

# Who Decides? Exploring various actors' interests in Husby's urban green spaces and the role of related power relations

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*The photo on the cover page is taken by the author and shows the south part of Husby that borders Igelbäckens Culture Reserve*

*All photographs included in this thesis are taken by the author.*

## Abstract

Urban green spaces provide a variety of social, cultural, and ecological benefits. Such benefits are directly linked to human well-being which are central to discussions on sustainable development. As such, management of urban green space is highly important. However, planners face challenges in balancing different stakeholder interests. In addition, studies show that urban green spaces are subject to pressures from urbanization and infrastructure development. This study investigates two project plans affecting urban green spaces in Husby, a neighborhood located in Stockholm, Sweden. A theoretical framework involving Political Ecology and Environmental Justice is applied in understanding how urban green space is affected by interests and power relations in a 'politicized' environment. The findings indicate that there is a close relationship between interests and the mobilization of power. In addition, power is complex and can be mobilized in different ways by different actors.

Key terms: Urban green space, urban green space management, interests, power, Political Ecology, Environmental Justice, Stockholm, Sweden.

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# 1. Introduction

Urban green space has become a necessary ingredient in urban sustainability. According to Costanza et al. (1997), ecosystem goods and services, which are generated by urban green space, contribute to human welfare. Human welfare and well-being are central to discussions on sustainable development (World Commission on Environment and Development, 1987) (World Bank, 2003). Many researchers have demonstrated the importance of urban green space, linking it to human well-being with benefits ranging from improvements in mental health (Ulrich et al., 1991; Kaplan, 1995; Hartig et al., 2014) to better physical health (Hartig et al., 2014). Urban green space also provides ecological benefits like good air, water, and soil quality and contributes to high levels of biodiversity (Barthel et. al., 2005; Karjalainen, Sarjala, & Raitio, 2010).

However, these valuable ecosystem services face pressure from urban development. (Andersson et. al., 2007; Ernstson & Sörlin, 2009; Barthel et. al. 2010). Urban green space has been referred to by some researchers as contested space due to conflicts in interests regarding how land is used (Schmelzkopf, 1995; Tappert et al., 2018). In 2018, the United Nations (UN) reported that people residing in urban areas accounted for 55 percent of the world's population and by 2050, this percentage is expected to be 68 percent (United Nations, 2018). As such, planners face challenges in balancing the three goals of sustainable development (Campbell, 1996). Healey (1998) provide examples of how collaborative planning has been used in Britain while Nikolaïdou et al. (2016) describe how it has been applied to urban gardening projects in Switzerland. Other researchers provide examples of how civil society groups contribute to ecosystem management in Stockholm, Sweden (Barthel et. al., 2010; Ernstson, 2010; Andersson et. al., 2014). Despite such efforts, navigating stakeholder interests can still be a challenge.

The city of Stockholm is a rapidly growing city, with a reported population of 962,154 people in 2018 and an estimated population of 1,088,364 people by the year 2027 (Stockholms stad, 2019b). Since 2017, the municipality has been using a planning document called "Greener Stockholm" to inform decisions on management of urban green space (Stockholms stad, 2017a). While opportunities have opened up for citizens and stakeholders to become involved in the city's environmental work (Ernstson et al., 2008; Metzger & Olsson, 2013), more concrete examples are needed on the local level in order to understand how stakeholder interests are handled. Closely related to such an understanding is the role of power behind such interests. Political ecology, which dissects concepts like power and seeks to reveal political and economic undertones of environmental issues (Bryant & Bailey, 1997), can be a particularly useful lens to use.

## 1.1 Aim and Research Questions

The overall aim of this thesis is to contribute to research on the management of urban green space. The concrete aim was to understand how actor interests and power relations are treated within urban green management and planning processes. This was done by utilizing concepts from political ecology like power and environmental justice, allowing for an exploration of urban green space as ‘politicized.’ As Heynen, Kaika, and Swyngedouw (2006, p. 6) indicate, natural processes within urban environments are mobilized for particular purposes which are connected to positionalities and social power. It is therefore important to understand if and how urban green space in Stockholm, Sweden is mobilized to achieve particular purposes governed by interests. Such research is important in informing discussions on urban sustainability.

The thesis falls within a larger research project called “Green Access,” a project that aims to analyze how access and use of urban green space as well as a landscape’s multifunctionality is affected by different forms of territorialization, with a geographical focus on Järvafältet and the Järva region (Dahlberg & Borgström, 2019). According to Bassett and Gautier, “Territorialization refers to specific territorial projects in which various actors deploy territorial strategies (territoriality) to produce bounded and controlled spaces (territory) to achieve certain effects” (2014, p. 2). This particular study focuses on Husby, a neighborhood located in the district of Rinkeby-Kista in Stockholm, Sweden. Husby has close proximity to Järvafältet which is part of Järvakilen, one of Stockholm’s ten green wedges. As Stockholm is undergoing a considerable amount of urban development, this research is highly relevant for exploring how urban green space is treated within the context of urbanization.

The following questions guide the research of the paper:

- What interests concerning urban green space are present among selected actors in Husby and how do these interests interact with each other?
- What powers to these actors possess in shaping Husby’s urban green spaces?

## 2. Theoretical Framework and Previous Research

### 2.1 Theoretical Framework

The following section describes the theoretical framework for this study, which consists of Political Ecology and its more specific application to urban settings, known as Urban Political Ecology, as well as Environmental Justice.

#### 2.1.1 Political Ecology / Urban Political Ecology

Political ecology is a body of research and theoretical approach that has emerged due to perceived limits in the explanatory power of other fields, and builds on insights and questions from different critical theories, and revelations of an unjust global political economy (Robbins, 2012). According to Robbins (2012), political ecology does not represent a single theory, rather it seeks to explain socio-environmental outcomes by utilizing concepts from other fields. This thesis exemplifies elements of political ecology influenced by fields like 'urban political economy' and 'environmental subjects.' Urban political economy is concerned with disparities caused by control of environmental resource flows while environmental subjects refers to the way people's thoughts and actions about the environment conform to institutional structures (Robbins, 2012). Bryant and Bailey (1997) make a distinction between political ecology and environmental politics, stating that the latter limits its understanding of the environment to its role in the political process while the former examines the consequences of a 'politicised environment'. According to the authors, the idea of politicized environments requires an understanding of environmental problems within their political and economic contexts (ibid.). In other words, that which characterizes political ecology is its understanding that environmental issues are more than what meets the eye; they are intertwined with socio-economic and political forces. Urban political ecology (UPE), a subset of political ecology resulting from the fusion of urban political economy and political ecology, has become particularly helpful in studying what this means for urban settings (Robbins, 2012).

According to Heynen, Kaika, and Swyngedouw (2006), urban environments, and more specifically cities, result from a socio-environmental process known as metabolism. Natural processes like gravity and photosynthesis are infused with social power to serve, what Heynen, Kaika, and Swyngedouw (2006, p. 6) call, 'particular purposes.' The authors identify metabolism and circulation as contributing towards a transformation process that involves the combination of nature and society to produce socio-environments. (ibid.). Swyngedouw (1996, p. 70) describes the process of metabolism it in the following way:

I mean that the ‘world’ is a historical-geographical process of perpetual metabolism in which “social” and “natural” processes combine in an historical-geographical “production process of socio-nature,” whose outcome (historical nature) embodies chemical, physical, social, economic, political and cultural processes in highly contradictory but inseparable manners. Every body and thing is a cyborg, a mediator, part social and part natural, but without discrete boundaries, continually internalizing the multiple contradictory relations that re-define and re-work every body and thing.

(Swyngedouw, 1996, p.70)

Swyngedouw (1996) illustrates the role of these processes using the example of a cup of water, something which is simultaneously a biochemical necessity, representative of cultural and social meanings and values, and power-laden. According to Swyngedouw, this socio-environmental narrative captures the fact that cities are hybrid, an entity formed by the fusion of many processes (1996). Inherent to these discussions are power relations, which Zimmer (2010) argues plays a role in a city’s hybridization, both through its processes and discourses. Additionally, underlying structures that shape urban landscapes have been shown to lead to marginalization amongst different socio-economic groups and urban political ecology has been used as a way to understand this process (Heynen, Kaika, & Swyngedouw, 2006).

Many researchers have examined urban green space from a UPE perspective. For example, Chung, Zhang and Wu (2018) found that the rapid development of greenways, a form of green corridors, was tied to China’s land development practices in urban and rural areas and prevailing land interests. They concluded that particularities of urban green space, such as its existence, location, and form, are politicized and subject to political economic dynamics. A study in Milwaukee, Wisconsin explored how uneven canopy cover limited access among urban poor and minorities to the positive externalities of canopy cover, highlighting existing inequalities in the urban landscape (Heynen, Perkins, & Roy, 2006). In another study, Andr  n (2019) highlighted the need for problematizing the concept of ‘access’ in relation to urban green space within urban planning and policy, widening its scope to include socio-cultural parameters. What unites these researchers is a desire to delve beyond the surface of urban green space management and planning practices in order to reveal the structural processes and complexities at play.

### 2.1.2 Power and Knowledge

One of the concepts central to Urban Political Ecology (UPE) is power. Michel Foucault, a French historian-philosopher active in the 1960s, posited a poststructuralist perspective, questioning commonly held beliefs relating to truth, self, and knowledge (Robbins, 2012).

According to Foucault (1980), truth is not something that is obtained, rather it is a power-laden product of societal rules. He argued that every society possessed its own version of truth, forming for example accepted discourses and the distinction between what is true and what is false (ibid.). Stuart Hall (1992, p. 201) defines discourse as, "...a group of statements which provide a language for talking about - i.e. a way of representing - a particular kind of knowledge about a topic." Robbins (2012) writes how the character of a society is understood by an exploration of how discourse forms accepted notions and how these are made 'true' by social systems and practices. According to Robbins (2012) Foucault sought to reveal the social and political histories of such 'truths' and their role in maintaining power for a person or group of people. He also argued for the interrelationship of power and knowledge, that one implied the other and vice versa in what he called 'power-knowledge relations' (Foucault, 1995).

By applying power relations to socio-ecological systems, environmental issues are given greater context. According to Robbins (2012) it opens up an analysis of how forms of discourse about social and environmental conditions are shaped and influenced by different actors. Heynen, Kaika, and Swyngedouw (2006) argue that changes in the urban environment must be understood within the economic, political, and social processes that have produced such changes. In other words, the process is just as important as its product. That which is produced by environments is saturated by nature-related discourses, understandings, and ideologies (Heynen, Kaika, and Swyngedouw, 2006). Thus, power relations are ingrained within the production of environments (Swyngedouw & Kaika, 2011). Swyngedouw's (1996) investigation of water is an example: social power relations are an inherent part of water's flow and metabolism.

Power can be a complex concept to understand. Boonstra (2016) identifies the complexity of providing a clear definition but affirms a consensus amongst social scientists in recognizing power as a social relation, referring to it as 'social power'. Similarly, Avelino and Rotmans (2009) describe power as a social force present in society which actors are able to use in order to mobilize resources towards a specific aim. Resources themselves do not hold power, rather they signal abilities (Boonstra, 2016) and receive power when they are mobilized (Avelino & Rotmans, 2011). Likewise, Pansardi (2012, p. 82) does not hold an individual's ability equivalent to their power, rather he attributes it to what he calls an 'opportunity context.' Avelino and Rotmans (2009, p. 551) describe resources as consisting of "...persons, assets, materials or capital, including human, mental, monetary, artefactual and natural resources." Drawing from a variety of scholars, Boonstra (2016) concludes that social power is a product of agency, institutional and/or social structures, and events. It operates through the ability to influence outcomes and can be both conduct-shaping (observable direct effects) and context-shaping (indirect consequences and reproductive effects) (ibid.). While Boonstra (2016) argues that power is both agent-based and

structural, Hayward & Lukes (2008) provide dual arguments justifying one source of power as stronger than the other. Raik et al. (2008) on the other hand suggest that within natural resource management and conservation, discussions on power go beyond this dualist approach and instead include a realist view. Such a view allows for a relational view of agent-based and structural power as a fluid interaction where actors are able to freely act within and transform structured social relations (ibid.). In understanding power relations, Avelino and Rotmans (2009) present three different ways that power can be exercised, as shown in Figure 1. The first power relation involves having power 'over' resources, an example being the power to mobilize people (ibid.). The second power relation consists of one actor having 'more' resources than another and the third involves a differentiation in the types of resources or methods of mobilization by exercising innovative, transformative, and constitutive power (Avelino & Rotmans 2009; 2011). These differentiations in power give a new perspective, shifting from the conventional view of the 'powerful' and the 'powerless', to a recognition that actors can have different powers that do not necessarily put one actor over the other (Avelino & Rotmans, 2011). Instead, these differences in power allow actors to enable or restrict the actions of others (ibid.). However, Avelino and Rotmans (2009) stress that one type of power relation does not presuppose another: 'more' power does not necessarily mean power 'over.' Figure 1. also shows that the three different types of power relations can be both balanced and imbalanced.

**Table 2** Typology of power relations

<i>Type of power relation</i>	<i>Balance</i>	<i>Imbalance</i>
Having power 'over'	A depends on B but B also depends on A, so A and B have power over each other = mutual dependency	A depends on B but B does not depend on A, so B has power over A = one-sided dependency
Having 'more' or 'less' power	A mobilizes more resources than B, but A and B have goals that are collective or co-exist = co-existence/ cooperation	A mobilizes more resources than B, while A and B have mutually exclusive goals = competition
Having a 'different' power	A exercise power in such a way that it enables and enforces the power exercised by B = synergy	A exercises power in such a way that it disrupts or prevents power exercised by B = antagonism

Figure 1: The table presents three different types of power relations and provides examples of scenarios that are balanced and imbalanced (Avelino & Rotmans, 2009, p. 557).

