

17 COPENHAGEN GOALS for sustainable development



 **THE ALTERNATIVE** in Copenhagen

Political program for the local elections on 21 November 2017

Dear Copenhagener,

Dear Copenhagener,



The political program you are about to read is the result of a unique experiment in politics and democracy. Guided by our conviction that the more we are the more we know, we have invited hundreds of Copenhageners to our so-called “political laboratories” and asked them to share their ideas about what a sustainable city would look like. We are delighted to present here what we, together, have come to in the course of those discussions.

In The Alternative, we are working to achieve a sustainable society. The world is in dire need of countries and cities which take the sustainability transition seriously. That is the direction the future is headed, and our ambition is no less than building a city that is at the forefront of that transition.

With the United Nations taking the lead, the world has set its sustainable development goals up until 2030. The 17 UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) make up the most ambitious transformation plan the world has ever seen. And if it's up to us, The Alternative in Copenhagen, we should take inspiration from that level of ambition, and do everything we can to live up to those goals – at the international, national and local level alike.

Our city has a unique basis to build upon. It's easy to see why cities all over the world look to Copenhagen when they search for their formula of sustainable urban development. That is something we must be proud of, but at the same time we must also feel an obligation. That's why we believe that Copenhagen should use its unique platform to go even further and with ever higher ambitions.

If we keep setting the bar high, other cities will follow suit - as they've done in the past – to the benefit of city dwellers all over the world. In short, The Alternative's objective is to make Copenhagen not only the best city in the world, but also the best city for the world.

Inspired by the UN, we have therefore set our own 17 goals for a sustainable Copenhagen. Goals that we want to achieve by 2030 at the latest. We call them the Copenhagen Goals, and together they make up both a vision and a long-term course for the future's sustainable Copenhagen.

On behalf of The Alternative in Copenhagen
Niko Grünfeldt / Leading candidate



Our candidates:

Niko Grünfeld (spidskandidat)
Fanny Broholm
Kåre Traberg Smidt
Bjarke Charlie Serritslev
Franciska Rosenkilde
Maja Krog
Kim Hjerrild
Birgitte Kehler Holst
Jakob Gorm Andreasen
Rune Lundgaard Jørgensen
Rolf Bjerre
Troels Christian Jakobsen
Badar Shah
Helena Udsen
Stine Skot
Matthew Daniali
Jonas Sloth Bach

THE ALTERNATIVE
in Copenhagen

COPENHAGEN GOAL 1

A city of decent and meaningful lives



Copenhagen must be a leader in social sustainability. No one should live in poverty, and social benefit schemes must become much more efficient, more flexible and better tailored for individual needs. We are seeking to establish Copenhagen as the city of decent and meaningful lives and communities.

Our proposals:

/ Municipal poverty line

Current welfare schemes – like the social security cap or the 225-hour rule – hit many Copenhageners hard and increase the risk for social marginalization. The Alternative will push for economic support for socially marginalized fellow citizens that ensures basic needs, like housing, medication, etc. Copenhagen must be at the forefront of poverty reduction in Denmark. By reforming social payout schemes and introducing a local poverty line we can achieve social balance.

/ Early measures targeting children and youngsters at risk

We know that the earlier we as a society take action the better the chances that children and youngsters at risk avoid social marginalization. Research shows that timely investment in children's overall well-being decreases the likelihood of subsequent problems with health, criminality, substance abuse and violence.

/ Personalized budgets for socially marginalized citizens

We want to make sure that permanent caseworkers are assigned to the most socially marginalized, and at the same time we want to develop new measures that are more flexible and better tailored for individual circumstances and needs. For instance, we propose experiments with individual budgets. This is something that has been successfully tested in England where it had a very positive effect on homeless people and socially marginalized families.

/ Professional competence, dignity and personal engagement in social services

We have to get much better at restoring freedom of action and individual judgement of the staff working on the frontline of social services. In addition, we want to organize our social services in such a way that citizens are invited to engage and take ownership of their lives.

/ The happy jobcenter

In the public employment service (jobcenter), we want to prioritize trust over control and people over rigid procedures. That is unfortunately not the case today when bureaucracy, over-regulation and compulsion consume time and dry up motivation for case-handlers and citizens alike. We want to experiment with innovative solutions, such as providing social security without counterclaims. This would increase both the quality of the employment service and sense of content for employees and customers alike.

1



UN SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOAL 1: END POVERTY

The UN wants to end poverty in all its forms everywhere.
The objective is to eradicate extreme poverty by 2030.

COPENHAGEN GOAL 2

A city of eco-friendly and healthy foods for everyone



Global food production has a massive environmental impact. It is the No. 1 driver of CO2 emissions, deforestation and waste of resources. At the same time diets are directly linked to potential health problems. If we change the ways we produce and consume food, we can decrease our collective carbon footprint and promote individual health.

