



Nature Smart Cities: pilot investments in the Antwerp Zuidrand area

30th June 2021

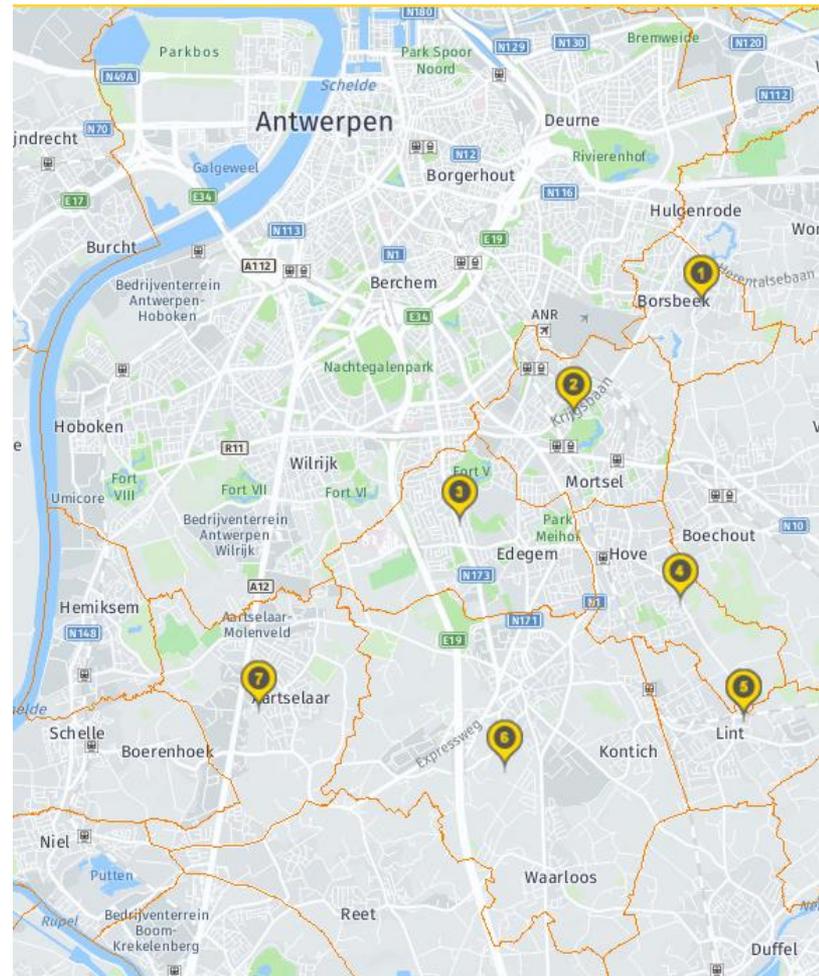


Provincie
Antwerpen



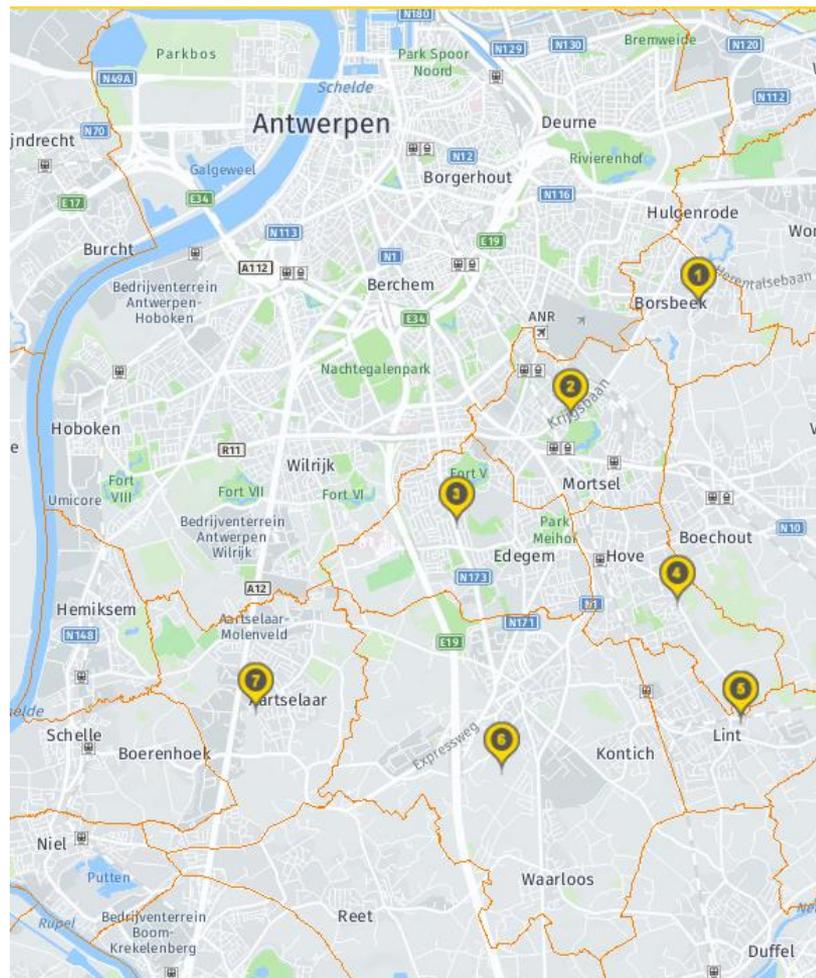
Zuidrand

- 7 independent municipalities:
Borsbeek, Mortsel, Edegem, Hove, Lint, Kontich, Aartselaar
- 66 km²
- 112.000 inhabitants
- Densely populated areas mixed with agricultural and green areas



Reasons for pilots

- Eight different pilots: one in every municipality and two in Mortsel
- Focus on water management: ground water levels are alarmingly low. In the summer localized floods sometimes occur after heavy rainfall.
- Focus on slow roads: recreation, green mobility, access to nature in densely populated area.



Kontich: Parkspoor Natuurlijk

- Abandoned railroad embankment is transformed into landscape park.
- 4300 m³ water buffer
