A CITY ON THE MOVE
ODENSE LETBANE

byen i bevægelse
ODENSE – AT THE HEART OF DENMARK

Odense is the third largest city in Denmark, with a projected population of 200,000 by 2017.

Odense is the main city in the Region of Southern Denmark.

The city provides approximately 100,000 jobs and access to 257,000 workplaces within one hour’s drive.

52,000 people commute to and from Odense every day.

Students make up a large proportion of Odense’s population. There are currently 40,000 studying in the city.

Odense is a historic city with a medieval centre, busy pedestrianised shopping streets and a number of recreational parks and green areas. The charming Odense River runs through the city.
Odense is a modern city with a thriving historic centre, green areas and strong communities. Only recently, an arterial road used to cut through the centre, but this is now being replaced by attractive homes, businesses and green urban spaces. We are currently investing in a major transformation of the city, which is attracting investors, new residents and stimulating local commerce.

The Danish government has prioritised Odense as a growth centre and is part financing a tramway and the upgrading of the national rail network. The future tramway will set the city in motion, linking the suburbs, the university and a new university hospital to the city centre. It will form the backbone of Odense, with more than 1 million passengers predicted to use the facility per month.

Odense is one of the oldest cities in Denmark. Our aspiration is to invest to make it one of the most attractive cities of tomorrow.

Anker Boye
Mayor of Odense

- EUR 4.6 billion planned investment in Odense from 2012 to 2022. EUR 400 million earmarked for the tramway.
- This will mean 38,000 new temporary jobs during the construction period and 10,000 new permanent jobs.
ODENSE TRAMWAY – A CITY ON THE MOVE

Odense Tramway will form the backbone of the city, linking areas of urban development and connecting numerous transit hubs and major development projects. In addition to significantly improving mass transit in the city, the tramway will also benefit the environment.

Experience shows that tramways generate growth. The tramway in Odense will give the city a socio-economic boost, increasing property values and business activity. In addition, new urban spaces will emerge or re-emerge along the tramway alignment.

The tramway has been designed to increase accessibility for the local population, businesses and educational institutions. As it affords plenty of space for passengers, the tramway will provide a good starting point for transport between the various parts of the city and will offer more efficient transport links for the business community, educational institutions and for cultural events.

Around 60,000 people will study, visit or work in the area around the Southern University of Denmark, the new hospital and Cortex Park, the science/business park. The tramway will ensure efficient transit to and from this area.

Odense Tramway will also be an important element in providing a link with the rest of the public transport system in Odense, Funen and the national network.

- Odense Tramway will open in 2020 with 14.4 km of track and 26 stations.
- Departures every 10 minutes. 35,000 passengers expected on weekdays and one million estimated per month.
TRANSFORMING A STREET INTO A CITY

An attractive new urban zone is being developed in the centre of Odense. Realdania, in partnership with the Municipality of Odense, are responsible for transforming Thomas B. Thriges Gade, a former four-lane arterial road cutting through the city, into a vibrant, green district with urban spaces, housing, businesses and cultural facilities.

To the north, the new district will be adjacent to ODEON, Odense’s new music and theatre venue. Also close by will be the future Hans Christian Andersen Fairytale House, the Concert Hall, Grønttorvet (Odense Vegetable Market) and the Hans Christian Andersen Museum. To the south, the new district will be integrated into the city’s main shopping streets.

New cycle paths and a network of pedestrian zones and pathways will criss-cross the area, providing easy access for pedestrians and cyclists. The tramway will cut through the area with two stations close to ODEON and the City Hall.

- 53,000 sq. metres of retail, offices and housing.
- 1,100 parking spaces are being built underneath.
- Construction commenced in the summer of 2014. The entire district is expected to be completed in 2020.
ODEON – MELTING POT OF CREATIVITY

ODEON is the name of the new Odense Music and Theatre House. The facility will comprise a vibrant arena and conference facility, the Academy of Music and Dramatic Arts of Southern Denmark, Odense Theatre as well as shops and accommodation for young people – all under one roof.

The Music and Theatre House will bridge the gap between business and cultural life and will provide a framework for both cultural and commercial activities in the centre of Denmark.

The project has been developed in close cooperation with the Academy of Music and Dramatic Arts of Southern Denmark and Odense Theatre, both of which will move into their new premises when the building is complete in 2016. Construction has already commenced.

There will, of course, be an Odense Tramway station next to ODEON.

