is facilitated if preceded by training for developers and building owners, awareness raising and community building among residents.

### Outlook

The practical implementation of the study findings is currently in the planning phase. For one of the five properties, plans have been formulated and will be realised next year, to be followed by further practical

applications. Such large-volume refurbishments and the development of solutions for entire urban quarters are to activate and integrate other properties and, in this way, considerably accelerate a sustainable transformation process.

Based on this project, the refurbishment of the property Inzersdorferstrasse 99 was launched in 2023 and submitted to the WieNeu+ “Grätzlförderung” subsidy scheme at the end of the year.

## “G’mischter Block” (Mixed Block)

Partner: AVORIS

The real estate company AVORIS developed a property specifically focusing on mixed use and energy supply with renewables. With newly built space for living, work, social activities, entertainment and leisure options close to the city centre, this project contributes positively to liveability and sustainability in the neighbourhood.



Fig. 18: “G’mischter Block” project. Copyright: AVORIS

“G’mischter Block” is an innovative construction project with approx. 3,600 sq m of housing space, 2,000 sq m of shop space and over 1,250 sq m of open spaces. The building employs cutting-edge energy and heating / cooling technologies (heat pump combined with geothermal heat and PV, cooling through concrete core activation) as well as roof, façade and inner courtyard greening to blend climate targets with high quality of life. The mixed-use approach makes “G’mischter Block” an attractive flagship project of IBA\_Vienna that was also partly financed with funds disbursed by the WieNeu+ “Grätzlförderung” subsidy scheme. A kindergarten, a wine bar, several offices and commercial premises as well as 75 modern flats enliven the neighbourhood. Intensive co-ordination processes during the planning phase distinguish this project, as does the fact that the design principles of the **Gründerzeit master plan** of the City of Vienna were taken account of.





Fig. 19: Groundbreaking for the “G'mischter Block” project. Copyright: Schedl / AVORIS

## Outcomes

Façade greening: when constructing new buildings from scratch, long-term soil-bound solutions are technically less demanding regarding maintenance and more sustainable; however, in densely built-up urban areas, the viability of such systems is limited because space utilisation for this purpose comes at the expense of built-up and, hence, practically exploited surfaces.

The combination of housing and commercial premises contributes to enlivening the neighbourhood, although the setting-up of a wine bar somewhat limits options for later forms of use of these premises. Plans should take early account of the technical side of energy planning because this calls for specific architectural solutions (adequately sized surfaces for solar panels).

For more details, visit: <https://www.avoris.at/projektdetails/gmischer-block/>

## Österreichisches Siedlungswerk (ÖSW), Neilreichgasse 9 and Karmarschgasse 20

Partner: ÖSW

The limited-profit housing developer Österreichisches Siedlungswerk (ÖSW) operates several properties in the WieNeu+ programme area. The comprehensive future-proof and climate-resilient refurbishment of these properties is at the centre of the company's efforts. The findings and results obtained are of benefit to many other limited- and non-profit housing developers and also advance the overall goal of affordable housing.





*Fig. 20: ÖSW property Neilreichgasse 9. Copyright: City of Vienna / Stephan Hartmann*

With regard to the property **Neilreichgasse 9**, it was planned to carry out a comprehensive refurbishment of the roof, windows, terraces and basement ceiling. The sustainable development of this residential property also contributes to improving the overall housing quality as well as the level of social interactions among residents.

Inter alia, the following interventions were examined:

- Setting-up of a 24-kWp PV plant with construction of a battery storage room with storage medium (battery)
- Installation of an energy-efficient LED illumination system for the common portions of the building
- Connection to the district heating network



*Fig. 21: Multi-apartment building of ÖSW in Karmarschgasse 20. Copyright: City of Vienna / Linda Schneider*

The street-facing façade of the building in **Karmarschgasse 20** was already refurbished in 2019. This was followed by the refurbishment of the courtyard-facing façade, including the loggias and mansard windows, starting in 2021. By the same token, it was planned to set up a 43-kWp PV plant plus the required storage facilities as well as to switch to energy-efficient LED illumination in the publicly accessible portions of the building.

Through the thermal refurbishment of the ÖSW properties Neilreichgasse 9 and Karmarschgasse 20, it was possible to reduce the annual heat demand by approx. 62,900 kWh total. The carbon footprint of the properties was improved by 10.1 tonnes per year.

## Outcomes

Due to statutory requirements, limited-profit housing associations find it more difficult to finance ambitious refurbishment projects. In particular, multi-property energy solutions pose a challenge because the principle of self-financing for maintenance and refurbishment ventures is solely focused on single buildings or single housing estates. Price increases of 10% to 12% relating to refurbishment costs put a massive damper on the implementation of such projects. Protracted approval procedures and frequently changing framework conditions for e.g. photovoltaic plants can prevent optimum solutions. Heating system control by AI offers potentials for process-related savings.

## “Buchengrün”: façade greening for a Wiener Wohnen property in Favoriten

Partners: Wiener Wohnen, GrünStattGrau (GSG)



Fig. 22: Façade greening in Rotenhofgasse. Copyright: City of Vienna / Bojan Schnabl

Trees and greened façades offer the best protection against urban heat. The greened inner courtyards of municipal housing estates in Vienna are living proof of this fact. With a total of 1,800 housing estates, Wiener Wohnen has access to a vast potential for effective, sustainable solutions.

The municipal housing estate in **Buchengasse / Rotenhofgasse** (Rotenhofgasse 80-84) dating from 1957-1958 comprises 261 dwellings. From spring 2022, **soil-bound greening** was introduced here in three zones of the estate. It is composed of climbing plants with aluminium grid trellises and an automatic irrigation system. To enhance acceptance of this measure, the tenants were involved in the project, given a say and comprehensively informed.

In the context of WieNeu+ and in co-ordination with Wiener Wohnen as well as on the basis of the Buchengasse greening project, the research and innovation lab **GrünStattGrau** was commissioned by the Division for Housing Research and International Relations of Municipal Department 50 (MA 50) – Housing Promotion and Arbitration Board for Legal Housing Matters with developing an extensive study concerning the cost of setting up and maintaining façade greening systems (including funding models and statutory framework conditions) as well as the experience made with predecessor projects implemented by GrünStattGrau. The goal lay in deriving recommendations for action.<sup>6</sup>

### Outcomes

Online and on-site interviews showed that 60% of the estate’s tenants consider façade greening to be important and that 46% of them want even more façade greening. However, 59% are unwilling to pay

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<sup>6</sup> See also the “Buchengrün” final report dated 27 September 2023:  
<https://www.wien.gv.at/spezial/studien/ma50/endberichtbuchengruen2023.pdf>



part of the related cost. Moreover, 76% would not want to participate in maintaining the greenery, which would in any case be impossible or at least difficult to implement because of liability issues.

It is the core mandate of Wiener Wohnen to safeguard affordable housing for tenants while taking account of social and economic aspects. This core mandate, which is regularly reviewed and evaluated by the Court of Audit and the City Council and follows the provisions of the Landlord and Tenant Act (MRG), lays down a narrow margin for interventions beyond the standard scope of maintenance work.

Especially where building refurbishment is concerned, targeted communication is very helpful. Well thought-out façade greening should also comprise technical solutions, such as suitable plants and trellises, appropriate irrigation and even the development of an emergency plan in case of technical defects. Overall, façade greening measures make a valuable contribution to the micro-climate and quality of life for residents.

## Property development & circular economy study for the Favoriten tram depot

Partner: Wiener Linien



*Fig. 23: Favoriten tram depot. Copyright: City of Vienna / Bojan Schnabl*

When planning the WieNeu+ programme, the Innerfavoriten tram depot (owned by Wiener Linien) was defined a key property in the project area because of its size and potential. The central concern of WieNeu+ lay in identifying, together with Wiener Linien, potentials for climate-resilient renewal in order to meet the requirements of both the neighbourhood and the ongoing operation of this site. The challenge lay in the fact that the time horizon of such a project far exceeds the WieNeu+ programme period for Innerfavoriten.

A **co-creation workshop** was conducted jointly with Wiener Linien, the architects commissioned with a feasibility study as well as interested municipal partners and representatives of science and economy. The

objective lay in developing duly adapted utilisation concepts that, in addition to a varied mix of different forms of use, would specifically focus on education infrastructure.

On an initiative of the “DoTank Circular City 2030” programme and in collaboration with WieNeu+, the enterprise “Materialnomaden” prepared a status quo survey as well as a **study of the circular economy potential** of the tram depot. This resulted in a catalogue of materials and components which included all building materials and masses that make up the tram depot as well as a CO<sub>2</sub> matrix and which can serve as a basis for future material use (this was conducted via the EU-funded “Deep Demonstrations” project launched by Climate-KIC). The data gathered are used to further develop the tram depot and are to enable its rehabilitation according to the principles of a circular economy. However, an application (supported by WieNeu+) to **JPI Urban Europe** for the drafting of an innovative development concept and the multifunctional transformation of the site was not accepted for funding.

In 2022, the technical and engineering college **HTL 3 / Camillo Sitte Bautechnikum** was charged with developing a concept for the Favoriten tram depot as part of the curriculum. Interim findings were presented at a symposium, with WieNeu+ participating in the jury that evaluated the students’ performance.

## Outcomes

The co-operation between Wiener Linien and WieNeu+ began at a very early phase of project development. Coincidentally, the time horizon for implementation extended far beyond the WieNeu+ programme period for Innerfavoriten. Realising a project of these dimensions normally calls for comprehensive, multi-year co-ordination processes between numerous stakeholders before even considering practical implementation.

Despite these obstacles, WieNeu+ was able to generate important impulses already during an early stage of property development. Circular economy concepts and the greenpass check were integrated into the development of the tram depot at an early date.

## **“VDN22” by Sedlak Immobilien: a pilot project for recyclability-oriented refurbishment**

Partners: Sedlak / SCALE, Digital findet Stadt





*Fig. 24: Sedlak Immobilien, recyclability-oriented refurbishment of the building Van-der-Nüll-Gasse 22.  
Copyright: City of Vienna / Bojan Schnabl*

The project for Van-der-Nüll-Gasse 22 – an older structure owned by the real estate company Sedlak Immobilien – is a pilot attempt to rehabilitate a building according to the principles of the circular economy, as detailed in the EU Taxonomy, by applying the technical screening criteria published in June 2023 as a delegated act of the European Commission. The plan is to arrive at the best possible economic and scalable solutions that can be implemented at moderate expense.

The object is a Gründerzeit building from 1885 that was already refurbished several times in the past. After conducting a first study, it is planned to accommodate new flats and offices on a gross floor area (GFA) of 1,650 sq m partly resulting from retroactive densification (three storeys gained through attic conversion). The project was launched in June 2023; construction is scheduled to begin in early 2025 and should be completed by early 2026.

The prerequisite for conducting a Taxonomy-aligned refurbishment project lies in compliance with the criteria of one of the six stated environmental objectives without doing significant harm to any of the other objectives. The environmental objective “Transition to a circular economy” is of immense importance especially for the construction industry, as this sector consumes over one third of worldwide resources; the savings potential is correspondingly huge.

Concretely, construction and refurbishment according to circular economy principles means to lengthen the useful life of a building through planning that comprises options for conversion and repurposing and ensures uncomplicated use as well as through employing long-lasting materials and technologies and forgoing the use of primary resources in favour of secondary ones, i.e. re-using existing or recycled materials and components and cutting down on construction waste that cannot be recycled. Moreover, a concept for dismantling the building at the end of its useful life must already be considered in planning. A full life cycle assessment for the building starting from the moment of renovation must also be prepared. The materials used in the building should be recycled at a later date; this requires a digital building resource passport as a materials database to clarify what materials were employed where and how.

The process is supported by new software by the company SCALE that allows for the simulation of the environmental impact of a building depending on the materials used. By means of the life cycle assessment calculated on the basis of a digital model, it is possible to optimise greenhouse gas emissions and other environmental indicators already during the planning phase (i.e. in the model) by comparing different construction materials.

The project receives funding through the WieNeu+ “Grätzförderung” subsidy scheme.