Our proposals:

Climate friendly foods in public catering services

Our lifestyle and consumption is a key factor in how we transit to an ecologically sustainable society. We will therefore purchase much more locally produced, seasonal food products, and promote a plant-based diet in public institutions and canteens.

100 % eco-friendly ingredients and meals

Copenhagen Municipality must actively promote a switch to ecological farming. We will do this by increasing to 100 % the purchase of eco-friendly ingredients in all municipal administration units and canteens.

At least one veggie day a week

In order to become even more climate-friendly, we are proposing one veggie day a week in all canteens and kitchens that cater to the municipality's employees.

Subsidies to urban ecological farming, green schoolyards and locally-sourced ingredients

The transportation of foodstuff is damaging the environment. Therefore, we should to the highest possible extent produce our food close to where we live. For instance, schoolyards and rooftops are ideal locations for growing vegetables, herbs and ingredients. In addition, Copenhagen Municipality must prioritize Zealand, Scania (Skåne) and the islands close to Zealand (Bornholm, Møn) when purchasing food ingredients.

Food waste reduction through information campaigns and concrete measures

Copenhagen must reduce its food waste. We want to engage citizens, business actors, housing associations, institutions, local entrepreneurs and activists so that we together can set ambitious targets to that end.

2



UN SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOAL 2: END HUNGER, PROMOTE SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE

The UN wants to end hunger and promote sustainable agriculture
By 2030 everyone in the world must have access to nutritious diets.

COPENHAGEN GOAL 3

A city of quality life and healthy living in all life phases



Many Copenhageners can live good and fulfilling lives. Still, we must remember that a large number of our fellow citizens are in need of help and support for various reasons. Young families experience increasing hardships with time management. Others, including both the young and the elderly, struggle with stress, loneliness, anxiety, failure to thrive, and financial difficulties. We want to change that.

Our proposals:

Boosting day care centers

Day care centers have been hit hard by repeated austerity measures, but it can be costly in the long run if we cut back on children's care. The Alternative wants to improve conditions in nurseries by increasing resources, boosting these institutions' education activities and giving more freedom to their staff. By doing so, we'll ensure that nurses and teachers have proper working conditions and more time for the children, as well as for themselves.

Quality life for seniors and "specialized care homes"

Elderly people - regardless of their age and health conditions - must be given the opportunity to live good and meaningful lives. We want to improve contentment for both residents and staff in elderly care by introducing the concept of "specialized care homes" designed according to specific needs and interests.

"City houses" and community organizers in local areas

We envision "city houses" which would address residents' needs across administrative divisions. City houses would be joint entry points to the healthcare system, the public employment service, social services, guidance on entrepreneurship, businesses, mentorship programs, etc. At the same time they would be supporting citizens' initiatives and cultural projects and function as community places and social hubs.

Coherence in physical and mental health care

A well-functioning healthcare system is crucial to life quality. The city council should therefore launch specific initiatives to ensure enhanced coherence between all relevant stakeholders, and thereby improving cooperation between the key administrative units such as the Capital Region of Denmark, Copenhagen Municipality and the general practitioners.

More facilities for sport and motion

We should think more innovatively about how to utilize existing city spaces. There is already a large number of training sites run by sport-loving citizens, but we should get even better at spotting and developing urban spaces for sport and motion. We will be in close dialogue with residents and tap into their ideas about how to draw on existing frames.

3



UN SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOAL 3: GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING

The UN wants to ensure healthy lives for all and at all ages by, among other things, prevention and treatment of substance abuse, combating stress, reducing air-pollution, etc.

COPENHAGEN GOAL 4

A city of free and creative public schools



Teachers are bound today by strict documentation requirements, prescribed teaching methods and bureaucratic target management. Resources are not sufficient and many children get stressed by going to school. Public schools are to prepare our children for a future that requires lifelong curiosity, education and creativity. Therefore we have to invest heavily in public schooling and set it free.

Our proposals:

Optional grading scale

It should be up to the schools to decide whether or not they want to use the numerical grades. Instead of a narrow-minded focus on testing and minutely described learning goals, we must seek an education system where individual formation, curiosity and engagement is encouraged and where it is absolutely natural to experiment and develop by trial and error.

Schools with less confines and more funds for development

The Alternative in Copenhagen wants to allocate a funding of 100 million kroner yearly for a period of four years to improve the quality of our public schools and boost their development. This funding is to be added directly to the schools in support of their self-defined improvement goals, such as the development of new education forms and platforms that encourage social group learning, boost inclusion and create more convenient time frames for teachers' preparation and professional back-and-forth among teachers.

Broadening the schools' offers within both craftsmanship and art subjects

It's important that we encourage and develop people's innate creativity and abilities, including arts, culture, craftsmanship and trade. We envision a school system that equally nurtures the head, the heart and the hand. Every child must be given the opportunity to follow their dreams and unfold their talents on the highest possible level - be these talents either intellectual or practical.

