BALANCING THE BLUE-GREEN-GREY NETWORKS

THE SPONGE CITY PLANNING IN A COLD COSTAL CITY IN NORTHEAST CHINA

Project Name: Balancing the Blue-Green-Grey Networks: The Sponge City Planning in a Cold Costal City in Northeast China

Project Address: Zhuanghe, Liaoning Province, China

Area: 2,080,000m²

Year of Planning: 2024

Award Category: Analusis & Master Planning(Unbuilt Projects)

Project Statement

Zhuanghe City is one of the important nodes of the coastal economic belt in Northeast China, surrounded by both the Bo Sea and the Yellow Sea. Rapid urbanization and dramatic climate change have led to an increase in the hardened area of the city and an increase in extreme precipitation situations. As a result, the city is often subject to extreme risk situations of tidal waves and extreme precipitation during the rainy season in the summer, and large-scale concentrated snowfalls in the winter, which drive the city into a grey infrastructure paralysis situations.

The theme of this project is 'Balancing the "Blue-Green-Grey" Networks', which aims to create a cross-seasonal, cross-spatial networks of urban landscapes. By creating a sustainable urban water networks, a rain-flood resilient urban green networks, and an urban grey networks that allow snow to be piled up in winter, the project aims to achieve a balance between supply and demand of ecological, living, and production functions in both time and space. Therefore, this project integrates sponge planning with landscape enhancement, and puts different strengths of resilience demand into different landscape systems to achieve comprehensive enhancement of sponge resilience and landscape quality.

Project Narrative and Contents

1.Design background and problem analysis

Zhuanghe City is located in the southeast of Liaodong Peninsula of China, nearly 143 kilometres away from Dalian City, the first port city in Northeast China, surrounded by the Yellow Sea and the Bo Sea. It is affected by the warm temperate monsoon climate, which is located between 39°25′ and 40°12′ north latitude, and also by the winter climate in cold regions.

The project is located in the new urban area of Zhuanghe City, with an area of about 17,100 square metres. Rapid urbanization and drastic climate changes have led to an increase in hardened areas and extreme precipitation situations in Zhuanghe City. In the summer, the city is often exposed to extreme risk conditions of seawater tides and extreme precipitation during the rainy season, while in the winter, large-scale concentrated snowfalls drive the city into a grey infrastructure paralysis condition. At the same time, the site faces problems of seawater intrusion into the groundwater, high levels of surface pollution, and severe salinisation of the land.

Therefore, the design objective of this project is to "balancing the 'blue-green-grey' networks", aiming to establish an inter-seasonal and inter-spatial urban landscape network system. By creating a sustainable urban water networks, a rainwater resilient urban green networks, and an urban grey networks that can pile up snow in winter, the project will achieve a balance between supply and demand of ecological, living, and production functions in both time and space. This project plans to integrate sponge planning with landscape enhancement, placing different strengths of resilience needs into different landscape systems, realising the comprehensive enhancement of sponge resilience and landscape quality, and solving the multi-scale and multi-level risk problems faced by the city.

2. Rainfall simulation and sponge demand analysis

The project takes 3 and 20 years of return period as the rainfall simulation analysis situation, identifies the rainfall risk points and risk causes within the design scope, and the requirements of surface pollutant control, and simulates the situation of rainfall and tidal water; determines the total amount of rainfall drainage channels, rainfall retention module locations, and adjusts the water system, green networks, and grey infrastructure planning with the existing spatial layout, so as to satisfy the design requirements.

3. Planning Vision and Planning Strategies

Based on the rainwater simulation and sponge demand in the above steps, the project tries to respond to the issues of sustainable urban water networks, ecological resilience of urban green networks, and multi-seasonal resilience of urban grey networks, and to create a multi-functional mixed urban landscape networks system, which can be expressed in two levels: basic sponge strategies and special sponge strategies.

(1) Special Sponge Strategies

Facing the cross-seasonal and cross-spatial rainfall and flooding problems in the cold coastal area, the project creates an urban resilient wetland park that meets the extreme precipitation and extreme tidal wave superimposed on each other, in order to meet the risk of flooding in multi-dimensional situations; and creates a grey infrastructure to meet the snow piling and melting situations in winter and combines with the design of the road section to meet the space for snow piling and pedestrian traffic at the same time.

(2) Basic Sponge Strategies

Through the building of a "redundant" coastal sponge water system, a "multi-level" urban green habitat networks system, and a "mixed- functional" urban green spaces, in order to meet the demand for ecological resilience to rainfall and flooding, biodiversity, and public activities in the city.