*“We want to do what everybody has been talking about for quite some time and now are launching a field test.”*

**Dipl. Ing. Wilhelm Sedlak**

Core interventions of the project:

- **Waste management.** The project minimises waste and aims to recycle construction materials for optimised resource use.
- **Selection and use of materials.** Environmentally friendly and sustainable materials are used for refurbishment.
- **Construction design.** The focus of planning is on flexibility, adaptability and dismantlability. The building should be well prepared, not only for the present, but also for the future.
- **As-built model.** A central database for relevant building information that allows for a precise documentation of the materials and components used.
- **Documentation and transparency.** Comprehensive reporting documents not only compliance with the EU Taxonomy criteria but also positive impact on the environment.

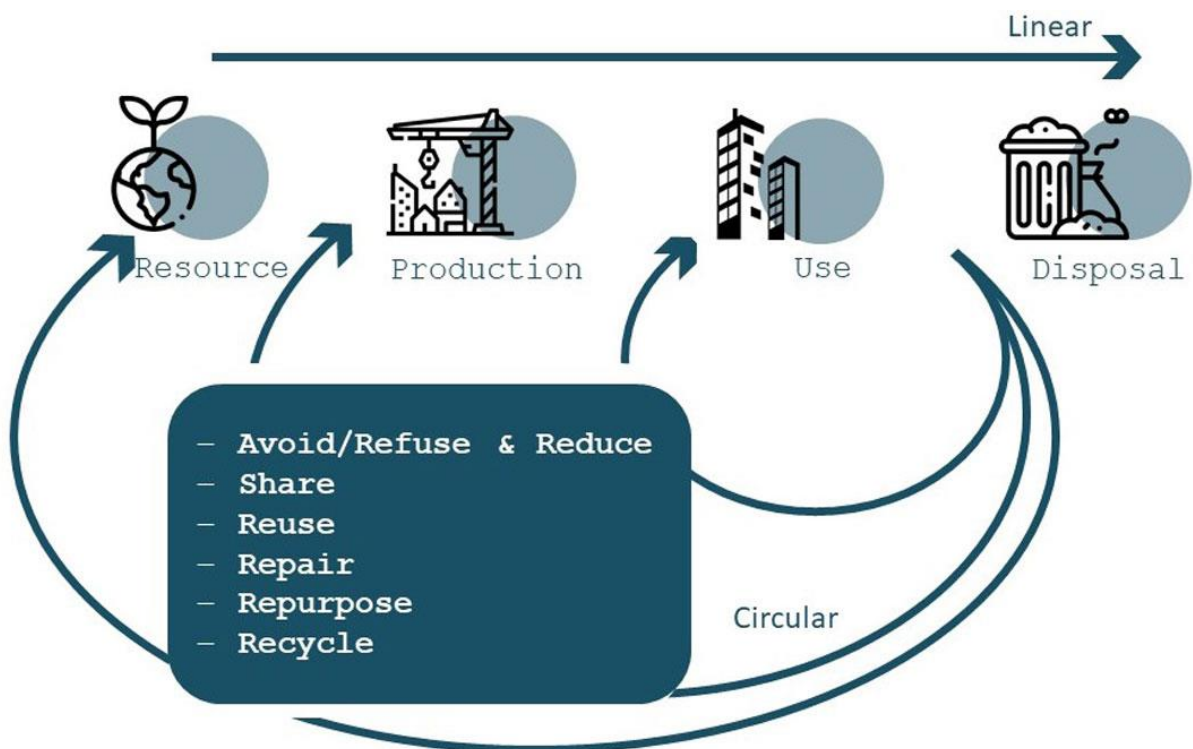


Fig. 25: Linear vs. circular refurbishment. Copyright: Dipl. Ing Wilhelm Sedlak GesmbH, SCALE

## Outcomes

The project is considered a flagship intervention aiming to test the circular economy approach in building refurbishment on the basis of a concrete structure. This approach allows for a reality check of current framework conditions and offers an opportunity to obtain practically applicable know-how for future projects.

Taking a step towards circular economy-aligned construction methods calls for new, creative, open and, sometimes, out-of-the-box thinking.

The implementation of solutions that take account of the principles of a circular economy in refurbishment and rehabilitation is strongly dependent on building typology and age. Hence, a detailed on-site analysis of the status quo, specifically prepared for the respective project, is indispensable.

The economic efficiency and conformity of the interventions with the EU Taxonomy are essentially contingent on statutory and practical-technical framework conditions, which in their turn impact competitiveness and, hence, pricing.

The scalability of refurbishment solutions corresponding to the principles of a circular economy will only become reality with the – expected – arrival of commercially viable products and services geared towards a circular economy.

Further results as well as the progress of the project by Sedlak Immobilien / SCALE are published regularly in a blog on the [website of Dipl. Ing. Wilhelm Sedlak GmbH](#).

The following projects focus on research and the formulation of innovative ideas for a preliminary exploration of their technical and organisational viability.

### **“Queen Gudrun II”**

Partners: Schöberl & Pöll GmbH, eFriends Energy GmbH, GrünStattGrau, Trimmel Wall Architekten ZT GmbH, GEBE-STREBEL GmbH

The project developed a holistic, implementation-oriented action plan for the block rehabilitation zone Gudrunstrasse II, with a special focus on thermal refurbishment, the decarbonisation of energy supply and the greening of buildings. Due to the social structure of the rehabilitation zone, the conflicting goal of planning actually implementable refurbishment measures on the one hand and ensuring highly affordable rents on the other hand was taken into account. The project was developed as a participatory planning process.

#### Objectives:

1. Implementation-oriented action plan
  - Rehabilitation, energy supply, greening
2. Pilot project for a PV energy community
3. Demonstration of greening measures and greywater utilisation system
4. Realisation of a demonstration building

## Outcomes

One key challenge lies in hooking up with local stakeholders in the project area, attracting their interest and motivating them to engage in long-term commitment and co-operation. Attaining this goal in areas with very heterogeneous structures poses a particular challenge. Thus, while it proved impossible to implement a real-life demonstration building in the block rehabilitation zone Gudrunstrasse II (since the owner of the respective property, who had first agreed to participate, later proved unwilling to commit), a demonstration refurbishment project comprising all planned innovations (greywater plant, greening, PV plant with energy community, comprehensive thermal refurbishment with attic storey conversion) was, indeed, realised in Kauergasse 2 in the 15<sup>th</sup> municipal district. The refurbishment work was concluded in late 2023. The greywater plant installed in the building is based on a system developed by the GEBE-STREBEL company and represents a pioneering innovation that, so far, has been but rarely implemented. The system purifies domestic greywater and uses it for energy generation (water heating and cooling); the purified wastewater can then serve to irrigate the plants used for greening the building and possibly also to water roadside trees.

## “AnergieUrban” lighthouse projects

Partners: Municipal Department 20 (MA 20) – Energy Planning, ÖGUT, TU Wien, Geological Survey of Austria (GBA), architectural studio © zeininger architekten



Fig. 26: “AnergieUrban”, study locations and potential borehole sites. Copyright: ÖGUT

Anergy networks (low-temperature networks) are an interesting future option for replacing existing gas heating systems in Vienna. In an anergy network, several houses share the available sources of heat, such as geothermal heat, groundwater or solar thermal energy. In this way, all buildings in the network can be heated and cooled without fossil fuels while cutting down on investment costs.

In Innerfavoriten, a study concerning the technical feasibility of anergy networks was conducted, starting with an exploration of where in the project area geothermal probes might be installed (see dots in the illustration above).

Moreover, the pilot project examined to what degree a symbiosis of district heating areas and neighbouring anergy network areas might boost the carbon-free overall energy balance and security of supply.



The “AnergieUrban” lighthouse projects looked at three specific construction projects to determine which statutory, organisational and socio-economic framework conditions must be created in order to facilitate optimum geothermal energy utilisation in urban spaces to further the heat transition.

In the WieNeu+ area Innerfavoriten, a starter cell for an anergy network in Alxingergasse / Van-der-Nüll-Gasse was analysed in greater detail; moreover, the framework conditions for implementation were preliminarily addressed together with the owners in this urban block.

## Outcomes

While anergy networks have attained technical maturity, their more widespread installation still requires key stakeholders who are willing to advance such projects and are also able to activate other owners in the respective urban block.

One major obstacle lies in the currently inadequate framework conditions, which stipulate the obligatory installation of a central heating system; moreover, aspects of housing law (MRG and WEG) likewise need to be adapted. The tapping of geothermal heat in public space, which is necessary for deep drilling, would offer opportunities if statutory obstacles were reduced. Energy-related spatial planning and adjustments of construction law provisions constitute further prerequisites for the multi-property tapping of these potentials.

Starter cells composed of three to five buildings appear to be ideal initiators for the implementation of an anergy network. The early identification of potentials for enlarging the network is of benefit. Above all, a combination of newly constructed buildings and refurbished older structures opens up a wide range of technical solutions and, thus, renders anergy networks more attractive (e.g. low-temperature heating combined with cooling, use of annexes, etc.). In this context, the aid provisions under the de minimis Regulation constitute a something of a restriction to smaller-scale operator solutions.

For further project information, see the final report (German): [Abschlussbericht](#).

## Circular economy & recyclability-oriented rehabilitation projects in WieNeu+

In the further development of the **Smart Climate City Strategy Vienna**, the promotion of a circular economy and, in particular, of building refurbishment according to circular economy principles has proven a key challenge for sustainable and climate-neutral urban renewal. First investigations show a great need for accumulating a body of knowledge at all levels in order to create framework conditions that enable and motivate all stakeholders to strive for recyclability-oriented methods and techniques.

As an **urban living lab**, **WieNeu+** offers optimum preconditions for implementing pilot projects in this field.

- In 2020, a **study exploring the circular economy potentials of the Favoriten tram depot** owned by Wiener Linien was compiled by the company “Materialnomaden”. One key result was the drafting of a catalogue of materials and components which includes all building materials and masses that make up the tram depot plus a CO<sub>2</sub> matrix and which can serve as a basis for future material use.
- A study regarding the potential refurbishment of the building **Quellenstrasse 217** owned by the real estate developer BWSG was conducted with special attention to the principles of a circular economy. The key finding of this study was that the current framework does not allow for implementation.
- WieNeu+ co-operated with **CircularCityChallenge (CCC)**. This is an event format searching for innovative circular economy-based solutions to cope with the challenges faced by cities and municipalities. As “challenge owners”, cities and municipalities propose current challenges for



CCC. Start-ups then submit their ideas and products to offer circular economy-based solutions for cities and, in this way, contribute to climate neutrality.

- The project **Van-der-Nüll-Gasse 22** by Sedlak Immobilien provides a practical example of the recyclability-oriented refurbishment of an existing older building and promises important results regarding the use of digital building models, life cycle assessments and monitoring. The project receives funding through the WieNeu+ “Grätzförderung” subsidy scheme.

## Outcomes

The principles of a circular economy must be taken into account during every planning stage of a refurbishment and rehabilitation project, including its earliest phase. The WieNeu+ projects Quellenstrasse 217 (BWSG) and Miesbachgasse 5 (ÖSW) were already too advanced for this approach. Moreover, circular economy is an issue that is still difficult to communicate to developers and owners, also for the following reasons:

- At the launch of the programme, there existed **no strong system of incentives** (e.g. subsidies or cost savings) as a motivation for taking account of circular economy principles in refurbishment projects, which made it more difficult to bring co-owners onboard or convince tenants of the usefulness of this approach. This state of affairs was to be remedied from March 2024 with the new Refurbishment and Decarbonisation Ordinance of the City of Vienna.
- At the moment, the market **lacks services and infrastructure** to provide insights regarding those phases of a refurbishment project when developers and owners can actually implement a circular economy approach. This would e.g. comprise digital services for a status quo building analysis, specialised craftspeople and planners as well as conceptual infrastructure able to describe the steps necessary to implement a circular economy approach, measure progress and clarify responsibilities.
- Both developers and service or product providers are responsible for applying the principles of a circular economy. The latter group still lacks a clear understanding of the significance of a recyclability-oriented approach for the individual crafts. As a result, developers do not search for suitable services, and craftspeople do not (or cannot) offer them, e.g.: what do circular economy principles mean for building utilities? What should be considered in calls for tender, bids and procurement procedures?
- To achieve concrete progress, several developers must co-operate closely and comprehensively to enable a strategic approach. It seems ineffective to address this issue solely in individual spots without embedding these projects in the bigger context of an overall urban concept. A comprehensive digital and up-to-date survey of all buildings concerned is important to permit the early planning of the material flows generated. The provision of storage space and logistics is seen as a cost factor that will not be borne unless it is obligatory or entails some kind of trade-off.

