

OUR

PROGRAM

FOR DIFFERDANGE

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Differdange is a dynamically growing town that will soon have 30,000 inhabitants. Differdange is diversity - has charm, energy and joie de vivre. But Differdange also has a number of problems that can only be solved with a strong LSAP. Our municipality now needs new political impulses and concepts to bring its advantages and opportunities to bear. The LSAP has developed ideas and concepts for a city of innovation and sustainability, for a social, liveable and ecological city, for a city of fair opportunities for every child. For a city where everyone is mobile, in the way they want and need. We want a city of health and good jobs - a city that remains affordable for all. We want to experience the diversity of Differdange in a social and modern city together together, actively, self-confidently and respectfully! As LSAP, we are committed to ensuring that all citizens can live well and feel comfortable in our city. Together we want to develop a modern urban community in which we take responsibility for each other and treat each other openly, socially and in harmony with people and nature. For us, justice, togetherness and tolerance are just as important as safety, respect and trust. We should meet the challenges of the 21st century with a social and sustainable-modern policy oriented towards the citizens. Urban development, open space planning, infrastructure and mobility planning must go hand in hand.

1. URBANISM: BETTER LIVING, BETTER RESIDING

Redynamisation of the Differdange town centre:

- Attracting new and modern businesses.
- Growing together the 'old' and the 'new' Differdange centre.
- Redesigning the public space opposite the Differdange school.
- Urbanistic redesign through wide pedestrian passages and greening.
- Widening of the railway bridge with a new pedestrian passage.
- Shared space zones in the city centre.
- New car park "Contournement" with passages to the city centre.
- Redesign and renewal of Nelson Mandela Square with underground parking.

- Development of a concept for the "Lommelshaff" (e.g. home brewery, music café and premises for workshops, artists' studios, etc.).
- Concrete plan for the expansion and redesign of the former Differdange Hospital (premises for the community and the Differdange Music School, opening of the park for citizens).

More parking space in Oberkorn:

- Inclusion of parking spaces in the area of the Oberkorn primary school.
- The "Jehan Steichen Square" will become a modern car-free central square for Oberkorn. An underground parking area will compensate for the lost parking spaces.

Better design of Fousbann:

- Extension of the school campus to include the EIDE, on the site of the CID (after relocation). A technical lyceum "École professionnelle", as well as a new swimming pool for the entire school campus are to be built here.
- Construction of a noise barrier in favour of the "Cité Kalekerbach".
- Extension of the Woiwer school in the "Woiwerwissen".
- A master plan for the gradual completion of the "Woiwerwissen" project is to be realized in dialogue with the citizens.

Making Niederkorn more lively:

- The traffic problem at the Niederkorn school will be solved with an intelligent traffic light system.
- Continuation of the renewal of the Niederkorn village centre.
- Parking "Niederkorner Portal": Study with the aim of redesigning this area.
- Construction of a multi-storey car park in the Haneboesch industrial estate.
- A new school building is planned for Niederkorn.

Lasauvage, a village with character:

- Further development of Lasauvage and Fond de Gras into an oasis for recreation and tourism.
- Preservation of the character and heritage of the mining village of Lasauvage.

2. HOUSING CONSTRUCTION (LOGEMENT)

High quality and affordable housing for all:

- Build affordable housing for all (including the middle class).
- Targeted promotion of rent-to-own for first-time buyers, as well as for young families.
- Include adequate affordable housing in new projects.
- Use building land reserves to offer Differdange citizens condominiums at cost price, as well as affordable rental housing.
- The municipality should build flats to sell to Differdange citizens at affordable prices.
- Create intergenerational meeting places.

3. STRENGTEN THE BUSINESS COMMUNITY AND ATTRACT NEW, INNOVATIVE BUSINESSES

- Redesign the "City Management" with a coherent overall concept.
- Revitalize the centre to attract new, innovative businesses.
- New impulses to promote retail in all parts of the town.
- Revitalize and expand the hotel industry in our city.
- Attractive design of our pedestrian zone in the town centre (e.g. covered multi-functional area in the sense of a "Galerie-Ouverte").

4. TRAFFIC AND PARKING DESIGN: BETTER DRIVING, EASIER PARKING

- Planning of a proper railway station in Differdange, which should function as a multimodal transfer point and be equipped with display boards of arrival times, business life (such as bakery, cafés...).
- Require the connection of Differdange to the planned terminus of the tram line (Belvaux).
- Establishment of a direct bus connection to Bascharage-Gare during peak hours.
- Urgent rescheduling of the Oberkorner drawbar (avenue Charlotte): it should disappear from the cityscape as soon as possible.
- Development of charging stations for electric vehicles.