4. Specific strategies and realisations

- (1) Special Sponge Strategies
- Facing the co-occurrence of rain and tide (SPATIAL)

In order to face the co-occurrence of rain and tide on the project, the project has set up a partially floodable ecopark in the area close to the coastal area. In the newly installed sponge system, the project has set up floodable areas with different intensities. At the mouth of the sea, ecological floating islands are set up to meet the demands of production and ecology at the same time; in the area of the central park, the project has set up wet plant landscape communities to meet the requirements of inundation; in the landscape corridor, ecological dykes of different elevations are placed.

Dealing with winter snow disasters (seasonal)

In order to face the problem that the green infrastructure is unable to dissipate solid snow when large-scale snowfall occurs in winter; the mature winter diversity snow stacking cross-section of pavements in Japan and other countries is adopted; the amount of snow stacking on the road cross-section is calculated and planned based on the data of past winter snowfalls in Zhuanghe City; and the snow stacking, pedestrians and motor vehicle traffic are satisfied at the same time during the winter season.

- (2) Basic sponge strategy
- Constructing a coastal urban sponge system

The project creates a multi-level coastal urban sponge system coupled with " dot (miniature green space) - line (road) - plane (large-scale green space or lake)". In the non-rainy season, several small sponges in the city can backfill and nourish groundwater and springs to achieve water circulation; in the rainy season, floating islands, green networks and grey networks in the city can jointly achieve rainwater drainage and dissipation; in the event of storm surges, roads become the main drainage channels in the city, and can realize rainwater channels in extreme situations. Meet the urban sponge needs under different scenarios.

■ Enhance the green space habitat quality of sponge system

In the urban sponge planning, the selection of native plants and the construction of stable plant communities are considered at the same time to achieve the enhancement of the habitat quality of green space. In different flooded areas, the project plans wet plant communities and semi-wet plant communities, and combines the habitat habits of different organisms to achieve rapid urban ecological environment restoration.

Enriching public activities in green space

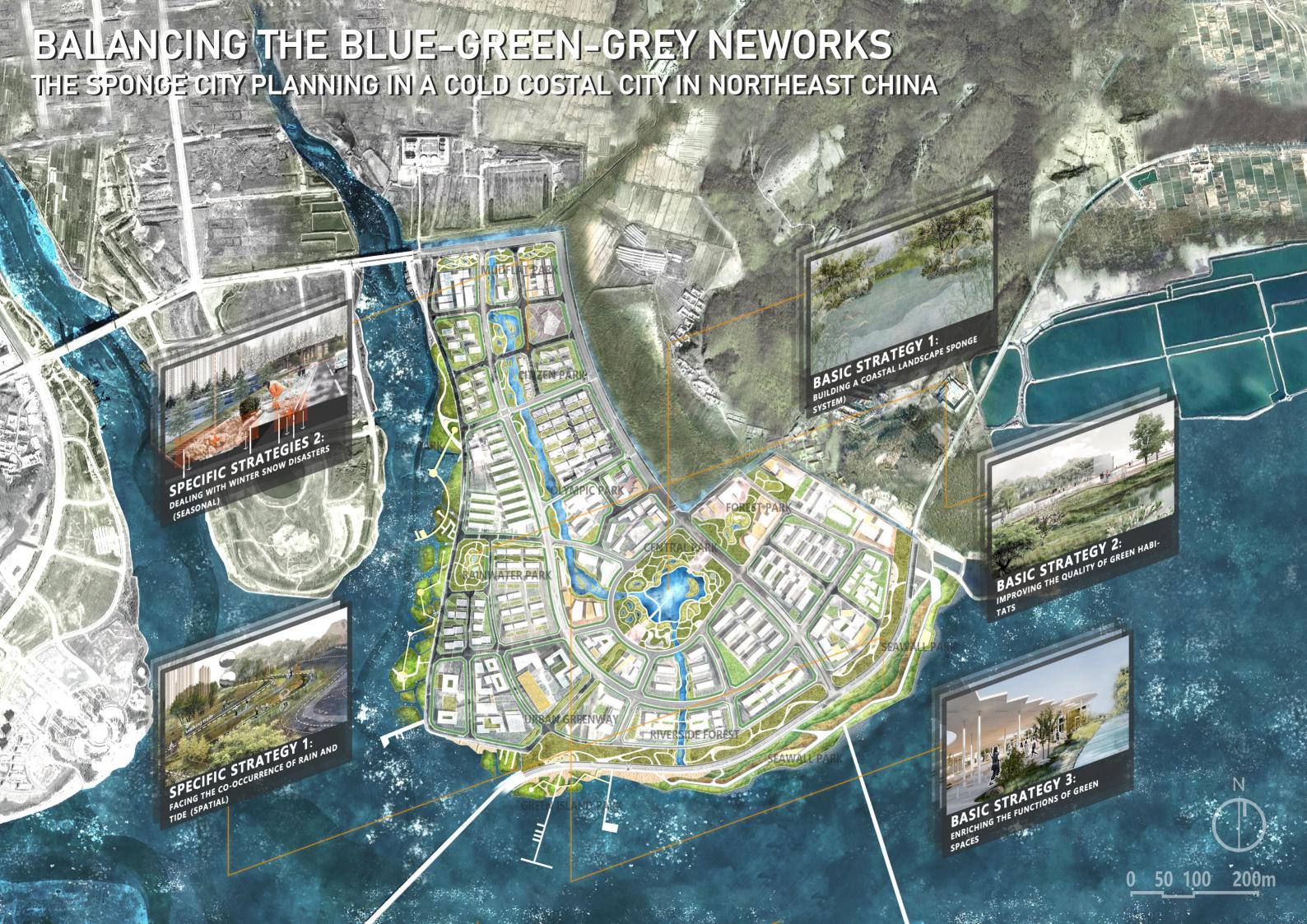
In the urban landscape upgrading, with the urban ecological sponge structure as the base, according to the different intensity of construction density and the intensity of public activity demand, and combining the spatial relationship between different urban functions and ecological structure, implanting the slow travelling system, open space system and nature education system. And around the blue-green space axis planning urban business district, cultural industry park and sports integrated area, the citizen life, public education, urban economy, clean energy and other urban development plate and sponge ecosystem closely integrated.

