

Student friendly Tulli can be achieved by meaningful campus space and a safe, attractive commute.

URBAN LAB 2



Solutions:

1.

Virta Corner

Our first proposed solution is to establish a Virta Corner in the Virta building, similar to the Think Corner of the University of Helsinki (University of Helsinki n.d). Virta Corner is a monument to the openness of science, a strong presence and brand in the blooming city, and a multi-use space for knowledge exchange for the university community and beyond. The stakeholders for the initiative are the University of Tampere Foundation, student union TREY, Suomen yliopistokiinteistöt Oy (SYK), and the city of Tampere. We encourage the University and student union to take initiative towards the property owner SYK and the city to amend the current vision of "Campus City" (Tampere, 2014)

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Introduction

In our study, we investigated how the Tulli area in Tampere could be improved for students, with a specific focus on the interface between the campus and the city, as well as the main route that students frequently take from the tram stop. Our literature review revealed that locating universities in city centers had advantages for exchanging knowledge and promoting well-being through outdoor activities. Additionally, we found that incorporating green space and art, while reducing automobile traffic and increasing walking and cycling, could improve the attractiveness of the main route. Our study aimed to enhance the experience of students and improve the interaction between the university and the city.

Data collection findings

Based on interviews and mental map exercises, we gained insights into students' perceptions of the Tulli and campus area. Students typically visit Tulli for academic purposes and desire more open space, while holding neutral feelings about Pinninkatu. Many students expressed a desire for more events to create a dynamic campus environment. Some students had varying opinions regarding potential changes in the area.

Analysis of the map drawings revealed that the initial drawing points served as a basis for more detailed drawings later on. The students' vantage point in the map influenced their views, with buildings having more prominence than the street, indicating the unappealing nature of the streets. Aside from university buildings, students frequently included the Tulli shopping centre in their mind maps of the area.



2.

Tulli for Art - project

Our proposed project, Tulli for Art, aims to bring life to the streetscape, preserve cultural values, attract locals and tourists, and give voice to artists, including students. This biennial street art festival will be held on Pinninkatu, putting into practice the Tulli art strategy (2015) in a participatory way. The festival will be organized by the City of Tampere, Tampere University, Tampere Hall, and Pirkanmaan luovat tuottajat ry, with the latter two curating the exhibitions and attracting artists.



3.

Priority Cycle Lane

We propose prioritizing pedestrians and cycling on Pinninkatu by moving surface parking to Tulli's ample garage spaces to make room for greenery. We recommend converting Pinninkatu into a bicycle street where cyclists have the right of way and can determine the speed, while cars still have access. This solution caters to the students' needs while not impeding cargo and service traffic to the shopping centers and campus.



4.

Greener path

We suggest adding more green elements when developing the Tulli area. The newfound space along Pinninkatu Street can be designated for plants and bushes, and tenants can be supported to fit green walls and green roofs. The green elements not only balance the look between the built and natural environment but also bring relaxation and reduce stress to people using the surrounding area, especially students (Hanan, 2013).

References

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