## Outlook

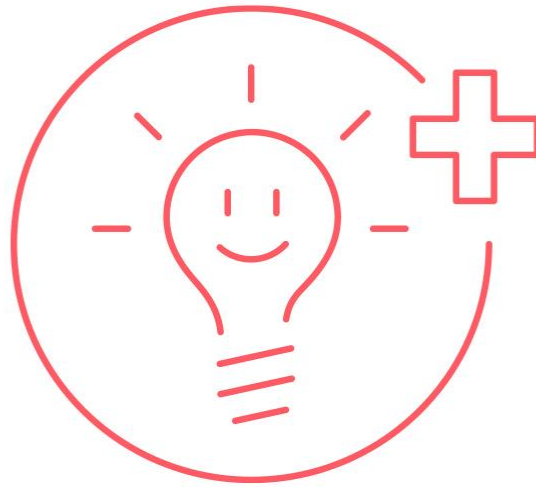
Circular economy and recyclability-oriented rehabilitation are topics of great importance for Europe’s future (Taxonomy Regulation). Here, Vienna engages in active partnerships with all stakeholders in order to create local model solutions. The project experience made with WieNeu+ is also part of this effort.

The “DoTank Circular City Wien 2020-2030” programme, which is domiciled at the Executive Group for Construction and Technology, is charged with formulating and preparing concrete implementation measures in theory and practice to bring about a circular economy-oriented city; among other activities, the urban living lab for circular building techniques in the Nordwestbahnhof neighbourhood is conceived as part of the transformation process towards a construction sector aligned with the principles of a circular economy. The Refurbishment and Decarbonisation Ordinance of the City of Vienna, which came

into force in March 2024, also promotes refurbishment interventions that take account of the circular economy.

For the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> WieNeu+ programme areas, the findings also mean that the circular economy is an issue that property owners must be confronted with right from the beginning to enable them to take account of this aspect in planning.

## Social neighbourhood & neighbourhood development



### Following the principles of a circular economy in everyday life

The way in which WieNeu+ promotes and supports lifestyles that align with the circular economy far exceeds merely technical approaches but rather comprises the active involvement and mobilisation of local inhabitants. Various measures are carried out in co-operation with the Urban Renewal Office (GB\*) and its local branch.



*Fig. 27: Clothes-swapping event. Copyright: GB\**

The activities for the “Social neighbourhood & neighbourhood development” pillar in Favoriten began with smaller projects, such as bike repair points, repair cafés and clothes-swapping events, which served to establish direct contacts with residents. Such initiatives not only make it possible to involve local residents on site but also help to identify additional potentials and needs, in particular with regard to vacancy activation.

While these targeted interventions boost awareness of sustainable practices, they foster social networking and active exchange within a community as well. The involvement of local residents ensures that circular economy-based solutions will be implemented not only effectively but also as actually needed and with an eye to the local community. Hence, WieNeu+, in addition to focusing on technological innovations, emphasises social initiatives as well in order to promote a holistic approach towards sustainable change in the respective neighbourhoods.

## Strengthening social interactions & co-operation

### “Wohnstrassenleben” – traffic-calmed living streets



*Fig. 28: Street festival with bike repair point in the foreground and orange-white festoons of the Urban Renewal Office stretching across the street. Copyright: City of Vienna / Elia Stefan*

On 24 September 2021, the Day of Traffic-Calmed Streets, WieNeu+ organised the #wohnstrassenleben event in Pernerstorfergasse, which is precisely such a pedestrian-priority street, with the aim of drawing attention to the actual purpose of traffic-calmed living streets – namely, enabling people to move freely about and children to play here.

This is regulated by Section 76b of the Road Traffic Code of 1960, which states that “Vehicular traffic is prohibited in living streets, with the exception of bicycle traffic [...] Walking and playing on carriageways are permitted. However, vehicular traffic, as far as it is allowed, must not be wilfully obstructed [...]”.

The #wohnstrassenleben event in Pernerstorfergasse offered a wide mix of activities. Defective appliances and bicycles were repaired, catering was provided by Caritas, the Volkshilfe charity drew attention to the



problem of child poverty, the Vienna Business Agency organised a game involving artificial intelligence and music, and the adjacent music school performed a concert.



*Fig. 29: "Wohnstrassenleben" – traffic-calmed living streets. Copyright: City of Vienna / Elia Stefan*

## Research Festival



*Fig. 30: Research Festival. Copyright: Vienna Business Agency / Tirza Podzeit*

In autumn 2021, the Research Festival on Tour of the Vienna Business Agency also stopped in the WieNeu+ neighbourhood. For two weeks, children and young people were provided with a wealth of information about new technologies from Vienna and job possibilities in these fields.



The event took place in Kempelenpark, which in 2021/22 was among Vienna's biggest venues for interim use. Since 2017, the former Siemens Campus was publicly accessible and soon evolved into a vibrant site for training, start-up enterprises and ecological and social pioneer projects, which fully reflects the purpose of the concept of interim use.

## **“Wiener Räume”: vacancy activation & interim use**

Partners: MA 25 – Technical Urban Renewal, MA 18 – Urban Development and Planning, Kreative Räume Wien (KRW)

During its co-operation with local stakeholders during the programme run in Favoriten, WieNeu+ realised that people from the neighbourhood have an enormous demand for affordable spaces for either one-off events or other forms of non-residential use by individuals or small groups.

Since there exists practically no way of activating ground-floor or similar premises owned by private individuals, the focus shifted to vacancies owned by the City of Vienna. This tapped synergies between the local WieNeu+ programme and Kreative Räume Wien (KRW), a service for vacancy activation and interim use specially commissioned by the City Administration.



*Fig. 31: Interim use of the building Van-der-Nüll-Gasse 20, group photo of new tenants / artists. Copyright: City of Vienna / Bojan Schnabl*

There exists a massive demand for affordable premises to accommodate creative, social, innovative projects and forms of use. However, the cost-efficient provision of spaces for temporary use is hampered by various aspects.

Interim use can prove an attractive solution during both refurbishment and new construction projects. However, this option only applies during specific and distinct phases of project development and project implementation.

The “Wiener Räume” (Viennese Spaces) project aimed at the activation of municipally-owned vacancies and, through co-operation with municipal departments and potential clients looking for premises, managed to identify system-related obstacles, developed recommendations for action and helped to arrange the rental of premises to innovative projects.



*Fig. 32: Vacancy activation Van-der-Nüll-Gasse 20. Copyright: City of Vienna / Bojan Schnabl*

#### **Call for interim use organised by Kreative Räume Wien**

During the project run, a call for the interim use of two vacant municipally-owned properties in Innerfavoriten was held with the goal of arranging the rental of these specific properties to interested users for a real-life test of the theoretically formulated process. 35 potential clients visited both properties, ultimately leading to four concrete rental requests. In the end, three art associations concluded rental agreements for an interim period of five years for Van-der-Nüll-Gasse 20, a former administrative building of the City of Vienna.



*Fig. 33: Vacancy activation Van-der-Nüll-Gasse 20, artist's studio. Copyright: City of Vienna / Bojan Schnabl*

## Outcomes

Due to the preliminary work achieved in the first WieNeu+ programme area, follow-up ventures were initiated in the second WieNeu+ programme area, “Grätzl 20+2”:

**“Stadtkern\_PLUS”** is a project to revitalise the ground-floor zones in neighbourhoods mainly characterised by older building stock. Specifically, new operator models to activate ground-floor and plinth zones are developed. The success already achieved in new buildings through ground-floor management is thus to be translated to older urban quarters.

For more information, visit: [https://wieneuplus-redaktion.wien.gv.at/stadtkern\\_plus](https://wieneuplus-redaktion.wien.gv.at/stadtkern_plus)

**“Grätzlinitiative 20+2”** is a co-operation between the Vienna Business Agency and WieNeu+ to boost local businesses. “Grätzlinitiative 20+2” aims to support small enterprises in the Grätzl 20+2 programme area, to strengthen the local economy, to activate vacancies and to stimulate life in the neighbourhood.

For more information, visit: <https://wirtschaftsagentur.at/graetzelliebe/>

## **“Grätzlmarie”: facts, data, figures**



### **“Grätzlmarie”**

“Grätzlmarie” (“neighbourhood money”) is a subsidy pool of the City of Vienna embedded in the WieNeu+ urban renewal programme. It supports projects that strengthen social interactions in the neighbourhood, render the neighbourhood climate- and future-proof and create a benefit for the largest possible number of people in the neighbourhood. Up to 100% of the costs of selected projects submitted for subsidisation are funded. These projects are supported with amounts ranging from Euro 100 to Euro 30,000, e.g. for physical items, materials, rents for event venues or personnel costs.

#### Objectives:

1. Participatory local projects with the motto “climate- and future-proof in the neighbourhood” are implemented.
2. Targeted participation and active empowerment processes that involve the local population and promote the acceptance of necessary climate policy measures are implemented.
3. Social innovation and the strengthening of good-neighbourly relations become established practice.
4. Interdisciplinary co-operation with local players in the project area is boosted.
5. Green and open spaces acquire new atmospheric and aesthetic qualities.
6. Experience is systematically gathered, analysed and adapted for further use, e.g. to implement other participatory budgets in different urban areas over the coming years.





Fig. 34: “Grätzlmarie” activists holding their certificates of appreciation, together with Deputy Mayor Kathrin Gaál and Programme Manager Stephan Hartmann (7 July 2023). Copyright: City of Vienna / Martin Votava

## Facts, data, figures

Between October 2021 and May 2023, there were six periods for submitting entries. In all, the “Grätzlmarie” pool for Innerfavoriten disbursed a total of Euro 113,210 for 29 participatory projects.

Altogether, 60 project ideas were submitted, actively involving close to 150 persons. The projects were selected on the basis of various criteria, which e.g. included the promotion of climate change adaptation, easy access for many neighbourhood residents and sparing subsidy use.

To support interested residents, “Grätzlmarie” **idea workshops** were organised at the GB\* premises. This led to the formulation of first project ideas and the building of new co-operations. The monitoring extended by GB\* during development, entry submission, implementation and project accounting as well as visits to some activities by GB\* representatives resulted in many nice encounters with committed neighbourhood residents. Personal contacts and, as a result, easy accessibility for all characterise this idea budget.

The projects are selected by a “Grätzlbeirat” (neighbourhood advisory board), which was duly charged with this task by the City of Vienna as the funding authority. Half of the advisory board members are local residents, while representatives of institutions, the City Administration and the Municipal District Office make up the other half. The project ideas submitted are evaluated by the GB\* team for compliance with the eligibility criteria and then selected by the neighbourhood advisory board.

The “Grätzlmarie” projects implemented can be grouped into the following thematic clusters: community (6), mobility (3), environment (3), awareness raising & sustainability (6), art & culture (6).



## Infobox: facts & figures

**Project period:** January 2021 to December 2023

**Number of projects approved:** 29 (60 project submissions)

**Total funding amount disbursed:** € 113,210

**Number of neighbourhood advisory board meetings:** 8 meetings between October 2021 and June 2023

**Neighbourhood advisory board members:** 14 persons



*Fig. 35: Acting in concert: the final “Grätzlmarie” presentation (7 November 2023). Copyright: City of Vienna / Martin Votava*

## Outcomes

For WieNeu+, “Grätzlmarie” is an important tool to establish contacts with local residents and, in this way, to ensure the visibility of WieNeu+ in the neighbourhood through various media and channels.

“Grätzlmarie” enables low-threshold participation formats with largely local effect. Due to the great variety of offerings, “Grätzlmarie” projects create direct benefits for different target groups.

Thus, “Grätzlmarie” funds disbursed through WieNeu+ offer the possibility of establishing a lively exchange with residents and, hence, to make WieNeu+ and its issues part of the public discourse while broadening the thematic range of the City Administration’s communication with citizens.

It must be said that, due to its specific organisation, “Grätzlmarie” concentrates a lot of its resources both with the GB\* office – for assisting project applicants and project managers – and with WieNeu+, for funding administration.

- Variety of projects: numerous highly diverse projects were submitted.

- Democratic process: many different individuals – some of whom participated with very small-scale projects – were involved, allowing for the effective breaking-down of often invisible barriers.