- 3000 m² of permeable paths
- Two wooden bridges
- 3500 indigenous shrubs planted



Kontich: Parkspoor Natuurlijk



- Rainwater from nearby streets and rooftops is led to the water buffer, where it can infiltrate.
- This water no longer runs into the sewers, which reduces the risks of flooding after heavy rainfall.

Kontich: Parkspoor Natuurlijk



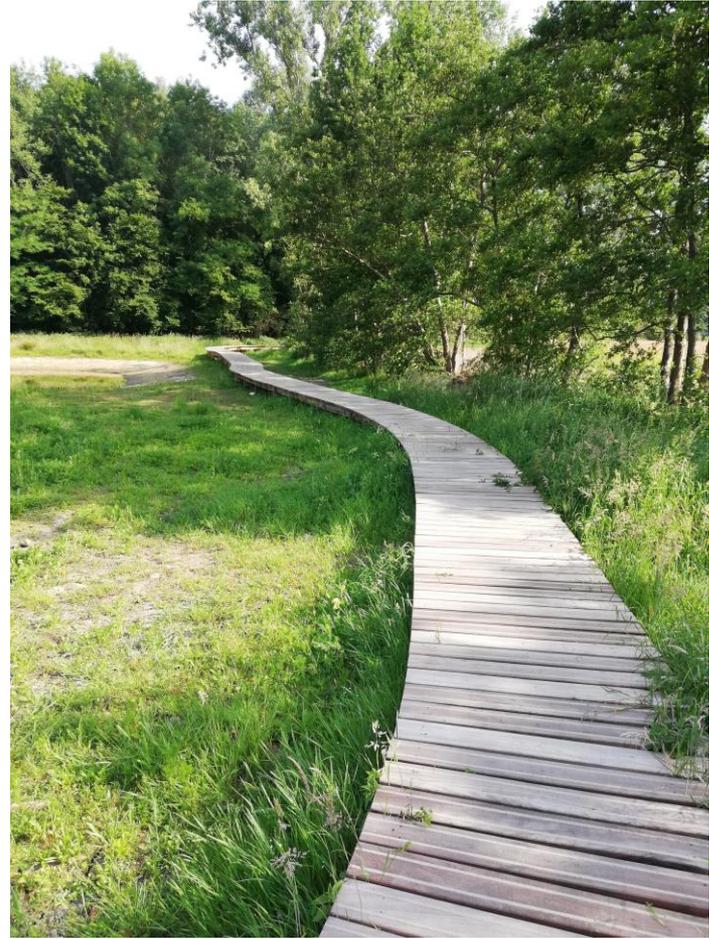
Edegem: Hof ter Linden



- 285 m wooden plank path through wet forrest area.
- Nominated for 'Walking trail of the Year'

Lint: Luitersheide

- 70 m wooden plank path
- 80 m wood chip path



Aartselaar: Voetweg 20

- Historic slow road reopened to the public.
- 160m of wooden plank path.
- 376 m ecological semi-permeable path



Mortsel: Groene Berm



- Creation of 656m long semi-permeable path on an old railroad berm in the city center of Mortsel.