More resources for inclusion

We are backing every effort to boost the inclusion of marginalized kids in public schools. We want to put more focus on the pupils' individual needs as well as to create an inclusive learning environment for each and every student. For this to succeed, the necessary funds must be allocated to, among other things, hire assistant teachers and ensure continuing pedagogic development.

Bigger focus on sustainability

The climate crisis is the biggest threat to humanity and therefore it's important that children and youngsters learn about sustainability, the green transition, climate, environment and nature. We will strive to ensure that these subjects are properly discussed in the public school setting - and not only theoretically but also as tangible everyday realities that we humans influence by our consumption and lifestyle choices.

4



UN SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOAL 4: QUALITY EDUCATION

The UN wants to ensure quality education for all by, for instance, eliminating gender disparities and ensuring equal access to all levels of education.

COPENHAGEN GOAL 5

A city of equality and dignity for everyone



We maintain a culture where the rules of the game are not the same for everyone. Some are expected to behave in certain ways while quite the opposite is expected of others. Applied norms can be limiting due to factors that are not up to us, such as gender and looks. The Alternative seeks a culture change which aims to achieve real equality between the sexes as well as for the city's various minority groups. With specific measures, we wish to set the individual free and ensure maximum diversity in our community so that we can draw upon everyone's unique potential and creative spirit.

Our proposals:

The same arrangement regarding maternity and paternity leave for municipality employees

Current regulation as regards maternity and paternity leave should be revised. As a supplement to the 2 weeks' time they are now entitled to, young parents in municipal workplaces should get an additional 12 weeks earmarked leave. Those 12 weeks could be freely used in the course of the annual leave period but would be cancelled if not taken within the annual leave.

Equality at children's level

We seek equality among children and the young, and we want to establish the individual as our point of departure in all circumstances. We will ensure that an awareness of power structures and privileges become an integral part of the teachers' in-work training. Child care centers, schools and social clubs should formulate their own equality strategy encompassing gender, sexual preference and diversity. The City Hall must back this up by providing research, organizing public seminars and workshops, and putting experts at the institution's disposal, so the latter can get the proper qualifications in the broad area of equality.

Trials with anonymous applications in the public sector

One's qualifications, and not one's name, should grant access to a job interview. To avoid discrimination, we propose to test an anonymous application process in selected municipal institutions. These tests can subsequently result in a broader regulation of anti-discriminatory employment procedures.

Diverse workforce in Copenhagen Municipality

Copenhagen Municipality is among the country's biggest employers. As in several other places in the world, we should actively seek to include people with disabilities and ensure a diverse workforce in city-run workplaces. Chain liability should be introduced so that contractors and subcontractors on municipals projects would also have to offer flexible working conditions and a proper standard of wages.

Pro-active measures against hate crimes

In our city there must be room for differences, and minority groups should be able to be themselves. Therefore we want to scale up efforts against hate crimes by strengthening preventive and educational measures. In addition, we also want to support grassroots associations like Normstormerne and Mino Danmark who actively work with the inclusion of minorities.

5



UN SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOAL 5: GENDER EQUALITY

The UN seeks to achieve gender equality and to put an end to all forms of discrimination against women and adolescent girls.

COPENHAGEN GOAL 6

A city of clean water, soil and marine environment



There are several sources of pollution in Copenhagen that endanger the ground water and the aquatic environment. It's crucial that the quality of water is improved and stewarded for the benefit of today's Copenhageners and their descendants.

Our proposals:

Protection of our drinking water

Copenhagen receives its drinking water from outside as our own groundwater is contaminated. But the groundwater outside the city limits is also endangered by polluting pesticides which spread at water drilling sites. We will work hard to ensure that the groundwater beneath us is cleansed as well as that the drinking water we bring in from outside is not exposed to chemical pollution. We want to make sure that our children and grandchildren can enjoy clean tap water.

Marine reserves

The whole Copenhagen Port Area, covering the waters between Copenhagen and Malmo, is to be converted into a marine sanctuary. The objective is to protect wildlife and to block oil spill, waste and other contamination discharged by the shipping industry. All extraction of raw materials must be prohibited within the marine reserve while sustainable fishing may continue. We will seek a Swedish-Danish agreement to protect the rich concentration of animals and plants in the Øresund strait ecosystem. In addition, we will strive for enhanced local protection in core habitats (i.e., harbour porpoise, seals, stone reefs, codfish, eelgrass, etc.).

Renewable electricity for cruise ships docked in the Copenhagen port

Copenhagen is a popular destination for cruisers which dock in Copenhagen Municipality's port. While in the port, the cruisers are powered by their own engines, causing noise, air pollution and CO2 emission. We want to make a new arrangement in which the cruisers are powered from the land by renewable sources of energy .

Sea farming, biodiversity and maritime kitchen gardens

We should make use of the city's harbor areas for food production. As industry left these areas, there has been an apparent improvement of water quality. This opens up new possibilities to boost biodiversity and to produce food locally. To start with, we can strengthen mussel, algae and seaweed stocks. One mussel, for example, purifies 200 liters of water daily.