5. Comprehensive Benefit Enhancement

The sponge planning of this project is based on the enhancement of the city's rainfall and flood risk capacity.

In order to meet the overall requirements of improving the quality of urban green space habitat and the quality of urban public activities.

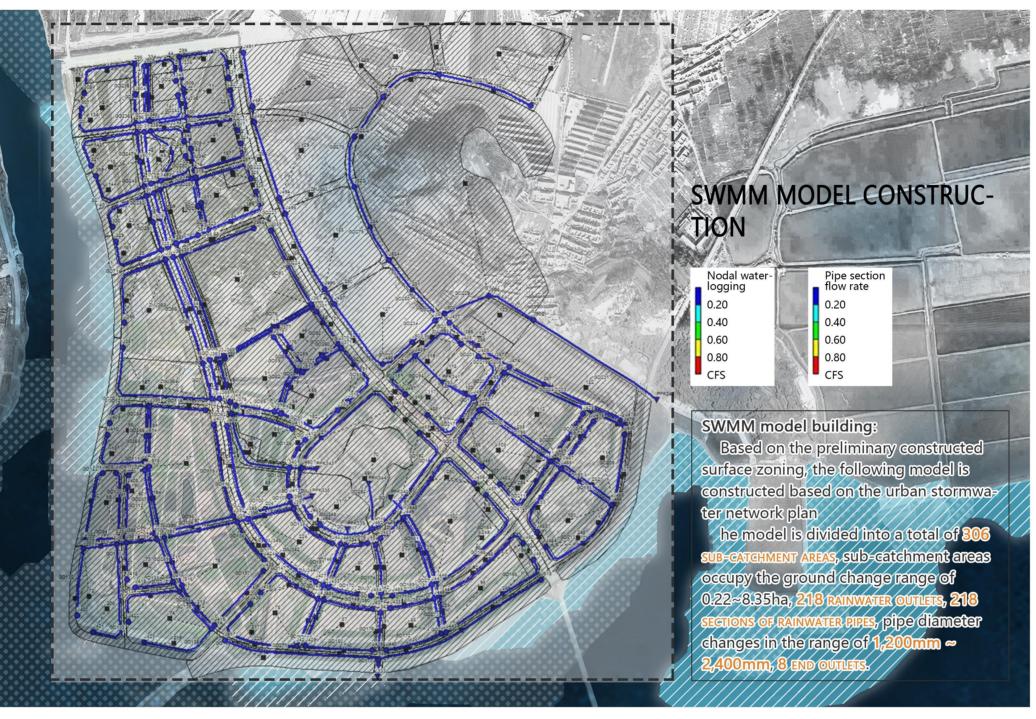
The project tries to create a 'balanced blue-green-grey' landscape networks system of urban ecology, which is planned to achieve a 15% increase in the green network's ability to resist the risk of co-tidal flooding, a 60% increase in the carrying capacity of the urban grey infrastructure in winter, a 26-fold increase in the richness of the urban plant species, a 40% improvement in the quality of the urban green habitats, and a 300% increase in the urban biodiversity in a period of 5-10 years, which is a comprehensive benefits enhancement targets.