Borsbeek: Koude Beek

- 525m ecological semi permeable path in Koude Beek flooding area.



Hove: Vogeltjeswijk

- Neighbourhood playing area, with lots of non permeable surface area.
- Cement paving replaced with semi permeable pavement.
- More green area for better water infiltration.



Hove: Vogeltjeswijk

- Neighbourhood playing area, with lots of non permeable surface area.
- Cement paving replaced with semi permeable pavement.
- More green area for better water infiltration.

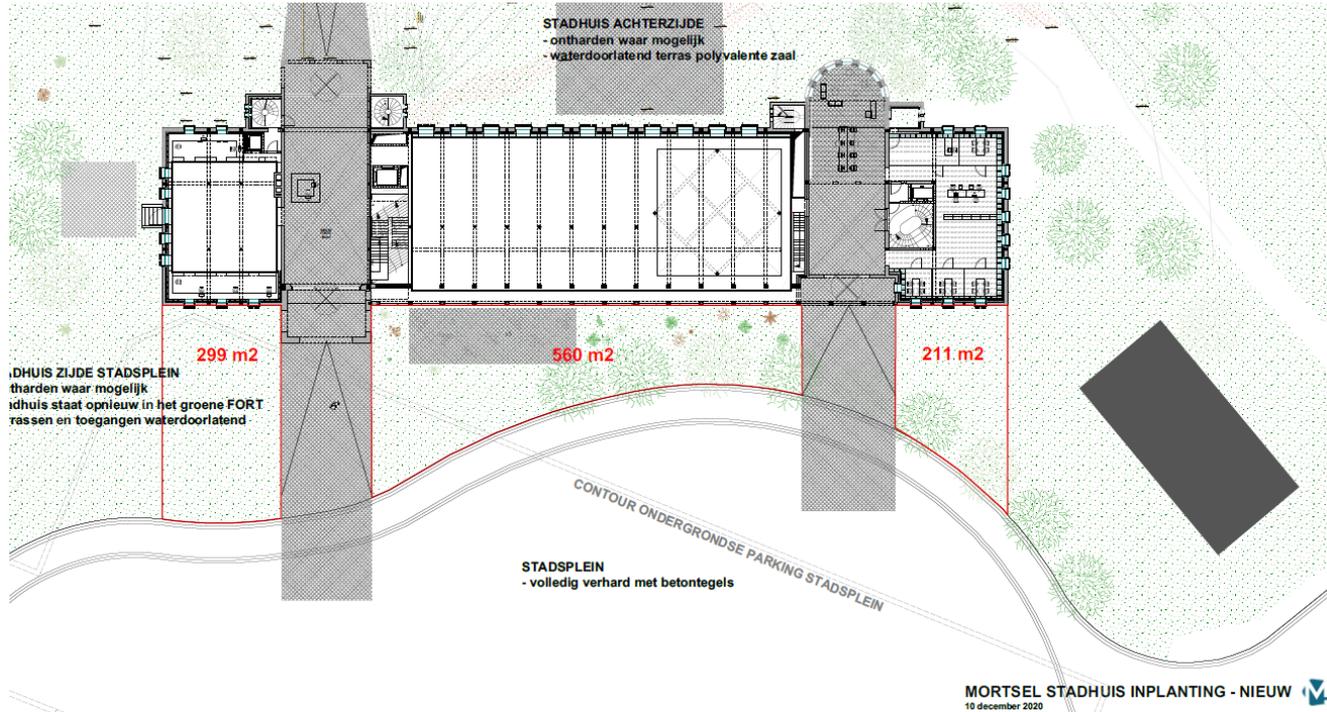


Mortsel: Stadsplein



- The City Square of Mortsel.

Mortsel: Stadsplein



- An area of 1000m² around the Town Hall will be greened.
- Pilot will be completed by December 2021.

Ecosystem services of Zuidrand pilots



WATER RETENTION & INFILTRATION

Water buffers, permeable roads, green for grey



HABITAT FOR BIODIVERSITY

More habitat variation in newly created Parkspoor Natuurlijk



PHYSICAL & MENTAL HEALTH

SOCIAL COHESION



AESTHETIC APPRECIATION

RECREATION & TOURISM



The pilots provide a place for thousands of people to walk, cycle, exercise, play, enjoy nature,...