



**VIBORG**  
KOMMUNE

# League of Historical and Accessible Cities: Viborg

International meeting on accessibility / Torino 16-17th June 2011



## New ways to history and heritage in Viborg



BEVICA  FONDEN

VANFØREFONDEN



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## The partnership behind the project

The partnership behind the project is formed by a number of Danish funds together with the local municipality:

- Realdania
- Bevica Fonden
- Vanførefonden
- Arbejdsmarkedets Feriefond
- The Municipality of Viborg



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## Viborg

- Viborg is located in the middle of Jutland on a range of steep hills.
- The city is dated back to 900 AC
- It is episcopal residence and the place where kings were crowned.
  
- The municipality and city have:
  - 92.823 inhabitants (municipality)
  - 35.100 inhabitants (city)
  - 3 millions visitors a year
  - 1,3 million tourists a year



● Cathedral





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## Architecture and historical traces

- The street structure and some stone-houses can be dated to the Middle Ages.
- Churches and graveyards were cancelled after the Reformation in the 16th century and gave place to new buildings and squares.
- The growth following the industrialization in the 18th and 19th century can be seen in the many baroque and classicist buildings.



Medieval stone-houses in Sct. Mogens Gade



Nytorv: a graveyard before the Reformation



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A shopping street with view to the surrounding landscape



Hjultorvet: The heart in the commercial area and a well defined urban space



Nytorv: a graveyard before the Reformation – today an important node in the city centre's infrastructure



The open plaza at the Cathedral is surrounded by cultural and administrative buildings



The large buildings in the area around the Cathedral



Some streets rise steeply



Medieval stone-house and a cobbled street



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## Activities and process

- A **design contest** will lead to a decision on a general contractor.
- In the design contest **five interdisciplinary teams** are invited to propose their ideas. A prequalification has taken place throughout May.
- The design contest start end of June and is expected to end in October.
  
- Project development – ending April 2012
- Implementation and communication – from May 2012





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## Vision

- To improve accessibility for all to buildings and public spaces in a historical city where one of the challenges is the steep rises of the streets due to the location in a hilly landscape.
- To improve the continuous experience of the city and connect the commercial activities with the historical and cultural attractions – that is, to create business development through cultural heritage.
- To use innovative solutions for both physical measures and communication in order to make the historical values of the city accessible to all – without damaging the authenticity.
- To realise the project within a strong local network and collaboration.





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View to the Cathedral from the South