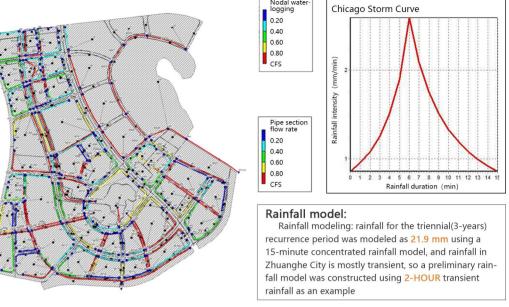




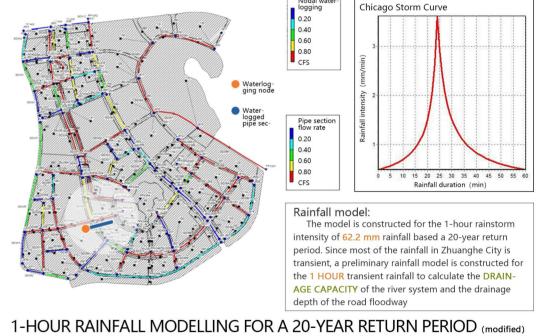
RISK ANALYSIS AND SIMULATION OF STORM FLOOD IN COASTAL CITIES



15-MIN RAINFALL MODELLING FOR A 3-YEAR RETURN PERIOD

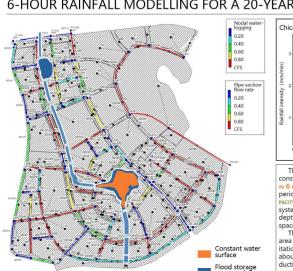


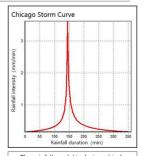
1-HOUR RAINFALL MODELLING FOR A 20-YEAR RETURN PERIOD



FLOOD SIMULATION

6-HOUR RAINFALL MODELLING FOR A 20-YEAR RETURN PERIOD





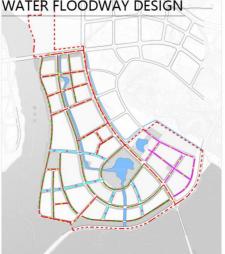
The rainfall model is designed to be onstructed with the rainfall of 182mm IN 6 HOURS during the 20-year return period, to calculate the WATER STORAGE try of the wetland space in the river stem, and to determine the size and opth of the wetland water storage

space.
The total precipitation in the planning area is 232,000 m³ for 6 hours of precipitation in the 20-year return period, about 60,000 m³ for source control reduction, and 172,000 m³ for END-OF-PIPE

FLOOD STORAGE WATER



20-YEAR RETURN PERIOD STORM-WATER FLOODWAY DESIGN



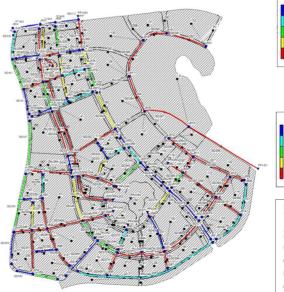
When a rainfall situation exceeding the 3-year return period occurs, and the dis-charge of rainwater exceeds the discharge load of the stormwater pipe, a large drainage flood channel system is planned, and the vertical design of the road system is designed to discharge the exceeding rainwater into the flood storage facilities efficiently

The main principles followed:

1, External water retention. Ensure that rainwater outside the red line of the northeast catchment area does not enter the interior zone of the site, and control the flow by intercepting flood ditches

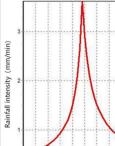
essive rainwater within the planning area s drained away as quickly as possible