Collecting and using rainwater (instead of discharging it to sewers)

Clean water is a privilege and resource that we have to cherish. Therefore it is necessary to prohibit the discharge and overflow of sewage into our waters.

6



UN SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOAL 6: CLEAN WATER AND SANITATION

By 2030, the UN wants to achieve universal and equitable access to safe and affordable drinking water for all. Sustainable water resources management is another important objective.

COPENHAGEN GOAL 7

A city of green energy and clean air



Copenhagen's current climate action plan is ambitious but it is mostly based on the conversion of coal-fired power stations to biomass plants, and the installation of windmills. At the same time we are lagging behind when it comes to the transport sector. It is crucial that we set municipal goals and subgoals and introduce concrete measures in order to become zero-carbon as soon as possible.

Our proposals:

Zero-carbon capital as soon as possible

Future CO₂ reductions must mainly come from the transport system which is to be made greener by boosting electric cars, biogas-fueled heavy vehicles, cycling and public transit. This means that a lot of our roads must be reserved for electric cars, electric taxis, electric bikes and other zero-emissions vehicles. We wish to convert the city center to a car-free zone, except for eco-friendly truck delivery services.

A power grid that attracts international attention

Copenhagen must be a world-leader in smart-grid solutions. We envision a power grid system in which renewable sources of energy, intelligent heat pumps, and plug-in vehicles functioning as energy storage tools work in synergy with their effects multiplied. Biomass is a limited resource and all climate research show that we can only tackle global warming if there remains a significant absorption of CO₂ by plants and soils. Therefore, we consider biomass a transitory solution which has been properly harnessed but which now has to be replaced by fully renewable sources of energy and energy efficiency measures.

Solar panels all over the city

Solar energy can be boosted in several ways. First, there should be solar installation requirements on every new housing project in the city. In addition, barriers on installing solar panels to existing buildings must be eliminated in collaboration with the national government. Lastly, solar panels must be obligatory on all building work and roof replacements ordered and carried by the city council.

Increased efforts at energy efficiency

Through guidance and education campaigns we must help both households and businesses save energy. When buildings are renovated, increased energy efficiency must be a top priority. Concurrently, incentive programs for saving energy should be set up and alternative financial terms for that end must be examined.

Faster, greener and more innovative mobility

We must be better-equipped to switch between various means of transportation (e.g. "park and ride") so that mobility is improved for everyone. In addition, we will seek to introduce a road pricing model that would determine travel costs in proportion to one's pollution as well as a Mobility-as-a-Service (MaaS) arrangement which can boost green and smart mobility by combining public and private transportation providers through a unified gateway.

7



UN SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOAL 7: AFFORDABLE AND CLEAN ENERGY

By 2030, the UN wants to ensure universal access to affordable, reliable and modern energy services, and increase substantially the share of renewables in the global energy mix.

COPENHAGEN GOAL 8

A city of work-life balance



All too many must burn the candle at both ends just to make ends meet. All too many are stressed out, anxious and develop stress-related diseases. Family bonds can break, children can be neglected and everyday pleasures can go fully lost on us unless we restore the balance between the private and the professional spheres. The Alternative wants to replace the current competition-culture with a balance-culture in which everyone is regarded as valuable, everyone can realize their potential and have the opportunity to enter into meaningful community relations.

Our proposals:

A city without stress

Stress care clinics, therapeutic gardens and other similar tools and initiatives must be prioritized and scaled up in order to ensure that Copenhagen can offer the best possible support for citizens who suffer from stress, anxiety or depression. Furthermore, we will seek to develop an action plan entitled "A city without stress".

Denmark's first trial with basic income

Universal basic income is a worthwhile concept as it can address issues like jobless growth, increasing inequality, poverty and unemployment. Basic income can become the future's sustainable social security net because it provides a basic financial security for all citizens while giving them the opportunity to arrange a healthy work-life balance. At the same time, basic income would mark a break with the job centers' expensive, bureaucratic and control-based public employment service which has proved to be so inefficient.

Toward a 30-hour workweek

Denmark has one of the highest average annual hours worked per household and therefore children spend the longest time in day-care institutions. 450.000 Danes show symptoms of stress on a daily basis and 900.000 find it hard to create a balance between work and private life. Against this background, we must start moving toward a 30-hour workweek. Copenhagen Municipality, as the country's biggest employer, has a unique opportunity to be at the forefront of that development.

The City Hall: a workplace in balance

The city as an employer should have a much bigger trust in its own institutions and employees, and should as much as possible avoid unnecessary documentation requirements and control. Trust must increase and control must decrease - especially in practice. We seek to achieve a substantial "trust reform".