Friendly and safe interaction between all road users:

- Awareness campaign for cyclists and pedestrians.
- Develop a coherent network of cycle paths throughout the municipality.
- Traffic calming at the entrance to the village on Rue de Hussigny in Differdange and Route de Belvaux in Oberkorn.
- General introduction of "Zone 30" in the area of schools.

Update of the outdated parking concept in the municipality of Differdange:

- Introduction of neighbourhood parking in residential areas.
- Revision of the tariffs of underground car parks / multi-storey car parks.
- Intelligent use of available parking spaces over 24 hours.
- Revision of the tariffs of the "Vignette résidentielle" / "Parking résidentiel" zones.

5. SECURITY

- In order to guarantee security in our municipality, new technologies (surveillance cameras) must be installed in residential areas that are perceived as unsafe (Differdange centre, Oberkorn railway station, etc.).
- The public lighting of the streets, pavements and public places will be expanded and improved.
- Creation of a participatory safety commission: citizens from different parts of the municipality provide the members and become the contact point for questions and suggestions. This participatory process will be created with the administrative support of the municipality.
- The LSAP plans to reorganise the "Comité de Prévention" in cooperation with the safety commission, among other things with regard to the evaluation of the "Plan local de sécurité".
- The LSAP demands a strict application of the Animal Welfare Act with regard to marking and grooming.

6. OLDER CITIZENS: RESPECTING THEIR NEEDS

- Expansion of a senior citizens' contact point.
- Establish senior citizens' forums and expand the creation of senior citizens' advisory councils to ensure dialogue with older citizens.
- Promote age-appropriate housing and include it in future building projects.
- Adapt the "Ruffbus" concept.
- The shopping service for older people will be continued and expanded.
- Through targeted activities, for example in cooperation with the sports and cultural clubs, the participation of the older generation in social life is to be guaranteed.
- Intergenerational projects are to be promoted more in the future.

7. TOURISM

- The LSAP will plan, among other things, a new attraction in the form of a botanical garden.
- The former halls around the "Groussgasmaschinn" and the "Centrale thermique" are to find a new purpose as a museum, science centre or conference centre, together with ArcelorMittal, the state and the future operators.
- Revision of the governance of the Science Centre and creation of future synergies with the tourist site Minette-Park / Fond-de-Gras.

8. YOUTH AND CHILDREN

- Provide support for young people who have difficulties in entering the labour market (e.g. pool-replacement for local government).
- Expand dialogue with young people and let them actively participate in decision-making.
- Organize youth forums and workshops on current issues.
- Every child and young person gets a bicycle graded according to age and size.
- Digitalization at school and digital inclusion are promoted (creation of a media school).
- Culture, sports and ecological awareness are to be integrated into the schools.
- The promotion and support of those children who have problems with the Luxembourgish language is a priority for the LSAP.
- The expansion of homework help must become a reality. Pupils should be supported even more, therefore qualified learning and homework help is very close to the LSAP's heart (in and outside of care structures).
- Nature and animals should be part of the curriculum. Educational concepts such as nature schools or farm visits will be expanded.
- Strengthening the dialogue between parents, teachers and pupils (represented by the Children's Community Council, among others) is particularly important to us.
- The construction of new, decentralized and above all child-friendly structures will be increased.

- The development of cooperation between the local associations and the Maisons Relais is to be strengthened in principle.

9. EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES

- Flexible childcare involving all partners: parents, teaching staff, staff of the childcare structures and children.
- Further training of municipal staff on various aspects of equal opportunities.
- Raising awareness on gender equality in schools and care structures.
- A transversal anchoring of the topic of inclusion and coexistence in a local action plan.
- Active anti-discrimination policy in relation to disability, gender and sexual orientation.
- Support the professional inclusion of people with disabilities and/or impairments.

10. SPORT: DIFFERANGE IS LIVING SPORT

- Further sports infrastructures with a regional or national character are to be created (e.g. athletics stadium).
- New fitness and health trails will be created, expanded or renovated.
- MTB downhill track, pumptrack facility as well as a secured outdoor climbing wall are further ideas we are advocating.
- Planning for more efficient utilization of training and competition hours in all sports infrastructures in the longer term.
- Unlimited use of all state sports infrastructures (e.g. school buildings) for sports clubs (after school hours).
- A community-owned swimming pool for school and club must be planned for.
- Sport should be better integrated into the school day. Therefore, sport should also be promoted daily as part of school activities.

- Every child, regardless of his or her social background, should have the opportunity to choose the sport of his or her choice. Memberships should also be free of charge through municipal support. It is essential to guarantee the clubs better and more transparent financial support through an adapted subsidy regulation.
- Expansion of the "Service des Sports".
- The LSAP is also convinced of a "Maison des sociétés", a meeting place for clubs, among others, with freely available office space.
- National and international sporting events should be better supported financially in our municipality.
- A municipal sports coordinator should play a central role in the overall implementation.

