

**Round Talk Discussion**  
**«Green Corridor and Public Space»**  
**within the framework of 2nd dialogue platform «WeAlmaty»**  
**Almaty City, 30th November 2017**  
**SmArt.Point coworking centre**

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- **Jim Buttery, Director of the British Council in Kazakhstan** started his opening speech and emphasized significance of creation of green and public spaces as well as engagement of the whole community in city issues by means of cooperation of state authorities, business sector and community representatives in order to find solutions.
- **Natalya Livinskaya, Head of Urbanistic Centre Almaty City Development Centre JSC**, started her opening speech and emphasized significance of open dialogue between various community groups and collection of suggestions for city redevelopment and increase of quality of life of the citizens.
- **Yerkanat Zaitov, Senior Architect-Urbanist of Urbanistic Centre Almaty City Development Centre JSC** presented materials on Formation on Public Spaces: City Parks and Green Zones. He emphasized significance of social and ecological issues as well as involvement of the community in this process. He mentioned the first open city workshop in design of city park areas and squares that involved development of 24 park design projects, 8 of which are currently being implemented and project design documents are being prepared for 16 parks. Y. Zaitov states that based on the results of studies city park zones form “green corridor” that may create more comfortable conditions for living in the city.
- **Yerzhan Kusainov, representative of the Department of Natural Resources and Subsoil Use** (hereinafter referred to as DNRSU) highlighted major directions of activity of the Department, such as, improvement of environmental situation in the city, city infrastructure gasification, development of network of cyclist and pedestrian zones, development of park spaces in the city, Almaty City green concept development.
- **Almaskhan Akhmedzhanov, Deputy Head of Almaty City Architecture and City Planning Department**, emphasized significance of such measures. He told about forthcoming plans for reconstruction of 18 streets in the city into pedestrian zones in 2018. This is all done for comfort of the citizens. Pedestrian zones shall be prepared on Tole Bi Street, Dostyk Avenue, Abay Avenue, Yesentay River Embankment etc in 2018 thus, making a ring connection, core of the city. He notes that the objective is to develop the city in order to make it more comfortable so that every resident feels himself at home and every street has its own unique style. This zone will form a core of small and medium sized business development. The project objective is to provide certain city image.

The project objective is to reanimate various districts, including Dostyk Avenue, create subcentres in the city as the pearl of Almaty for development of city polycentricity. Abay Avenue is also a border of the old city and we would like to organise subcentre there.

- In course of discussion of **city transportation issues** it was suggested to envisage new parking mechanism so that vehicle owners entering the city from the suburbs have opportunity to leave the vehicles in secure parking areas and use other public transportation (buses, electrical train etc).
- It was also suggested to apply the following approach to traffic flow along Al Farabi Avenue based on the US example. Vehicles with over 2 passengers are allowed to drive along the inner lane on the highway.
- The representative of the Society of the Sight-Impaired expressed their readiness to cooperate. It is important to take into account opinion of the sight-impaired in street development projects. 70-80% of vehicles in Almaty City are not suitable for disabled people and people with limited abilities. Pedestrian circulation on Panfilov Street is limited. **The Head of Almaty City Community, Ali Amanbayev**, suggested to involve him and other representatives of limited mobility community in street development projects and other public space development projects.
- In addition to this, it was suggested to arrange transportation corridor between Big and Small Almaty Gorge. The potential for this corridor is significant. Construction Norms and Regulations have to be applied to area development. This project is a significant one where developers and residents of the area may be engaged.
- Green zone organization and development was discussed next. Based on calculations rational option is 13 square meters of green space per 1 resident. Almaty population is 1 million 508 thousand people, that is, to date green space accounts for 447 ha in the city, and 26 million square meters is required, that is 6 times less than the planned green indicator in the city.
- It was also suggested to think of park areas without any business. A very good example is Barcelona City where pedestrian zone with coverage of 14 quarters was organised in limited city square, thus, eliminating long pedestrian streets.
- It is required to plan park infrastructure in line with city needs. It is worth to take this into account for city budget planning. It is worth noting that DACP advised that they are ready to take into account opinion and criticism of the citizens for project improvement.
- It was suggested to make a reform in local administration, that is, every entrepreneur, who will use street space area without trees and plants has to plant trees and landscape the area.
- Architectural code project development is currently underway; map represents 3D city model where air flows and green landscaped zones will be depicted. The above suggestions will be reviewed for introduction into guidance and architectural code standards.