8



UN SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOAL 8: DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH

THE UN's objective is to boost lasting, inclusive and sustainable economic growth by putting a focus on innovation and de-coupling growth from environmental exploitation.

COPENHAGEN GOAL 9

A city bursting with entrepreneurship



Small and midsize businesses employ a huge amount of people, at times having accounted for as much as 50 % of Denmark's net job growth. What's more, there is a broad consensus that creativity, inventiveness and social entrepreneurship will be all-defining factors in the future's economy. Therefore, it is very reasonable to invest in both the community's and the individual's creative powers in public schools, higher education and working life alike. The Alternative will seek to establish Copenhagen as the best city for entrepreneurs and sustainable enterprises.

Our proposals:

World class social entrepreneurship

The city council should, as soon as possible, adopt and implement a bold action plan for social economy and social entrepreneurship. In this respect we can take inspiration from such success stories as the Settlement in Vesterbro, Roskilde Festival and KPH Projects. The objective is to make it easier for communities and individual entrepreneurs to kick off and operate social businesses.

Physical frames for the city's growth layers

Our city must provide proper physical frames for the budding growth layers of innovative businesses to develop. Within these frames, initiators of sustainable businesses can grow into social entrepreneurs until the time when they are ready to move out as established, socially responsible companies.

Streamlining administrative procedures

Permits, applications, licenses, taxation - a business needs to be in contact with a confusing amount of offices and administrative divisions. We propose that the already established Business House Copenhagen be reviewed and upgraded so that businesses get optimal assistance in their dealings with municipal divisions.

Funds for green change agents

We are convinced that green initiators and change agents play a vital role in the big transition. Therefore, we want to set up a separate pool of funds in support of locally anchored projects and collaborations, which - by raising awareness and disseminating knowledge via local social and cultural events - can drive the green transition within local communities.

A broad package of measures boosting entrepreneurship

We want to significantly strengthen the entrepreneurial culture in Copenhagen. We want to make it easier and more attractive to start a business. Among other things, we will seek to upgrade the so called "entrepreneur houses", improve guidance and counsel in entrepreneurship, introduce several forms of "micro-loans" and alternative sources of funding - such as crowdfunding - and create 10-year-long business-related PhD positions to attract researchers and boost new, groundbreaking businesses.

9



UN SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOAL 9: INDUSTRY, INNOVATION AND AGRICULTURE

The UN wants to build resilient infrastructure, promote sustainable industrialization and foster innovation.

COPENHAGEN GOAL 10

A city with a place for everybody



Urban development and homebuilding in Copenhagen is driven by strict commercial interests which don't take environmental and social challenges into account. The city badly needs new homes that are affordable for young generations, students, low and middle income people and singles. Copenhagen must be a city for all, rather than for the few.

Our proposals:

More council housing and cheap flats

The city council should make demands to raise the cap on the minimum amount of council flats in new housing projects. Currently, the city can only require 25% per project to be built into council flats. The Alternative in Copenhagen seeks requirements for developers to build as much as 50% of all new homes for the purpose of public housing.

Sustainable city planning with the residents' needs in focus

The past several years' commercially driven urban development has distorted the real estate market. As a consequence, it has become much more expensive to live in Copenhagen. This trend must change. Copenhagen mustn't become a "rich ghetto" without any residency requirements. Instead, it must retain its social mix and diversity with a place for everyone. We will seek to apply an outlook that goes beyond the strictly commercial in housing development. Social and community cohesion should be key factors in city planning.

Shipping container homes for students

If we want Copenhagen to remain a great student city, we must build new homes for its growing student body. In the short run, we propose building temporary shipping container homes to cope with the increasing demand of college students who do not have a roof over their heads. Floating shipping containers in urban harbors - inspired by the Urban Rigger floating dorm concept - can be a fast, sustainable, cheap and mobile solution to the problem.

Varied types of dwelling

Student homes and retirement housing should be prioritized when the city council makes decisions on housing stock and new constructions. With an increasing number of students, elderly and singles, the average household size keeps changing. New constructions should therefore be much more varied than before.

Transit houses for foreign homeless

Instead of putting homeless migrants in custody, we should give them a safe place to stay while they receive assistance from Copenhagen Municipality's social workers under the so called Transit Program. We propose to set up temporary transit houses for foreign homeless.

10



UN SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOAL 10: REDUCE INEQUALITY WITHIN AND

By 2030, the UN will ensure equal opportunity and reduce inequalities, including the elimination of discriminatory laws, policies and practices and the promotion of appropriate legislation, policies and action in this regard.

COPENHAGEN GOAL 11

A city of diverse cultural life



Culture is for everybody. A rich and lively cultural life is key to self-understanding, intellectual outlook and historical memory. We seek to prioritize culture and the arts in the public sphere. Copenhagen is to become a progressive cultural city for all its inhabitants and visitors.