### 2.1.3 Environmental Justice

Another concept that has shaped political ecology as a body of research is environmental justice (Robbins, 2012). This is traditionally associated with the disproportionate distribution of environmental 'bads' among minorities and the urban poor and is closely associated to aspects of power (ibid., p. 74). Its origin as a concept can be traced back to the late 1980s and early 1990s, with its roots in exposing racism and classism (ibid.).

According to Cutter (1995, p. 113) environmental justice leads to change via "political action and social mobilization." Schlosberg (2004) argues that conventional theories of environmental justice are inadequate and need to be expanded to include aspects of recognition, distribution, and participation. In doing so, he criticizes the movement's focus on distribution of goods, highlighting the work of scholars like Young (1990, p. 15), who problematize the distributive paradigm because it does not examine the role of social structure and institutions in establishing distributive patterns. Schlosberg (2004), taking the work of other theorists into account, emphasizes that participation in decision-making is largely dependent on being recognized. Feelings of disenfranchisement have pushed environmental justice groups to fight for participatory decision-making (ibid.).

Participatory decision-making is an element of what Walker (2009) refers to as procedural justice, which involves the presence of an exchange in perspectives, ideas, and people at different levels resulting in open networks.

When applied to urban green space, Walker (2009) argues that the implications of this expanded view of environmental justice means that spatial elements of distribution, like proximity, are not the only factors at play. A variety of researchers explore this dynamic. For example, Low et al. (2006) demonstrate how the use of parks is affected by social class and ethnicity. For example, an African-American community in Philadelphia stopped using a national historical park when their historical connection to the park, a nearby historic black settlement, was erased and replaced by a redevelopment project benefiting affluent white people (ibid., p. 196). In another study, Kabisch and Haase (2014) found that only 9 percent of survey respondents visiting Tempelhof, Berlin's largest urban green space, were immigrants despite being located in an area with a high immigrant population. Cultural preferences and constraints were recognized as possible explanations for this result (ibid.). Barriers affecting use and access can also be physical in nature. Johansson (2017) investigates how wheelchair-bound people experience and interact with nature, finding that these people face different types of barriers influencing their ability to use a space.

## 2.2 Previous Research on Urban Green Space

This section presents research relevant to the research questions, first providing context for the importance of urban green space and how researchers have sought to understand its access and use. Followed by this is a brief discussion of urban sustainability and the role of planning strategies, stakeholder involvement, and participation in the management of urban green space. The last section addresses research regarding urban green space in Stockholm.

### 2.2.1 Urban Green Space (UGS) and its Importance

A study by Taylor and Hochuli (2017) reveals the variety of definition types and terms that are used to identify urban green space. While the authors actually use the term 'greenspace,' other key terms used in its place include 'green space,' 'public greenspace,' 'urban greenspace,' 'productive urban greenspace,' and 'urban green space.' For the purposes of this study, the term 'urban green space' (UGS) will be used because it provides a direct reference to its intended urban context. Jim and Chen (2006) provide a useful definition of urban green space, describing it as well-vegetated spaces within a city's boundaries that are either created or left intact. These spaces should also be available for everyone to use, in line with what Dahlberg and Borgström (2017) identify as 'commons.' These include street and roadside vegetation, groves, city parks, nature reserves (Dahlberg & Borgström, 2017) as well as other vegetated surfaces like sports fields and playgrounds (Chong et al., 2013).

There is vast research that points towards a variety of useful functions and benefits of urban green space. These are commonly classified as ecosystem goods and services, which according to Costanza et al. (1997, p. 253), "[...] represent the benefits human populations derive, directly or indirectly, from ecosystem functions" (1997, p. 253). This process results in the production of human welfare (Costanza et al., 1997) with good health as an example. Studies have shown mental health benefits of interaction with nature in urban and natural environments, such as in cases of high stress and mental fatigue (Ulrich et al., 1991; Kaplan, 1995; Hartig et al., 2014), as well as physical benefits, with the outdoor environment serving as a facilitator of physical activity (Hartig et al., 2014). Barton and Pretty (2010) report how physical activity in nature has also been shown to improve self-esteem and mood, both of which have a positive effect on mental health. There are also demonstrated links between urban green space and social aspects like sense of community and social inclusion (Kim & Kaplan, 2004; Seeland et al., 2009). In fact, Seeland et al. (2009) mention the role and prospects of utilizing urban green space to facilitate cross-cultural meetings.

While this study does not have a focus on ecological components of urban green space, it is

still important to consider the benefits they provide as they take on social and cultural values. According to Karjalainen et al. (2010), forests and trees lessen negative effects of floods, drought, and noise while also benefiting soil, air, and water quality. In addition, the ecosystem services provided by green infrastructure can help meet the challenges posed by climate change by improving climate resilience of cities for example (Jim et al., 2015). Furthermore, urban green space can contain high levels of biodiversity, as is demonstrated by Barthel et al. (2005) who relate the rich biodiversity of Stockholm's National Urban Park (NUP) to its historical transformation into a cultural landscape. The area is unique in that it boasts a high species diversity in comparison to other spaces of similar size (ibid.) However, Bolund and Hunhammar (1999) note the importance of an area's size and nature, as biodiversity is directly linked to the diversity of biotopes available for fauna. Connections between green areas in the city with those outside of the city are also important in maintaining biodiversity (ibid.).

### 2.2.2 Use and Access of Urban Green Space (UGS)

Use and access of urban green space are interrelated concepts as accessibility can be assumed to impact use. Gregory et al. (1987) relate the term accessibility to the level of ease that one experiences in reaching a destination. Of particular concern to planners are variations in accessibility that may affect the quality of life for certain groups (ibid.). According to Wolch et al. (2014), the heterogeneity of green space and its diverse range of characteristics makes access difficult to measure. Traditionally, access has been measured in terms of park service areas or zones, indicating a radius from a certain location which represents a maximum distance or service area (Nicholls, 2001; Hass, 2009). However, a variety of studies have shown that access is much more complex in reality, varying in relation to age, ethnicity, socio-economic group, and physical abilities (Wolch et al., 2005; Wang et al., 2015; Rigolon, 2017; Johansson, 2017). Other parameters to consider besides proximity to urban green are park acreage and park qualities. Rigolon (2017) found that white and affluent people in Denver, Colorado had better access to parks that were both bigger in size and of higher quality. Individual perceptions may be another factor to consider, as demonstrated by Byrne and Wolch (2009) who suggest that park use is a result of a person's perception of a park, which is influenced by both the characteristics of potential users and the characteristics of park space. Park characteristics are in turn a product of the park's history and culture (ibid.).

### 2.2.3 Urban Sustainability and Planning Practices

Sustainable development has become a key point of discussion in urban areas. The role of sustainable development in cities and urban areas was addressed as early as the 1987 Brundtland Report, which dedicated a whole chapter to growth projections and expected

challenges facing urban areas (World Commission on Environment and Development, 1987). During the 1970s in Stockholm, 'environment' as a concept became widely used, leading to the city's first environmental political program in 1976 (Metzger & Olsson, 2013, p. 59). The program acquired a new approach in 1995 based on the greater involvement and consultation of citizens and stakeholders as well as a focus on sustainable development as inspired by the United Nations meeting of 1992 in Rio de Janeiro (ibid). In 1996, Alberti and Susskind identified sustainability as increasingly being concerned with and applied to cities and their environmental impacts. They described cities as organized systems with interacting components, structured in such a way that determines how much pressure individuals place on the environment (Alberti & Susskind, 1996). Since then, sustainability in an urban context (urban sustainability) has been widely discussed by many researchers. For example, Tahvilzadeh et al. (2017) explore how sustainability discourse in Gothenburg, Sweden has been used as an idea to produce action within infrastructure development. Bulkeley and Betsill (2005) argue that urban sustainability is not solely a product of the urban context but also a product of multi-level governance. Finally, Irvine et al. (2009) argue that enhanced ecological characteristics can foster more natural soundscapes, contributing towards urban sustainability.

The intersection between urban sustainability and urban green space is highly relevant not only because of the ecosystem services green space offers, which have been outlined in the previous section, but also the resulting production of human welfare and well-being which are key to discussions on sustainable development (World Commission on Environment and Development, 1987) (World Bank, 2003). However, increasing urbanization has created and continues to create development pressures on urban green space (Andersson et. al., 2007; Ernstson & Sörlin, 2009; Barthel et. al. 2010) A couple of researchers refer to urban green space as 'contested space,' such as in regards to conflicts between preservation and development of large gardens in the Lower East Side of New York City (Schmelzkopf, 1995) as well as the relocation of urban allotment gardens due to changes in planning practices that reflect certain values, norms, and interests (Tappert et. al., 2018). Campbell (1996) describes the challenge that planners face in balancing what he calls 'three conflicting interests' which relate to the three goals of sustainable development. He explains that very few planners are able to balance all three, thus standing in the center of what he calls the planner's triangle (ibid.). Instead, their position in the triangle is very much associated with one particular goal or professional bias (ibid.).

Despite this, collaborative planning has become an increasingly popular approach in urban planning (Nikolaïdou et al., 2016). Collaborative planning processes grant a more active role for stakeholders to be engaged in place making whereby stakeholders attribute their own meanings to locations in relation to their personal social contexts (Healey, 1998). Since this can lead to conflicts, spatial planning systems also "[. . .] have a role in place

making, in generating enduring meanings for places which can help to focus and coordinate the activities of different stakeholders and reduce levels of conflict.” (ibid., pp. 6). According to Healey (1998), collaborative planning provides a multi-stakeholder society with many benefits such as efficiency, political legitimacy, and added value by way of knowledge, understanding, synergies, and capacity building. Nikolaïdou et al. (2016) describe how collaborative planning in the management of urban gardening projects in Geneva, Switzerland fostered collaboration between private and public actors with different ideas, motivations, and operational structures (*ibid.*). Despite these differences, the groups were able to work towards a collective vision by basing their actions on a consensus of normative ideas (*ibid.*). Connected to the idea of collaborative planning is the idea of participation in the planning of urban green space, such as in relation to social inclusion (Seeland et al., 2009), cooperation amongst different actors (Nikolaïdou, 2016), and its role in collectively-run urban gardens (Rosol, 2014). Haaland and Bosch (2015) highlight the important role of public participation in identifying needs and preferences within the planning of urban green space. According to Burby (2003), involving stakeholders through participatory mechanisms contributes towards stronger and more implementable policy plans. Fors et al. (2015) provide a useful diagram that demonstrates how participation can be both physical (involvement in maintenance) and civic (involvement in the planning process), as shown in Figure 2. Their findings indicate that more research is needed to understand if user participation directly leads to actual physical improvements in urban green space rather than just providing benefits to users and administrations.

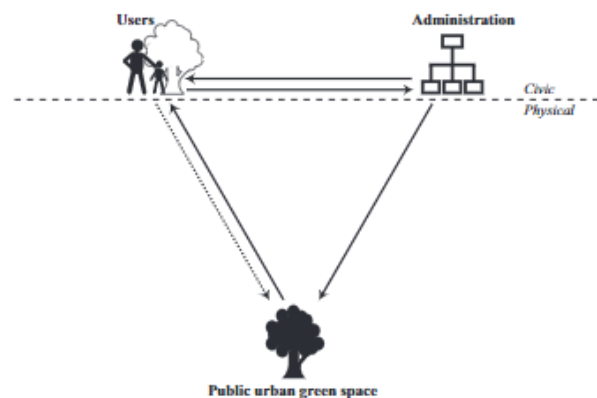


Figure 2: An analytical framework that shows how actors (users and administration) interact with urban green space through civic and physical participation as represented by the arrows (Fors et al., 2015, p. 726).

## 2.2.4 Treatment of Urban Green Space in Stockholm

Developments in Stockholm’s city planning in the 1990s have given the environmental movement more opportunities for involvement (Metzger & Olsson, 2013). An example of

this is exemplified by the mobilization of the Ecopark Movement, where civil-society organizations in Stockholm sought protection of the city's National Urban Park (NUP) (Ernstson et. al., 2008). The emergence of development plans in the 1990s served as the movement's catalyst (ibid.). One of the key elements of the movement was the use of protective stories, or narratives, which worked to unify separate park areas through highlighting ecological, historical, and cultural connections to each other (Ernstson & Sörlin, 2009). In addition, collective values were established in a way that could appeal to broad audiences (ibid.). Ernstson and Sörlin (2009, p. 1472) identify the following four factors which affect the relative success of preserving urban green space:

(i) the number and type of artefacts linked to an area, especially such artefacts that can be used in a connective practice to link dispersed spatial units and bring out holistic values; (ii) the capabilities and also the numbers of activists involved, as it is just certain actors that possess the skills to recognize certain types of artefacts and know how to link them together; (iii) the access to social arenas in which the values of the protective story can be articulated; and (iv) the social network position of actors, as this seems to influence the selection of values articulated in the protective story.

One of the results of the Ecopark movement was its notable impact on the governance structure, leading to cross-boundary ecosystem management and the loosening of the municipal planning monopoly in Stockholm (Ernstson et al., 2008). However, the authors highlight the need to examine what they refer to as the "political geography of protection" which means that the preservation of the NUP might be costing other areas of Stockholm their green space (ibid., p. 1472). Nevertheless, Ernstson et al. (2008) state that the high level of organizational diversity amongst the groups involved in the movement played a key role in securing the NUP's legal protection (ibid.). Interestingly, many researchers have found that the role of stewards and civil society groups in ecosystem management is highly important (Barthel et. al., 2010; Ernstson, 2010; Andersson et. al., 2014). Stewardship means being involved (Andersson et. al., 2014) and stewards themselves carry socio-ecological memories, which prove integral to preserving ecosystem services (Barthel et. al., 2010). Densification projects in Stockholm have also been shown to benefit from the inclusion of a variety of actors through for example participatory workshops and collaborative practices (Khoshkar, 2017).