- ODEON will occupy an area of 32,000 sq. metres. The main auditorium will accommodate 1,740 seats.
- ODEON will also provide housing for 42 students and offer 700 sq. metres of retail space.
- An underground car park will be constructed under ODEON with spaces for 245 vehicles.
BRIDGING THE CITY CENTRE AND THE WATERFRONT

The recently developed area between the city centre and the port is now known as City Campus. Although this former industrial zone has retained its external identity, the area is being transformed into a new educational area comprising student accommodation and other facilities. A new landmark bridge for cyclists and pedestrians links the City Campus area and the waterfront with the city centre.

A number of schools are already located in the area, and the newly built adult educational centre, VUC Fyn, provides places for more than 1,500 students. In addition, the Lillebælt Academy of Professional Higher Education is in the process of transforming some former industrial buildings into 63,000 sq. metres of educational facilities for up to 3,200 students.

A new residential and recreational area has also been developed around the Port of Odense and new offices have been built adjacent to former warehouses recently renovated for commercial purposes. As there is scope to develop a further 100,000 sq. metres, expansion of the port will continue for many years to come.

- City Campus will offer study facilities for more than 7,000 students, creating a need for shops and restaurants.
- A public swimming pool will open in 2016 adding to the wide range of recreational facilities.
VIVA – URBAN LIFE AND SHOPPING

The largest city centre shopping mall in Denmark, VIVA will open on a site next to Odense Central Station. Experiences from other large cities have shown that locating a shopping centre such as VIVA adjacent to the city’s main railway station will drive growth within the retail sector. The tramway will also help to maximise the potential.

Over 100 new shops will occupy a 42,000 sq. metre area, with the development setting new standards in terms of retail facilities and help enhancing Odense city life.

Representing an investment of EUR 135 million, VIVA will be built by the Danish company, Steen & Strøm, while the British firm of architects, Benoy, is responsible for the design. Steen & Strøm has considerable experience in developing shopping centres in Denmark.

- The area will offer 100,000 sq. metres of mixed-use development, with approximately 1,600 parking spaces and 2,500 places for cycle storage.
- 6 million people are expected to visit VIVA every year.
WHERE SCIENTISTS MEET ENTREPRENEURS

Cortex Park, the new science and business park, will offer facilities for start-ups, research and development activities, student accommodation and shops. It is located in the heart of the thriving development area of Campus Odense, next to the University of Southern Denmark and the new Odense University Hospital scheduled to open in 2022.

The entire area will be transformed into a dynamic new neighbourhood of 60,000 people working, studying and living. The enormous South East shopping area – comprising, among others, IKEA, Rosengårdcentret and the hypermarket Bilka – is also close by.

The area will bring together students, academics and the business community in ways that will foster synergies across a number of areas.

- Together with the University of Southern Denmark and Odense University Hospital, Cortex Park is a focal point for the development of Funen.
- According to Oxford Research, Cortex Park will create 6,000 jobs in the region.
NEW UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL AND HEALTH FACULTY

The Region of Southern Denmark is making its largest investment ever in a new University Hospital in Odense. “Nyt OUH”, the new hospital, is an extension of the University of Southern Denmark and the two institutions will be linked together by a new Faculty of Health Sciences.

That “Nyt OUH” is adjacent to the University of Southern Denmark means that highly specialised care will be made available to patients in Denmark and abroad. The link-up between the hospital and the university will provide a unique opportunity for an exchange of knowledge between the two institutions.

The tramway will be the only means of transport linking the university and the hospital. There will be two stations at the university and two at the hospital. Walking and cycling facilities will also be made available.

- The University Hospital represents an investment of EUR 1 billion and is scheduled to open in 2022.
- Occupying 224,000 sq. metres it will be the largest hospital in Denmark.
- The neighbouring Faculty of Health Sciences will cost a further EUR 150 million to build.
TIME LINE OF THE TRAMWAY PROJECT

2008 A tramway is put forward as a solution to Odense’s future transport requirements.

2010 An Environmental Impact Assessment is initiated.

2011 The City Council of Odense decides to build a tramway with the first stage from Tarup Center to Hjallese Station, connecting the city centre with the university area and the new university hospital in the south eastern part of Odense.

2013 The Danish government decides to co-finance the tramway project to the tune of EUR 150 million. The Region of Southern Denmark contributes a further EUR 13.5 million. The City of Odense will finance the rest – EUR 240 million.

2014 The City Council of Odense approves guidelines for traffic flow while enabling works and utilities works are being carried out.

2015 The Act on Odense Letbane is passed by the Danish Parliament. The public company Odense Letbane P/S is established in order to implement the tramway project.

2015 Start-up of enabling works and utilities works; installation and movement of pipes and cables under the streets.

2015 Start-up of tender of Transportation Systems and Rolling Stock.

2016 Start-up of Civil Works construction projects.

2017 Construction of the tramway itself.

2020 Expected opening of Odense Letbane.