*“With ‘Grätzlmarie’, the idea budget of WieNeu+, we were able to reach out to many people; frequently, too, this was their first contact with an Urban Renewal Office. This makes neighbourhood work even more varied and multifaceted and truly contributes to local quality of life.”*

**Andrea Breitfuss**

Head of the GB\* Urban Renewal Office for the districts 3, 4, 5, 10 and 11

## **“Grätzlmarie” projects: focus on the environment**



### **Healthy snacking in the park, potato pyramids**

Since spring 2022 and also after expiry of the project, the youth organisation Kinderfreunde has been actively planting and tending “tasty bushes” as part of park supervision activities in Laubepark, Arthaberpark, Erlachpark and Barankapark, all of which are situated in the WieNeu+ programme area in Favoriten; potato pyramids were additionally planted in two parks.

Together with young residents, already existing raised beds were newly planted and new beds built as well. With these “tasty bushes”, Kinderfreunde aktiv communicates information about nature as well as values like community sense and responsibility in a playful manner – and older and younger kids greatly enjoy gardening!





Fig. 36: Healthy snacking in the park. Copyright: City of Vienna / Martin Votava

- PROJECT IDEA SUBMITTED BY: [Wiener Kinderfreunde aktiv Parkbetreuung](#) (park supervision), [Jugendtreff Arthaberbad](#) (youth centre)
- TOGETHER WITH: Municipal Department 42 – Parks and Gardens, Verein Wiener Jugendzentren, Local Agenda 21, children and young people
- IMPLEMENTATION PERIOD: spring 2022 – ongoing and April 2023 – ongoing

*“Our three-year motto is ‘Let’s save the world!’ And we start with our kids in the parks to make sure that they will have a happy childhood and future! And we really have achieved quite a lot: many raised beds and tasty bushes for Favoriten’s kids!”*

**Michi Waiglein-Wirth**  
Wiener Kinderfreunde aktiv

### **“Wir spriessen gemeinsam” (We Sprout Together)**

This project brought residents of the Triesterviertel – a part of the programme area – together to build and plant tree pits and, through this joint activity, to get to know one another.

Lots of perseverance and good-neighbourly commitment motivated a group of residents to launch a project to green their housing environment together. In this way, the neighbours learned which plants are best suited for urban settings and what added value for the area and for animals / insects this generates.

GB\* supported the organisation of “tree island sponsorships”; these continue to be tended by local residents.



- PROJECT IDEA SUBMITTED BY: Gabriele Sturm
- TOGETHER WITH: local residents
- IMPLEMENTATION PERIOD: April 2022 – ongoing

### **Greening the forecourt of the Arthaberbad youth centre**

The forecourt of the youth centre in Arthaberplatz square was provided with raised beds and seats, involving the young people in the remodelling work. They learned to handle tools and wood and were given practical information about plants and animals. Through this group work, the young people assumed responsibility for their collective future.



*Fig. 37: Gardening and cycling. Copyright: City of Vienna / Bojan Schnabl*

- PROJECT IDEA SUBMITTED BY: [Jugendtreff Arthaberbad](#)
- TOGETHER WITH: youth centre visitors
- IMPLEMENTATION PERIOD: April to Mai 2022 – ongoing

## **“Grätzlmarie” projects: focus on mobility**



### **Bike repair tools & workshops as a part of park supervision**

Environmentally friendly mobility of children and young people starts with the roadworthiness of the bikes they ride. The association Wiener Kinderfreunde aktiv joined forces with the cycling lobby Lenkerbande to organise bike repair points in Favoriten’s parks. Small repairs were carried out on the spot and free of charge; moreover, kids were shown how to keep their bikes in good condition on their own. This enabled children and young people to experience the fun of cycling at first hand.

The “Grätzlmarie” funds were moreover used to purchase additional tools to ensure that bike repair days can also be offered in the future.



*Fig. 38: Bike repair point in Arthaberpark. Copyright: City of Vienna / Bojan Schnabl*

- PROJECT IDEA SUBMITTED BY: [Wiener Kinderfreunde aktiv](#)
- TOGETHER WITH: Lenkerbande
- IMPLEMENTATION PERIOD: May to August 2022

### **“Radmobiles Innerfavoriten” (Cycling in Innerfavoriten)**

It was the aim of this project to enable children and young people to explore the area around their home by bike during an exciting neighbourhood rally. On four Saturday afternoons in May and June 2023 and supervised by cycling coaches of the FahrSicherRad cycling school, the participants solved puzzles and learned to cope with different traffic situations. Rental bikes and helmets were available for those who did not bring their own bike along.

Fifteen cycling courses for women and children had already been offered in summer 2022; in addition, a cycle cinema was organised during the Supergrätzl Festival. The events took place in Arthaberpark and Kempelenpark.





*Fig. 39: Cycling in Innerfavoriten. Copyright: Philipp Schober / FahrSicherRad*

- PROJECT IDEA SUBMITTED BY: [FahrSicherRad](#) (cycling school), IG Fahrrad – Die Radvokaten (cycling lobby)
- TOGETHER WITH: Arthaberbad youth centre, CarBiz (Caritas training centre), Cycle Cinema Club
- IMPLEMENTATION PERIOD: May to September 2022 and May to October 2023



## **“Grätzlmarie” projects: focus on awareness raising & sustainability**



### **“Walk dich sauber” (Clean Up While Walking)**

From February to May 2023, adults, young people and children met every Thursday at 6.45 p.m. in Waldmüllerpark for collective free-of-charge Nordic walking classes in the park. Moving about in the open air proved a memorable experience even during the evening hours due to the headlamps participants were provided with. Walking around, participants were on the lookout for bits of litter and trash to collect. The project initiator provided the necessary materials, mapped routes through the neighbourhood and infected participants with her enthusiasm.

An exemplary project that shows the importance of keeping one’s surroundings clean and being active in a group!

- PROJECT IDEA SUBMITTED BY: Diana Dzaviza
- TOGETHER WITH: local residents
- IMPLEMENTATION PERIOD: February to May 2023

### **Kids’ map**

Parents and kids from Favoriten joined forces to design a city map together – with all information of importance for children and their families living in the district. Where’s the nearest playground? Where do trams or buses run? Where’s the nearest traffic light for safe street crossing? These questions are answered by the kids’ map of Favoriten!

The map shows spots in Innerfavoriten that are particularly important for local residents and their children aged four to ten years. It invites users to explore the area around their home and learn about the many facilities available in the immediate environs. Due to massive demand, the kids’ map is already in its second edition.



*Fig. 40: Kids' map with Jakob Holzer and Eva Schmolzmüller. Copyright: GB\**

- PROJECT IDEA SUBMITTED BY: Jakob Holzer
- TOGETHER WITH: families with young children from Innerfavoriten
- IMPLEMENTATION PERIOD: April to December 2022 and April to November 2023 – ongoing

### **“Inks from Weeds”**

In the context of the afternoon workshop “Inks from Weeds” (Making Inks from Plants – Mapping the Area), participants searched and gathered plants all over the WieNeu+ neighbourhood. The objective was to make inks from these plants by means of simple techniques; the inks were then used to draw small maps offering an overview of the range of plant pigments available on site. The workshop activities inspired talks about plants in the city and the city as a habitat for plants. This joint investigation opened up hitherto unknown perspectives on the participants' everyday living environment.





Fig. 41: "Inks from Weeds". Copyright: dunjiva kolektiv, Dunja Krcek



Fig. 42: "Inks from Weeds". Copyright: dunjiva kolektiv, Dunja Krcek

- PROJECT IDEA SUBMITTED BY: [dunjiva kolektiv](#), Dunja Krcek
- TOGETHER WITH: Ivana Miloš
- IMPLEMENTATION PERIOD: 16 September 2023

## ClimateLibrary Innerfavoriten

The ClimateLibrary Innerfavoriten was a mobile, multi-functional shelf and transport box built by young people of the Interface Youth College of the City of Vienna. The box was filled with books, information brochures and a variety of tools, including a foldable solar cooker, an Innerfavoriten cookbook, pinhole cameras and seeds.

It was the purpose of the ClimateLibrary to integrate and activate young people with a migrant background in order to familiarise them with their new home in Vienna and its great variety. Exploration walks through the neighbourhood, which also served to discuss current local developments, were another element of the project. Moreover, the ClimateLibrary Innerfavoriten could be used by various communities. By being located in public space, the ClimateLibrary also contributed to greater climate sensitivity among local residents.



*Fig. 43: ClimateLibrary. Copyright: Irene Lucas Ferrandes*

- PROJECT IDEA SUBMITTED BY: Irene Lucas Ferrandes
- TOGETHER WITH: Interface Youth College of the City of Vienna
- IMPLEMENTATION PERIOD: May to September 2023

## “Grätzlstammtisch”

The cultural association “Festival der Ruhe” created the “Grätzlstammtisch” (a “Stammtisch” is a regulars’ table at a pub or inn) – a piece of furniture that was used for meetings, workshops and other social occasions during various events held between April and October 2022.

For example, visitors painted clay pots, planted a seed or seedling and then took the pot home as part of a tree planting workshop. During a finissage, the sound artist Michael Frischler created a sonic environment with birdsong in Waldmüllerpark. The sound installation was complemented with lighted Chinese lanterns and lamps for a festive mood.





Fig. 44: "Grätzlstammtisch". Copyright: Festival der Ruhe / Florent Souly

- PROJECT IDEA SUBMITTED BY: Florent Souly, [Verein Festival der Ruhe](#) (art initiative)
- TOGETHER WITH: artists from various disciplines
- IMPLEMENTATION PERIOD: April to October 2022

### **Kids' neighbourhood bakery**

Together with neighbourhood bakeries, children and young people were to bake various seasonal (autumn / winter) desserts together. Baking fosters cultural exchange between different population groups and strengthens social interactions, which is to stimulate future potentials for joint activity.

Due to the strict hygiene regulations applying to bakeries, Chancenhaus Obdach Favorita (a hostel that accommodates homeless women and small families) stepped in as a new co-operation partner. Thus, children and young people used the kitchen of this former workers' hostel in Laxenburger Strasse for baking fun.

- PROJECT IDEA SUBMITTED BY: [Mitten in Favoriten, Verein zur Förderung von Kunst, Kultur und neuen Nachbarschaften](#) (civil society initiative)
- TOGETHER WITH: Volkshilfe Favoriten (charity), [Chancenhaus Obdach Favorita](#)
- IMPLEMENTATION PERIOD: October and November 2023

## **“Grätzlmarie” projects: focus on community building**



### **“Favoriten schmeckt” (A Taste of Favoriten)**

Eating and talking are convivial activities, indeed! The association “Mitten in Favoriten” presented local residents’ favourite restaurants and inns in a vlog; in this way, people living in the area enjoyed a taste of their neighbourhood.

On 13 Mai 2022, the restaurant Gasthaus Timo (Dampfgasse 22) hosted the concluding performance “Urleiwande Mischkulanz”, with Stefan Bergmann and his colleague Paul Hüttinger on the stage. This reading offered a trip through one century of Favoriten history with its typical, “super-awesome” ethnic mix. The entertainment programme was enriched by a buffet with drinks and Bohemian specialities.

- PROJECT IDEA SUBMITTED BY: [Mitten in Favoriten, Verein zur Förderung von Kunst, Kultur und neuen Nachbarschaften](#) (civil society initiative)
- TOGETHER WITH: Stefan Bergmann and Paul Hüttinger, [Gasthaus Timo](#) owners Michael and Maria
- IMPLEMENTATION PERIOD: January to May 2022

### **“Miteinander in die Zukunft” (Together Towards the Future)**

A varied programme comprising a flea market, a clothes-swapping event, a health lecture, evening yoga classes and a fire safety exercise was offered for all neighbours in this co-operative housing estate. Over several weeks, good-neighbourly relations were promoted by presenting activities in the common courtyard spaces. The highlight – a community party with kids’ programme, a magic show and a communal dinner in the courtyard – took place on a mild and pleasant Monday. The commitment of residents engenders a healthy and durable community feeling.



*Fig. 45: Together Towards the Future. Copyright: Elisabeth Weihs*

- PROJECT IDEA SUBMITTED BY: Elisabeth Weihs
- TOGETHER WITH: tenants of the housing estate, students of the commercial colleges BHAK and BHAS Wien 10
- IMPLEMENTATION PERIOD: April to June 2023

### **“Wir garteln” (Gardening Together)**

Chancenhaus Obdach Favorita is a hostel that assists and accommodates homeless women and small families for up to three months. Residents and caregivers joined forces to plant fruit and vegetables in the inner courtyard. Youngsters learned to tend plants and respect nature, while families benefit from the vitamin-rich produce.