Our proposals:

Open cultural scenes and playgrounds

We want to support independent artists, art practitioners and art facilitators by giving them a platform. By setting up open cultural scenes, we seek to set artists free and bring their work closer to the public. We have to create better and more accessible frames for displaying art and better opportunities for artistic practice in public.

Art and culture at children's level

We think it's crucial to provide high-level art and culture for the city's children. We will seek to strengthen the presence of artistic and cultural subjects and activities in public education and create an even broader palette of specialized music and art schools. The objective is to connect all children to professional art and culture.

A strategy for culture and design

We want to develop a strategy that will make Copenhagen a leading city in culture and design. Anchoring our city as a world design capital will create jobs and attract talent and investors from everywhere. We want Copenhagen to be an international front-runner when it comes to creativity, cultural offerings and a ground-breaking art and design scene.

Cultural investments that increase and define quality of life

For too long, the city's culture and leisure activities have been managed on the same modest budget, despite a marked population growth. As state subsidies recede, the city council must step in and take responsibility. The Alternative has high ambitions in this respect: we want art and culture to be a central part of all Copenhageners' everyday lives in our streets, schools, libraries and all possible public spaces.

Libraries and cultural centers as engines of democracy and integration

Of all the cultural activities the city has to offer, libraries are the most utilized. We want to strengthen them both with facilities and manpower so that they can retain their central role in the future. To an increasing extent, libraries should be able to boost their visibility by arranging public events and engaging with citizens. In addition, we want to experiment with "specialized libraries" within different media, such as music, film, etc.

11



UN SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOAL 11: SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES

The UN wants to help cities and communities become inclusive and sustainable. It also wants to strengthen efforts to protect and safeguard the world's cultural and natural heritage.

COPENHAGEN GOAL 12

A city of ethical consumption and circular economy



Living up to Denmark's commitments in the Paris Climate Agreement requires that by 2050 Copenhagen's CO2 emissions be reduced from approx. 19 tons to 2 tons. That's a massive challenge. Both on the political and the administrative levels we must push for a system that - in addition to the one-dimensional economic bottom line - also measures the green and the social bottom lines (Triple Bottom Line).

Our proposals:

80% of the city's waste to be recycled by 2030

In a joint effort with citizens and the business sector, we must develop best practices to convert our waste into resources so that waste is either reused or in other ways channeled back into the production cycle. In our vision, Copenhagen by 2030 becomes a world leader in the development, implementation and export of circular economy solutions. We want to establish our capital as a world-famous hub for circular economy.

Mapping Copenhageners' actual CO2 emissions

Drawing on research-based knowledge, we plan to introduce trials with individual carbon budgets. This can give people insight into their personal emissions and make them better equipped to reduce their carbon footprint - both by adopting lifestyle changes and supporting policy measures. Prospectively, we seek to set up a citizens' panel that can come up with proposals as to what areas should be prioritized so that we can make Copenhagen a city without greenhouse gas emissions.

New, sustainable purchasing strategy in Copenhagen Municipality

Copenhagen Municipality purchases goods for billions of Danish kroner every year. It's crucial that we pass the necessary legislation so that all future public investments, subsidies, purchases, etc. are assessed on both environmental, social and economic grounds.

Sustainable local tourism

We propose that the city council enter into agreements with other Danish, Swedish and German cities to boost local tourism as an alternative to environmentally damaging air travel.

Promoting climate-friendly behavior changes

We need many more information campaigns and better education in public schools promoting climate-friendly behavior changes like the reduction of food waste, use of public transport and waste separation. We also want to train "climate ambassadors" who can facilitate child-to-child and adult-to-adult education in climate issues.

12



UN SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOAL 12: RESPONSIBLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION

The UN wants to ensure sustainable consumption and production, and by 2030 substantially reduce waste generation through prevention, reduction, recycling and reuse

COPENHAGEN GOAL 13

A city leading in climate solutions



The climate will change significantly in the near future with extreme weather events, water level and temperature rises becoming ever more frequent.

This creates manifold challenges for current and future generations of Copenhageners. It will only get more expensive if we put off making our city climate resilient. Copenhagen must not only be prepared for future climate events but it must also become a global knowledge center of the green transition.

Our proposals:

Transitioning to 100% clean energy and becoming carbon negative

Copenhagen Municipality has an ambition of becoming carbon neutral by 2025. That's clearly the way to go, but we must be even more ambitious and set the goal of becoming carbon negative. This means we should produce more clean energy - optimally within the municipality's boundaries - than what makes up for the CO2 emissions our consumption generates in other places of the world.

Developing climate resilience by building blue-green infrastructure

Copenhagen has an ambitious environmental action plan against cloudbursts and other climate challenges. The Alternative seeks to upgrade that plan and develop a blue-green infrastructure by reopening and widening the city's hidden streams and brooks. These can function as natural channels in case of cloudburst, rain storms and water level rises.