3. SUB-AREA DRAINAGE. Reduce the mpact of water diversion between the









Chicago Storm Curve

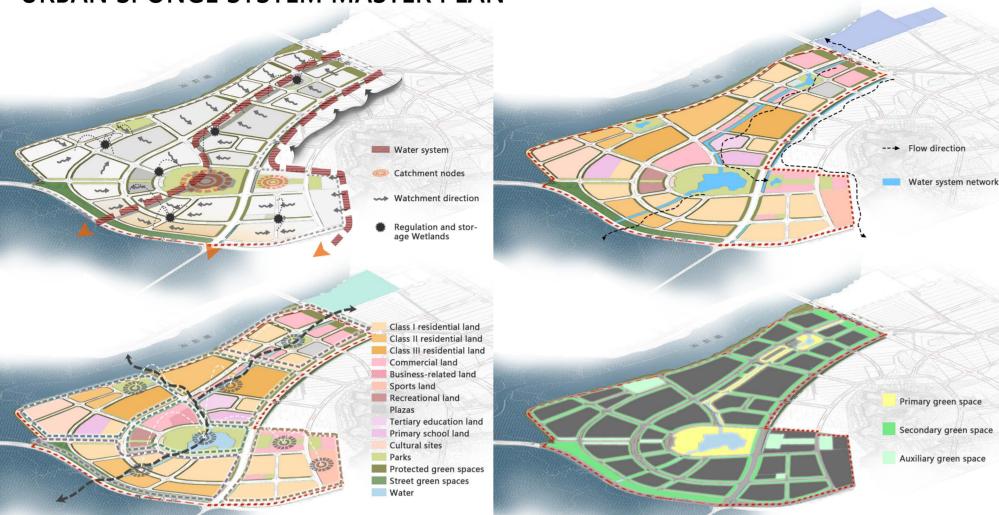
Pipe section flow rate 0.40 0.80

Rainfall model:

the design of the pipe canal 349 widened by 3m (3M OF PROTECTIVE ROADSIDE GREEN BELT), to re-simulate the test; the results turn out that no pipe canals or nodes are found overloaded; indicating the model parameter settings to meet the needs of the

SPONGE PLANNING AND LANDSCAPE PLANNING IMPROVEMENT

URBAN SPONGE SYSTEM MASTER PLAN



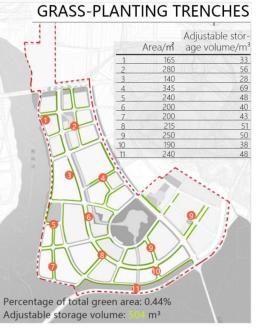
PUBLIC REALM FRAMEWORK

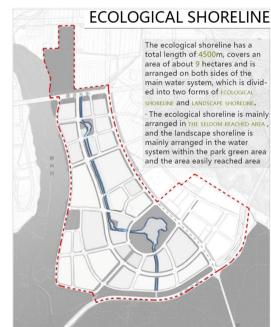
CENTRAL + AXIS + CORRIDORS URBAN GREEN URBAN GREEN

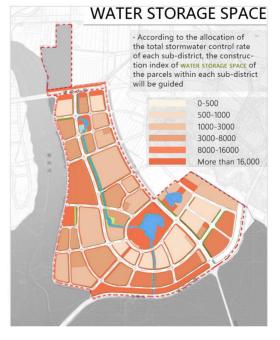
SPECIFIC ARRANGMENT OF URBAN SPONGE

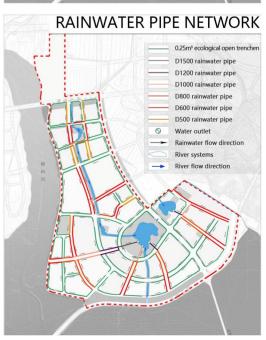












VISION OF THE PROJECT

RISKS AND CHALLENGES



LACK OF STABILITY OF URBAN WATER **SYSTEM**

- Uneven spatial and temporal distribution of precipitation
- ROUGH INFILTRATION AND FREQUENT FLOODING
- Lack of urban water sources



LOSS OF URBAN RESPONSE TO TIDAL

- LAND SALINIZATION DUE TO SEAWATER INTRUSION
- NEGATIVE EFFECT OF SEAWATER TIDE LEVEL TOP SUPPORT
- Double tide superposition stressing on the drainage system



INVALID OF GREY INFRASTRUCTURE IN WINTER

- SNOWMELT USE ACCOMPANIED BY HIGH INPUT AND HIGH POLLU-
- LACK OF SNOWFALL UTILIZING LEADS TO URBAN WATER LOSS IN

MULTI-FUNCTIONAL OF LANDSCAPE NETWORKS

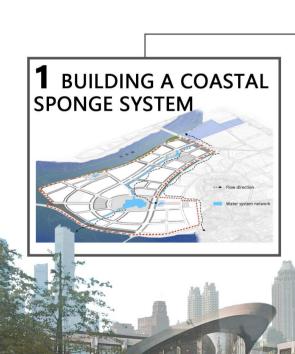
IMPROVING THE GREEN NETWORK STABILITY

ENRICHING THE GREEN NETWORK RESILIENCE

ENHANCING THE GREY INFRASTUCTURE USES



Basic Sponge Strategies + Specific Sponge Strategies



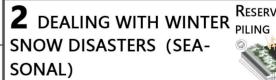
STRATEGIES















SPECIFIC SPONGE STRATEGIES

FACING THE CO-OCCURRENCE OF RAIN AND TIDE (SPATIAL)



SPECIFIC SPONGE STRATEGIES

DEALING WITH WINTER SNOW DISASTERS (SEASONAL)

THE PLANNING IS BASED ON THE CALCULATION OF ROAD SURFACE SNOW ACCUMULATION, AND THE INTERIOR GREEN AREA CAN BE USED AS A PILING SITE.