In 2023, numerous seats and additional raised beds were built and put up in the inner courtyard by residents of Obdach Favorita in co-operation with a socially committed carpenter. During the summer months, Ackerhelden – an enterprise advocating urban gardening for organic food – organised workshops on nature and the environment for the children staying at Obdach Favorita.





Fig. 46: Obdach Favorita: gardening together. Copyright: City of Vienna / Bojan Schnabl



Fig. 47: Obdach Favorita: gardening together. Copyright: City of Vienna / Bojan Schnabl

- PROJECT IDEA SUBMITTED BY: Volkshilfe Favoriten (charity), [Chancenhaus Obdach Favorita](#)
- TOGETHER WITH: hostel residents (women and families), [Ackerhelden](#)
- IMPLEMENTATION PERIOD: April to September 2022 – ongoing and May to August 2023 – ongoing

### **“Grätzl kino”: a musical and cinematic home in the diaspora**

The screening of the film “Aşk, Mark ve Ölüm – Liebe, D-Mark und Tod”, which tells migration stories from a musical angle, was preceded by a performance by Turkish-Kurdish musicians, who provided an



overview of the great sonic and rhythmic variety of that region in the diaspora. Keynotes by organisations that offer counselling and support and are actively committed to better social interactions between different population groups addressed the need for improvement. In this way, the evening fostered discussion and an analysis of the meaning of “home” within the Turkish-Kurdish community. The screening in Paltrampark was well attended and a great success!



Fig. 48: “Grätzlino”. Copyright: GB\* / Eva Schmolzmüller

- PROJECT IDEA SUBMITTED BY: [Kulturraum 10, Verein für Alltags- und Bezirkskultur](#) (cultural initiative)
- TOGETHER WITH: [VOLXkino, Stadtkino Filmverleih und Kinobetriebsgesellschaft m.b.H.](#) (itinerant cinema)
- IMPLEMENTATION PERIOD: 17 September 2023

## Cinema at the park

The itinerant cinema Volxkino stopped at Arthaberpark for a screening of the film “Lionhearted – Aus der Deckung”. A large audience enjoyed an entertaining evening with popcorn and a convivial atmosphere in the outdoor area of the Arthaberbad youth centre. Before the event, the park visitors had voted on which film to screen, resulting in a democratic decision.

- PROJECT IDEA SUBMITTED BY: Konstantin Böck
- TOGETHER WITH: [Jugendtreff Arthaberbad, Mitten in Favoriten](#) (civil society initiative), park visitors
- IMPLEMENTATION PERIOD: 10 September 2022

## Autumn holiday board

This project was inspired by the following motto: is there something you can do really well and that you’d like to tell others about during the holidays? Would you like to meet other kids with the same interests? The autumn holiday board in Waldmüllerpark is the perfect place for you!

The autumn holiday board enabled children and young people to put up a notice on a board to find like-minded kids and make new friends.

- PROJECT IDEA SUBMITTED BY: Sophia Pauer
- TOGETHER WITH: youngsters in Waldmüller Park
- IMPLEMENTATION PERIOD: October 2023

## **“Grätzlmarie” projects: focus on art & culture**



### **“Street Photography” in the neighbourhood**

Kadir Günes compiled a photographic documentary of everyday neighbourhood life and of the life stories of its citizens. A series of selected portraits created thanks to “Grätzlmarie” funding was exhibited and could be visited for one month in summer 2022 at the GB\* neighbourhood management office in Quellenstrasse.

With his “Street Photography” project, Kadir Günes strengthened networks in the neighbourhood, started conversations with people in the area and brought all players – and their stories – together at the vernissage.





Fig. 49: "Street Photography". Copyright: City of Vienna / Bojan Schnabl

- PROJECT IDEA SUBMITTED BY: Kadir Günes and Zeynep Dogmus
- TOGETHER WITH: [Kulturraum 10 Verein für Alltags- und Bezirkskultur](#) (cultural initiative)
- IMPLEMENTATION PERIOD: January to September 2022

### **"Portrait of a Lady"**

In six creative workshops, participants addressed the stories of women who have experienced violence. Who were these women? What were their strengths? How do they influence our lives? These questions led to the collective creation of women's portraits. Two recently published books on the problem of violence stimulated group discussions.

The portraits were designed on the basis of the stories told and with the support of the artist and illustrator Judith Bittermann. The collages were then exhibited during the campaign "16 Days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence" at the GB\* neighbourhood management office.





Fig. 50: "Portrait of a Lady". Copyright: StoP Stadtteile ohne Partnergewalt & Judith Bittermann

- PROJECT IDEA SUBMITTED BY: [StoP Stadtteile ohne Partnergewalt](#) (organisation against domestic violence) & Judith Bittermann
- TOGETHER WITH: [Verein Autonome Österreichische Frauenhäuser](#) (Austrian association of women's shelters)
- IMPLEMENTATION PERIOD: September to November 2023

### **"Fado – A Warm Welcome Home"**

Making music and listening to it together is an expression of vitality and love of life – and the same goes for eating in company. At the "Fado" event, many stakeholders met at the GB\* neighbourhood management office for a culinary feast, for exchange and sharing. On two evenings, the intercultural women's association \*mosaic\* invited visitors to enjoy a dinner with musical accompaniment.

By meeting others and sharing experiences, culture was perceived as a healing factor. The community experience was kept alive and communicated.

Thanks to "Grätzlmarie" funding, the evening was free of charge for all participants.



Fig. 51: “Fado”. Copyright: Georg Cizek-Graf

- PROJECT IDEA SUBMITTED BY: [intercultural women’s association \\*mosaic\\*](#)
- TOGETHER WITH: musicians led by Orwa Saleh
- IMPLEMENTATION PERIOD: June and September 2023

### **“Die Zelle” (The Cell) – a theatre project tackling domestic violence**

“Die Zelle” (The Cell) is a theatre project for the prevention of violence. Together with Constance Cauers and the ensemble KollektivVERSTÄRKER, StoP presented “The Cell”, a deeply touching story that is representative of the experience of all women and children affected by violence in Austria. This play, which was performed four times in a municipal flat in Favoriten, made for a very particular theatre evening.

Each performance was followed by a discussion between the audience and staff members of StoP, an organisation that combats domestic violence. Dance and theatre workshops for the empowerment of women and girls in the neighbourhood were likewise organised.

- PROJECT IDEA SUBMITTED BY: Constanze Cauers, KollektivVERSTÄRKER
- TOGETHER WITH: [StoP – Stadtteile ohne Partnergewalt](#), [wohnpartner – Wiener Wohnen](#) (assistance for tenants of municipal housing estates)
- IMPLEMENTATION PERIOD: September to October 2023

### **“Was bedeutet ‘zu Hause’ für uns. What Home Means to Us. Evin bizim için ne anlamı.”**

“Was bedeutet ‘zu Hause’ für uns. What Home Means to Us. Evin bizim için ne anlamı.” This question was addressed in depth by the artists Birgit Hans-Mayer, Susanna Wing, Alice Fehrer and Iva Milovanović in an exhibition at the GB\* neighbourhood management office.

Kulturraum 10 also invited visitors to think about the concept of “home” in different neighbourhoods. For this purpose, a collective walk was organised before the exhibition to enable participants to exchange ideas and take snapshots.



*Fig. 52: “What Home Means to Us”. Copyright: City of Vienna / Bojan Schnabl*

- PROJECT IDEA SUBMITTED BY: [Kulturraum 10 Verein für Alltags und Bezirkskultur](#) (cultural initiative)
- TOGETHER WITH: [Spar-INIGO](#) (food-saving initiative)
- IMPLEMENTATION PERIOD: May to July 2023

### **Action painting in the park**

Experimenting with colours, learning about abstract art and romping about – this was the goal of the action painting event in Laubepark. The young participants worked with many different materials and tried out spray, shake or drip techniques, in this way forming a first impression of abstract art.

In all, 35 children and young people aged between three and 16 years and even some of the parents joined in. The finished artworks were taken home by their creators.



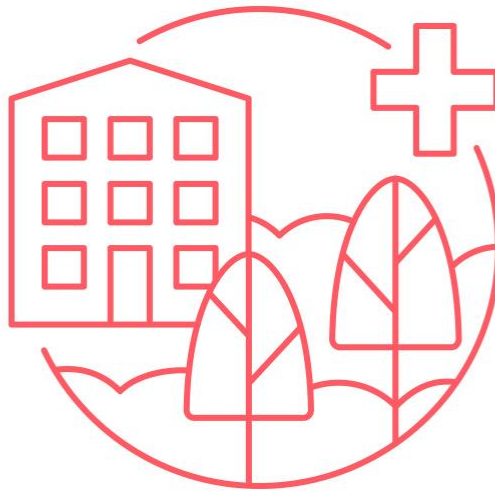


*Fig. 53: Action painting in the park. Copyright: Agnes Schmidt*

- PROJECT IDEA SUBMITTED BY: Agnes Schmidt / [Park supervision](#)
- TOGETHER WITH: [Wiener Kinderfreunde aktiv](#) (children and family organisation)
- IMPLEMENTATION PERIOD: 13 July 2022



## Public space



### A vision for Quellenplatz square

Partners: MA 19 – Architecture and Urban Design, MA 28 – Road Management and Construction, MA 25 – Technical Urban Renewal, Municipal District Office for the 10<sup>th</sup> District, GB\*East

Quellenplatz is one of the most frequented squares of Vienna and an important traffic and transport hub to and from the WieNeu+ programme area in Innerfavoriten. Every day, tens of thousands of people cross Quellenplatz; approx. 30,000 persons use trams in the square, which makes it comparable to such hubs as Westbahnhof or Praterstern.

Its size, very heterogeneous architecture and manifold forms of use characterise this square. Structures range from Gründerzeit multi-apartment buildings, whose austere façades were deprived of their former decorative elements, to municipal housing estates from the 1980s. This is compounded by the crossing of two main MIT thoroughfares as well as of three important tram lines (11, 6, O), four tram stops with refuge islands, numerous shops and kiosks as well as a correspondingly high number of passers-by every day. Scarce greening, which moreover is very heterogeneous with just a few trees of various height and shape, as well as many parking spaces contribute to the fact that this square is increasingly becoming an urban heat island due to the advance of climate change.

Because of this need for renewal, Quellenplatz was defined a focal project for public space in the WieNeu+ programme area. In co-operation with the Municipal District Office, first steps towards a long-term, comprehensive renewal process were taken together with all stakeholders, including residents, businesspeople and pedestrians. In this early phase, strategic decisions are to be sketched and concrete suggestions for improvement voiced by users are to be collected.

WieNeu+ acted as a pioneer for the potential redesign of Quellenplatz over the coming years. In addition to a traffic count, a micro-climate simulation and various participatory formats, WieNeu+ was able to formulate a preliminary strategic basis for planning in close co-ordination with the competent municipal departments.

The implementation of this project will in due course be handled and supervised by the respective municipal departments of the City of Vienna. WieNeu+ will continue to assist and support the project by providing monitoring and knowledge management.



*Fig. 54: Citizen participation for Quellenplatz. Copyright: City of Vienna / Linda Schneider*

Objectives in the context of WieNeu+:

1. Preparing a “rough plan”, including a feasibility study and cost assessment
2. Meeting the ambitious technical and quality goals of the City of Vienna regarding the adaptation to climate change, greening, sustainable mobility, circular economy, energy supply, etc.
3. Involving the inhabitants and local players on the ground
4. Applying new and innovative planning solutions and testing these (e.g. micro-climate simulation, geothermal heat potentials, resource-conserving construction techniques and open space design, façade greening)
5. Taking account of subsidies (ERDF, Smart Climate City) while respecting the technical and quality goals stated above



Fig. 55: Citizen participation for Quellenplatz. Copyright: City of Vienna / Bojan Schnabl

#### Outcomes:

1. On the basis of talks with municipal departments and the Municipal District Office as well as a traffic count and various participation formats, the Municipal District Office for the 10<sup>th</sup> District commissioned Municipal Department 28 – Road Management and Construction in 2023 to prepare a “general plan”.
2. A co-ordinated system of objectives and priority activities for Quellenplatz was drawn up.
3. The population and local residents were involved by means of several events and personal talks.
4. New and innovative solutions were examined, e.g. in co-operation with Wien Energie, Municipal Department 19 – Architecture and Urban Design, the Co-ordination Unit for Resource Conservation and Sustainability in the Construction Sector at the Executive Group for Construction and Technology and Wiener Wohnen. A micro-climate simulation was commissioned by Municipal Department 22 – Environmental Protection.