### 3. Study Area

#### 3.1 Description of Järvafältet and Husby

Järvafältet, also referred to as Järva recreational area (Järva friområde) is located within Järvakilen, one of Stockholm's ten green wedges. Its location in relation to the city of Stockholm is shown in Figure 3. Järvafältet includes both Igelbäcken Culture Reserve and Hansta Nature Reserve, which are protected under the Swedish Environmental Code and are ESBO classified, which means that their health have an impact on the city's biodiversity (Stockholms stad, 2014; Stockholm läns landsting, 2017). Part of Hansta Nature Reserve is also included in the Natura 2000 network because of its old oaks and migration pathways for amphibians (Stockholm läns landsting, 2017). Another notable feature of Järvafältet is Igelbäcken, a highly valued stream in Stockholm serving as the country's northernmost home to a rare fish species called grönlingen (Upplands Väsby Kommun, 2010).

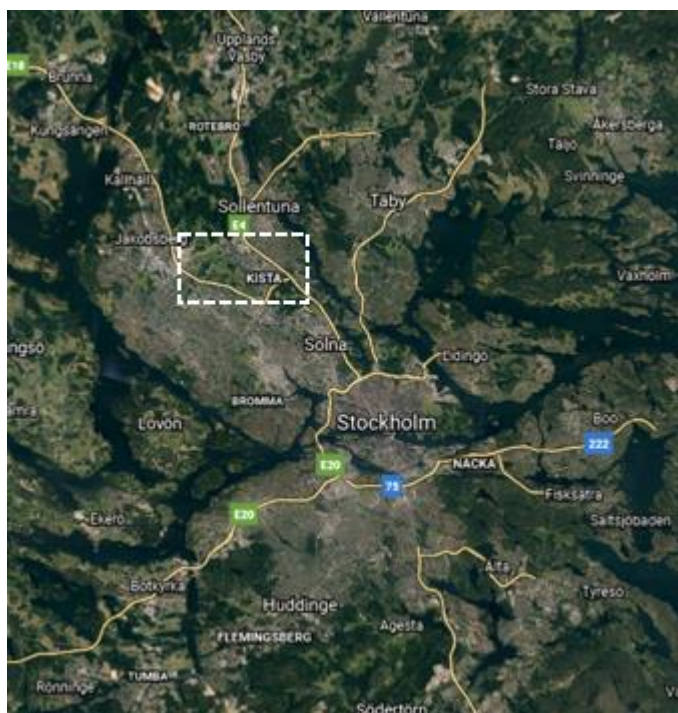


Figure 3: Map overview of Stockholm with the location of Järvafältet indicated by the dotted box

Source: Google Earth. 2020-02-05

Järvafältet has a rich history, with traces of agriculture and the presence of an agricultural society stretching over a period of one thousand years (ibid.). Burial sites from the Iron Age, runestones, and stone strips indicate how the land has changed over time (ibid.). The military acquired Järvafältet in 1905 and used it as training grounds until 1970, at which

time the area still retained its original characteristics (Stockholms stad, 2009). Today, Järvafältet still retains agricultural aspects of its past but also features horse pastures, golf courses, nature reserves, and other recreational aspects (Stockholm County Council, 2010). As such, it is considered culturally valuable by the city's map of social utility and experience values (sociotopkarta) (ibid.). The map of social utility and experience values is a planning tool used by Stockholm City to locate social and recreational values (Stockholms stad, 2017a).

Located north of Järvafältet is Husby, one of four neighborhoods included in the district of Rinkeby-Kista. As of 2018, 11,719 people were living in Husby, with a total of 50,404 people living in the district as a whole (Stockholms stad, 2019b). In 2017, the mean income for those living in Rinkeby-Kista district between ages 20-64 was 264,200 kronor, compared to 404,600 kronor for the city as a whole (Stockholms stad, 2018d). A report issued by the city of Stockholm in 2015 identified Rinkeby-Kista as one of the city's more socioeconomically vulnerable districts (Stockholms stad, 2015). The district's four neighborhoods, Husby, Tensta, Rinkeby, Akalla, and Kista, were built north and south of Järvafältet as part of a mandate to build one million homes between 1965-1974, also known as the 'million homes program' (Upplands Väsby Kommun, 2010). The homes were built in clusters alongside stretches of green areas, with traffic separation and designated land for different activities (ibid.). Half of the total land area was left unbuilt for recreational purposes, with the intention of also attracting people from other parts of Stockholm (ibid.). Figure 4 shows a map overview of the area with Husby indicated by the dotted box.



Figure 4: Map showing the neighborhoods of Rinkeby-Kista district in relation to Järvafältet  
Source: Google Earth. 2020-02-04

Compared to the other neighborhoods in the district, Husby has few workplaces and mostly consists of apartment homes (Stockholms stad, 2009). One of its notable characteristics is Husby Gård, a courtyard with houses dating from the 1800s (ibid.). Today Husby Gård houses Husby Arts and Crafts Association, a non-profit organization which focuses on art and culture (Husby Konst & Hantverksförening, 2017). The organization has a variety of initiatives to engage the community such as an art gallery, art camp for children, and a café (ibid).

## 3.2 Investigation of Two Project Plans

Husby was chosen as the study site due to the presence of ongoing and relevant dialogue processes and project plans involving infrastructure and urban green space development. Its proximity to Järvafältet also made it an interesting location to examine due to its rich history, culture, and ecology. The study consists of an investigation into two project plans, one involving an improvement of the walking path between Husby Centrum and Husby Gård, known as the 'Green Culture Promenade,' and the other a proposal to build 700 residential units and a new road in the southern part of Husby, known as 'Alternative F.' These are explained in more detail below.

### 3.2.1 The Green Culture Promenade

The 'Green Culture Promenade,' translated from the Swedish phrase 'grönt kulturstråk,' is a project funded by Stockholm municipality's Traffic Division through "Greener Stockholm," a planning document accompanied by an economic investment with a focus on developing the city's parks and nature areas between the years 2017-2022 (Stockholms stad, 2018a). The project encompasses the walking path between Husby Center and Husby Gård and will have locations along the path for art, culture, meetings, activities and the inclusion of new lighting (Stockholms stad, 2019a.). Dialogue and flexibility concerning the space's configuration are two important aspects central to the project (ibid.). Figure 5 shows an overview of the area included in the project.

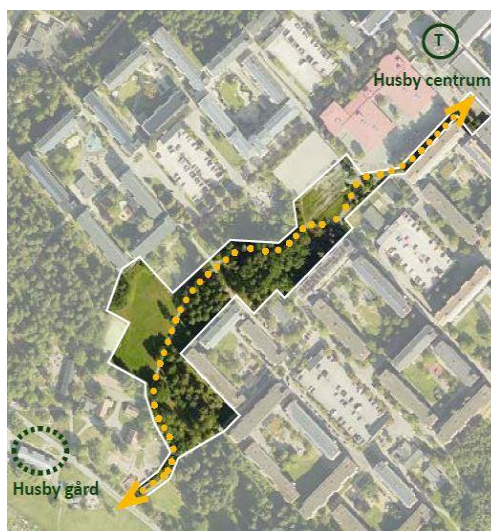


Figure 5: Map overview showing the project area included in the 'Green Culture Promenade.' The yellow dotted line indicates the walking path between Husby Center (Husby Centrum) and Husby Gård (Stockholms stad, 2018b)

### 3.2.2 Alternative F

'Alternative F' is a project idea first presented by the Urban Development Division in a development proposal for Husby published in January of 2019 (Stockholms stad, 2019c). The larger proposal entails supplementary construction of buildings within existing detailed development plans, referred to as areas A, B, C, D and E as well as new construction of buildings in two unexploited areas, referred to as areas F and H (ibid.). Altogether, the division calls for the development of 2,000 residential units. The areas are illustrated in Figure 6.

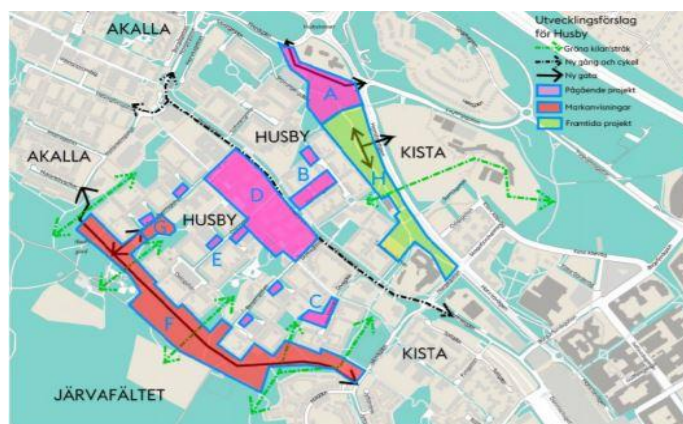


Figure 6: Map overview showing locations included in a development proposal for Husby issued by the Urban Development Division (Stockholms stad, 2019c)

‘Alternative F’ refers to Area F (shaded red in Figure 6) and is comprised of an area that currently consists largely of forest and open vegetated areas. The proposal requests that a land allocation be granted to the developers Svenska Bostäder and Veidekke in order to build 700 residential units and a new road in this area, with 350 owned properties under Veidekke and 350 rental properties under Svenska Bostäder (Svenska Bostäder & Veidekke, 2019). Figure 7 shows a sketch of ‘Alternative F’, with the yellow color representing the new housing developments.



Figure 7: Map overview of Husby with yellow blocks indicating the proposed areas for new housing development as part of ‘Alternative F’ (Stockholms stad, 2019c)

### 3.3 Relevant Planning Documents

The following planning documents are relevant for the context of this thesis. While there are additional planning documents that apply, the following were selected because they capture both city-wide and more local plans. The names of these documents have been translated from Swedish to English and a detailed list of these translations can be found in Appendix 1.

#### *Stockholm City Plan*

Adopted in 2018, the “Stockholm City Plan” is grounded in the city’s long-term planning vision known as “Vision 2040: A Stockholm For Everyone” and outlines how decisions regarding the physical environment can reach this vision. While not legally binding, the City Plan is meant to function as a guideline on how the city should develop in line with its long-

term vision (Stockholms stad, 2018c). The following goals for the city are presented by the “Stockholm City Plan:” a growing city, a cohesive city, good public spaces, and a climate-smart and resilient city (ibid., p. 6). In reaching these goals, the plan recognizes the city’s present attractiveness as a place to live and work while stating the need for sustainable development within the housing and transportation sectors. As such, the plan views urban construction as a tool for promoting sustainable development. Some examples of desired assets that the plan lists are an increase in the number of homes, good parks, and accessible public areas (ibid.).

### *Greener Stockholm*

The 2017 document “Greener Stockholm,” presents a set of guidelines to steer the planning, implementation, and management of the city’s parks and green areas (Stockholms stad, 2017a). The guidelines directly translated are as follows: people of Stockholm should have good access to parks and nature with high recreational and natural values, the city should have a viable green structure with rich biodiversity, and the city’s resources should be used effectively with a good interaction between management and development of park and nature areas (ibid., p. 29). By management of park and nature areas, the city means that management should be sustainable and responsible while development should integrate ecosystem services. The overall aim of the guidelines presented by the document are to promote a greener Stockholm and give direction on how the goals can be practically realized such as through park plans on the district level and by providing knowledge and planning tools. According to the document, the pressures of densification means that urban green space plays an increasing importance in the city’s sustainable development. According to the document, “Greener Stockholm” derives much of its content and vision from the following planning documents: Vision 2040: A Stockholm For Everyone, Stockholm City Plan adopted in 2018, and Stockholm City’s Environmental Program 2016-2019.

### *Rinkeby-Kista Park Plan*

The 2009 document “Rinkeby-Kista Park Plan” details development and maintenance priorities for parks and nature areas in the district of Rinkeby-Kista (Stockholms stad, 2009). It functions as a guiding document and tool for operationalizing Stockholm City’s Park Program and is the product of Stockholm municipality’s Urban Development Division and the administrative district of Rinkeby-Kista. The park plan contains an overview of the district’s values, landscape characteristics, and cultural history along with maps detailing the types of park and nature areas in each of the district’s four neighborhoods. This is followed by a section addressing maintenance plans. The goals and areas for improvement

presented by the plan are directly translated and presented in Figure 8 (Stockholms stad, 2009, p. 5, 30):

Goals for Rinkeby-Kista	Areas for Improvement
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Strengthen the existing character of the area in order to heighten experience values where needed.</li> <li>• Increase the sense of security along the park pathways in the district.</li> <li>• Improve the orientability of parks and green pathways.</li> <li>• Include more art in public spaces.</li> <li>• Increase the availability of different types of park spaces that meet the needs of different age groups and wishes about activity or rest.</li> <li>• Improve the level of maintenance in parks with many visitors and great wear.</li> <li>• Take advantage of existing values and take care of them.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Improve orientability</li> <li>• Clarify the identity of places</li> <li>• Facilitate accessibility to Järva recreational area</li> <li>• Satisfy the needs for more places of rest with vegetation like flowerage</li> </ul>

Figure 8: A presentation of the goals and areas for improvement listed in the park plan for Rinkeby-Kista district (Stockholms stad, 2009).

