


A pedestrian-bicycle route with limited car traffic in relation Main Building - Novum Auditorium

2016

 **University**
Gdańsk University of Technology
Country
Poland

Location 
City center

Size 
Number of students [2015]: approx. 23800
Number of employees [2015]: approx. 2750

Mobility Organizational Structure 
None

Summary

The implementation of the reconstruction of the road connecting the main building with the Novum Auditorium is another element of the implementation of the spatial development plan for the Gdańsk University of Technology, developed by Prof. Lucyna Nyka. The main goal of the project was to create a friendly space for both pedestrians and cyclist, and also to create parking spaces in the middle of this section. The most important assumption was the elimination of car traffic in the main part of the campus. Separate parking spaces for cars were created in the part closer to Novum, and illuminated granite benches were set up in the second part.

Aims

- Creating a square between the main building and the Novum Auditorium of the Gdańsk University of Technology, which will be spacious and partially open for car traffic. It has to be both modern and referring to the historical character of this place.
- Reduction of car traffic on the Gdańsk University of Technology campus.
- A friendly environment for both pedestrians and cyclists, mainly for relaxation and recreation.
- Creation of dedicated parking spaces.

Stakeholders

- Authorities of the Gdańsk University of Technology.
- Dean of the Faculty of Architecture Prof. Lucyna Nyka, DArch, Full Professor at GUT.

Background

Not available.



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Description

The entire square in front of the main building has been modernized and renovated. The new floor is made of granite slabs, varying in terms of size and shade of gray. When composing the new space, the needs of its everyday users were considered - concrete seats were placed, covered with a material imitating granite reminiscent of the color of the brightest pavement panels. There are five double-sided benches between the building and the Novum. The seats are illuminated from below, but this is not the only light visible at the Gdansk University of Technology after dark. Ground floodlights have been installed, thanks to which the building facades are illuminated from below. This illuminated zone stretches from the Machine Laboratory with the water tower, through the headquarters of the Faculty of Electrical and Control Engineering and the main building.

One of the assumptions of the modernization was to minimize car traffic in the historic part of the campus. This area starts halfway between the Novum and the main square. Currently, it is separated only by cones. A dedicated parking space for cars is behind the closed area. Going towards Novum, on the right side there is a car park with perpendicular car parking spaces for about 25 vehicles and one for the disabled. Parallel spaces that can fit about 9 cars are located on the left side of the road.



Indicators

The main indicator used to assess the impact of the renovation of the square and the road between the Novum Auditorium and the Main Building can be the number of people walking and using a bicycle, or exactly the number of vehicles left in the covered bicycle parking lot.



Results

- The ability to move freely in the relation Main Building - Auditorium Novum.
- The ability to leave the car safely in designated parking spaces.
- Increased number of benches allows rest between classes.



Expense

2,8 million PLN.



Financing

Gdańsk University of Technology.

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 Lessons Learnt

- It is worth limiting car traffic and allocating the space for pedestrians and cyclists.
- In many places there is no need to allow car traffic.
- The concern of the owner of a specific place about the possibility of safely leaving a bicycle on their territory has an encouraging effect on the use of this means of transport.
- Providing the resting places with benches increases the number of people willing to use the common space in the open air.
- Separation of parking spaces regulates traffic and its organization.
- A large amount of greenery is perceived better.

 Pictures



Fig. 1. Concrete, backlit seats with a granite-like cover, along the illuminated zone



Fig. 2. A view of the whole road to Novum, with benches

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Pictures



Fig. 3. The end of the car-free zone, separated by traffic cones



Fig.4. Road with authorized car traffic and designated parking spaces



Links

- www.pomaturze.pl/pages/2261/963/Politechnika+Gdanska
- www.gdansk.pl/wiadomosci/Odwiedz-Politechnike-Gdanska-koniecznie-po-zmierzchu-ZOBACZ-NOWA-ILUMINACJE,a,67586
- www.trojmiasto.pl/wiadomosci/Remont-histerycznej-czesci-kampusu-PG-n101382.html#



Contact person

Not available.