

Suderwick town centre development



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Suderwick is set to become even more beautiful!

In March 2025, the town council resolved to press ahead with a new plan for the design of the town centre: the Town Centre Development Plan, or [OKEK](#) for short: The aim is to make the centre of Suderwick even more cosy and welcoming, to further enhance the village's character and to expand its green spaces.

In doing so, the aim is to strengthen the link with the Dutch neighbouring town of Dinxperlo whilst preserving Suderwick's unique identity. A view across the border to Dinxperlo in the Netherlands is expressly permitted.

On 24 February 26, the Committee for Planning, Construction and Transport resolved to approve the plans and to apply for "Sporker Straße West" and "Dorfplatz" from the "Structural and Village Development NRW" programme (draft resolution [42/2026](#) [↗](#)).

You can find the presentation (as at 24 February 26) from the committee [here](#).

Latest news



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The notifications of funding approval were issued in the summer of 2026. [↗](#)

This means that the redevelopment of Sporker Straße West and the village square will be supported by a total grant of €500,000 from the Federal Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs and the Ministry of Agriculture and Consumer Protection of the State of North Rhine-Westphalia.

Planning work is now moving forward.



A look across the border: The Centrumsvisie Dinxperlo



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The idea behind the changes in Suderwick has been influenced - apart from Suderwick's ageing pipes, which need to be replaced anyway - by developments in the neighbouring town of Dinxperlo. Since 2020, work has been underway in the Netherlands on the so-called "Centrumsvisie Dinxperlo" - a plan for the redevelopment of Dinxperlo's town centre (see <https://centrumdinxperlo.nl/> ) . To this end, the municipality of Aalten has worked with planning consultancies to draw up plans for the village square, the avenue and the Hellweg. Part of the Hellweg is even on the German side and leads directly to Sporker Straße. Dinxperlo and Suderwick will therefore be further enhanced right up to the national border through a joint redevelopment of the Hellweg.

Across the Hellweg and the Allee, visitors will be able to reach the centre of Dinxperlo directly via more attractively designed paths. Key points of interest will serve as reminders of the past and invite people to linger. The aim is to bring the border experience to life more vividly than has been the case to date. Instead of the current crosses on the carriageway, the entire pavement area south of the border will be redesigned and extended.

The 'Centrumsvisie' ends in the area of Hellweg, which runs along the state border and joins Sporker Straße. The OKEK is therefore building on the plans of the 'Centrumsvisie' for the area outlined above.

— So what is the OKEK?



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The OKEK is an initial plan of how the centre of Suderwick could be designed in the future. Sporker Strasse, the village square and part of Wiggerstrasse were considered. Two areas were looked at particularly closely: the village square and the section of Sporker Straße between the village square and Hellweg. The focus was therefore also on the route into the centre of Suderwick.

The OKEK design concept brings together many topics: green spaces, environmental and climate protection, traffic and the design of public spaces and much more. Suderwick is not only to become more beautiful - it is also about improving quality of life and climate resilience.

The design concept was developed by the planning office Wolters Partner Stadtplaner GmbH. Citizens were already able to have their say at this stage - for example during a walk through the town followed by a planning round in September 2024, where interested parties were able to contribute their ideas and opinions ([https://www.bocholt.de/neuigkeiten/stadtentwicklung/stadtteil-suderwick-soll-\(noch\)-schoener-werden](https://www.bocholt.de/neuigkeiten/stadtentwicklung/stadtteil-suderwick-soll-(noch)-schoener-werden)). This feedback has already been incorporated into the current draft.

There will be further participations in future planning stages. Citizens will continue to be invited to participate in the planning process and contribute their ideas. It is not yet possible to give a concrete timeline for the planning and participation process.



What is planned in Suderwick?

The village square and Sporker Strasse (as an extension of Hellweg) are therefore to become more attractive and inviting. The design is to be based on the plans for the Netherlands in order to emphasise the special location directly on the border. Some design elements from the Centrumsvisie are also to be adopted for Suderwick: For example, pavement and footpath areas could be given red clinker paving in a row pattern based on the Dinxperlo design. A "long bench" could surround planned green areas on Suderwick's village square and invite people to linger - similar to the ones that have now been created in Dinxperlo, for example around the church. This could create a recognition value in both village centres. At the same time, Suderwick's unique character should of course be preserved.

The canals on Sporker Straße between the village square and Hellweg are outdated and will be renewed - an opportunity to make the area even more attractive.



What happens now?

Further planning steps are now required to ensure that the ideas set out in the OKEK can become a reality. The current OKEK is, for the time being, a preliminary design proposal. It outlines ideas and objectives - for example, through the inclusion of trees, which symbolise more green space. The next step will involve assessing exactly where trees can be planted. The same applies to the car parks: a detailed analysis is needed to determine which parking spaces can be created in future or which may need to be removed.

The current OKEK therefore forms the basis on which work will now continue to develop a feasible and concrete plan.

At the start of 2026, nts Ingenieurgesellschaft mbH from Münster was commissioned for this purpose. Initially, the plans for the western section of Sporker Straße, between Hellweg and the junction with Wiggerstraße, as well as for the village square, will be further developed and finalised.

Public participation remains a key part of the process. Consequently, a public information event was held on 10 February 2026 to provide an update on the current status and to gather suggestions.

On this basis, the plans were subsequently refined further. On 24 February 26, the Committee for Planning, Construction and Transport resolved to approve the plans and to apply for funding for both measures from the "Structural and Village Development NRW" programme. The applications were submitted at the beginning of March.

Whilst awaiting the funding bodies' decision, the planning work continued to progress.

The aim of the village square's redesign is, in particular, to enhance the quality of the space and adapt it to climate change. At the same time, the square is intended to strengthen the village community and provide space for a variety of uses and events.

To ensure the square meets the needs of village life in Suderwick as effectively as possible, local associations were asked to comment on the plans between 20 April 26 and 29 May 26. The feedback will help to take events and uses into account as effectively as possible.

In 2027, following the completion of Hellweg as part of the 'Centrumsvisie' project, the redevelopment will also begin on the Suderwick side: the renewal of Sporker Straße West will commence at the same time as the canal and pipework works, followed by the redesign of the village square.

In total, the town is investing around 3.2 million euros in the enhancement project - ideally supported by funding from the NRW programme "Structural and Village Development".

The active involvement of the people of Suderwick and the surrounding area is particularly important in this regard. The aim is to sustainably develop Suderwick as an attractive place to live and a distinctive border town.

The positive funding approvals were issued in the summer of 2026. This means that the redevelopment of Sporker Straße West and the village square will be supported by a total grant of 500,000 euros from the Federal Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Home Affairs and the Ministry of Agriculture and Consumer Protection of the State of North Rhine-Westphalia. The plans can now be further refined.

Contact

Astrid Cox

Stadtplanung

Stadtplanung und Bauordnung



[Send e-mail](#)



[+49 2871 953-3132](#)



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