

Project name: Wenzhou Urban Central Green Axis Park

Project address: Wenzhou, ZheJiang Province

Area: 22.25 Hectares

Award category: Parks and Open space

PROJECT STATEMENT

Central Green Axis Park is located in the middle section of central axis of new urban area of Wenzhou, covering 2.2km-long city axis and an total area of 33.85ha, dominating the core space of city's layout and landscape pattern. The project faced challenges not only from the complexity of the project's functions and goals, but also from the unfavourable ground condition in construction.

The proposal take a broad view of structuring the overall green space pattern integrating landscape resources and structuring urban ecological corridor, meanwhile offering a complex functional system to lead new urban green lifestyle. The proposal adopts differentiated method to underpass the traversing city highways and railways, offering a well-connected slow-traffic system covering the whole axis park. Based on the poor site condition, habitat restoration and plant landscape are also emphasized, creating a vibrant and luxuriantly green city central open space. The park is now popular among and well-received by all walks of life. With its open boundary and gradual integration of peripheral complex functions, business of the peripheral 340,000m2 has generated annual sales of over 5 billion RMB after completion. It catalyzes the development of regional economy as well the overall improvement of the community life-quality.

PROJECT NARRATIVE

[Background of the project]

Wenzhou Central Green Axis Park is located in the middle section of the city's central axis, dominating the main space of the city's central axis. The project links Meirengang Park, Yangfu Mountain Park, Wenzhou Municipal Government, Century Square, Sanyang Wetland and Daluo Mountain, integrating the mountains, waters and urban texture to form the core axis of the city's green space system and to shape the ecological structure linking the city and natural space.

The Wenzhou Municipal Government has allocated 33.85 hectares of land in the central axis of the downtown for building public green space of the Central Green Axis, as a pioneering milestone for Wenzhou to move from the "Old City Era" to the "New City Era". The park indivisibly connects the new urban area from north to south with a special sequence of complex urban functions including business, residential, administrative, cultural, ecological and educational area.

[Design strategies]

1.Integrating the landscape resources and structuring urban ecological corridor

The park strategically integrates the mountain and water resources, ecological wetland resources as well cultural resources in the core area of the city to create a central green axis linking nature and the city. It serves the important function of structuring the ecological network, balancing the spatial density of the city, and maintaining the ecological environment and biodiversity in the new stage of urban development, thus realizing the city's sustainable and resilient development in the future.

2.Building a complex functional system

The scheme fully responds to and integrates the surrounding urban complex as business, residential, administrative, cultural and educational functions. Three core areas in the park are proposed accordingly, namely the landscape ecology zone, the fashion and folklore leisure zone and the nature experience and tourism zone, linking 16 major attractions. It is now a place for local people to enjoy leisure activities, sports and recreations, family gathering, cultural experience and folk art, entertainment and relaxation, serving for all group of people.

3. Organizing a favourable landscape setting

The original site has poor ground foundations, as the terrain is too flat and the geological condition is complex with mostly silt underground and little vegetation. The proposal reorganized the overall landform according to the site investigation, piling up hills and digging ponds accordingly, eventually forms a general pattern of "water features as the axis, terrains rolling aside, and greenery dotting the whole park". The landform is designed to enhance the control of the urban space structure and the shaping of the urban landscape system. In addition, the landscape terrain solves the problem of balancing a large amount of earthworks due to the huge underground construction area around the park.

4.Offering well-connected slow-traffic system

The site includes several completed and also planned railways, light railways, high voltage power wire establishment, and other complicated urban complex engineering, fragmenting the park into pieces. After many rounds of expert discussion and coordination, slow-traffic path of the park underneath the city road junction has been finally adopted for overall connection and passing through, not only solving the problem of park integrity but also ensuring that the slow-traffic system is continuous and not separated.

5. Habitat restoration and plant landscape shaping

The original site was sparsely greened and basically devoid of good vegetation. Through soil improvement, ecological restoration and the shaping of diverse habitats, more than 260 species of plants have been planted throughout the park after the design. Of those, 80% are low-maintenance native plants, including a large number of flowering plants and colorful foliage species. It not only enhances the ornamental nature of the landscape, but also provides space for the bio-diversity cultivation in urban area and offers the citizens more opportunities to get closer to nature.

6. Ecological construction and underground engineering

- In the design of the park maintenance and management system, a river water reuse system is adopted for park cleaning and plant sprinkler irrigation to conserve water.
- •The basement roof slab is backfilled with foam concrete, which not only meets the needs of the landscape earthing, but also reduces the basement load and saves the overall cost of the project.

•Due to the silty geological condition underground and the high groundwater level, it is proposed to use concrete bored piles and soil mixing piles to effectively solve the floating and pulling resistance of the basement, with pile foundations reaching a maximum depth of 65m.

During the construction, more than ten types of professionals were coordinated, including urban planning, municipal facilities, transportation and civil engineering. The scheme was finalized after twelve rounds of discussions by the municipal government, the municipal council, relevant departments and renowned experts and scholars, and the construction took over three years. The onsite construction has been effectively collaborated to ensure the quality of the project, which also demonstrates the ability and status of the landscape architects in coordinating comprehensive projects.