### *Overall Maintenance Plan for Igelbäckens Culture Reserve*

The “Overall Maintenance Plan for Igelbäckens Culture Reserve in Stockholm City” is a document from 2006 produced by the Urban Development Division of Stockholm municipality (Stockholms stad, 2006). It includes a general description of the area’s characteristics, planned changes for the area, and the detailed maintenance plans. The area’s landscape is divided into the following six landscape types with corresponding maintenance plans: woods and bushland, pasture, fields/grasslands/cultivation lots, surfaces for activities, relic sites, and amenities. The maintenance plans recognize the importance of considering the area’s historically important cultural values.

## 4. Methodology

The study takes the form of a case study, allowing for an in-depth exploration of a particular geographical area at a specific time. A multi-method approach (Valentine, 2005) was used to conduct the study, allowing for a more comprehensive understanding of urban green space across a variety of perspectives and interests. Researchers have used this approach to acquire both quantitative and qualitative information, utilizing a range of methods including interviews, questionnaire surveys, case studies, vegetation inventories, and aerial photo interpretation (see for example: Sporton, 1999; Nightingale, 2003). According to Sporton (1999), quantitative and qualitative methods are often used together in order to attain multiple explanations. When multiple perspectives or sources are consulted and included, it is referred to as triangulation (Valentine, 2005). Triangulation allows researchers to more fully understand their research question (Valentine, 2005) and enables cross-checking between results obtained by different methods (Bryman, 2012). In this study, triangulation has uncovered interests and perspectives amongst representatives of actor groups in relation to urban green space and facilitated the inclusion of a variety of perspectives at different levels, from the local and more informal to the regional and more official. Comparing and contrasting these interests have allowed the researcher to understand which are common and consistent among different actors as well as uncover the power dynamics at play amongst the actors. The data collection occurred during the spring of 2019, with much of the researcher's time spent on-site in Husby seeking to understand local interactions, perceptions, and feelings towards surrounding urban green spaces. The different approaches used to gather data are outlined below.

### *Informal Talks and Observations*

A significant portion of the data collection process occurred in Husby by walking around the area, speaking with local organizations and private citizens, and observing activities and use of urban green space. In several cases, this involved participant observation. According to Bryman (2012, p. 493-494), participant observation gives the researcher the opportunity to better understand a social setting through the eyes of its members, establish a connection between behavior and context, encourage flexibility, reveal unexpected topics, and glean data from a natural setting. In order to understand the intersection of urban green space with local interests and power relations, time was spent both at Husby Gård and at the local community center named Folkets Husby, participating and observing various activities that allowed for opportunities to speak with residents and visitors of Husby. Informal observations were made of how urban green space surrounding Husby Gård, like Igelbäckens Culture Reserve for example, were being used and accessed by people. Four formal observations were conducted: the first at a citizen dialogue meeting for

residents of Husby concerning the ‘Green Culture Promenade’ project funded by the program “Greener Stockholm”, the second at a meeting for members of North Järva District Council (Norra Järva Stadsdelsråd) where local interests concerning urban green space were discussed, the third at a public demonstration at Husby Gård protesting plans to build 700 residential units in an urban green space located in southern Husby known as ‘Alternative F,’ and the fourth at another meeting discussing the project ‘Green Culture Promenade’. These meetings ranged in length from one to three hours and occurred during the spring of 2019.

### *Semi-structured interviews*

Figure 9 shows the actors that were selected for semi-structured interviews. In the results section, they are referred to as representatives. These actors were selected based on their involvement with management, planning, and activism of urban green space in Husby.

Interviewee	Role of Interviewee
(1) Representative from Nyréns Arkitektkontor	Landscape architect at Nyréns. In the ‘Green Culture Promenade’ project, she supports the citizen dialogue process.
(2) Representative from the Traffic Division (TD)	Landscape architect and project leader in the unit ‘Park and Urban Environment.’ In charge of the area Rinkeby-Kista and project leader of the ‘Green Culture Promenade’.
(3) Representative from the Traffic Division (TD)	Landscape architect and project leader at the division. Responsible for parks managed by the municipality, including Järvafältet.
(4) Representative from the Urban Development Division (UDD)	Head of the division’s unit ‘Landscape’ and has previously worked as the unit’s landscape architect in Rinkeby-Kista district.
(5) Representative from Rinkeby-Kista District Administration (RKDA)	Landscape engineer within the unit ‘Local Park and Internal Service’. She is a project participant in the ‘Green Culture

	Promenade' project.
(6) Representative from Husby Gård	Organizational leader at Husby Gård tasked with coordinating and driving the organization. She is also a resident of Husby.
(7) Representative from Järva Green Party	Former resident and political activist in Husby. He is convener and EU responsible for Järva Green Party.
(8) Representative from Residential Population of Husby	Senior citizen and longtime resident of Husby who is very active in the local community.
(9) Representative from Residential Population of Husby	Senior citizen and longtime resident of Husby who is an active member of Järva Green Party.

Figure 9: A table listing the actors, also referred to as representatives, selected for semi-structured interviews and their respective roles

Due to time constraints, only two residents of Husby were interviewed. Representative 8 was chosen because of her attendance at the citizen dialogue meeting and active presence in the community. She was readily available and willing to be interviewed and had a library of historical documents that proved useful in understanding the history of Husby. Incidentally, Representative 8 invited Representative 9 to the interview because of this person's involvement in local environmental issues, making it a joint interview. Ideally, more residents as well as representatives from all local organizations, not just Husby Gård and Järva Green Party, would have liked to have been included, providing a more representative sample of interests. However, time and resources did not allow for this. In addition, efforts were made to contact the local school Husbygårdsskolan but an interview was not possible at the time.

Semi-structured interviews were chosen as a method because it allows interviewees to speak freely about their interests, experiences, and views (Valentine, 2005). It allows for exploration of questions within certain themes. This sort of thematic, yet free-flowing conversation was deemed important in order to gain a broad understanding of each representative's interests and views. The interviews lasted between one to three hours and followed in large part a similar interview guide so that answers from various representatives could be thematically compared with each other. The interviews were

conducted and transcribed in Swedish and quotes that are included in the paper have been translated to English by the author.

### *Survey*

A survey of seventeen questions was designed in order to capture interests regarding use and access of urban green space among private citizens, that is people living in or visiting Husby. The survey also aimed at capturing feelings towards the municipality and urban planning more generally, specifically asking questions related to the 'Green Culture Promenade' and 'Alternative F'. The survey is not considered to be representative of Husby's residential population, rather it is an insight into the thoughts and experiences of a small sample of residents and visitors. It is the only method that captures both those interested and not interested in urban green space since respondents were randomly picked. Surveys were handed out on four occasions during a period of about three weeks. About two thirds of the surveys were handed out at or close to Husby Gård, Igelbäckens Culture Reserve, and Folkets Husby. The rest were handed out on the heavily trafficked street called Edvard Griegsgången, with a particular focus on Husby Centrum (the central part of the neighborhood). Most of the surveys were conducted in the afternoon and early evening. The goal was to receive at least 30 responses and 32 responses were actually collected. However, two of these responses were thrown out because they were incomplete, leaving 30 completed surveys to analyze. A copy of the survey can be found in Appendix 2.

### *Document Review*

A series of documents, most of which were obtained through the interviews, were consulted and included in the results as data. These include a report from a 2009 dialogue held in Husby (White Architects, 2009), a report from 2017 published by Stockholm's Urban Development Division detailing the green structure of Husby (Stockholms stad, 2017b), a petition distributed by North Järva District Council in protest of 'Alternative F' (Norra Järva Stadsdelsråd, 2019), a document produced by the construction companies Svenska Bostäder and Veidekke describing 'Alternative F' (Svenska Bostäder & Veidekke, 2019), and the proposal for land allocation in relation to infrastructure development in Husby (Stockholms stad, 2019c).

### *Analysis Process*

Thematic analysis was used in order to analyze the transcribed interviews, informal talks, and observations. In doing so, a coding process was adopted, which Bryman (2012, p. 13) describes as a breaking down and labeling of data, whereby data is reduced into

components and able to be interpreted in light of the research questions, theoretical ideas, and literature. As the research of this study was in large part explorative and guided by the theoretical approach of political ecology, interview questions were structured after certain themes. These themes helped guide the selection of more specific themes within the interview text. Five themes were thus identified and color-coded as particularly consistent amongst the transcribed interviews. These codes were also applied to the results from the informal talks and observations, enabling the data to be better understood. Through repetitive reading and coding, these themes were refined and further specified through the process of comparing results from the various methods. The survey was not included in the coding process because the data was structured in a way that was easier to interpret.

### *A Note on Methods*

One challenge encountered during the survey process was the presence of a language barrier between the researcher and potential respondents since a few of those approached in Husby were of foreign background and either unable to speak or not comfortable speaking Swedish. This had an effect on the representativeness of survey respondents. In addition, the role of the researcher cannot be ruled out due to the use of participant observation as a data collection method. Participant observation required a certain transparency about the goals of the research project but this was deemed necessary in order to be able to access detailed and in-depth information from those interviewed and consulted. The role of the researcher's interpretation of the research cannot be ruled out, however Stake (1995) describes how a researcher's own personal view is unavoidable in qualitative research and that it is even a central aspect of such research, as compared to quantitative research, which does not require the same level of attention. Therefore, interpretation is viewed as a natural component of this research project. Efforts at data transparency are reflected in the recording and transcription of interviews, observations, and meetings.

## **5. Results**

The results of this thesis are presented as to how they correspond to and answer the general research questions. The exploratory nature of this study means that open-ended questions and resulting answers steer much of what is presented in the results section. Data from semi-structured interviews, observations, and the survey have been interwoven under each research question. The actors are classified into three main groups: municipal and private company (Urban Development Division, Traffic Division, Rinkeby-Kista District Administration, and Nyréns), local organizations (Husby Gård, Järva Green Party, and North Järva District Council), and private citizens (Two representatives from the residential

population of Husby, survey respondents, and participants in informal talks and observations). There is some overlap between local organizations and private citizens as all of the representatives from local organizations either lived or had lived in Husby before. The term ‘representative’ is used to refer to those interviewed within these three groups while ‘informant’ is an umbrella term for anyone falling into any of these groups. In answering the research questions, the study investigates the two project plans introduced in *Section 3*, treating them as case studies.

## 5.1 What interests concerning urban green space are present among selected actors in Husby and how do these interests interact with each other?

### 5.1.1 Suitable Locations for Infrastructure Development

Determining the suitability of sites for housing and infrastructure development was a topic of interest among many of the informants. All of the representatives, some of the survey respondents, and some of the people present at a public meeting in protest of ‘Alternative F’ in March of 2019 reflected on appropriate locations for infrastructure development. Southern Husby, the proposed site for ‘Alternative F,’ was identified by most of these people as a location where infrastructure development should not occur. Participants who spoke during the public meeting in March of 2019 identified southern Husby as an important place to preserve for ecological, social, and recreational reasons. The leader of North Järva District Council, who was a political activist and also served as facilitator of the public meeting, referred to the area’s function as a migratory corridor, its importance for flora and fauna, and the valuable space it served for grilling. The area along Hanstavägen, a road running north of Husby, was suggested by some as an alternative site. However, the representative from the Urban Development Division (head of the department’s landscape unit) said that space there was limited. Of those who left a written comment in response to a question about awareness regarding the plans for ‘Alternative F’, 12 were negative towards the proposal, 5 were neutral, and 1 was positive. Two survey respondents said that there were other, better places to build.

The representative working as a landscape architect at Nyréns (the company contracted to develop the ‘Green Culture Promenade’) felt that building was permissible in places where either new or more qualities and values were added as a result. According to her, green values and urbanization could coexist if development was steered in the right direction, something that could be difficult due to the presence of private interests and development pressures. The representative from Rinkeby-Kista District Administration (RKDA), (landscape architect), said that in a utopia, infrastructure development would take its shape and form according to the present green structure. However, she recognized the

complexity of different interests and perspectives. The representative from the UDD also addressed the role of interests, stating:

"You have to weigh different interests against each other all the time. That is what it is all about, and that is what one can do, and that one can...is allowed to as a landscape architect - weigh that which I monitor in the projects...and then one also has to understand that there are others who have other considerations, for example the city planning division based on questions related to city planning, or project leaders based on questions of finance and economy."

Being a landscape architect, the UDD representative made the comment that much of his job involved developing in urban green spaces but that he could do this with a good conscience because his work involved doing what was best according to what needs there were. In saying this, he meant that a certain amount of green area was inevitably removed during development projects but done in such a way as to minimize effects. The representative from Nyréns recognized scenarios where there could be more reasons to build on urban green space rather than to preserve it, but felt that the need for space was not enough of a justification. The representative from the Traffic Division (project leader for the 'Green Culture Promenade') noted the importance of building in the right place. She also said that building too much on urban green space would take away something very much needed as the population increased. All three representatives indicated the need to consider ecological components when building, like connectivity and migratory functions. The representative from the UDD explained how his division had produced a document in 2017 titled "Husby Green Structure Analysis" (Stockholms stad, 2017b) as a way to identify possible locations for development. The analysis laid out the following set of guidelines to consider: the ecological and recreational modes of connectivity that should not be broken, the values that should not be lost, and the values needing to be strengthened. The UDD representative stated that southern Husby (the location of 'Alternative F') had long been thought of as a possible location for development.

There was a recognition among representatives among local organizations and private individuals of the need for housing but all expressed caution in taking urban green space. For example, the representative from Husby Gård (leader for the organization Husby Gård), felt that housing development was needed but felt that thought should be given as to the most appropriate places to build. For her, this meant not building on urban green space. It was important to her that not everything turned into cement and that people were able to be a part of nature. One of the representatives from Husby's residential population (senior citizen and member of Järva Green Party) noted the importance of determining the best place to build as the availability of nature for people to utilize was important to her. The representative from Järva Green Party (party convener and former resident) was joined by

the representative from Nyréns (landscape architect) in giving examples of places to build on that would not involve taking urban green space, such as overpass road surfaces, parking lots, and garages. For the representative from Järva Green Party, it was important that the area's green fields and Järvafältet were preserved due to their recreational use. He felt that the area was already quite densely built.