The best cycling and pedestrian city

Copenhagen Municipality has always been ambitious when it comes to building cycling infrastructure. To avoid air pollution, improve public health and reduce CO2 emissions, we have to boost and further strengthen this trend. In collaboration with surrounding municipalities we want to ensure that there are always enough bicycle stands on both ends of public transport lines. Other objectives include building more cycle lanes, widening existing ones and experimenting with bicycle busses.

In-job climate mitigation training for managers and board members

Both in businesses and public institutions the management level often lacks specific knowledge about eventual climate change mitigation and adaptation measures. In the private sector we want to create opportunities for managers and board members to participate in climate mitigation training. For the senior management of public institutions and public-private partnerships this kind of in-job training must be made compulsory. The establishment of a green research and education center would greatly boost these efforts.

13



UN SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOAL 13: CLIMATE ACTION

The UN wants to strengthen resilience and adaptive capacity to climate-related hazards and natural disasters in all countries.

COPENHAGEN GOAL 14

A city of recreational waters



Water is the primary precondition for life and a key factor determining the quality of life in cities. Unfortunately, it is also the resource most susceptible to the impacts of urbanization. We must cherish and safeguard our water resources and the city's blue oases, such as the harbour baths and spas.

Our proposals:

/ New outdoor harbor bathing facilities

Our harbor baths give residents and tourists an opportunity to enjoy the city in a novel and healthy way. We must have more of them, preferably with more variety so that they meet different needs.

/ Beaches and lakes

Beaches and lakes make it possible to engage in a wide range of recreational activities, especially in summer, when we need clean air and water most. We want to invest in the clean-up of Copenhagen lakes and, at the same time, we will seek to open up the city's brooks and make them available for recreation.

/ Setting up drinking fountains all over the city

Compared to European capitals Copenhagen is lagging behind when it comes to offering residents alternatives to bottled water. An easy solution would be setting up easily accessible public drinking taps.

/ Street fishing - taking back the city's waters

Whether it be a craving for action or for quiet contemplation time after work, there is plenty of nature to experience right beneath our feet, under the bitumen surface. Presently, it is forbidden to fish in Fælledparken, at The Lakes, in H-C. Ørstedsparken, at Østre Anlæg, and in the canals of Christianshavn and at Christiansborg. But there is plenty of fish in all of these waters. Allowing street fishing would give Copenhagen back to Copenhageners.

/ Canal tours for and by children

We propose that all Copenhagen schools get a ticket coupon so every class can take a canal tour every year. Students would be encouraged to learn about the wildlife, architecture, sailing culture, old industry, trading life, etc. of the harbors and guide tours themselves. This would make students better equipped to appreciate the harbor area, and understand the linkage between nature and city and the necessity of their dynamic interplay.

14



UN SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOAL 14: LIFE BELOW WATER

The UN seeks to enhance the conservation and sustainable use of oceans and their resources. The objective is to prevent and significantly reduce marine pollution of all kinds by 2020.

COPENHAGEN GOAL 15

A city of diverse urban nature



Copenhagen does not have much access to nature, especially wild nature. Biodiversity, natural environments and wildlife are increasingly threatened in Denmark. Therefore, we must be utterly committed to safeguard what we have and boost biodiversity using a range of environmental protection measures.

Our proposals:

Preserve the Amager Fælled commons and the city's other green oases

Amager Fælled is the lung of the city that gives us opportunity to engage in healthy outdoor activities in close contact with nature. It goes without saying that this area mustn't in any way be exposed to construction work and a new built environment. We must protect the old salt marsh's rare species of fungi, insects and plants, some of which are already endangered. This is a very delicate ecosystem which can only thrive if undisturbed. Moreover, the old salt meadow on Amager Fælled is the most unique piece of nature around Copenhagen.

More wild nature in the city

Research has shown that living close to green areas and being able to see plants from our window benefits us. Therefore, we must grow trees and plan parks wherever we can in the city while also aiming for maximum biodiversity. We envision a city that has the most trees per square meter in the world. This is a worthwhile goal because being in nature has a markedly positive effect on learning, memory, physical well-being and health, including stress-related ailments.

A more ambitious approach to biodiversity in urban landscapes

City parks and green spaces tend to have a relatively low degree of biodiversity which should thus be increased. This requires that we break with the sort of monoculture planting that dominates many of the city's green spaces, and develop varied planting schemes instead.

Nature by prescription

The Alternative wants to introduce a trial scheme under the title "nature and culture by prescription" which would serve as an alternative to prescription drugs to treat conditions like stress, depression, substance abuse, heart problems, etc. We should always remind ourselves that nature and culture has a proven positive effect on people's well-being and physical health.

Nature at children's level

Research shows that spending time in nature increases children's learning abilities. Schools and public institutions should therefore make an increased effort to take children out into green spaces so that they can develop a much closer contact with nature. This will also make them appreciate the importance of a rich and diverse natural environment.

