

Diploma thesis

Potenciál zatravněných toků v Praze: Dejvický potok

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Review

In her project for the revitalization of the Dejvický potok, Hata Enochova takes up a very topical issue. The development of a green-blue infrastructure is a fundamental strategy to improve the quality of life in urban areas and to exploit the ecological potential of water bodies. In this context, the author presents a comprehensive concept to bring the stream from the ground to the surface and thus establish a green connection that is important for the entire Dejvice district.

The concept is based on a comprehensive analysis. On the basis of historical as well as topographical and other natural data, it is easy to understand where the former course of the stream is to be assumed, and where future revitalization measures should therefore start. Correctly, the study also includes a consideration of the current rainwater pipe system in the catchment area of the stream. This makes it clear what great potential there is to use the watercourse, at least in part, for stormwater management as well. This information is supplemented by an analysis of the spatial situation, in which the author also includes, for example, traces of the historic stream in street names. This illustrates very well that with the now piped stream there is a "hidden treasure" in the ground, which was once a source of identity for the Dejvice district. Very valuable in this section is the complete evaluation of the urban spaces that provide the framework for a possible opening of the watercourse. Here, the different typologies and planning requirements become very clear.

Perhaps the most valuable part of the work is the chapter with the presentation of the different planning instruments. The author rightly recognizes that the manifold questions in the implementation of the concept can only be mastered with equally manifold adapted solutions. And so, on the basis of the typologies identified in the analysis, an extensive repertoire of planning tools is developed as to how functional deficits can be eliminated in the concrete situation. These suggestions are not limited to the functions of the watercourse in the narrower sense, but also make statements on the upgrading of the public space. Particularly noteworthy is the pragmatic approach of these principled solutions. Inspired by examples from the city of Zurich, often very simple measures are proposed, which, however, have extensive positive effects. This refers in particular to the continuity of the watercourse and the ecological activation of the riverbed by improving the incidence of light and the roughness. Another goal of the concept is to improve the accessibility of the watercourse by raising the bed and flattening the banks. Particularly noteworthy are also the proposals to widen the watercourse, where possible, and to use it as a retention volume during heavy rains. The various measures are explained with very clear graphics, which contributes to the comprehensibility of the entire work.

In the last part of the paper, the developed planning tools are applied to concrete spatial situations. A complete listing of measures is presented for the different sections of the watercourse. Again, the well-structured system is particularly noteworthy and can serve as a basis for the development of future projects. Graphics are also used here to illustrate the implementation of the watercourse in the specific spaces. However, these remain relatively schematic, especially the simplified representation of the water body could lead to misunderstandings.

Overall, the work is a very good contribution to the development of a green-blue infrastructure in Prague. Not only is a concept for the opening of the Dejvický potok presented, but planning principles are also elaborated that have a model character for many similar situations in the city.

The work is evaluated with the grade A.

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