When asked about 'Alternative F' and its plan for 700 residential units, representatives had mixed opinions. The representative from the Traffic Division (TD) (project leader for the 'Green Culture Promenade') said that it was important to be very careful about building in southern Husby. According to her, the road included in the project plans would create a barrier for both people and animals, something that would be difficult to counteract. She also described the landscape as being very unique. However, the representative conceded to there being benefits of building more in that general area since it could lead to a better mix of housing types. The representative from Nyréns did not see the project plans as problematic for the area, stating that it might cause additional strain on the promenade or surrounding area but that this could be mitigated. The UDD representative felt that the project proposed an acceptable number of residences at 700 but that the developers' more specific plans needed to be restructured during the detail-plan phase. However, he did not think that this stood in the way of the project being approved for land allocation. The representative from Rinkeby-Kista district (landscape architect) did not have an opinion to share. A second representative from the TD (landscape architect) said that it would be a shame to cut down the 'fantastic' pine trees, and that the area had many values enjoyed by people, especially children. For her, building row houses as a form of low exploitation did not justify the destruction of this urban green space. The two representatives from the residential population of Husby (senior citizens and long-time residents) as well as the representatives from Järva Green Party and Husby Gård demonstrated their dislike for 'Alternative F' and the idea of building in southern Husby.

### 5.1.2 Safety and Sense of Security

The interviews, observations, and the survey indicated that safety and sense of security were highly prioritized by the city while not necessarily standing out as a current major concern amongst local actors, though it seems to have been a concern in the past. The representative from Rinkeby-Kista District Administration (landscape architect) who was a project participant in the 'Green Culture Promenade', said that Rinkeby-Kista district had a big focus on safety, which influenced her work of trying to figure out what physical solutions could contribute towards a greater sense of security in urban green spaces. One of the other participants in the 'Green Culture Promenade' was the representative of Husby Gård, who served as the organization's leader and was a respected figure of the community. She had been closely involved with the project since its beginning. She recounted how

Husby Gård wanted to cooperate more with the district through a project and that she was told by the district that project funds were available to them if the organization could figure out a way to improve the area's sense of security. The walking path between Husby Center and Husby Gård was identified as a suitable location for improvement since many had noticed a decrease in its use during the dark winter months, preventing people from making their way to activities at Husby Gård.

The representative from the city's Traffic Division (TD), who worked as a landscape architect and the project leader for the 'Green Culture Promenade', stated that the project was funded through "Greener Stockholm," a special investment budget resulting from a political decision in 2017. The program focused a lot on safety and security as well as on ecological values in the outer suburbs which had not received as much attention and investment as other parts of the city. According to her, the focus of the 'Green Culture Promenade' was to activate the path, make it safer, and facilitate art and culture. She also described safety and sense of security in urban green as one of the TD's more general focuses and named them as unavoidable concepts when working with the outdoor environment. She added that while contributions could be made towards a safer environment, such questions were beyond the means of physical planning. This thought was also shared by the representative from Husby Gård, who saw city planning as a way to address the symptoms of a problem, rather than the actual problem.

Reflections on safety and security from survey respondents and representatives living or working in Husby indicated that perceived personal safety was not a major concern. The leader of Husby Gård, who also lived in Husby, said that she already felt safe but recognized that others might not feel the same. The two representatives from Husby's residential population (senior citizens and long-time residents) also felt safe even while out at late hours. According to the survey results, 13 out of 30 respondents felt that safety was an important quality in a park or green area. When asked if there was anything that would make the respondent visit a park or green area in Järva more often, only five people answered with: 'if it was (or felt) more safe.' When asked: 'How do you view the efforts to improve parks and green areas in Husby and on Järvafältet' one person left a comment associating a missing fence with making the place feel less safe. However, these responses did not indicate that safety was not valued in Husby. Safety and sense of security was very much valued as an attribute of Husby Gård during a meeting between members of North Järva District Council, a network of local groups and organizations representing residential interests. In addition, one of the concerns raised about 'Alternative F' during the public meeting in March of 2019 was the negative effect building a road would have on the mobility of children.

More specific questions about perceived safety and security in Husby were not asked in the survey and since the survey itself is not representative of Husby, it is difficult to gain a more comprehensive understanding of people's feelings toward safety and security in relation to urban green spaces. However, a 2009 report titled "Thousands of Ideas for an Even Better Husby" revealed a 'both - and' sentiment in Husby with an even mixture of both positive and negative perceptions regarding safety and security (White Architects, 2009). For example, the structure of residential blocks was described as contributing both in a positive way through well-kept residential yards as well as in a negative way with the backs of apartment units facing streets and parks (ibid.). A few suggestions were made at certain locations to make changes to existing vegetation in order to improve feelings of safety. However, the biggest issues with safety had more to do with troublesome youth and the built environment rather than the urban green space itself.

### 5.1.3 Citizen Dialogue and Participation

Both the project planning process of the 'Green Culture Promenade' and the protests surrounding 'Alternative F' demonstrate interests among informants in citizen dialogue and participation. However, the survey measures a mix of interests in regards to participating in the design dialogue meetings for the 'Green Culture Promenade.' Nyréns, the company behind a large part of the promenade's planning process, said that they got involved in the 'Green Culture Promenade' because of previous work with dialogue and park development. In the 'Green Culture Promenade' they utilized a method they referred to as 'design dialogue' which consisted of three workshop-like meetings with an attendance of ca. 15-20 Husby residents at each meeting. To reach different groups, the representative from Nyréns (landscape architect) said they initiated contact with Husby's cultural network and its member organizations.

The representative from Nyréns recounted how the first of three meetings involved the identification of places along the path between Husby Centrum and Husby Gård deemed most important to develop. This was done by walking along the path as a group, asking questions along the way, and summarizing findings in a map. The second meeting was concerned with how these identified places should be developed and the third meeting, pictured in Figure 10, involved a break-out session in small groups where participants more concretely brainstormed designs for five different sites along the path, referred to as 'culture platforms.' The representative from Nyréns described these platforms as broad and open for interpretation and guided the discussions with questions about how the platforms should look and function. These ideas were then recorded by people working for Nyréns, summarized, and sent out to all participants. The participants at the third of the design dialogue meetings were observed as being very active, interested, and involved in contributing their ideas.



Figure 10: Photos of the third design dialogue meeting held by Nyréns

The municipal representatives indicated their active involvement in consulting with residents on a more general basis. The representative from Rinkeby-Kista District Administration (RKDA) (landscape architect) talked about how the district was active in meeting the public by hosting activities and informing people about projects. For her, meeting citizens was of utmost importance since she otherwise did not know how to prioritize her work. The representative from the Urban Development Division (UDD) recounted past efforts in Husby with dialogue and public consultations. The representative from the Traffic Division (TD) described how they were teaming up with local artists from Husby Gård in another “Greener Stockholm” project. Further interests in dialogue and participation were evident among local people who gathered at the public meeting in March 2019 to protest against ‘Alternative F.’ The meeting’s two organizers, North Järva District Council and Husby Gård, were observed as distributing information about the proposal and its impacts, collecting signatures around Husby, and contacting politicians and public officials to put a stop to ‘Alternative F.’

Efforts were made to more concretely measure interests among respondents in actively participating in city planning by asking those survey respondents who had not been to any of the three dialogue meetings of the ‘Green Culture Promenade’ if they would have like to have participated. Eight people answered yes, 11 people answered no, 6 people answered maybe, 1 person answered don’t know, and 3 did not answer at all. Those who answered yes gave reasons like *‘I want to be involved and improve things and give my opinions’*, *‘To have the opportunity to influence in my residential area’*, *‘To know more’*, and *‘Because I want to contribute something and I should have to know what is going on.’* Why these people did not participate in the meetings if they were interested in participating is unknown but one person indicated travel plans as a reason for nonattendance. Another possibility is that these people were unaware of the dialogue meetings, since 13 of the 30 survey respondents did not live in Husby and 21 of the 30 survey respondents had not heard about the plans to improve the walking path. Of those 17 survey respondents who lived in

Husby, 6 had heard about the project plans and 11 had not. Those who answered no to whether they would have liked to have participated in the three dialogue meetings about the 'Green Culture Promenade' gave reasons like *'I live in Kista so it does not really concern me,' 'talk and workshop = not for me,' 'Did not know, I live in Akalla'*. The written responses indicate a mixed response of both interest and disinterest in participating.

#### 5.1.4 Access and Use of Urban Green Space in Husby

As can be expected, private citizens and local organizations expressed personal interests in the access and use of urban green space while representatives from the municipality and Nyréns discussed access and use as more general concepts related to planning tools and project goals. The representative from the Traffic Division (TD) (landscape architect and project leader for the 'Green Culture Promenade') explained that the 'Green Culture Promenade' had goals like improving the area's sense of security, activating the path, and guiding users from Husby Center to Husby Gård and Igelbäckens Culture Reserve. She added that another idea behind the promenade was to create opportunities for cultural events and meetings. Key words used by the TD representative in explaining the focus of the promenade were 'accessibility,' 'safety,' and 'orientability.' Similar words were used to describe the expected result of infrastructure development in Husby. The proposal for land allocation issued by the Urban Development Division (UDD) referred to 'Alternative F' and the other planned projects as leading to improvements in orientability, accessibility, and safety for the area (Stockholms stad, 2019c).

The interviews with various representatives indicated that the 'Green Culture Promenade' had a greater focus on art and culture rather than ecology. According to the representative at the Traffic Division (TD), they had to follow the 'one percent art rule' which meant that one percent of the "Greener Stockholm" budget, 3 million SEK, was earmarked for incorporating art of some kind. She said that the 'Green Culture Promenade' was one of two projects that would receive these investments. When asked more pointedly about the use of the word 'green' in 'Green Culture Promenade', the TD representative said that it referred to its identification as a 'green' path. While representatives from the municipality and Nyréns described the landscape surrounding the promenade as valuable and said that nature inventories were included in the project planning process, no concrete plans for strengthening ecological values or implementing green infrastructure were named, besides the mention of possibilities for urban agriculture and beautification of a site overgrown with weeds. The representative from the TD noted that other projects in the program "Greener Stockholm" would have ecology as their focus.

Use and access of urban green space were also operationalized by representatives through concepts like 'city brow' (stadsbryn) and 'social utility and experience values' (sociotopsvärden). The representative from Nyréns described 'city brow' as referring to how greenery and the built environment could meet in a way that promoted accessibility to urban green space. The southern border of Husby facing Järvafältet was identified as a 'city brow' missing sufficient 'social utility and experience values' at its meeting with the bordering green wedges (Stockholms stad, 2017b). The representative from Nyréns said that the use of the 'social utility and experience values map' (sociotopskartan) was a good tool in that it allowed accessibility to be measured in relation to a place's existing values and proximity to these values. As mentioned in Section 3 of this study, the map of social utility and experience values is a planning tool used by Stockholm City to locate social and recreational values (Stockholms stad, 2017a). Both the representative from Nyréns and the representative from the UDD identified social utility and experience values as important to consider and add as development in an area increased. The representative from the UDD gave the 'Green Culture Promenade' as an example of such values being added, stating that it was needed since Husby was currently poorer in 'social utility and experience values' when compared to the inner city. Because of this, he said that residents did not have much reason to currently use these areas.

Access and use of urban green space among private citizens were captured by the survey and Figures 11, 12, and 13 show that there is a considerable level of use among survey respondents of parks/green areas in general as well as Igelbäcken's Culture Reserve more specifically. Figure 11 shows that only 3 percent of survey respondents did not feel that it was easy for them to get to a green area from where they lived.

### IS IT EASY FOR YOU TO GET TO A PARK OR A GREEN AREA FROM WHERE YOU LIVE?

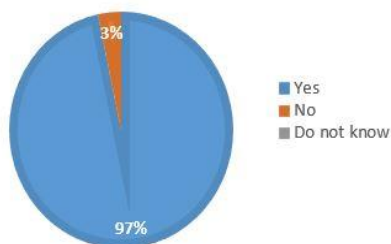


Figure 11: Ease of access to a park or green area among the 30 survey respondents

### DO YOU VISIT IGELBÄCKEN'S CULTURE RESERVE AT JÄRVAFÄLTET?

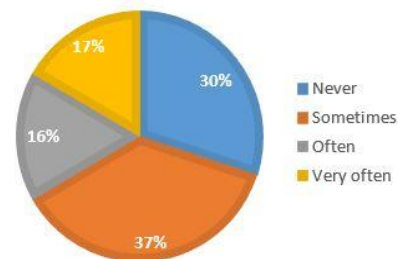


Figure 12: Frequency of visits to Igelbäckens Culture Reserve among the 30 survey respondents

### HOW OFTEN DO YOU VISIT OR SPEND TIME IN A PARK OR A GREEN AREA?

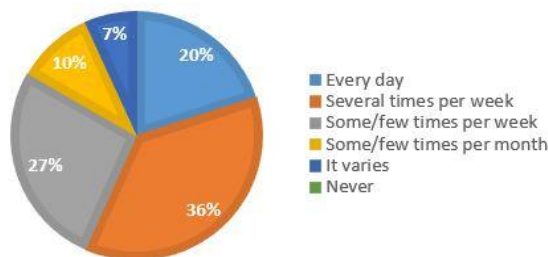


Figure 13: Frequency of visits to a park or green area among the 30 survey respondents

When asked if there were any specific local parks or green areas respondents liked to visit, Husby Gård and Järvafältet were the top two areas named by survey respondents. Specific features of Järvafältet that were named as appreciated by respondents were the groves surrounding Granholmstippen, Eggeby Gård, Igelbäcken, nature oases on the field, and the open fields themselves with their ability to offer a good walk to cultural sites, buildings, and leisure centers. The survey results show that the most popular reasons for respondents to visit a park or green area was going for a walk, relaxing, enjoying nature and landscape, and hanging out or playing with family and friends. Two less popular choices for visiting such areas were growing crops/collecting food and visiting for work/studies, with one and two votes respectively. The category 'other reasons' included written comments like *'meditative escape,' 'spiritual calm and meditation,' 'playing boule,' 'teaching myself and my child about animals and plants,' 'get to know in real life,'* and *'meetings and demonstrations.'* When asked what qualities respondents felt were most important in a green area or park, the top three picks were 'proximity of green space to home or the workplace,' 'nature and

landscape,' and 'nice and clean.' When asked what would make respondents visit a park or green area in Järva more often, those receiving the most votes were 'shorter distance from home,' 'if there was more green vegetation,' 'better maintenance of nature,' and 'if I had more spare time.' A combination of observations and interview data indicated that a pavilion with grilling places opposite of Husby Gård was frequently used as well as a boule field where a club would meet regularly to play. Figure 14 shows a crowd of people utilizing the pavilion with grilling places along with the adjacent field. According to the representative from Järva Green Party (party convener and former resident) most use of Järvafältet occurred during the summer months. In the winter months the field was mostly used by skiers.