11. CULTURE: FACILITATING ACCESS TO CULTURE FOR CITIZENS

- Cultural participation for all citizens is a basic demand of the LSAP: Access to cultural events should also be made easier for socially disadvantaged families through special tariffs.
- Family rates should be introduced for cultural events.
- The creation of a cultural forum to discuss cultural policy and cultural offerings with all cultural workers and interested citizens.
- Upgrading public spaces with art objects, especially by local artists.
- The municipal archive will be expanded and its digitalization will be promoted. This archive is to be made accessible to all interested citizens. The LSAP would like to involve the municipal archive in the planning around the Place "Nelson Mandela".
- A summer and/or winter academy for artists and interested citizens will be initiated.
- Increased organization of "fêtes populaires". This will revitalize the city centre and significantly reduce the current problems in the city centre.

12. ADMINISTRATION AND COMMUNITY FINANCES

- All citizens can participate in the democratic planning processes and decisions (e.g. information meetings on important topics and municipal projects, free access to all relevant information as well as citizen surveys and future workshops).
- Strengthening the multilingual orientation of the municipality's communication and information policy, also for persons with visual impairments.
- Elaboration of the project for the expansion of the municipal administration in cooperation with the municipal staff.
- Establishment of the multi-annual financing plan (PPF) for a period of 10 years: Clarity and transparency in municipal finances should be enforced, as well as a calculation that can be adapted to the economic situation. Above all, urgently needed investments can be better planned in this way. But above all, rigorous attention is to be paid to the costs and sustainability of the various projects.
- Greater citizen participation is to be achieved, among other things, with the introduction of a participatory municipal budget. The representative of the inhabitants from the different neighborhoods will be given a budget to implement projects. In this way, the possibility of participation is concretely translated into reality.
- Outsourcing municipal services is not an option for the LSAP.

13. CLIMATE AND NATURE PROTECTION

The LSAP is convinced that climate and nature protection, as well as a good quality of life according to socio-ecological criteria, must be the guiding principles of a modern and sustainable municipal policy. Differdange is also challenged by climate change to face up to this human task. Therefore, the following priorities arise for us here:

- Increasing energy efficiency.
- Promotion of renewable energies.
- Digital networking of energy supply, communication and mobility.

- More greening of the city centre and the other districts and villages.
- Planting at least 1000 new trees to provide shade and regulate the temperature in our city and towns.

The LSAP plans a policy that approaches the citizens, informs them intensively, invites and motivates them to participate in the climate protection project.

Sustainable planning, building, living:

Differdange is a fast-growing municipality where a lot of building is going on. This creates infrastructural problems that have to be dealt with. It is therefore necessary that the development of the municipality follows a concrete, sustainable overall strategy. For this purpose, an urban development plan is needed to guide and partly slow down the rapid growth.

In order to realize such a vision, we advocate the following goals:

- Preservation and expansion of green and open spaces.
- Creation of new parks, to improve the climate and the quality of life of the citizens.
- Unsealing and greening of large paved areas.
- Creation of tree avenues wherever possible.
- Safeguarding and further development of the existing tree population in the city.

In order to achieve the necessary climate goals in this area as well, clear and unambiguous guidelines and incentives are necessary:

- Build preferably with climate-friendly and sustainable building materials such as wood.
- Electricity and heat for public buildings are preferably obtained from renewable sources (promotion of photovoltaic systems).
- The construction of cisterns is to be promoted and subsidized more strongly.
- A study should be carried out on the use of existing spring water for drinking water supply.
- We also call for an action plan to find a definitive solution to the problem of flooding in the "Ouartier Fousbann".
- Regular monitoring of air quality through studies.
- Targeted information campaigns to increase the interest and sense of responsibility for clean and attractive living spaces.

14. HEALTH POLICY

- The LSAP stands for the retention of the polyclinic and an emergency service at the CHEM Niederkorn until the opening of the new "Südspidol", in the interest of the inhabitants of Differdingen and the region. Discussions on the form of future medical care in the Differdingen area to be determined and compensation for the CHEM Niederkorn jobs must also be held.
- Introduction of a special "last aid" counselling service.

15. SOCIAL POLICY

- The construction of new affordable housing and rental housing will be implemented by the LSAP.
- We call for increased cooperation with the "Agence immobilière sociale".
- The economic and social development of our city must be monitored permanently and in the longer term. Targeted monitoring can identify problem areas and then make it possible to actively lead them to a solution.
- The solidarity allowance ("allocation de solidarité") should be adjusted again and again.
- Fight against unemployment.
- The struggle against social isolation remains very close to our hearts. The expansion of the "Département social" of the municipality is necessary in order to be able to set clearer accents here as well. Alternative projects (such as the use of the dog "Grizzly" in the Senior Plus service) can build bridges and are welcome.

Section **Differdange**