[Economic, social and ecological benefits after implementation]

Wenzhou Central Green Axis Park is 2.2 kilometers long and 200 meters wide, spanning three districts in Wenzhou and involving more than 400,000 square meters area. After completed, the park has become the first integrated urban park in Wenzhou, benefiting more than 500,000 households in the surrounding area, leading Wenzhou citizens to enjoy a "high quality" "slow life" and leading a green lifestyle in the new stage of urban development.

The Central Green Axis Park is now well-received by all walks of life and has moved from a blueprint to reality. The gradual organic integration of peripheral recreation and fitness, cultural and entertainment, and shopping and leisure functions has brought hundreds of senior businesses to the area. The largest commercial complex in Wenzhou has been incubated, and the commercial volume of 340,000 square meters around the park has generated annual sales of over five billion RMB, catalyzing the development of the regional economy and the overall improvement of the community life quality.

At the same time, the Central Green Axis Park has dominated the planning and construction of Wenzhou's city central, connecting the city's landscape system, integrating its natural ecological corridors, and creatively casting the "green heart" gateway space on its central axis, which is a new landmark in Wenzhou's urban green development.





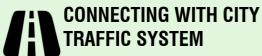
ACTIVATING THE ECONOMY OF THE CITY AREA

10000M²underground shopping mall in central area

2000M² leisure and commercial area near the ground

>5 billion RMB of annual sales

of surrounding commercial complex



1 municipal railway

7under city road pathway

1000 underground parking spaces

PROMOTE A SLOW LIFESTYLE IN THE CITY

7 featured squares and plazas

1800M² waterfront activity space

> 500,000 surrounding citizens benefited



RE-PRESENT URBAN CULTURE

3 folk culture sculptures

1 historical site

5 traditional cultural sculpture installations



ECOLOGICAL RESTORATIO IN DENSE URBAN AREA

260 additional plant species

>80% of native plant species

4.8ha water area

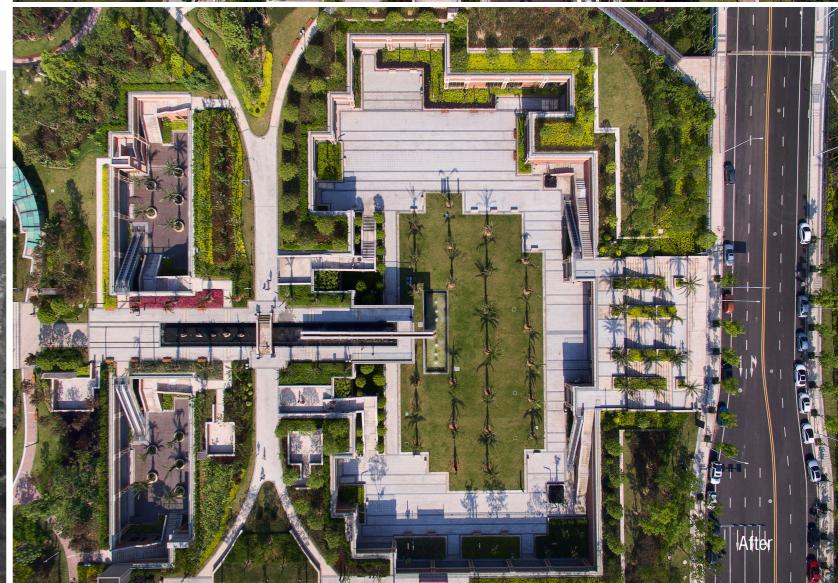


[OU SEA SCULPTURE AND THE AXIS]

Ou Sea is the core sculpture of the park, located at the core of the park's axial end. It aims to highlight Wenzhou's Ouyue civilization and its marine culture.







[SEA OF FLOWERS]

Through soil improvement, ecological restoration, and shaping of diverse habitats, more than 260 species of plants are planted throughout the park, of which low-maintenance native plants account for 80% and contain a large number of flowering plants and colorful species.







[DONGYUE COMMERCIAL STREET]

When completed, an underground shopping mall covering nearly 10,000 square-meters and a leisure and commercial area of about 2,000 square-meters will help driving the development of the regional economy and the overall improvement of the quality of social life.









[QIANHE LAKE]

A variety of revetments combining hard and soft materials are constructed along the lake. The viewing deck that protrudes into the water offers more opportunities for waterfront activities. The rich aquatic plant communities along shoreline enhance the biodiversity.









[NIGHT VIEW]

The night scene of the park presents changes in distance and darkness. With the increase of brightness at the core attractions, and the natural transition of the entire park's colors, the lighting system are well-organized and distributed.







[NIGHT VIEW OF THE XINYU PLAZA]

The lighting design of Xinyu Plaza focuses on people's ornamental demands for lighting in the crowded area. While the functional lighting is met, the brightness and color richness of the area is appropriately enhanced.







[XINYU PLAZA]

Xinyu Plaza is the core gathering space of the Park. It is a sunken square jointly shaped by integrating elements, such as rockery, water, pergolas, rich vegetation and featured pavements, providing a place for the public gathering and complex functions.