15



UN SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOAL 15: LIFE ON LAND

The UN wants to take urgent action to reduce the degradation of natural habitats and halt the loss of biodiversity. Combating deforestation and replanting after deforestation are key objectives.

COPENHAGEN GOAL 16

A city of new political culture



Danish democracy is under a lot of strain. We need a new political culture. The credibility of the political class is at a low point. Voters' turnout at the latest local elections was just 61,2%. This is a problem that we must tackle together.

Our proposals:

Copenhagen-mandate to Copenhageners

Copenhageners should have the opportunity to realize what they think is best for the city. We want to give residents the ability to put their proposals to digital voting. The idea is that a given section of eligible voters could initiate an online petition which would send an issue to the polls. For the petition to be valid, 50+ percent of voters would have to back the petition. When voting is secured, the proposal could go through with a simple majority. The Copenhagen-mandate would ensure sure that the city's residents have an enhanced influence on public life between elections.

Citizen-driven proposals to Copenhagen Municipality's Citizen Representation Board

It's crucial that Copenhageners engage themselves in discussions about the city's development. Many of them already do, but we envision that citizens could also raise an issue with Copenhagen Municipality's Citizen Representation Board (Borgerrepræsentationen). This could be done through their NEM ID's or other digital solutions. We will continuously work for participatory democracy, citizens' co-determination and co-responsibility and thereby increase public trust in democracy.

Open and transparent Town Hall

We will strive for increased transparency and openness regarding party donations, money flows, the registration of lobbyists, better regulation concerning whistleblowing, etc. Moreover, we want to introduce an annual "democracy week" where municipality staff and citizens can interact on any given issues. In other words, we want to create a new political culture, and a much more open, transparent and democratic Town Hall.

Citizen-driven budgets in all city districts

Copenhagen should experiment with citizen-planned district budgets where the city's districts and their population have real influence on their own affairs. As much as possible, we want to transfer decision-making powers to the local level and to the citizens themselves.

The Alternative Town Hall

The Town Hall and the city council must have a reputation of listening to and co-creating with the local population. We propose that some of the official meetings of the Citizen Representation Board take place out in the city, and not in the Town Hall. All this for the benefit of transparency, democratic participation and civic courage to change our city for the better.

16



UN SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOAL 16: PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS

The UN wants to strengthen societal inclusion, encourage public participation, and ensure responsive, inclusive, participatory and representative decision-making at all levels

COPENHAGEN GOAL 17

The best city for the world



Copenhagen and the surrounding municipalities compete for workplaces and socioeconomically advantaged citizens. This short-sighted competition across municipality borders obliterates the manifold advantages of cooperation. Copenhagen Goal 17 is about a broad political, technological and economic cooperation across municipal, regional and national boundaries where city councils, regional councils, enterprises, organizations and citizens take ownership of set objectives and work together to achieve them.

Our proposals:

Copenhagen as an international stakeholder

The Alternative will seek to develop international partnerships with other cities, including the strengthening of our participation in C40, a network of the world's megacities committed to address climate change. Moreover, we wish to network with cities which, like us, work strategically within the framework of the UN Sustainable Development Goals.

Development assistance to sister cities and cities in developing countries

Copenhagen must support cities with less favorable conditions and develop cooperative, knowledge-sharing programs with them. This can be done via the direct transfer of best practices, resources and financial help to the respective cities, but also indirectly by purchasing policies vis-a-vis international companies.

International environment for innovation

We envision a strategic plan for Copenhagen's innovation environment which encourages the exchange of experience, and ensures the constant inflow of new talents and knowledge. We want Copenhagen to remain an internationally attractive city with a wide appeal to both private individuals, families and enterprises.

Enhanced cooperation with other municipalities on the sustainable transition

Municipalities have a crucial part to play in the green transition - both as public authorities, developers and change agents in cooperation with companies and citizens alike. Copenhagen must take proactive action to develop varied cooperation forms across municipalities and regions, all with the aim of accelerating the green transition.

Active partnerships driving for results

Copenhagen alone won't be able to achieve our Copenhagen Goals or significantly further the UN Sustainable Development Goals. The City Council must therefore actively engage local businesses, institutions and citizens to find common solutions and meet the challenges our city and the world is facing.

17



UN SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOAL 17: PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS

Through enhanced international cooperation, trade and innovation, the UN wants to ensure that all positive forces work together to achieve the 17 UN Sustainable Goals

The Alternative's candidates in Copenhagen

standing for the local elections on 21 November 2017



Niko
Grünfeld



Fanny
Broholm



Kåre Traberg
Smidt



Bjarke Charlie
Serritslev



Franciska
Rosenkilde



Maja
Krog



Kim
Hjerrild



Birgitte Kehler
Holst



Jakob Gorm
Andreasen



Rune Lundgaard
Jørgensen



Rolf
Bjerre



Troels Christian
Jakobsen



Badar
Shah



Helena
Udsen



Stine
Skot



Matthew
Daniali



Jonas Sloth
Bach

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