### **Participation process for Quellenplatz**

To involve people in the renewal process at an early moment, WieNeu+ made use of various formats to network residents and local players on site. For example, in summer and autumn 2021, the neighbourhood experts of the Urban Renewal Office (GB\*) were provided with five eye-catching, oversized models of sensory organs, which were put up in Quellenplatz to ensure low-threshold contacts with people. An open-air workshop in September 2022 served to collect and discuss numerous requests, suggestions and ideas voiced by passers-by. To meet the need for information and involvement, a parklet was set up in the square to motivate interested persons to linger and thus acted as an information hub. Another primary concern of WieNeu+ – as well as of all municipal bodies – was and remains the intensive contact and exchange with local business circles.





Fig. 56: Citizen participation for Quellenplatz. Copyright: City of Vienna / Linda Schneider

## Outcomes

The involvement of residents and users of Quellenplatz yielded, inter alia, the following insights and requests:

- Need for (more) greening, visual improvement of the square
- Seating should be provided.
- Measures to improve the overall atmospheric quality of the square, e.g. shade, protection against wind and bad weather, a drinking fountain, water, space to meet, talk, linger (also standing)
- More cleanliness: a new solution for the waste collection point is required.
- A re-organisation of the snack stands and outdoor seating of restaurants and cafés was above all requested by stand operators and restaurateurs, many of whom wish for more space for tables, chairs and outdoor seating, even at the expense of currently existing green spaces and trees.
- More space for non-motorised transport modes
- Improvement of the situation for pedestrians, e.g. more space for walking, longer green phases of traffic lights, improved signage and spatial orientation as well as safer routes to and from schools
- More space at public transport stops
- The parking space issue was the subject of by far the most controversial debate:
  - Some businesspeople consider the existing parking spaces to be very important since their customers buy food to go at their (snack) stands. Others want more parking spaces (also at the expense of cutting down existing trees) as well as the lifting of the restrictions tied to short-term parking.
- Conversely, though, many persons interviewed were aware that additional space for other important forms of use can only be created at the expense of moving and stationary motorised individual traffic (MIT); many persons, too, would like to see a reduction of the effects of MIT, such as noise and hazards for pedestrians.
- Possibilities for children to play in the square
- Complementary infrastructure, such as toilets, water dispensers



## Micro-climate analysis

Partner: Municipal Department 22 (MA 22) – Environmental Protection

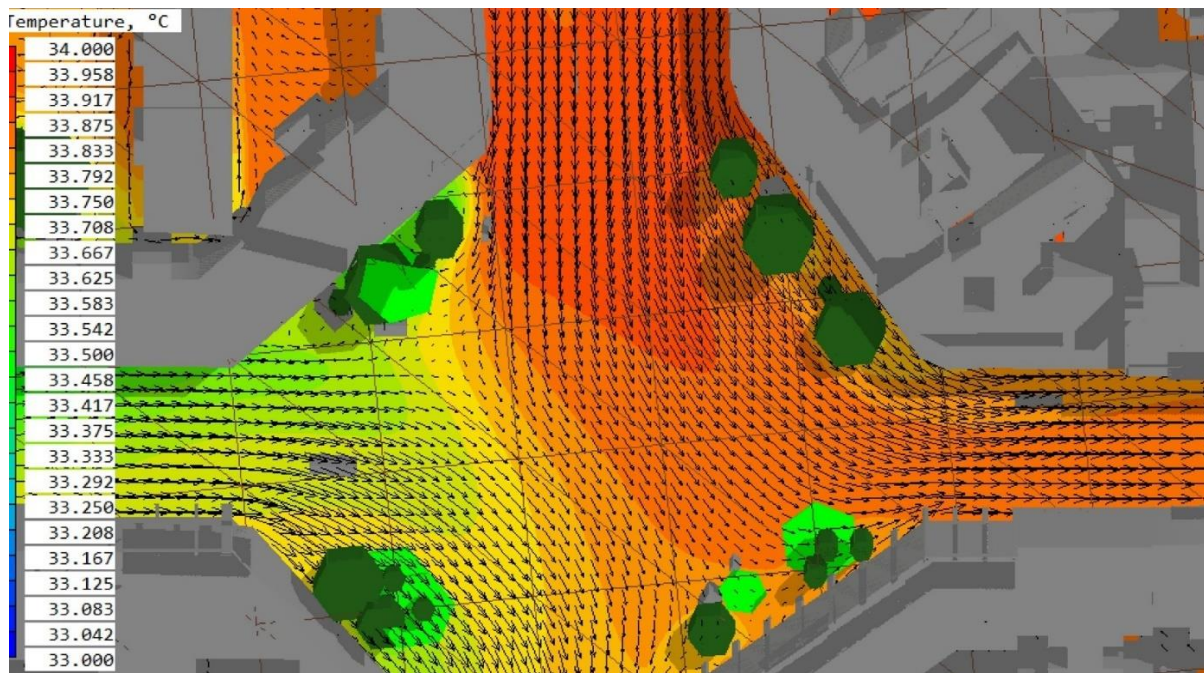
The micro-climate exerts great influence on human wellbeing in a given area. For this reason, Municipal Department 22 – Environmental Protection of the City of Vienna commissioned a micro-climate analysis of the area in the context of the WieNeu+ “Grätzlförderung” subsidy scheme.

In addition to a status quo analysis, this method permits simulating the effect of various greening or cooling measures on the micro-climate, which, in turn, provides an idea about where greening interventions could have a particularly cooling effect on the surroundings. This is to be tested concretely in Quellenplatz. The simulation shows by how many degrees the perceived temperature in the square could be decreased by means of greening or cooling interventions.

### Objective of micro-climate simulation

Cool spots (e.g. Belgradplatz square) are identified; by the same token, micro-climatically problematic zones in the area studied are likewise spotted on the basis of certain parameters (air temperature, wind, perceived temperature). Suitable measures to curb the urban heat island effect are proposed. Their effectiveness is evaluated in a follow-up analysis of different options.

- Simulation of the micro-climatic status quo of the entire WieNeu+ area (how hot does it get in the summer months in the entire WieNeu+ area?)
- Simulation of the micro-climatic status quo of Quellenplatz (how hot does it get in the summer months in the various parts of Quellenplatz?)
- Simulation of the micro-climatic effect of planning options for larger zones of the WieNeu+ area
- Simulation of the micro-climatic effect of different greening measures during the planning phase for Quellenplatz



*Fig. 57: Micro-climate analysis for Quellenplatz (MA 22 – Environmental Protection). Visualisation of temperatures on hot days (green: (relatively) cool, yellow, orange and red: very hot). Copyright: City of Vienna / Consulting Gruber*

## Outcomes

The **simulation of the status quo** of Quellenplatz (2<sup>nd</sup> bullet point) was submitted to the Municipal District Office and the relevant municipal departments; moreover, it was integrated into the objectives for the redesign of the square. One key finding is that temperature distribution across Quellenplatz varies markedly depending on the wind direction. Basically, it can be said that zones with relatively high wind velocity present the lowest temperatures, while the physiological equivalent temperature (i.e. perceived temperature, PET) is highest in zones with weak winds. On hot summer days, both the air temperature and PET are very high for all wind directions. Laxenburger Strasse is devoid of trees and green spaces. From there, hot air is advected to Quellenplatz. To improve the situation, it is recommended to redesign the streets leading to Quellenplatz by adding greenery (trees, shrubs, greened surfaces), as these have a cooling effect. Trees and green spaces should be deployed according to the sponge city principle. On the one hand, this prevents road installations from being damaged by roots; on the other hand, plant growth is fostered by continuous water supply. In the case of Quellenplatz, blue infrastructure (water dispensers or spray mist showers) in windless zones can likewise contribute to improving the micro-climate.

The **simulation of planning options for several larger zones of the WieNeu+ area** (3<sup>rd</sup> bullet point) takes account of the “Queen Gudrun II” and “Supergrätzl” areas.

### Outcomes for the area as a whole

- Lines of trees along the northern and eastern sides of streets are more efficient for the micro-climate.
- Well-ventilated courtyards are very valuable for the micro-climate of the surroundings.
- Streets with north-south orientation tend to overheat much more than streets with east-west orientation.

## “Chatbot & Microstories” – “Urban Heat Stories”

Partners: TU Wien – future.lab & library, Luftdaten.at (environmental organisation), University of Barcelona – OpenSystems, Wunderbyte (educational technology solutions)

The “Chatbot & Microstories” project is part of the Citizen Science project “Urban Heat Stories”, which investigates the city together with residents and is networked with the OPUSH project of JPI Urban Europe. Individual heat experiences of vulnerable groups in Vienna are chronicled under the aegis of the future.lab Research Center of TU Wien. This is to give visibility to the manifold concerns and needs of urban residents in connection with heat against the background of their respective socio-spatial environments.





With this future-oriented pilot project implemented under the aegis of Municipal Department 18 – Urban Development and Planning, Vienna’s first Supergrätzl was created in Innerfavoriten in close co-ordination with the Municipal District Office and the municipal departments charged with implementing this venture.

The area between Gudrunstrasse, Leebgasse, Quellenstrasse and Neilreichgasse was traffic-calmed, freed from through traffic (residents’ and delivery cars, etc. can still access the streets) and greened. The goal lay and still lies in greater atmospheric, “living” quality, higher traffic safety, especially for local schoolchildren, and reduced urban heat islands.

This neighbourhood was chosen because it is well connected to public transport, suffers from overheating and, at the same time, houses many educational institutions that benefit from traffic calming. Moreover, it is very densely populated and, therefore, needs more open spaces and outdoor areas to linger and spend time in close to where people live.

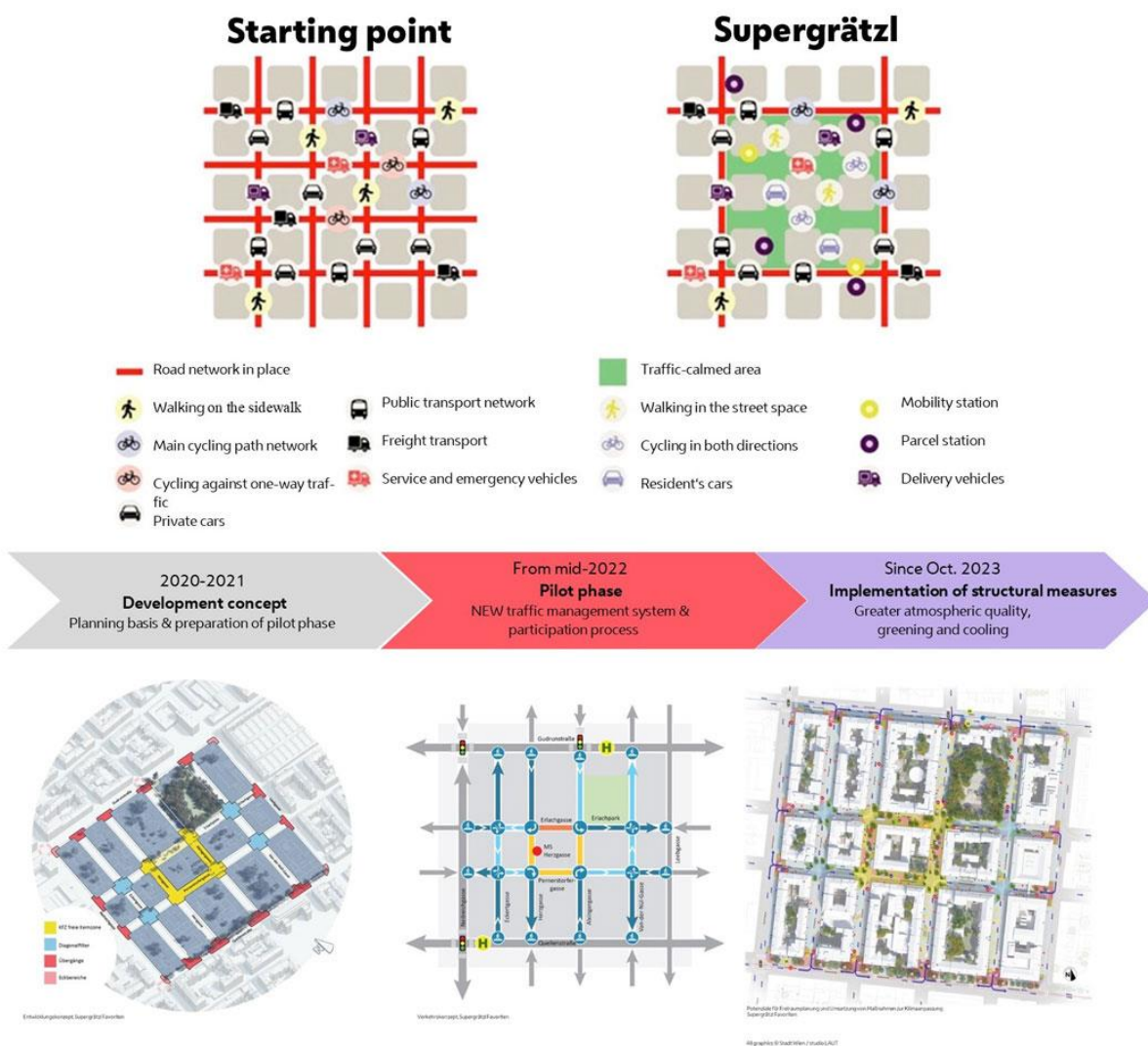


Fig. 59: Supergrätzl maps and graphs. Copyright: studio LAUT





*Fig. 60: Ina Homeier, Marcus Franz, Astrid Klimmer-Pölleritzer at the AQUILA award ceremony (12 December 2023). Copyright: KfV*