- Business sector representatives made a suggestion to arrange green zone along the Yesentay River that was specified in 1975 Site Plan. This project is already presented in your project. Please demolish small housing and envisage green recreational zone or sport zone. Let the community decide.
- Representative of Almaty City Smart Tourism Centre introduced details. There is a map on Internet that shows the whole city with **tourist facilities** in 4 languages: Kazakh, Russian, English and Chinese. He suggested to use this resource to demonstrate green zones. This experience may be used to demonstrate the green corridor in electronic format, including city info in the English language for foreign tourists.
- **Representative of Sustainable Almaty Transportation, Elena Erzakovich**, suggested to take into account two factors for project improvement: lack of cooperation and public community discussions, that is, it is required to envisage public hearing format to take into account opinions during “WeAlmaty” dialogue platform; Quality of street development projects, that is, develop certain improvement mechanism, for example, public quality performance monitoring.
- **UrbanTalks Representative, Anel Moldakhmetova** suggested to introduce recommendation mechanism, create final document based on introduced suggestions. Communication channel has to be created for discussion of final option of green corridor.
- Equality Screening Process program is currently underway in London. This process mechanism is based on the fact that prior to launch of any program on state level or on level of any organisation, we suggest to study and analyse impact and effect of this program on life of all community groups, as such, required materials can be envisaged and introduced for all community groups at early stages in course of screening.
- **Tatyana Antonenko, President of Landscaping Association**, suggested to include representatives of public organisations and associations into such important structures as public and city planning councils and all possible committees and groups in order to cooperate and envisage decisions at design stage.
- Voting results on “**Who is responsible for city development?**”: 25 votes – for citizens, 23 votes – city administration, 12 votes – entrepreneurs.
- **Daniyar Mukitanov, Representative of the British Council in Kazakhstan** presented materials and informed that within the framework of three-year project WeAlmaty the British Council, Almaty City Administration, Almaty City Development Centre JSC and Kazakhstan British Technical University declare call for proposals. The minimum grant amount is 5000 euro per project. The project is funded by the European Union in Kazakhstan.

More detailed bid information is available here

[https://www.britishcouncil.kz/sites/default/files/challenge\\_fund\\_final\\_rus\\_v1.pdf](https://www.britishcouncil.kz/sites/default/files/challenge_fund_final_rus_v1.pdf)

## **“Green Corridor” Vision in Almaty**

*\*Green corridor is cyclist and pedestrian route development project for combination of park zones, public spaces and other points in Almaty.*