IN ROAD CROSS-SECTION DESIGN, THE INFLUENCE OF SNOWFALL FACTORS IS CONSIDERED IN DETAIL. AS A GOOD DEMONSTRATION FOR THE DESIGN OF THE CROSS-SECTION IN THE COLD WINTER REGIONS, THE ROAD CROSS-SECTION IS DESIGNED TO SATISFY THE WIDTH OF THE SNOW PILING IN SNOWY AREAS



A PILE OF SNOW WIDTH REFERS TO THE NEW SNOW REMOVAL OPERATIONS SUCH AS SNOW TEMPORARILY PILED UP TO THE SIDE OF THE ROAD WIDTH

 $W_4 = \begin{cases} 1.543\sqrt{V_1} & V_1 \le 0.722 \text{m}3/m \\ 0.909V_1 + 0.655 & V_1 > 0.722 \text{m}3/m \end{cases}$

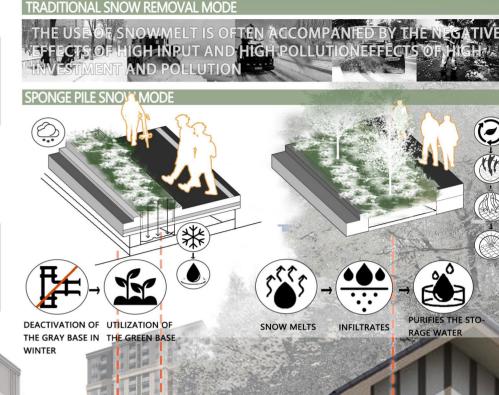
 $V_1 = K_1 \bullet \frac{P_1}{P_2} \bullet h_1 \bullet \omega_a$

Where: V_1 for a pile of snow (m^3 / m); k_1 for a pile of snow coefficients; p_1 for the density of new snow (g/cm^3); p_2 for the density of primary snow (g/cm^3); h_1 for the planning of the object of the depth of the snow (m); wa for the one-time pile of snow removal object width ($=W_1 + W_2 + W_3$) (m); W_1 for the width of the winter driveways; W_2 , for the width of the road shoulder side strip

SECONDARY SNOW CALCULATION

THE SECONDARY SNOW PILE WIDTH REFERS TO THE WIDENING OF SNOW REMOVAL OPERATIONS, SUCH AS LONG TIME SNOW PILE WHEN THE ROAD WIDTH

 $W_{5} = \begin{cases} 2\sqrt{2.25 + V_{2}} - 3 & V_{2} \le 10 \text{m} 3/m \\ \frac{1}{3.5}(V_{2} + 4) & V_{2} > 10 \text{m} 3/m \end{cases} \qquad V_{2} = k_{2} \bullet \frac{p_{3}}{p_{4}} \bullet h_{2} \bullet h_{2$

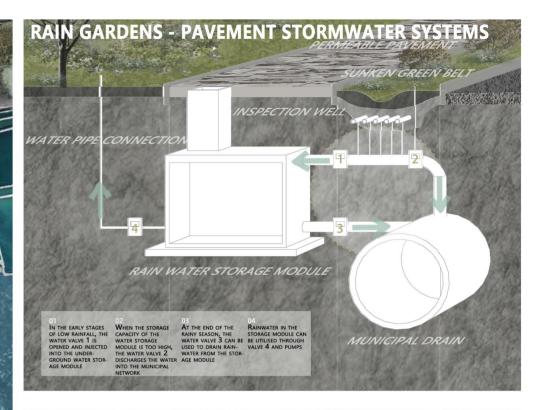


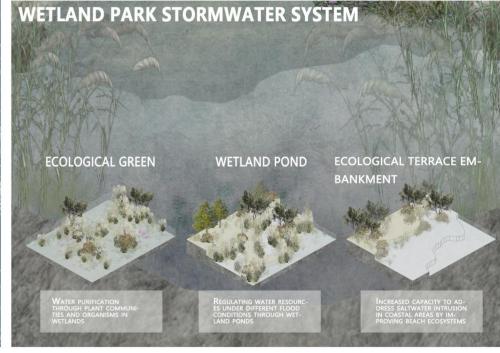


BASIC SPONGE STRATEGIES

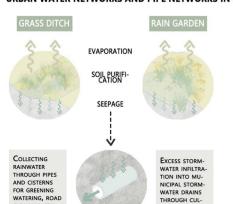
BUILDING A COASTAL LANDSCAPE SPONGE SYSTEM

