The Northwards Dialogue

Citizens, from Dortmund and beyond, experts and lay people, leaders in science and business

• get in touch
• stay up-to-date
• form partnerships
• create new ideas
• develop and implement projects together

How Do Projects Get Support?

The Northwards Board of Trustees has been established to support the Northwards Project with expert knowledge and know-how. This Board advises city authorities with fundamental and strategic issues regarding the Northwards Project. It makes recommendations with regard to the implementation and advancement of projects within the project. Furthermore, the Board can provide impetus for the development of fresh project approaches or even be the initiator of new projects.

With regard to the composition of the Board, its members reflect the urban society of Dortmund: the board consists of representatives from politics, business, science and academia as well as local associations. Each member of the Board is an expert in a specific field, the collective knowledge of all members becomes a pool of know-how which all citizens can benefit from when they want to develop a project idea. In addition, there is a special cooperation agreement within the city administration: the top-level management of the city performs strategic advisory functions and is directly involved in all important decision-making processes with regard to the overall project.

The Northwards Coordination Center serves as:

Contact Point
Every citizen can approach the Coordination Center with ideas, questions and suggestions.

Moderator
The Coordination Center ensures a constructive and goal-oriented dialogue between citizens, politics, city administration, companies and local associations. It organizes events in different formats such as panel discussions and conversation circles.

Coordinator
The Coordination Center adapts ideas and suggestions and disseminates them. It supports people as they substantiate their ideas and create a project profile. The Center establishes contact and mediates between the organizations involved. Thus, the Coordination Center takes a coordinating role in the processes of project development and implementation.

Monitoring and Information Center / Project Support
The Coordination Center is responsible for planning and structuring processes and procedures of the overall initiative and making them transparent to the local community. Staff members follow through with all parties involved, give updates on the project status and point out relevant references – from council decisions to online resources. The Northwards Project provides a link between groups of players involved in a specific issue, creates preconditions and incentives for new investments, and raises funds thereby contributing to strengthening the location of Dortmund.

Contact
City of Dortmund
Coordination Center Northwards / "nordwärts"
E-Mail: nordwaerts@dortmund.de
Internet: www.nordwaerts.dortmund.de
Facebook: www.facebook.com/NordwaertsDortmund
Project Management: Michaela Bonan
Phone: 0049(0)231 50-2 74 90

Published by:
City of Dortmund, Department of Mayor and City Council's Affairs
Editors:
Michaela Bonan (responsible), Stefanie Vauken, Harriet Ellwein, Anna Valuwo
Translation: Angela Martin
Mapping:
City of Dortmund, Land Surveying and Registry Office
Photographs:
Stefanie Dänner, Gaye Suse Kromer, Anja Kador, Sebastian Vauken,
Harriet Ellwein, Anna Valuwo, Britta Lüdeking, Joachim Noll, Manfred Mertins, Mario Böhm,
Harriet Ellwein, photocase: skymountain.de, froodmat
Design, layout & printing:
City of Dortmund, Dortmund-Agentur, 10/2017
Dear Ladies and Gentlemen,

The Northwards Project is a development program with a life-span of ten years which started in 2015. It focuses on the strengths of the northern districts of our city and showcases them for the public eye, thereby shedding light on some of the unexpected treasures that Dortmund has to offer. The initiative aims at further developing the northern districts of our city and at harmonizing the quality of life in the city as a whole. Dialogue and participation are at the heart of this process.

Everyone is invited to join our initiative. In order to realize the jointly developed projects, politics, administration, science and business are working together. On the basis of this high level of cooperation, creative drive, competence and engagement of the civil society we can fully exploit the potential of our northern city districts.

Within a time frame of ten years, Dortmund’s north will have become an innovation laboratory for new concepts and creative ideas. Attractive projects will serve as inspiration for other participating institutions.

This innovative approach gains a lot of attention and recognition. In 2017, the state government of North Rhine-Westphalia published their Memorandum “Shaping NRW” and pointed out the Northwards Initiative as good practice with respect to strategies for the future of urban living.

Within a time frame of ten years, Dortmund's north will have become an innovation laboratory for new concepts and creative ideas. Attractive projects will serve as inspiration for other districts.

Let's go Northwards!

Sincerely,

Ullrich Sierau
Lord Mayor of Dortmund

What is Special about Northwards Project?

Dortmund has successfully undergone massive structural change. Especially the city center and the southern districts now offer attractive housing and employment locations. The northern districts have developed successfully in this regard, but despite existing measures and project approaches this district of our city has not yet fulfilled its full potential. Some of these potentials are still hidden and have yet to be recognized. Our Northwards Project seeks to impart great changes.

The project area comprises of the districts of Living, Huckarde, Mengede, Schamhorth, the northern part of the city center as well as some of the western parts of the city center and Lügendorf.

What are the Thematic Priorities?

After the project was launched in May 2015, the team started to collect project ideas. Creative imagination was given free reign. In a second step, the project ideas were clustered according to themes and city districts.

Urban Development • Economy • Work • Housing • Infrastructure • Education • Identity and Civic Commitment • Action Plan ‘Social City’ • Integration and Participation • Social Innovation • Security, Order and Cleanliness

What are the Milestones of the Project Plan?

2015–2017
• Participation phase, collection of ideas
• Development of ‘project families’
• Consolidation of project structures
• Qualification of projects
• Evaluation of the results

2018
• Kick-off presentation
• Description of development opportunities for the different city districts
• Implementation of first projects
• Conclusion of project development
• Presentation of preliminary results

2020
• Intern presentation of projects which have been planned, developed, implemented so far

2025
• Conclusion of all projects
• Final presentation

A decade that will be worthwhile for Dortmund's northern districts!

Participation

Northwards is an extensive dialogic and participatory project. Every citizen can participate in panel discussions, workshops and informal coffee sessions in order to develop innovative ideas and thereby actively contribute to the sustainable enhancement and design of the northern city districts.

Everybody is invited to participate in our formats (e.g. the Northwards Summer Academy) and to explore together with us the north side of Dortmund. Everybody can submit their ideas for the improvement of the northern districts; every idea will be assessed. If your idea is suitable as a Northwards project, we will identify and discuss possibilities of organizational as well as financial support through the Coordination Center or other participating institutions.

We attach great importance to the transparency of our information processes and dialogues, therefore we have put together a homepage which includes project outlines, an online map as well as reports on our events:

www.nordwaerts.dortmund.de

Read our newsletter and follow us on www.facebook.com/NordwaertsDortmund

in order to discover what’s happening Northwards!