Project phases:

1. Development concept: formulation of a strategic and planning basis; preparation of the pilot phase
2. Pilot phase: implementation of a large part of the new traffic management system as well as of temporary interventions and participatory formats
3. Structural measures: implementation of structural measures to enhance atmospheric quality, greening and cooling

The project was divided into several distinct phases: concept development phase, dialogue and communication phase (see [video](#)), pilot / test phase with monitoring, feedback loops and implementation phase as well as follow-up evaluation.

An information event in September 2021, when Herzgasse – which runs in front of a school – was opened to forms of active mobility and closed to vehicular traffic, was followed by a test phase from June to September 2022, which was characterised by temporary interventions and activities and, starting in autumn 2023, by structural measures. At the same time, the Supergrätzl was made part of an intensive, integrated expert monitoring process.

In co-operation with colleagues of Municipal Department 18 – Urban Development and Planning, the Vienna Mobility Agency and the planning team of the landscape architecture studio LAUT, WieNeu+ conducted numerous guided tours through the Supergrätzl area for international expert groups as well as for groups of schoolchildren from all over Vienna and, in this way, conveyed an understanding of innovation work in a city within the framework of Vienna's urban renewal programme.



*Fig. 61: Supergrätzl citizen participation. Copyright: City of Vienna / C. Fürthner*

## Outcomes

Climate change, the emergence of heat islands, a growing population and rising mobility demands as well as the desire for high quality of life, traffic safety and lively urban space provided the motivation for restructuring public space in the neighbourhood and adapt it to new framework conditions.

The model of a Supergrätzl, where several urban blocks are joined by means of traffic-calming measures and improved in multiple ways, including their atmospheric quality as well as greening and cooling (while maintaining car access for local residents, garages, emergency and service vehicles), has proven a pioneering approach, as the in-depth work and test phase realised in Favoriten show.

Maintaining an intensive dialogue with both residents and local politicians is of particular importance. Several other districts of Vienna have already stated their interest in setting up their own Supergrätzls as well.

On 12 October 2023, KFV (the Austrian Road Safety Board) honoured the City of Vienna for the “Supergrätzl Favoriten” project with the biennial Austrian traffic safety award [AQUILA](#).





Fig. 62: Supergrätzl information event. Copyright: City of Vienna / C. Fürthner

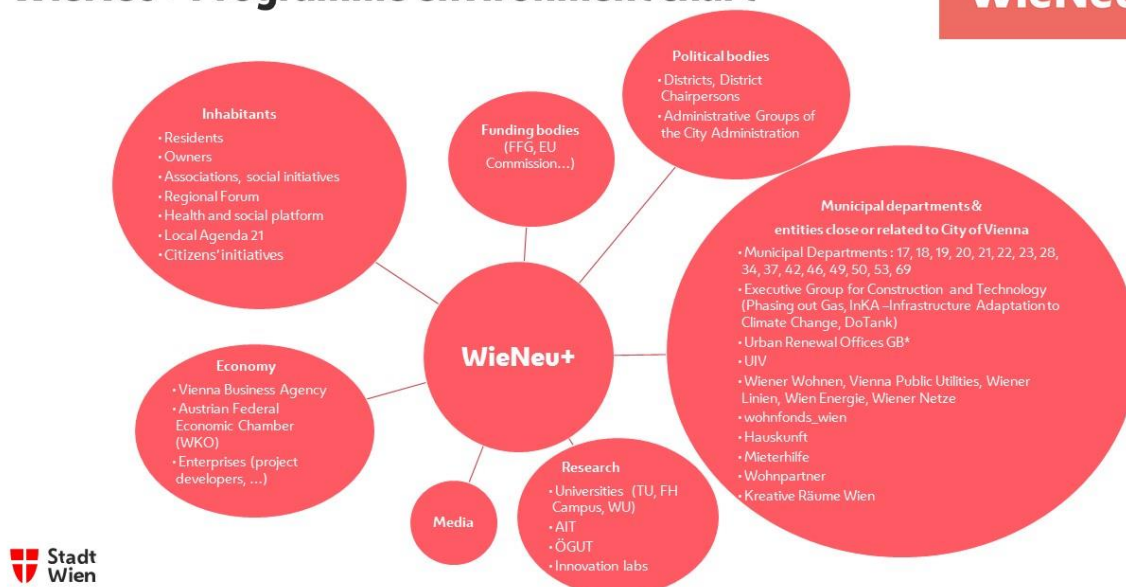


Fig. 63: Blue "Supergrätzl" road marking. Copyright: City of Vienna / Bojan Schnabl

## Programme partners

### WieNeu+ Programme environment chart

WieNeu+



1

### WieNeu+, a programme with manifold players

Urban renewal depends on, and is inspired by, the people who take a role in shaping it. This is also true of WieNeu+. The programme is domiciled at Municipal Department 25 (MA 25) – Technical Urban Renewal of the City of Vienna. In addition, it co-operates with a wide range of different players, which are duly listed below with their websites.

### City of Vienna, Technical Urban Renewal (MA 25) – programme management

Programme Manager and Head of WieNeu+ Programme Management Group: Stephan Hartmann

Deputy Programme Manager: Helene Scheller

WieNeu+ programme management team:

Katarina Esatovic, Ruth Fartacek, Jacqueline Halvax, Arthur Mannsbarth, Jenny Puchner, Bojan Schnabl, Birgit Schwarzenberger, Elia Stefan

Website: <https://wieneuplus.wien.gv.at/>

Newsletter (German): <https://www.wien.gv.at/newsletter/wieneuplus/>

### Urban Renewal Offices (GB\*) – co-ordination team & neighbourhood management (websites in German)

<https://www.gbsterne.at/>

<https://www.gbsterne.at/themen-projekte/quellenplatz-neu/>

<https://www.gbsterne.at/themen-projekte/wienu/graetzlmarie/>

### City of Vienna (websites partly in English)

Chief Executive Office – Executive Group for Construction and Technology

Chief Executive Office – Executive Group for Legal Matters

Administrative Group for Housing, Housing Construction, Urban Renewal and Women's Issues



Administrative Group for Education, Youth, Integration and Transparency  
Administrative Group of Finance, Business, Labour, International Affairs and Vienna Public Utilities  
Administrative Group for Climate, Environment, Democracy and Personnel  
Administrative Group for Cultural Affairs and Science  
City Councillors / City Government

## **Municipal departments (MA):**

MA 01 – Information Technology <https://www.wien.gv.at/kontakte/ma01/index.html>  
MA 10 – Kindergartens <https://www.wien.gv.at/kontakte/ma10/>  
MA 15 – Public Health Services [www.gesundheitsdienst.wien.at](http://www.gesundheitsdienst.wien.at)  
MA 17 – Integration and Diversity <https://www.wien.gv.at/kontakte/ma17/>  
MA 18 – Urban Development and Planning <https://www.wien.gv.at/kontakte/ma18/>  
MA 19 – Architecture and Urban Design <https://www.wien.gv.at/stadtentwicklung/architektur/>  
MA 20 – Energy Planning <https://www.wien.gv.at/kontakte/ma20/>  
MA 21 (A & B) – District Planning and Land Use <https://www.wien.gv.at/kontakte/ma21/index.html>  
MA 22 – Environmental Protection <https://www.wien.gv.at/kontakte/ma22/>  
MA 23 – Economic Affairs, Labour and Statistics <https://www.wien.gv.at/kontakte/ma23/>  
MA 25 – Technical Urban Renewal <https://www.wien.gv.at/wohnen/wohnbautechnik/>  
MA 28 – Road Management and Construction <https://www.wien.gv.at/kontakte/ma28/>  
MA 34 – Building and Facility Management <https://www.wien.gv.at/kontakte/ma34/>  
MA 37 – Building Inspection <https://www.wien.gv.at/kontakte/ma37/index.html>  
MA 39 – Testing Centre, Inspection and Certification Body  
<https://www.wien.gv.at/forschung/laboratorien/index.html>  
MA 41 – Surveying and Mapping – 3D city plan  
<https://www.wien.gv.at/stadtentwicklung/stadtvermessung/geodaten/viewer/stadtplan3d/>  
MA 42 – Parks and Gardens <https://www.wien.gv.at/umwelt/parks/>  
MA 45 – Water Management <https://www.wien.gv.at/kontakte/ma45/index.html>  
MA 46 – Traffic Management and Organisation <https://www.wien.gv.at/kontakte/ma46/>  
MA 50 – Housing Promotion and Arbitration Board for Legal Housing Matters  
<https://www.wien.gv.at/wohnen/wohnbaufoerderung/MA50/>  
Housing Research & Strategic Projects and International Relations (SPI) at MA 50  
<https://www.wohnbauforschung.at/>  
MA 56 – Schools <https://www.wien.gv.at/kontakte/ma56/index.html>  
MA 57 – Vienna Women's Affairs <https://www.wien.gv.at/kontakte/ma57/>  
MA 59 – Market Authority <https://www.wien.gv.at/kontakte/ma59/index.html>  
MA 69 – Real Estate Management <https://www.wien.gv.at/verwaltung/grundstuecke/index.html>  
  
Municipal District Office for the 10<sup>th</sup> District <https://www.wien.gv.at/bezirke/favoriten/>  
DoTank Circular City Wien 2020-2030 <https://viecycle.wien.gv.at/>  
Programme "Phasing out Gas" <https://www.wien.gv.at/stadtentwicklung/energie/wissen/raus-aus-gas-uebersicht.html> , <https://www.wien.gv.at/stadtentwicklung/energie/pdf/waerme-und-kaelte-2040.pdf> ,  
<https://www.wienenergie.at/rausausgas/>

## **Entities close or related to the City of Vienna (mostly German)**

Kreative Räume Wien (KRW, vacancy activation) <https://www.kreativeraeumewien.at/>  
Hauskunft (renovation counselling) <https://www.hauskunft-wien.at/>  
Mieterhilfe (tenant counselling) <https://mieterhilfe.at/>  
Mobilitätsagentur Wien (Vienna Mobility Agency) <https://www.mobilitaetsagentur.at/>  
Stadtwerke Wien (Vienna Public Utilities) <https://www.wienerstadtwerke.at/>  
Urban Innovation Vienna (UIV, climate and innovation agency) <https://urbaninnovation.at/>  
Vienna Business Agency <https://viennabusinessagency.at/>

Wien Energie (energy provider) <https://www.wienenergie.at/>  
Wiener Linien (public transport) <https://www.wienerlinien.at/>  
Wiener Wohnen (municipal housing) <https://www.wienerwohnen.at/>  
wohnfonds\_wien (Fund for Housing and Urban Renewal) <https://www.wohnfonds.wien.at/>