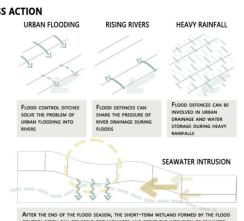






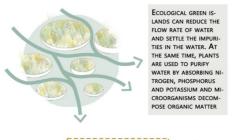




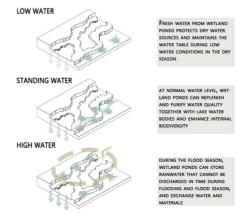


RAINWATER PURIFICATION INTEGRATED TREATMENT THROUGH WETLAND SYSTEM

ECOLOGICAL GREEN IS-LANDS CAN REDUCE THE

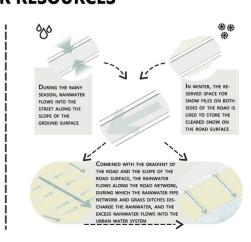




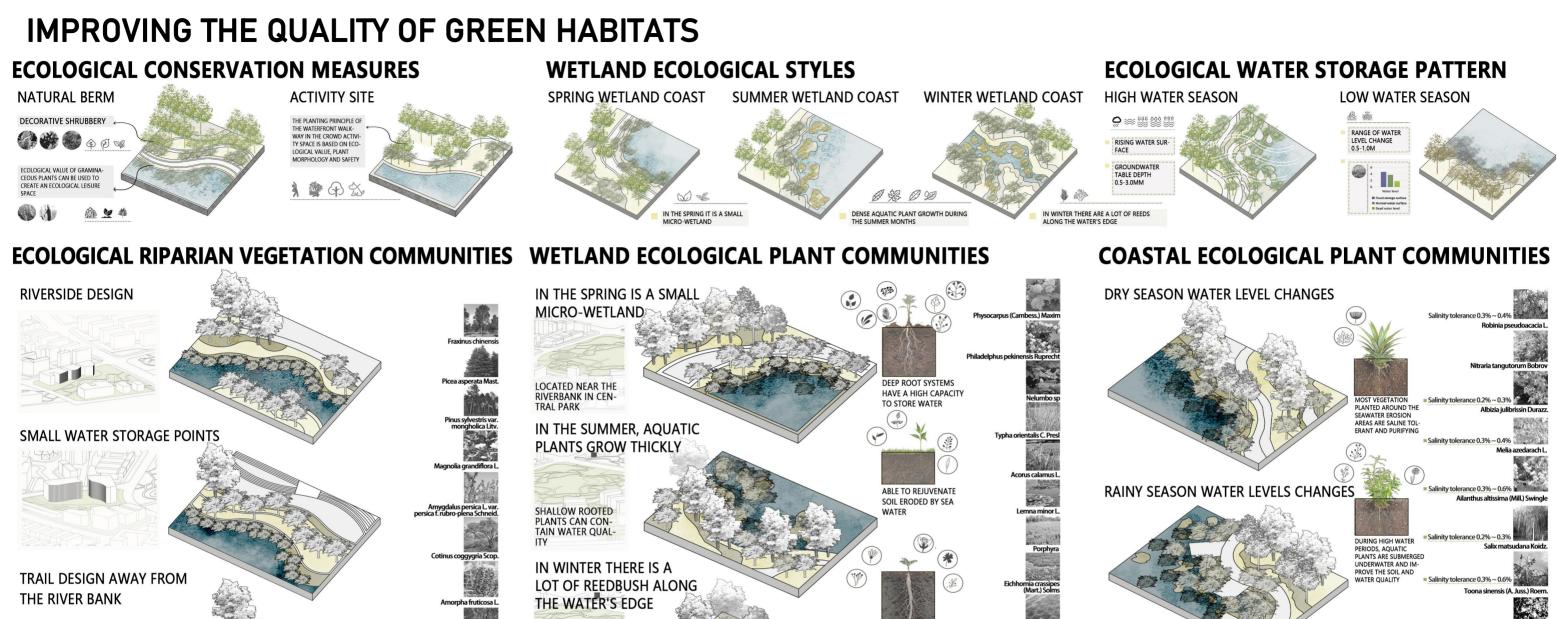


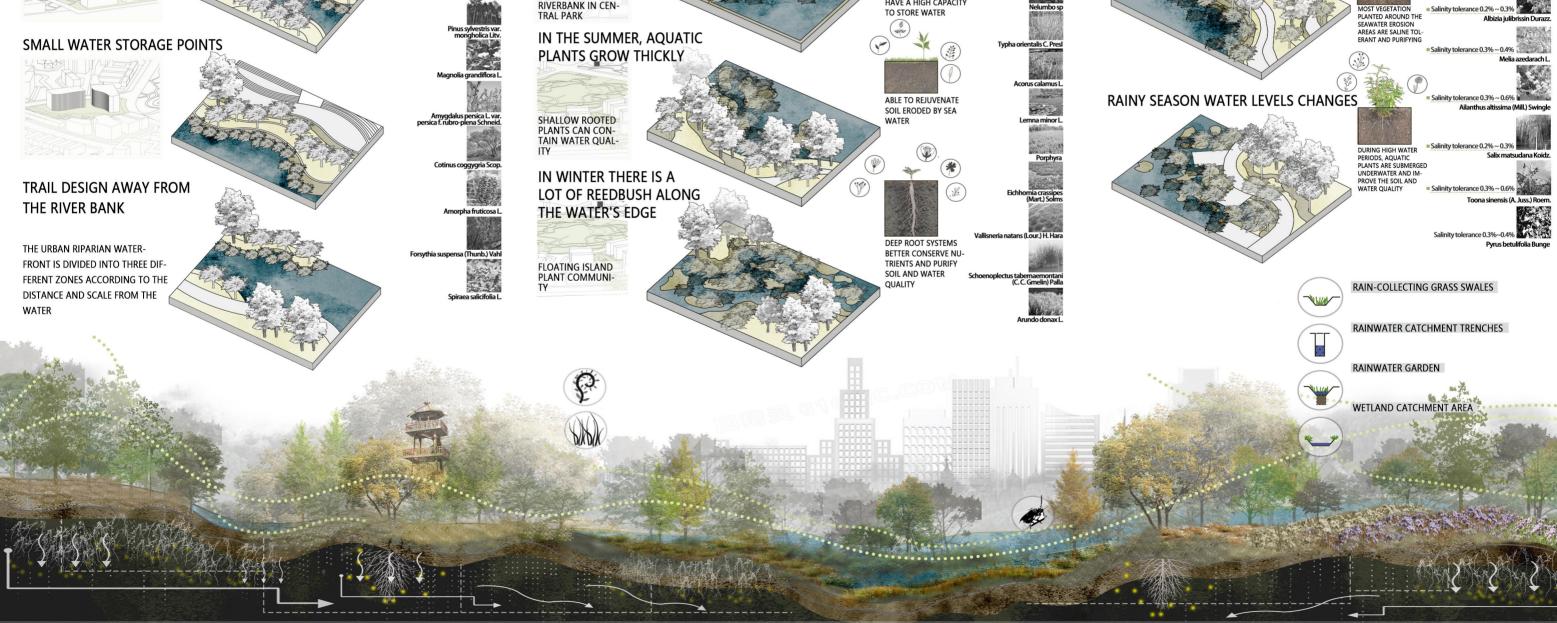
PROTECTION OF FRESHWATER RESOURCES





BASIC SPONGE STRATEGIES





BASIC SPONGE STRATEGIES

ENRICHING THE FUNCTIONS OF GREEN SPACES



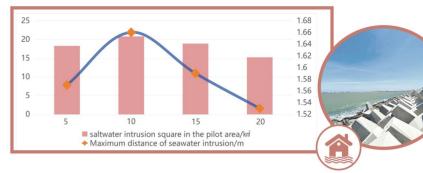
EVALUATION OF SPONGE PLANNING BENEFIT IMPROVEMENT



- ACHIEVE A 15% INCREASE IN THE GREEN NETWORK'S ABILITY TO RESIST THE RISK OF CO-TIDAL FLOODING
- A **60%** INCREASE IN THE CARRYING CA-PACITY OF THE URBAN GREY INFRASTRUC-TURE IN WINTER
- A **26-FOLD** INCREASE IN THE RICHNESS OF THE URBAN PLANT SPECIES

ECOLOGICALLY SENSITIVE AREAS SUCH AS NATURAL LANDFORMS, VEGETATION, WATER SYSTEMS AND WET-LANDS ARE EFFECTIVELY PROTECTED; GREEN SPACES ARE REASONABLY DISTRIBUTED. BIODIVERSITY IS ON THE INCREASE, SO AS TO FORM A ADVANCED URBAN GREEN SPACE SYSTEM





• A 40% IMPROVEMENT IN THE QUALITY OF THE URBAN GREEN HABITATS

• A 300% INCREASE IN THE URBAN BIODIVERSITY IN A PERIOD OF 5-10 YEARS