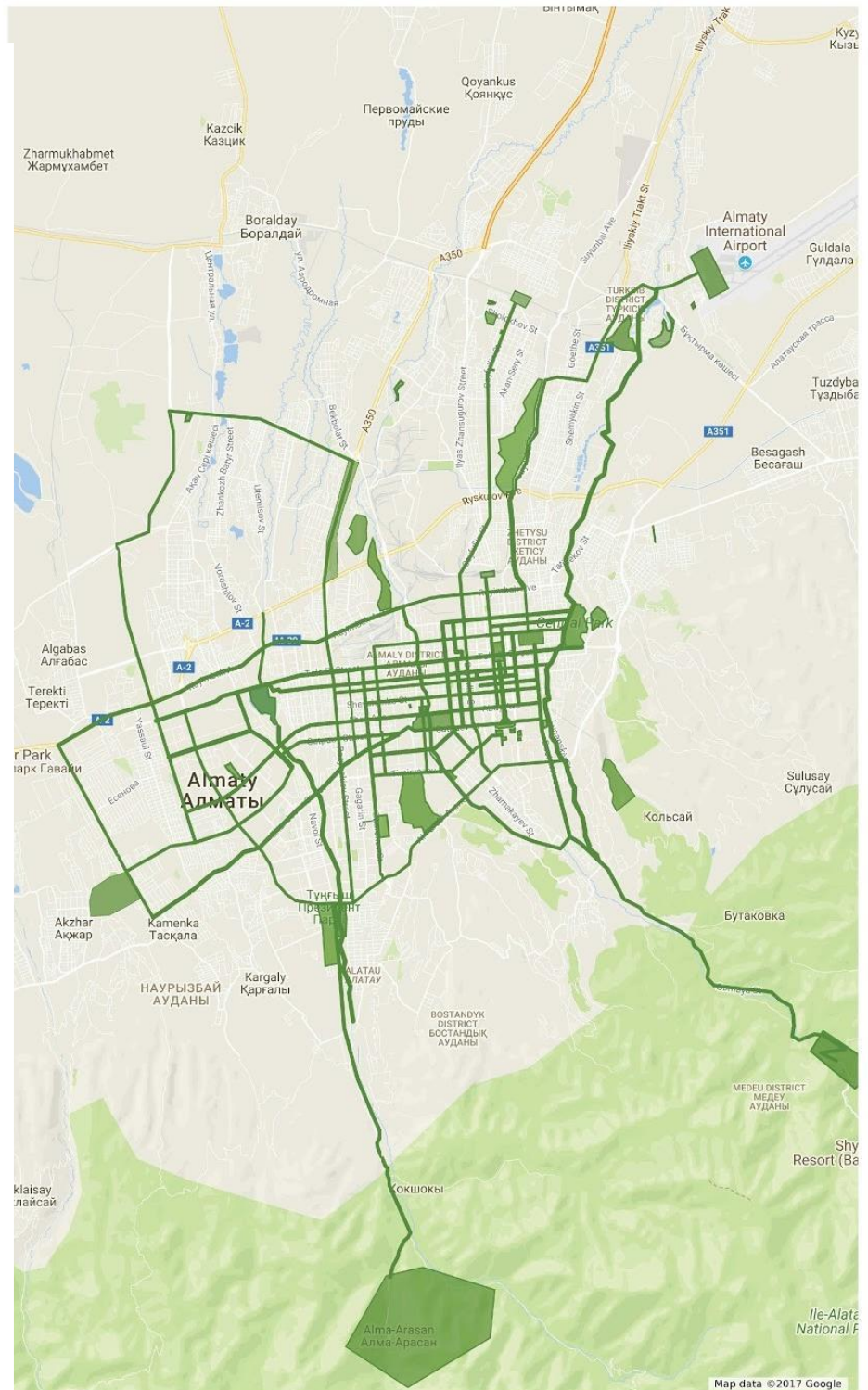
Точки притяжения

**Points of attraction:**

- Gorky park
- Zoological garden
- Baum's Grove
- Cemetery
- Cemetery
- Car boot sale
- Almaty railway station 1
- Seifullin Park
- Kok Tobe
- Almaty railway station 2
- Botanic garden
- South Park
- First President's Park
- Olympians Park
- Gagarin Park
- Family Park
- Alatau Health Resort
- Airport
- Playing-field, circus
- Akimat
- Akimat
- Presidential Park
- N.Tlendiyev Park
- Medeu
- Friendship Park
- Sayran Lake
- Alma Arasan
- Old Square
- Akimat
- Boulevard of Baikadamov
- Park named after P. Satpayev
- Park Krasnyi
- Big Almaty Lake
- State Museum Park
- Linear Park in Ainabulak microdistrict 2
- Park of the Schoolchildren's Palace
- Park of the Kazakhstan Drama Theater
- Turksib Grove
- Park of Mayak
- Children's Park
- Shugyla Park
- Airport of Glory Park
- Creativity Park
- Teksai Park
- Kaiyrbekov Park
- ZhasKanat Park
- Pine Park
- Sayaly Park

**Net**

- Bolshaya Almatinka River
- Makatayev
- Shevchenko
- Shalyapin-Satpayev



## **Suggestions of participants of “WeAlmaty” dialogue platform:**

- Create ecological patrol where volunteers and active citizens will participate;
- Use irrigation channel system area for cyclist roads;
- Build residential complex as a template with the whole infrastructure from limited mobility community;
- Place chess boards on Gogol-Muratbayev Street;
- Rename Panfilov Street into Panfilov Boulevard;
- Engage ecological organisations;
- Introduce school buses;
- Open school houses in every district;
- Build theatre/museum/gallery/art space in Nauryzbay District;
- Ensure accurate wastewater disposal;
- Clean Altyn Orda;
- Lay underground along Tashkentskaya Street toward Altyn Orda;
- Create air bridges;
- Reconstruct southern part of Botanical Garden;
- Plant trees on Manas Street;
- Make Mustafa Oztyurk Street a pedestrian zone;
- Develop northern part of the city;
- Increase a number of plastic bottle containers;
- Return BAC project to Almaty;
- Envisage kiosks near bus stations;
- Plant trees at the corner of pedestrian crossings;
- Plant trees near the benches on Satpayev -Baytursynov Street;
- Pay attention to yard spaces, cleaning, repair and garbage disposal;
- Separate cyclist roads from the road and pedestrian zones in course of green corridor planning;
- Arrange toilets, catering areas in park areas.