## Project partners (mostly German)

AVORIS (property developer) <https://www.avoris.at/>  
BWSG (property developer) <https://www.bwsg.at/>  
Digital findet Stadt (digital platform for innovations in the construction sector)  
<https://www.digitalfindetstadt.at/>  
Ernährungsrat (civil society initiative) <https://ernaehrungsrat-wien.at/>  
GEBE-STREBEL GmbH (heating systems) <https://www.strebel.at/>  
Geologische Bundesanstalt (GBA, Geological Survey of Austria) <https://www.geologie.ac.at/>  
GrünStattGrau (research and innovation lab) <https://gruenstattgrau.at/>  
JPI Urban Europe project OPUSH <https://jpi-urbaneurope.eu/project/opush/>  
Materialnomaden (renovation counselling) <https://www.materialnomaden.at/>  
Qualitätsplattform Sanierungspartner Wien (platform for qualified refurbishment professionals)  
<https://www.qualitätsplattform-sanierungspartner.wien/>  
ÖGUT (Austrian Society for Environment and Technology) <https://www.oegut.at/>  
ÖSW (property developer) [www.oesw.at](http://www.oesw.at)  
Schöberl & Pöll GmbH (building physics) <https://www.schoeberlpoell.at/de/startseite>  
Sedlak Immobilien (property developer) <https://www.sedlak.co.at/immobilien>  
Studio LAUT <https://laut.studio/supergraetzel-favoriten/>  
Timo Huber + Partner ZT GmbH (architects) <https://www.huber-zt.at/home.html>  
Trimmel Wall Architekten ZTGmbH (architects) [http://www.architekten.or.at/#texts\\_news](http://www.architekten.or.at/#texts_news)  
TU Wien (Vienna University of Technology) <https://www.tuwien.at/>  
TU Wien Future.lab Research Center <https://futurelab.tuwien.ac.at/>  
TU Wien Recht (law department of TU Wien) <https://www.tuwien.at/ar/rechtswissenschaften>  
zeininger architekten (architects) <https://www.zeininger.at/>

## “Grätzlmarie” partners (mostly German)

Ackerhelden (urban gardening advocates) <https://www.ackerhelden.at/>  
Jugendtreff Arthaberbad (youth centre) [www.jugendzentren.at/standorte/arthaberbad/](http://www.jugendzentren.at/standorte/arthaberbad/)  
Chancenhaus Obdach Favorita (hostel for homeless women and families) [www.obdach.wien/p/wohnen-wohnaeuser-favorita-wohnen-chancenhaeuser-favorita](http://www.obdach.wien/p/wohnen-wohnaeuser-favorita-wohnen-chancenhaeuser-favorita)  
dunjiva kollektiv (artist collective for community building) <https://dunjivakollektiv.com/>  
Gasthaus Timo (restaurant) <https://gasthaustimo.webnode.at/>  
Inigo (Caritas initiative) <https://inigo.at/>  
Intercultural women's association \*mosaic\* <https://projectmosaic.art/>  
Kinderfreunde aktiv (children and family organisation) <https://wienerkinderfreunde-aktiv.at/>  
Kulturraum 10, Verein für Alltags- und Bezirkskultur (cultural initiative) [www.kulturraum10.at/](http://www.kulturraum10.at/)  
Lenkerbande (sustainable mobility) <https://lenkerbande.at/>  
Local Agenda Vienna 21 (LA 21) <https://www.la21wien.at/home.html>  
Mitten in Favoriten (civil society initiative) <http://www.mitten-in-favoriten.at/neu/>  
Vienna park supervision <https://www.wien.gv.at/freizeit/bildungjugend/jugend/park.html>  
Radvokaten (cycling lobby) [www.fahrsicherrad.at](http://www.fahrsicherrad.at)  
Regional Forum Favoriten  
StoP Stadtteile ohne Partnergewalt (initiative against domestic violence) <https://stop-partnergewalt.at/>  
Verein Autonome Österreichische Frauenhäuser (Austrian association of women's shelters)  
<https://www.aoef.at/>  
Verein Festival der Ruhe (art initiative) [www.instagram.com/festivalderruhe/](http://www.instagram.com/festivalderruhe/)

Verein Wiener Jugendzentren (association of Viennese youth centres), Jugendtreff Arthaberbad <http://www.jugendzentren.at/standorte/arthaberbad/>  
Volkshilfe (charity organisation) <https://www.volkshilfe-wien.at/>  
VOLXkino, Stadtkino Filmverleih und Kinobetriebsgesellschaft m.b.H. (itinerant cinema) [www.volxkino.at/](http://www.volxkino.at/)  
Wanderklasse (architecture mediation for young people) <https://www.wanderklasse.at/>  
Wiener Wäsch (clothes-swapping platform) <https://wienerwaesch.info/>  
wohnpartner (assistance for tenants of municipal housing estates) <https://wohnpartner-wien.at/>  
#wohnstrassenleben (urban initiative) <https://spaceandplace.at/wohnstrassenleben>

## Press releases & printed material



### Press releases (German)

- [Gaál/Franz: Drei Jahre WieNeu+ in Innerfavoriten: Stadterneuerung für und mit den Menschen](#) – 11 November 2023
- [Raus aus Gas: Wien Energie legt in vier Pioniergebieten los](#) – 7 June 2023
- [Czernohorsky/Gaál: Coole Zonen gehen in Pilotphase](#) – 31 May 2023
- [Gaál/Derfler/Nikolai: WieNeu+ startet im „Grätzl 20+2“ durch](#) – 23 March 2023
- [Wiener Regierungsklausur: „Raus aus Gas“](#) – 19 January 2023
- [So schmeckt das Grätzl: Nasch-Hecken, Vorplatz-Begrünung und mehr werden über „Grätzlmarie“ umgesetzt](#) – 7 May 2022
- [Grätzlmarie in Favoriten geht an sechs Sieger\\*innen-Projekte](#) – 8 December 2021
- [Wien bringt am "Tag des Wiener Wohnbaus" neuen Meilenstein für leistbares Wohnen auf den Boden](#) – 3 September 2021
- [Wien bekommt das erste Supergrätzl!](#) – 14 August 2021
- [Mitreden im 10. Bezirk: "Grätzlmarie" startet in Innerfavoriten](#) – 20 June 2021
- [Stadt Wien startet neue Sanierungsoffensive "Wir SAN Wien"](#) – 16 September 2020

### Printed material

- [Folder "klima + zukunftsfit in Innerfavoriten"](#) (2 MB PDF)
- [Jahresrückblick 2021](#) (3.7 MB PDF)
- [Activity Report for 2021](#) (English) (3.7 MB PDF)
- [Wandkalender WieNeu+ 2023](#) (27 MB PDF)
- [Folder "Da geht no was! Optimierung von Heizungsanlagen im Bestand"](#) (873 KB PDF)



## The journey continues



### New programme area “Grätzl 20+2”

A new cross-district WieNeu+ programme area was launched in January 2023, this time involving two municipal districts – Brigittenau (20<sup>th</sup>) and Leopoldstadt (2<sup>nd</sup>). Innovative technical and social solutions are again to be implemented in this neighbourhood to serve as examples for future projects. This is done in concert with local residents, property owners, businesspeople and researchers, thereby promoting the transition towards a climate- and future-proof city.



Fig. 64: Grätzl 20-2 programme area, neighbourhood plan with boundaries. Copyright: City of Vienna

The programme area is composed of parts of the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> municipal districts. Its boundaries are defined by Nordwestbahnstrasse, Taborstrasse, Nordbahnstrasse, Heinestrasse and Augarten Park up to Gaussplatz, Danube Canal, Wexstrasse and Stromstrasse (clockwise starting from north).

The individual neighbourhoods in the 2<sup>nd</sup> municipal district are Volkertviertel (between Heinestrasse and Am Tabor) and Alliiertenviertel (bordered by Taborstrasse, Nordbahnstrasse and Am Tabor). The central zone of the 20<sup>th</sup> municipal district Brigittenau is called Alt-Brigittenau. The surface of the entire area is 1.41 sq km; it has 43,000 inhabitants, resulting in a population density of 30,496 persons / sq km.

The properties in this area are analysed for their refurbishment and improvement potentials in order to propose concrete interventions. Special attention is paid to the existing energy supply systems and the thermal qualities of building envelopes. For this purpose, information events are held for property owners to offer counselling on alternative types of heating and energy-saving potentials.

After Innerfavoriten, Grätzl 20+2 is the second WieNeu+ programme area. It is scheduled to run until 2025.

## **“Grätzl 20+2” printed material (mostly German)**

- [Folder "klima + zukunftsfit im Grätzl 20+2"](#) (Brigittenau) (636 KB PDF)
- [Folder "klima + zukunftsfit im Grätzl 20+2"](#) (Leopoldstadt) (516 KB PDF)
- [Folder “Coole Zone”](#) (partly in English, 1,7 MB PDF)
- [Folder "klima + zukunftsfit im Grätzl 20+2"](#) (844 KB PDF)
- [Folder “climate- and future-proof in the “Grätzl 20+2” neighbourhood”](#) (English) (254 KB PDF)

## **Join in!**

Grätzl 20+2 also has access to the funding pools of WieNeu+: “Grätzlförderung” (“neighbourhood subsidy”) and “Grätzlmarie” (“neighbourhood money”).

Join in and take part in shaping your housing environment! Do make use of the opportunities and possibilities offered by WieNeu+!

For current information about project funding and events, visit the WieNeu+ website or contact GB\*.

As always, the one-stop-shop contact point for all matters on site for the Grätzl 20+2 neighbourhood is the Urban Renewal Office (GB\*).

Urban Renewal Office (GB\*) for Brigittenau and Leopoldstadt: GB\* for the districts 1, 2 and 20  
Max-Winter-Platz 23, 1020 Vienna  
Email: [mitte@gbstern.at](mailto:mitte@gbstern.at)  
Website: [www.gbstern.at](http://www.gbstern.at)

## **Contact**

WieNeu+ Programme Manager: Stephan Hartmann, City of Vienna – Technical Urban Renewal  
Email: [wieneuplus@ma25wien.gv.at](mailto:wieneuplus@ma25wien.gv.at)  
Website: [wieneuplus.wien.gv.at](http://wieneuplus.wien.gv.at)  
For ordering the WieNeu+ newsletter: <https://www.wien.gv.at/newsletter/wieneuplus/>

## Programme management team

WieNeu<sup>+</sup>



Stephan Hartmann



Helene Scheller



Arthur Mannsbarth



Otto Eckl



Ruth Fartacek



Jennifer Puchner



Birgit Schwarzenberger



Elia Stefan



Jacqueline Halvax



Katarina Esatovic



Fig. 65: Programme management team. Copyright: City of Vienna / MA 25



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- Fig. 3: Otto Eckl, Head of Municipal Department 25 (MA 25) – Technical Urban Renewal. Copyright: City of Vienna
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## List of abbreviations

AIT – Austrian Institute of Technology

CCC – CircularCityChallenge

CSR – Corporate social responsibility

EEG – Renewable energy community (German: Erneuerbare Energiegemeinschaft)

ESG – Environmental, social and corporate governance: criteria and framework conditions for the consideration of environmental, sustainability-related and social issues in company management, public bodies, governments and public authorities

EWG – Renewable Energy Expansion Act (German: Erneuerbare-Wärme-Gesetz)

FH – University of applied sciences (German: Fachhochschule)

GB\* – Urban Renewal Office (German: Gebietsbetreuung Stadterneuerung)

GFA – Gross floor area

JPI Urban Europe – Joint Programming Initiative Urban Europe (network)

kWh – Kilowatt hours

kWp – Kilowatt peak

MA – Municipal Department (German: Magistratsabteilung)

MIT – Motorised individual traffic

MRG – Landlord and Tenant Act (German: Mietrechtsgesetz)

MWh/a – Megawatt hours / year

ÖGUT – Austrian Society for Environment and Technology  
OPUSH – Open Urban Sustainability Hubs  
PM – Particulate matter (given in micrometres)  
PV – Photovoltaics  
SDGs – United Nations Sustainable Development Goals  
SPI – Division for Strategic Projects and International Relations, domiciled at MA 50 – Housing Promotion and Arbitration Board for Legal Housing Matters  
TU Wien – Vienna University of Technology  
WEG – Condominium Act (German: Wohnungseigentumsgesetz)  
WGG – Limited-Profit Housing Act (German: Wohnungsgemeinnützigkeitsgesetz)  
WU – Vienna University of Economics and Business

### **Legal notice**

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