Green City Almere

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Alderman, Municipality Almere
Where and what is Almere?
Europe > The Netherlands > Almere
“To me, the entire Almere project was like making a dream come true. In days of old, the aristocracy left town and established country estates. And now we were given the opportunity, thanks to our sound tax system and a high level of education, to develop a country estate for a quarter of a million people.”

Teun Koolhaas
The making of new land
De Zuiderzeewerken

Goals
- Water protection
- Fresh water basin
- Agriculture
- Better connections between different parts of The Netherlands
Structure Plan 1961
Structure Plan for the Southern IJssellake polders

Basic plan for reclamation of Flevoland

Extra task:
Space for expansion needed
Recreational areas
Infrastructure
Plan Markerwaard not implemented
Garden City Model
Programmed green as part of the city

Ebenezer Howard
Social Model
Town-country
Multiple cores embedded in green
Green is fundamental part of the city
Self-sufficient city
“But neither the Town magnet nor the Country magnet represents the full plan and purpose of nature. Human society and the beauty of nature are meant to be enjoyed together. The two magnets must be made one ( )

The town is the symbol of society – of mutual help and friendly co-operation, of fatherhood, motherhood, brotherhood, sisterhood, of wide relations between man an man – of broad, expanding sympathies – of science, art, culture, religion.

And the country!

The country is the symbol of God’s love and care for man. All that we are and all that we have come from it. Our bodies are formed of it; to it they return. We are fed by it, clothed by it, and by it we are warmed and sheltered. Its beauty is the inspiration of art, of music, of poetry. Its forces propel all wheels of industry. It is the source of all health, all wealth, all knowledge. But its fullness of joy and wisdom has not revealed itself to man. Nor can it ever, so long as this unholy, unnatural separation of society and nature endures.

Town and country must be married, and out of this joyous union will spring a new hope, a new life, a new civilization”. 
Structure Plan 1977
Almere a city with multiple cores embedded in green

Teun Koolhaas

Multiple core – city
Anti-city
Strong connection with the environment
Fundaments for green & water

Basis for development of Almere
Development of Almere

Dikes and canals

1967
Development of Almere

1970
Development of Almere

1975

Making forests
Development of Almere

First core: Almere Haven

Forests and lakes

Infrastructure
Development of Almere

Second core: Almere City

Expansion lakes and forests

Adding facilities

Infrastructure
Development of Almere

Third Core: Almere Buiten
Public transport
Expansion lakes and forests
Development of Almere

Fourth core: Almere Hout
Expansion cores, facilities and green

1995
Development of Almere

Expansion cores, facilities, landscape and green

2000
Development of Almere

Fifth core: Almere Poort

Expansion cores, facilities and green
Development of Almere

Expansion cores, facilities and green

2010
Fundaments of green are visible, but Green is distanced from the urbanized area; Green is only partially developed; Green is not yet integrated with the city.

But also consider that Green is very young (35 years);

Opportunities to develop it further
Metropolitan Area Amsterdam
Structure Vision of the Randstad Area for 2040

Strengthen the Triangle Amsterdam-Utrecht-Almere
+ 220,000 dwellings
+ economic development
+ infrastructure
Metropolitan Area of Amsterdam
Development strategy including New Town Almere

Task Almere 2030

60,000 new dwellings
100,000 extra jobs

→ Almost doubling the existing city
Preserve Landscapes
Green Landscapes of National and Regional importance

- Waterland
- Green wedges
- Amsterdam
- Green Heart
- Utrechtse Heuvelrug
Landscape Typologies
Green Landscapes of National and Regional importance

Waterland

Green wedges Amsterdam

Green Hart

Utrechtse Heuvelrug
What kind of city model?
In which way we facilitate the growth task?

1. Urban, densification, a compact city-model

2. Sub-urban, scattered, a multiple-core city model

→ Estimate the young city concept (35 years)

Re-find the essence of the city-model of Almere
Rehabilitate and reactivate city model

Green city

Multiple cores

Development of water and green

Current situation

Densification

New cores
Almere Principles
For an ecologically, socially and economically sustainable future

The Almere Principles
For an ecologically, socially and economically sustainable future of Almere 2030

Qualitative growth & development:
1. Cultivate diversity
2. Connect place and context
3. Combine city and nature;
4. Anticipate change
5. Continue innovation
6. Design healthy systems
7. Empower people to make the city

Closely related to Almere as a Green City
Rehabilitate and reactivate city model

Multiple-core city

Adding new cores to existing ones

New ax Amsterdam – Almere - Utrecht
Modernize the Howard-model
Activating the landscape → to a more self-sufficient city

Current social demands
Health & Care
Culture, Arts & Education
Agriculture
Energy
Recreation & Leisure
Water management
Structure vision Almere 2.0

For an ecologically, socially and economically sustainable future

1. Ecologic
2. Social
3. Economic

Almere 2.0

Adding new city cores

Maintain current quality of city concept

Take on the challenge to activate landscape
Green City and Art, Culture & Education

Adding new program - icons

City and nature meeting each other

Experience nature
Activating the Green City

Garden of Love & Fire – Daniel Libeskind

Garden of Love & Fire

Connection between Almere, Salamanca and Berlin

Spiritual place as a symbol for new live

Relation between landscape, nature, culture, present and future
Activating the Green City
Green Cathedral – Marinus Boezem

Green Cathedral

178 poplars Gothic Cathedral; Notre-Dame of Reims

Temporary ‘living cathedral’

Sustainable Cathedral as a gap in the forest
Activating the Green City
The Oostvaarders – Droste + van Veen

The Oostvaarders
Experience and meeting nature
Conference, wedding, meetingpoint
Abstract situation polder (waterboard)

- Water safety – robust dikes
- Better quality – fresh water
- Water storage within the polder
Activating the Green City
Future development of Almere IJland
Activating the Green City
Future development of Almere IJland

1. Building with nature
2. Improving quality of water and nature
3. Connecting and exceptional living on islands
4. Variation of leisure, program
Activating the Green City
Future development of Almere IJland
Activating the Green City

Future development of Almere IJland
Green City and Agriculture
Future development of Almere Oosterwold

- Rural living; low density of housing
- City-farming
- New landscape-park
- Organic growth
Activating the Green City
Future development of Almere Oosterwold

City farming
Connecting city and land; life cycle
- Food
- Energie
- Water

Diagram:
- Bio waste
- Processing Bio gas
- Power centre
- Heating and energy for city
- Residu waste = Fertilizer
- Farm
- Waste
- Food
Activating the Green City
Future development of Almere Oosterwold

Rural living
Empower people to make the landscape
Activated the Green City
Future development of Almere Oosterwold

Organic growth
Gradually in time and space
Activating the Green City
Future development of Almere Oosterwold

Eemvallei
New landscape park; Basic green structure Oosterwold
Water storage and cleaning water
Nature, recreation and agriculture
Green City and Health & Care
Veluwse Bron - A new Estate

Health & Care
Development of green into a new estate
Public landscape
Activating the Green City

Urban estate The Kemphaan

The Kemphaan

Nature education

Multiple programs

City farming and foodmarket
Double landscape goal
Facilitating 60.000 dwellings and 100.000 jobs in Almere

On the one hand:
Saving landscapes on national - regional level

On the other hand:
Possibilities to activate the Green City of Almere