Figure 14: A crowd gathers to celebrate the thirteenth day after the Iranian New Year near Husby Gård in southern Husby

### 5.1.5 Cooperation and Coordination

Many of the representatives identified cooperation and coordination as important aspects of their work. According to the representative from the Traffic Division (TD) (project leader of the 'Green Culture Promenade'), cooperation was easier than coordination since it was hard to know when to coordinate in such a large organization as Stockholm municipality. The interviews with representatives from the municipality indicated a close working relationship between the TD, Urban Development Division (UDD), and Rinkeby-Kista District Administration (RKDA). Cooperation and coordination were also reflected in the mobilization efforts against 'Alternative F' led by North Järva District Council and Husby Gård. At the public meeting in March of 2019, the leader of North Järva District Council referred to the community's past success in stopping what he called similar 'crazy suggestions.' References were made by some participants at the meeting to a collective 'we' and 'us' as demonstrated by the following quotes:

“We will not let go of the green corridor next to Järvafältet”

“Together we can actually stop this, so keep fighting”

“[...] because they should not think that they can do exactly what they want without us reacting out here.”

According to the representative from the TD, there was an agreement that meetings would take place between the TD, Urban Planning Division, UDD, and RKDA in order to provide updates, cooperate, and develop a basis for ‘Alternative F’. However, local organizations and private citizens saw a potential clash between ‘Green Culture Promenade’ and ‘Alternative F’ due to their spatial proximity to one another, expressing confusion about how the municipality was thinking. For example, one of the representatives from Husby’s residential population (senior citizen and active in local community) felt that there was a lack of communication and cooperation among the municipality’s different divisions while a participant at the public meeting in March of 2019 appeared flustered about ‘Alternative F’, repeatedly asking if its impact on the ‘Green Culture Promenade’ would be ignored.

## 5.2 What powers do these actors possess in shaping Husby’s urban green spaces?

As outlined in Section 5.1, the data revealed the following set of interests concerning urban green space among selected actors in Husby: suitability of locations for development, safety and sense of security, citizen dialogue and participation, access and use of urban green spaces in Husby, and efforts towards cooperation and coordination. The different actor groups (municipality and private company, local organizations, and private citizens) had power or lack of power to act upon these interests. The mobilization of resources for the protest of ‘Alternative F’ in southern Husby indicated that local organizations and private citizens had power to act in line with their interest in preserving this urban green space. Participants at the public meeting held in March of 2019 to protest ‘Alternative F’ were able to voice their thoughts on what southern Husby meant to them, saying the following:

Participant 1: “I just wanted to say that I love Husby Gård, Järvafältet - I have a little dog that is unfortunately not here today, and I walk here every day. All of the seasons are so beautiful here, and we do not want to lose that.”

Participant 2: “For we all know that Järva is Stockholm’s lungs, right? That is at least what I learned as a child when I lived, when I learned, or went to Eggeby where we learned this, what Järva is [...]”

Participant 3: “[...] besides removing the fantastic nature, something that we are so happy and proud about and that gives us so much environmentally both for nature and for our inner environment - if you remove that and the possibility for all the children that go from preschools and schools out on Järvafältet, we have a city environment here and no culture reserve left, which is so hugely important and the main reason for us moving here [...]”

Participant 4: “This is our land, this is...Husby is ours! Do not touch the most important, the most popular areas for outdoor life, for families with children, our face towards the sun. This is where we meet the sun and spring, down here at Husby Gård - this is where we grill [...]”

Another participant referenced a dotted map created during previous dialogue efforts in Husby. The map showed an accumulation of green dots around Husby Gård which indicated that residents of Husby considered this area as highly important. Representatives from the Left Party, Social Democrats, and the Green Party were present to hear and discuss as were media outlets. A conversation with the representative from Husby Gård (organization’s leader) a few days after the protest took place revealed that a couple of politicians from the Moderate and Green Parties had visited Husby Gård the following day indicating that they had seen the protest on TV and were against the building plans. A visit to the language cafe in Folkets Husby (local community center) in early April of 2019 revealed that the chair of the City Planning Division Board had contacted a member of North Järva District Council with the news that the building plans would not happen. This was confirmed during the interview with the representative from the Urban Development Division (UDD) (head of the division’s landscape unit), who said that the division’s application for land allocation concerning ‘Alternative F’ had been sent back to the UDD and the City Planning Division (CPD) for review on how to reduce the amount of development in southern Husby while increasing development at other locations.

The UDD representative said that it was unclear what the politicians exactly meant by their decision and he interpreted it to mean that the site was not completely off-limits for construction, just that the level of exploitation would be decreased. Whether this was fully understood by the community was unclear. According to the representative from Järva Green Party (party convener and former resident), his party had a key role in the outcome of ‘Alternative F’ because of their local expertise and contacts with politicians on the boards of both the UDD and CPD. As such, local organizations and private citizens not only had power to act, they also had power to stop ‘Alternative F.’

While 'Alternative F' demonstrated the power of citizen mobilization and intervention of local political parties, it also revealed that power comes in different forms, both from the bottom-up and top-down. Top-down power was exhibited by the political mandate mentioned by the UDD representative to build 140,000 residential buildings by 2030, which he said steered the department's work while bottom-up power was exhibited by the mobilization against 'Alternative F.' The UDD representative expressed frustration at how citizens often placed blame on public officials who were only presenting their best solutions based on such political decisions. He also felt that politicians were kept from taking responsibility for their decisions. Despite the presence of bottom-up power at the public meeting in March of 2019, participants made comments that suggested feelings of disempowerment. For example, the opposition leader from the Left Party, who was present at the meeting, said the following:

"[...] when you have an area like Husby that has had so many dialogues - dialogue after dialogue after dialogue - and still come with a proposal that is so poorly anchored, it will damage people's trust in the city, trust in dialogue."

Evident in this quote was a sense of frustration with the municipality's traditional forms of dialogue and it seemed to indicate the feeling that dialogue had lost its power. Similar frustrations were noted in the interviews and survey. One of the representatives from Husby's residential population (senior citizen and active in local community) said that officials pretended to listen but ultimately adapted to other things rather than residential interests. She felt that the municipality did not understand residents' experiences. The second representative from Husby's residential population (senior citizen and member of Järva Green Party) said that politicians were not doing much listening to residents and were instead running over them, staying in the city rather than checking out what people in the area were thinking. The representative from Järva Green Party (party convener and former resident) spoke about a lack of 'listening in' from the city's side in reference to not honoring local decisions.

One of the questions asked in the survey was whether respondents trusted the municipality and the decisions taken in and around Husby. The results were the following: 4 people said yes, 13 people said no, 12 people said they do not know, and 1 person gave no answer. Several people who answered no expressed a general feeling that local interests were not prioritized or represented. For example, one respondent wrote that *'the local people's interests are not prioritized or even evaluated when decisions are made'* while another respondent wrote that *'there are no politicians who come from the area.'* A few of the responses noted the exclusion of residents in decision-making: *'Decisions are made without involving residents'*, *'Decisions are made without talking to the people who live here'*,

*'They never ask those living in the area, they just decide,'* and *'No one cares about Husby.'* These statements too, indicate that citizens did not see power in their position.

Both the representative from the Urban Development Division (UDD) and the representative from Nyréns (landscape architect) acknowledged that there had previously been tense situations in Husby regarding infrastructure development. Because of this, the representative from Nyréns said that the first step in presenting 'Alternative F' should have been to have had a dialogue and process for developing a program via the City Planning Division (CPD) rather than directly proceeding with a land allocation process. She said that this was currently not done for economic reasons since land allocations backed by potential developers offered the city economic security. However, such efforts might not have proved successful since the results suggested that people did not trust the dialogue process. The representative from the UDD said that he understood that residents were tired of being consulted and feeling like nothing was happening with their input. He said that there was usually a reason for why things did not happen and that perhaps too much had been promised. According to him, ideas were sometimes not doable but he said that in that case it was important to explain this to people. The representatives from the UDD, the Traffic Division (TD), and Nyréns all said that their work was very much about reaching a balance between different factors and a result of this was that not all ideas could be incorporated or implemented.

Additionally, the representatives expressed challenges faced in their work to reach public opinion. For example, the representative from the UDD said that reaching people was the biggest challenge with dialogue work, recounting how a series of workshops held with four different focus groups geared towards reaching people normally not heard in Husby was overrepresented by people from the local mosque and unattended by many of those invited. The representative from the Traffic Division (TD) (project leader of the 'Green Culture Promenade') said that they had tried to attract all different kinds of people to the design dialogue, but most of the participants ended up being older in age. When asked about challenges in the 'Green Culture Promenade' project, the representative from Nyréns said that it was in reaching a representative group. Despite utilizing Husby's cultural network in sending out invitations to the design dialogue, she said it was hard to reach people. Another aspect of power alluded to at the public meeting of March 2019 in protest of 'Alternative F' was in reference to the use of safety and sense of security as arguments for infrastructure development. One of the participants at the meeting expressed his distaste for this, saying the following:

"Everytime, everytime when they have done something that we have been against it is always safety and security that they use [as an argument], that we will become safe and secure. In other words, we who live here are actually not safe. And they

have done the same things when they have renovated or come with those shameful proposals in the past to demolish the houses. It was that people didn't like it here, that they were assigned to live here in Husby. But this is just not true. I have chosen and most people have chosen to live here [...]"

The quote above alludes to how safety is mobilized within city planning discourse and indicates a frustration at how it is and has been used as an argument in achieving such ends. This suggests that discussions on safety carry rhetorical power. Another participant felt that there were other means of achieving integration and sense of security that did not involve cutting down trees and increasing traffic. Frustrations were also directed at the fact that Husby was disproportionally a target of densification. One of the survey respondents wrote the following as a written comment in the survey:

*'It is a shame to take from green areas. I think fewer people will visit Järvafältet if this [proposal] becomes reality. It is so typical that they want to build residences here where it is already densely built-up on the existing green areas. I haven't heard about any proposals to build residences in Hagaparken or Lill-Jansskogen.'*

The reference to building in other locations in Stockholm, like Hagaparken or Lill-Jansskogen, with a higher socio-economic status than Husby, was present in the other datasets as well. A couple of the participants at the public meeting referred to the high demands of densification in the area as compared to other parts of the city. One of the representatives from Husby's residential population (senior citizen and member of Järva Green Party) referred to places like Lidingö and Danderyd as places where the city did not interfere and where things were left alone.

While the outcome of 'Alternative F' exemplified bottom-up power, the 'Green Culture Promenade' exemplified to some extent a distribution in power. Despite being heavily influenced by Husby Gård in its idea development, Rinkeby-Kista District Administration (RKDA), the Traffic Division (TD), Nyréns, and Husby residents all had an impact on the project. In general, the representatives from Nyréns and the municipality were observed as being very enthusiastic and open in the exchange of ideas between themselves and participants at the design dialogue. However, it was also observed that some ideas were not as enthusiastically met. For example, one participant, who had previously worked with urban planning and architecture in his home country, brought illustrations of his own designs as suggestions for the project. However, these were not met with equal enthusiasm and attention was directed back to the materials provided by the workshop. A language barrier also made it difficult for him to communicate with the person from Nyréns facilitating the group. At another table, a participant repeatedly suggested planting bushes

and flowers to attract pollinators as well as utilizing seed surpluses from Husby Gård but these ideas were not as readily recorded in writing as other ideas.

The representative from Husby Gård recognized a risk in the project being shaped by the thoughts of the Traffic Division (TD) and Nyréns, and although she felt that this was natural in a way, she expressed a hope that there would not be too much of that. However, the representative from the TD said that the foundation and basis of the original idea would remain and while not everything could be implemented due to economic or technical reasons, nothing would be violated. The representative from Nyréns also recognized the inability of including all ideas for similar reasons, which indicated that some power was restrained by the availability of resources on both the municipal and private company level. As project leader of the 'Green Culture Promenade', the representative from the TD was in charge of handling the project framework and budget. While the decision to fund the 'Green Culture Promenade' through "Greener Stockholm" was made by the TD via the district's application for funds, the program itself and its 300 million SEK was the result of a political decision in 2017. As such, it can be argued that the ultimate source of power in both 'Alternative F' and the 'Green Culture Promenade' came from political decisions.

To summarize, the results indicate that power could be attributed to local organizations and private citizens most clearly through their success in stopping 'Alternative F' as well as their involvement in the design dialogue for the 'Green Culture Promenade.' The 'Green Culture Promenade' exemplified to some extent a distribution in power amongst the following three groups: municipality and private company, local organizations, and private citizens. However, there was also a more general feeling of disempowerment linked to citizen dialogue and participation exhibited by survey respondents and some participants at the public meeting in March of 2019 who did not feel involved nor listened to. Specific examples of disempowerment were related to the use of safety and sense of security as an argument for infrastructure development as well as the perceived disproportionate amount of densification occurring in Husby compared to other places. Among representatives from the municipality and Nyréns, power could be attributed to their roles as project leaders and decision-makers. However, they admittedly faced economic or technical limitations as well as the will of political decisions.

## 6. Analysis

The results reveal a complex working of interests and power dynamics that relate to and ultimately shape urban green space in Husby. The informants from all three groups (municipal and private company, local organizations, and private citizens) show concern for many of the same things, one being the suitability of locations for infrastructure

development with many referring to the importance of building in the right or most appropriate place. For the representatives from the municipality and Nyréns, green structure and ecological connectivity were important considerations for deciding where to build whereas local organizations (Husby Gård, Järva Green Party, and North Järva District Council) and private citizens (two representatives from the residential population of Husby, survey respondents, and participants in informal talks and observations) gave greater weight to recreational values of urban green space. However, during the public meeting in March of 2019 to protest ‘Alternative F,’ the leader of North Järva District Council repeatedly stressed ecological consequences of building in southern Husby, referring to impacts on flora and fauna. As a political activist, he may have understood that arguments based on ecological aspects perhaps carried more weight for politicians and public officials rather than arguments based purely on ‘use.’ The idea of a ‘right or most appropriate place’ to build on can be problematic in that it assumes that there are certain qualities that objectively make a place best suited for infrastructure development.

The proposed site for ‘Alternative F’ in southern Husby was considered by most local organizations and private citizens as not being an appropriate place to build. The two representatives from the Traffic Division (TD) were also cautious and skeptical of building in this location whereas the representatives from Nyréns and the Urban Development Division (UD) thought it was a reasonable idea. This difference might be associated to the fact that the representatives from the TD appeared to have more on-site interaction with the local community. The role of balancing interests and their complexities were mentioned by three of the municipal representatives which makes sense given their roles of managing and developing urban green space. The survey results and opinions shared at the public meeting in March of 2019 demonstrates that people attribute southern Husby with high ecological, social, and recreational values. The existing interests in use and access of southern Husby and Järvafältet among local organizations and private citizens give these groups a higher stake in the preservation of this area. Any urban development there would impede on these values that are of daily importance. While demonstrating great care for preserving values and qualities of urban green, those working for the municipality and Nyréns naturally do not possess the same level of attachment to this particular area.

The investigation of both the ‘Green Culture Promenade’ and ‘Alternative F’ demonstrate how interests in safety and sense of security as well as accessibility are communicated and concretized. The municipality’s strong interest in improving safety and sense of security in Rinkeby-Kista district is clear in the execution of the ‘Green Culture Promenade’ and is also an aspect of the program “Greener Stockholm.” In addition, the representatives from the Urban Development Division (UDD) and Nyréns indicate an interest in using ‘social utility and experience values’ (sociotopsvärden) to guide their work, especially in the face of increasing infrastructure development. The results also suggest that safety and sense of

security as well as improvements in the accessibility of the outdoor environment are commonly used reasons to justify infrastructure development. While these reasons are not questioned in relation to the 'Green Culture Promenade,' they are seen as inadequate reasons for 'Alternative F' by a couple of the participants at the public meeting in March of 2019. This difference in reactions might be because 'Alternative F' involves removing urban green space while the 'Green Culture Promenade' involves improving and adding social and recreational value to urban green space.

The 'Green Culture Promenade' also involves cooperation and coordination efforts between the municipality, local organizations, and private citizens in the project planning process which may add to its perceived legitimacy. Legitimacy can also be attributed to the following elements at the third of the design dialogue meetings: interactive groups, vision for what the dialogue would lead to, involvement of the decision-maker (in this case Nyréns and the project leader from the Traffic Division (TD)), providing knowledge and resources to the group like meeting notes and refreshments, and transparency and familiarity amongst the participants. In terms of citizen dialogue and participation, the results indicate that the municipality and Nyréns have an interest in involving private citizens in the decision-making process. While the involvement of Husby's residents in the design dialogue and the successful mobilization against 'Alternative F' indicate that local organizations and private citizens possess power, the results also revealed general feelings of not being listened to or prioritized among these actors, indicating some feelings of disempowerment. The results indicate that Husby has been the site of many dialogues, although outcomes have been mixed. There seems to be a disconnect between public officials, who show a willingness to reach public opinion and private citizens who do not feel listened to or prioritized.

Both the cooperation and coordination involved in the 'Green Culture Promenade' and 'Alternative F' indicate that working together is a strong interest amongst the different actor groups. Husby Gård and North Järva District Council appear to be prominent local organizations engaged in representing more local interests, however the level of group diversity behind mobilization efforts in Husby would need further exploration. Finally, power can be attributed to Stockholm municipality and the resources that the municipality is able to mobilize such as money, personnel, and expertise. However, the mobilization of these resources among the municipality's different divisions is subject to political decisions like "Greener Stockholm" and the goal to build 140,000 residential units by the year 2030 as well as budget constraints.

## 7. Discussion

The following section is a discussion of the main findings of this research within the context of the theoretical background and previous research. It is guided by the aim of the thesis and the research questions. The two research questions are discussed together due to the close relationship between actors' interests and power relations.

The presence of interests among different actors in Husby as well as the power relations between them provide a complex backdrop to urban green space management. Swyngedouw's (1996) description of metabolism fits well here, where social, economic, and ecological interests converge and give layered meanings to the natural environment, in this case urban green space in and around Husby. This is especially evident in the social and recreational meanings that local organizations and private citizens attribute to southern Husby, making it more than just a physical urban green space with ecological functions. Both the meanings attributed to such spaces as well as the ecological characteristics themselves were mobilized by participants at the public meeting in March of 2019 to serve 'particular purposes' (Heynen, Kaika, & Swyngedouw, 2006, p. 6). Stockholm municipality also gives social meanings to urban green space through social utility and experience values. Their identification as important planning tools means that they carry power guiding decisions about where and how infrastructure development or strengthening of urban green space should take place. This can be problematic in that social utility and experience values are arguably subjective since values can be perceived and experienced in different ways by different people, thus they may not meet the recreational or social needs of everyone. In addition, using proximity to social utility and experience values as a way of measuring accessibility does not consider how access may be affected by age, ethnicity, socio-economic background, and mobility capabilities (Rigolon, 2017; Wolch et. al., 2005; Johansson, 2017; and Wang et. al., 2015.), relating directly to issues of environmental justice.

Efforts to improve safety and sense of security through greening projects like the 'Green Culture Promenade' also give urban green space a particular purpose. The 'Green Culture Promenade's' purpose, or focus, according to the representative from the Traffic Division (TD) was to activate the path, make it safer, and facilitate art and culture. As such, there was little to no focus on strengthening ecological values, which could be problematized given its context as a greening project. The purpose of the 'Green Culture Promenade' largely reflects three of the goals presented in Rinkeby-Kista Park Plan: increase sense of security along park pathways, improve orientability, and include more art in public spaces (Stockholms stad, 2009). The underlying sense that safety and sense of security as well as accessibility are major priorities and interests for the municipality provide political context

to the treatment of urban green space in Husby. It can be argued that safety, sense of security, and accessibility are underlying discourses in Rinkeby-Kista which shapes much of the district's work, as suggested by connections made to both the 'Green Culture Promenade' and 'Alternative F.' As Robbins (2012) indicates, discourse forms accepted notions which in turn becomes 'truth.' According to Robbins (2012), Foucault said that 'truth' can maintain power for one or more people and social and political histories have an active role in this. It appears that there is an accepted notion that infrastructure development and changes to urban green space can lead to improved safety and sense of security in the city of Stockholm. This is exemplified by the representative from the Traffic Division (TD) and the representative from Husby Gård (organization's leader) who both referred to the use of city planning as a way to address societal problems. As such, safety and sense of security is used as an argument of 'truth' which gives the municipality a form of power over the formation of the physical environment. In this way, interests and power are interrelated.

Avelino and Rotmans (2009) describe power as a social force that is available for actors to use in order to reach a desired outcome. In reaching said desired outcome, actors mobilize resources with the mobilization itself signifying an exercise of power (Avelino & Rotmans, 2011). Boonstra (2016) adds that social power can be a result of agent-centered action, institutional/social structure, and events. Power is also affected by an actor's opportunity context (Pansardi, 2012). According to these definitions, power can be exercised by any of the actors included in the scope of this study given that there are resources and opportunities to mobilize. A conventional idea of power might lead one to conclude that the municipality, if taken to include both politicians and public officials, has power 'over' resources or 'more' power than local organizations and private citizens, as suggested by the political mandate to build 140,000 residential units by 2030 and the program "Greener Stockholm."

However, given the aforementioned definitions of power, local organizations and private citizens are also able to harness social power and mobilize resources, as was the case regarding both the protests against 'Alternative F' and the efforts among actors to influence the project planning process of the 'Green Culture Promenade.' In regards to 'Alternative F,' the mobilization of resources like people, artefacts, and mental resources as well as the opportunity of the public meeting in March of 2019 along with the presence of the media meant that local organizations and private citizens were able to stop the development from happening. In regards to the 'Green Culture Promenade,' Husby Gård and participants at the design dialogue were able to mobilize mental resources by contributing their ideas. However, powers among local organizations and private citizens are also limited to some extent as the municipality has the final say. Despite this, differentiations in power may exist

such that the exercise of power by one actor can enable or disrupt the exercise of power by another (Avelino & Rotmans, 2011).

Discussions on power are complex, and there can be differences in actual power and perceived power, as is indicated by the general feelings among local organizations and private citizens of not feeling listened to or prioritized by the municipality, indicating a lack of recognition. This may have consequences for the municipality's future efforts in citizen dialogue and participation as people may lose trust in such processes. Schlosberg (2004) states that recognition directly affects participation in decision-making and the present lack of recognition felt by private citizens and organizations is arguably important for Stockholm municipality to address in order to secure successful dialogue processes. Despite this, the results indicated that collaborative planning was very much present in the project development of the 'Green Culture Promenade' and a part of the municipality's general work. Reflected in the design dialogue held by Nyréns was a sense of place-making among actors which Healey (1998) attributes to collaborative planning. In addition, the overall project planning process for the 'Green Culture Promenade' was observed as successfully facilitating collaboration amongst public and private actors while also engaging civil society actors, like the Beaulieu urban gardening project in Switzerland (Nikolaïdou et al., 2016). In reference to Figure 2 presented in Section 2.2.3 by (Fors et al., 2015) Husby residents were engaged in civic participation as opposed to physical participation. Further studies would be required after the completion of the 'Green Culture Promenade' in order to determine the existence of any physical participation.

Although on a much smaller scale, the mobilization against 'Alternative F' bears some similarity to the mobilization of the Ecopark movement, an urban movement of 60 organizations working together to protect Stockholm's National Urban Park (NUP) (Ernstson et. al., 2008). Like the mobilization against Alternative F, the Ecopark movement arose as a response to development plans (ibid.). The opportunity given to participants during the public meeting in March of 2019 to share their opinions and thoughts about 'Alternative F' produced a narrative of southern Husby and what the area meant for people. This is very similar to what Ernstson et. al. (2008) identified as protective stories, which proved to be a key element for the success of the Ecopark movement.

As Ernstson and Sörlin (2009) argue, there is a recipe for success regarding urban green space preservation: the number and types of artifacts, the numbers and capabilities of activists, social arenas that can make the issue known, and the social network position of actors. Possible artefacts contributing to the success of mobilization against 'Alternative F' are the dotted map referenced at the public meeting in March of 2019, which showed that Husby Gård was a well-liked place, and Husby Gård itself, which carries powerful social and cultural meaning for the area. The main activists of the protests in this case were

representatives from North Järva District Council and Husby Gård. The public meeting was moderated by the leader of the council, who also works as a political activist, indicating the presence of capabilities. In addition, the representative from Husby Gård was well-known and liked by the community, providing a sense of local legitimacy. The public meeting in March of 2019 held to protest 'Alternative F' and attended by around 80 to 100 participants served as an effective social arena for the value-laden narratives voiced by the participants. However, the social network position of actors is difficult to analyze as the mobilization was not on the same scale as that of the Ecopark movement, having far less numbers and diversity of organizations.

Finally, southern Husby, the location for 'Alternative F,' can be referred to as 'contested space' in line with Schmelzkopf's (1995) description of large gardens being contested on the Lower East Side in New York City and Tappert et al.'s (2018) discussion on the contestation of urban allotment gardens in Switzerland. This is demonstrated by the conflict between local organizations and private citizens wishing to preserve southern Husby and public officials who saw it as a potential site for infrastructure development. Just as Ernstson et al. (2008) indicated that preservation of the National Urban Park (NUP) might have led to other urban green spaces being removed in its place, the same might apply for southern Husby. Neighborhoods without the same access to time and resources that facilitate mobilization against infrastructure development may be particularly at risk. This is particularly relevant for discussions on environmental justice, which Schlosberg (2004) argues includes aspects like recognition, distribution, and participation. A distributive form of environmental injustice can be applied to Husby in that densification was perceived by private citizens as affecting Husby more than affluent neighborhoods. As such, Husby is suggested as being subject to what Robbins (2012) referred to as a disproportionate amount of environmental 'bads.'

## 8. Conclusion

The purpose of this study has been to explore what interests selected actors in Husby possess in relation to the management of urban green space and what powers they have in deciding how these spaces should be shaped. Doing so has involved the use of Political Ecology, particularly Urban Political Ecology and Environmental Justice as theoretical frameworks. These theoretical frameworks have been useful in understanding what power is, how it can be mobilized, and what its implications are. It has also allowed for a closer examination of power relations amongst different actors. Previous research on urban green space management has provided context to discuss how this study is both similar and different to other studies involving 'contested space.' While some of the project goals behind the 'Green Culture Promenade' and 'Alternative F' are similar, the two projects have

led to quite different reactions. 'Alternative F' reveals a tension between urban green space preservation and urban development while also representing the ability of private citizens and organizations to have an impact on city planning through mobilization. The 'Green Culture Promenade' on the other hand indicates how a variety of stakeholders can cooperate and coordinate within urban green space management. Both projects reveal underlying discourses of safety and sense of security as well as accessibility which have power and mobilize resources. The use of such discourses needs to be further problematized and evaluated to see if they reflect the interests of local organizations and private citizens. In addition, Stockholm municipality needs to evaluate citizen dialogue practices as there appears to be a sense of dissatisfaction among local organizations and private citizens regarding municipal planning priorities.

While the findings are specific to two project investigations, they can be useful in indicating how interests and power relations operate in relation to urban green space management. One of the limitations of the study is that it does not include the full time-frame for the 'Green Culture Promenade' since the project timeline spans two years. After data collection of this study was completed, the project proceeded with an official public consultation in the fall of 2019 where the final project plan was presented to the community of Husby. An analysis of this final project plan might affect the results of this study. Gaining a more comprehensive understanding of how Stockholm municipality handles interests would also require a more in-depth analysis of the city's planning documents. However, this particular study relies chiefly on interviews with municipal representatives in answering such questions. Finally, future research would benefit from including a broader range of stakeholders. Discussions on city-wide urban sustainability will continue to benefit from studies that examine and compare the role of interests and power in other districts of Stockholm as well as in Europe more generally.

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## Interviewees

Representative from Nyréns Arkitektkontor (1), 2019. Interview 2019-03-20.

Representative from the Traffic Division (2). Interview 2019-03-20.

Representative from the Traffic Division (3), 2019. Interview 2019-03-26.

Representative from the Urban Development Division (4), 2019. Interview 2019-04-30.

Representative from Rinkeby-Kista District Administration (5), 2019. Interview 2019-03-22.

Representative from Husby Gård (6), 2019. Interview 2019-04-17.

Representative from Järva Green Party (7), 2019. Interview 2019-05-07.

Representatives from Residential Population of Husby (8), 2019. Interview 2019-04-25.

Representatives from Residential Population of Husby (9), 2019. Interview 2019-04-25.

## Appendices

### Appendix 1. Translation of Terms

#### *Planning Documents*

Stockholm City Plan --- Översiktsplan för Stockholm

Greener Stockholm --- Grönare Stockholm

Rinkeby-Kista Park Plan --- Parkplan Rinkeby-Kista

Overall Maintenance Plan for Igelbäckens Culture Reserve --- Övergripande skötselplan för Igelbäckens Kulturresevat i Stockholms stad

#### *Municipal Offices of Stockholm*

Traffic Division --- Trafikkontoret

Urban Development Division --- Exploateringskontoret

City Planning Division --- Stadsbyggnadskontoret

City Planning Division Board --- Stadsbyggnadsnämnden

Rinkeby-Kista District Administration --- Rinkeby-Kista Stadsdelsförvaltning

### *Local Organizations*

Järva Green Party --- Miljöpartiet Järva

North Järva District Council --- Norra Järva Stadsdelsråd

### *Technical Terms*

Green Culture Promenade --- grönt kulturstråk

City brow --- stadsbryn

Social utility and experience values --- Sociotopsvärden

Social utility and experience values map --- Sociotopskartan

## Appendix 2. The Survey

STUDENTARBETE – Emelie Kittlesen  
Naturgeografiska institutionen, Stockholms



### Enkät – Upplevelse av park och grönområden i Husby och Järva landskapet *Survey – Experience of park and green areas in Husby and the Järva landscape*

Denna enkät är anonym och kommer enbart att användas och sparas i detta projekt  
*This survey is anonymous and will only be used and saved for this project*

Kryssa eller ringa in det/eller de alternativ som passar bäst in på dig  
*Mark or circle the/those alternative(s) that fits you best*

#### 1. Hur gammal är du?

*What is your age?*

☐ 18-29      ☐ 30-49      ☐ 50-64      ☐ 65+

#### 2. Kön/könstillhörighet?

*Gender*

☐ Man      ☐ Kvinna      ☐ Annat Alternativ      ☐ Osäker      ☐ Vill ej svara  
*Male      Female      Other      Uncertain      Don't want to answer*

#### 3. Är du född i Sverige?

*Are you born in Sweden?*

☐ JA      ☐ NEJ  
*YES      NO*

#### 4. Bor du i Husby?

☐ JA      ☐ NEJ  
*YES      NO*

→ Om NEJ, vart bor du och varför vistas du i Husby?

→ If NO, where do you live and why do you visit Husby?

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**5. Anser du att du har lätt att ta dig till en park eller grönområde från din bostad?**

*Is it easy for you to get to a park or a green area from where you live?*

☐ JA  
YES

☐ NEJ  
NO

☐ Vet ej  
Don't know

**a) Varför eller varför inte?**

*Why or why not?*

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**6. Hur ofta besöker du eller befinner du dig i en park eller grönområde?**

*How often do you visit or spend time in a park or a green area?*

☐ Varje dag  
Every day

☐ Det varierar  
It varies

→ Hur och varför varierar det?

→ *How and why does it vary?*

☐ Flera gånger i veckan  
Several times per week

☐ Någon gång i veckan  
Some/few times per week

☐ Någon gång i månaden  
Some/few times per month

☐ Aldrig (Hoppa direkt till fråga 10)  
Never (Skip to question 10)

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**7. Finns det några speciella parker eller grönområden du tycker om att besöka i området (t.ex. i Husby, Järvafältet, Igelbäcken m.m.)?**

*Are there any specific parks or green areas you like to visit in the area?*

☐ JA  
YES

☐ NEJ  
NO

→ **Om JA, vilka?** (Om du inte vet vad de heter kan du beskriva dem)

→ *If YES, which ones? (You can describe them if you don't know their names)*

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→ Om JA, varför tycker du om att besöka dem? (Du kan välja flera alternativ)

→ Om NEJ, varför brukar du besöka en park eller grönområde, om du gör det? (Du kan välja flera alternativ)

→ If YES, why do you like to visit them? (You can choose several options)

→ If NO, why do you visit a park or green area, if you do? (You can choose several options)

☐ För att koppla av  
*To relax*

☐ Njuta av naturen och landskapet  
*Enjoy the nature and landscape*

☐ Använda som en genväg  
*Use as a shortcut*

☐ Träna/motionera  
*Training/exercise*

☐ Promenera  
*Going for a walk*

☐ Arbete eller studier  
*Work or studies*

☐ Odlar eller plockar bär, svamp, m.m.  
*Growing crops or collecting food*

☐ Umgås eller leka med familj och vänner  
*Hanging out or playing with family and friends*

☐ Träffa andra besökare  
*Meeting other visitors*

☐ För att vara ensam  
*To be alone*

☐ Rasta husdjur  
*walking pet(s)*

☐ Leka eller spela (spel/boll m.m.)  
*Playing games or sports*

☐ Andra skäl:  
*Other reasons:*

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**8. Vilka kvaliteter tycker du är viktiga i ett grönområde eller park? (Du kan välja flera alternativ)**

*What qualities are important for you in a park or green area? (You can choose several options)*

☐ Närhet till bostad/arbetsplats  
*Nearness to home or job*

☐ Storleken  
*The size*

☐ Park utrustning och faciliteter (t.ex. mötesplats, sittplats, grillplats, toalett)

☐ Naturen och landskapet (t.ex. flora, fauna)  
*Nature and landscape*

☐ Fint och rent  
*Nice and clean*

☐ Trygghet

lekplats, plaskdamm, stigar).

*Park amenities*

☐ Avskildheten och stillheten  
*Seclusion and peacefulness*

*Safety*

☐ Annat:  
*Other:* \_\_\_\_\_

**9. Brukar du vara i eller besöka Igelbäckens kulturresevat på Järvafältet?**

*Do you visit Igelbäcken's culture reserve at Järvafältet?*

☐ Aldrig  
*Never*

☐ Ibland  
*Sometimes*

☐ Ofta  
*Often*

☐ Veldig oft  
*Very Often*

**10. Finns det något som skulle kunna få dig att besöka parker och/eller grönområden i Järva oftare? (Du kan välja fler alternativ)**

*Is there anything that would make you visit a park or green area in Järva more often? (You can choose several options).*

☐ Kortare avstånd hemifrån  
*Shorter distance from home*

☐ Längre avstånd hemifrån  
*Longer distance from home*

☐ Fler aktiviteter att göra där  
*More activities to do there*

☐ Bättre skötsel av parkutrustning  
*Better maintenance of park equipment*

☐ Bättre skötsel av naturen  
*Better maintenance of nature*

☐ Fler besökare där  
*More visitors there*

☐ Färre besökare där

☐ Om det fanns MER grön växtlighet (t.ex. skog, träd, buskar, gräs, gräsmattor, m.m.)  
*If there was MORE green vegetation (e.g. forests, trees, bushes, grass, lawns, etc.)*

☐ Om det fanns MINDRE grön växtlighet (t.ex. skog, träd, buskar, gräs, gräsmattor, m.m.)  
*If there was LESS green vegetation (e.g. forests, trees, bushes, grass, lawns, etc.)*

☐ Om parkutrustning var utformad annorlunda  
*If park equipment was different*

☐ Mer möjligheter för odling, bär, eller svamplockning m.m.  
*More opportunities for planting and collecting food*

☐ Jag vet inte  
*I don't know*

*Fewer visitors there*

☐ Annat skäl:

*Other reason:* \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Om jag hade mer fritid  
*If I had more spare time*

☐ Om det var (eller kändes) mer tryggt  
*If it was (or felt) more safe*

### 11. Hur ser du på bostadsbyggandet i Husby?

*How do you view the construction of new residential buildings occurring in Husby?*

☐ Mycket Negativt  
*Very negative*

☐ Negativt  
*Negative*

☐ Neutralt  
*Neutral*

☐ Positivt  
*Positive*

☐ Mycket Positivt  
*Very Positive*

→ **Varför?** (*Why?*)

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### 12. Hur ser du på upprustningen av park/grönområden i Husby och på Järvafältet?

*How do you view the efforts to improve parks and green areas in Husby and on Järvafältet?*

☐ Mycket Negativt  
*Very negative*

☐ Negativt  
*Negative*

☐ Neutralt  
*Neutral*

☐ Positivt  
*Positive*

☐ Mycket Positivt  
*Very Positive*

→ **Varför?** (*Why?*)

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### 13. Känner du förtroende för kommunen och dess beslut som tas i området?

*Do you trust the municipality and the decisions that are taken in and around Husby?*

☐ JA  
*YES*

☐ NEJ  
*NO*

☐ Vet ej  
*Don't know*

→ **Varför?** (*Why?*)

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**14. Har du hört om planerna att förbättra gångvägen mellan Husby centrum och Husby Gård?**

*Have you heard about the plans to improve the walking path between Husby centrum and Husby Gård?*

☐ JA  
YES

☐ NEJ  
NO

→ **Har du åsikter kring detta?** (*Do you have opinions about this?*)

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**15. Det har pågått tre dialogmöten kring dessa planer. Har du varit med på dessa möten?**

*There have been three meetings about these plans. Have you been to any of them?*

☐ JA  
YES

☐ NEJ  
NO

→ **Om NEJ, hade du velat vara med?** (*If NO, would you have liked to participate?*)

☐ JA  
YES

☐ NEJ  
NO

☐ Kanske  
Maybe

☐ Vet ej  
Don't know

→ **Varför?** (*Why?*)

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**16. Har du hört om förslaget att bygga 700 bostäder i södra Husby och en bilväg längs Järvafältet?**

☐ JA  
YES

☐ NEJ  
NO

→ **Har du åsikter kring detta?** (*Do you have opinions about this?*)

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**17. Det finns en stark proteströrelse i området kring detta förslag. Vad tycker du om dessa protester? (t.ex. håller du med eller inte, m.m.)**

*There are strong protests against this suggestion. What do you think about these protests? (e.g. do you agree or not, etc.)*

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☐ Jag godkänner att dessa uppgifter sparas enligt lagen om hantering av personuppgifter, GDPR

*I approve that these records are saved according to the law regarding personal information, GDPR*

(Detta betyder att enkäten samt de uppgifter du lämnat om dig själv enbart kommer användas och sparas till denna undersökning samt forskningsprojektet. Eventuella personuppgifter kommer enbart att vara tillgängliga för studenten och medarbetare inom forskningsprojektet fram till år 2021. (Allt publicerat material anonymiseras.)

*(Eventual personal data collected will only be used and saved for this specific study and research project. Such information will only be accessible to the student and partners within the research project until the year 2021. All published material is anonymous)*

**TACK FÖR DIN MEDVERKAN! Thank you for your participation!**