



SCALE: urban + landscape + architecture

TEAM REPRESENTATIVE: architect/ landscaper/ urbanist/ economist

COMPETITION THEME: CENTRAL CITY SQUARE – LEADING URBAN CHANGE IN RAHOVEC

LOCATION: Municipality of Rahovec, Urban Area, City Center

POPULATION: Municipality 56,208 inhabitants, Urban Area 15,892

STRATEGIC SITE: 87.7 ha **PROJECT SITE:** 4.49 ha

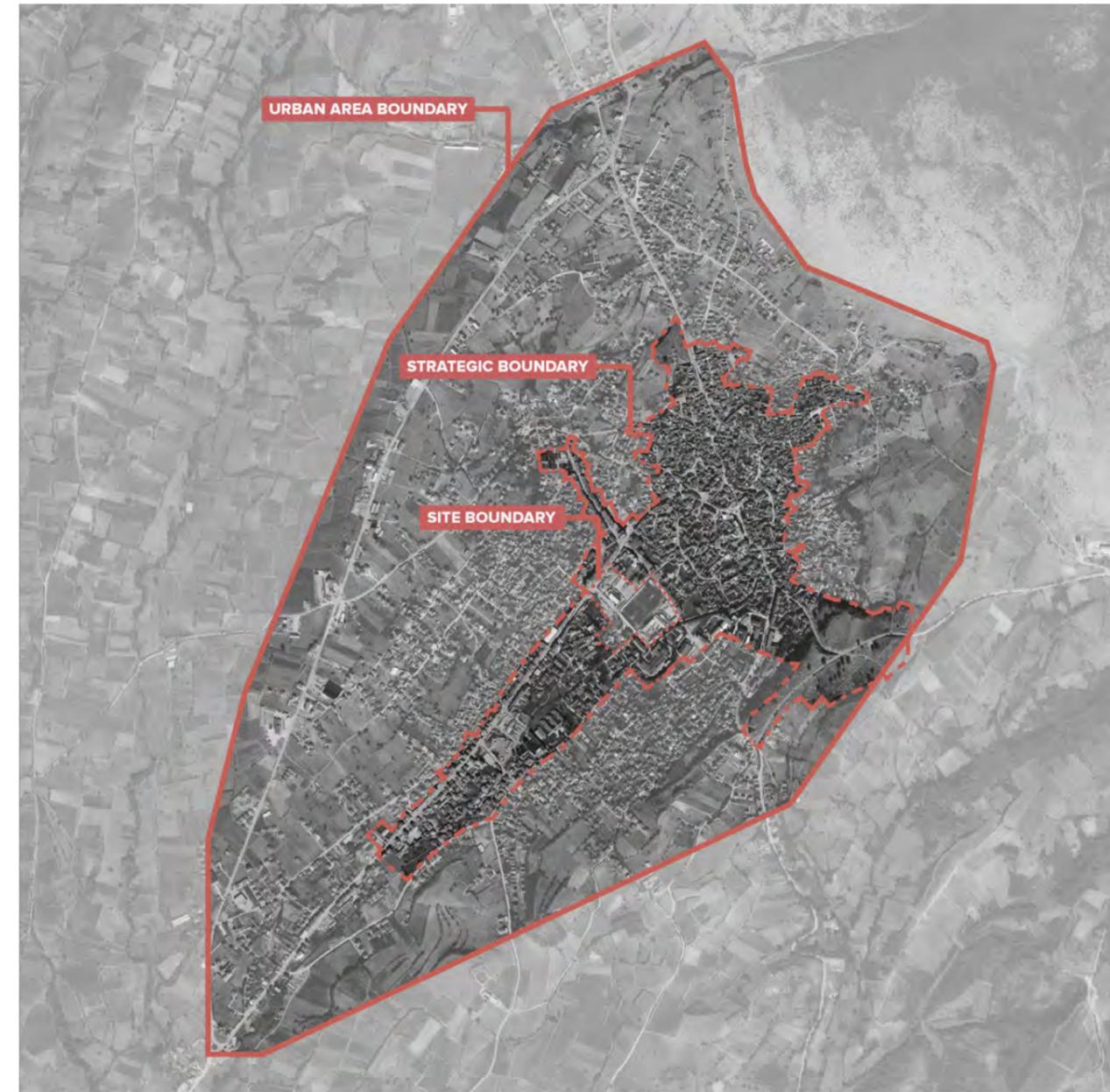
SITE PROPOSED BY: Municipality of Rahovec

ACTORS INVOLVED: Municipality of Rahovec, UN-Habitat Kosovo

OWNER(S) OF THE SITE: Municipality of Rahovec

THE SITE AND THE CITY STRATEGY

The International Design Competition for Central City Square of Rahovec is organized within the project Leading Urban Change in Rahovec through revitalization of the Central City Square. The aim of the project is to promote urban regeneration and the development of public spaces through inclusive, transparent and innovative methods of urban planning and design. The Municipality of Rahovec is carrying out this urban design competition as means to promote a design solution for a new central city square providing access to safe, healthy and inclusive green and public space, in particular for women and children, elderly and persons with disabilities. The objective of this competition is to find a visionary urban design solution for the future of Rahovec's city centre. On the one hand, it is crucial to change the sojourn quality of the public space. On the other, to stimulate the city's economic climate, by promoting the city's long history and its rich tradition as a centre of Kosovo's wine region by redesigning the cities central area to a recreational as well as festive space.



SITE DEFINITION

The competition area is located in the city centre of Rahovec, a municipality in south-eastern Kosovo. The area is being distinguished between the actual project site, a more extensive strategic site and the broader urban area of the municipality. The competition area is located in the heart of Rahovec’s city centre, neighbouring a Stadium (to be relocated) and being surrounded by several public and commercial services like schools, a museum, a library, a post office and the local green market. The competition site is further defined by hosting the city’s only public park, which, according to a conducted survey, plays a vital role in the city’s community. Due to the spatial compactness of Rahovec’s city centre, much of the city’s public and commercial services lie within walking distance. However, it lacks a qualitative public space network and pedestrian zones. To develop a holistic and inclusive public space, the design proposal must reflect the linkages to the broader strategic area, surrounding the actual project site. Looking for innovative entries that respect the city structure and its architecture while addressing the rich culture and history of the city and its region, the sought proposal needs to be of high environmental-just and social-inclusive quality in terms of its functions and its design, to build a more coherent city structure.

PRODUCTION AND URBAN DIVERSITY

The competition aims innovative and environmental-just ideas for the redevelopment of Rahovec’s cityscape to a high-quality, vibrant public urban space. Taking its cultural and historical value into account, the city centre needs rethinking, giving it a new role as an essential part of this growing town. Rahovec’s public park, “Parku i Qytetit”, as well as the Green Market and the Stadium are a significant part of the city centre in terms of its cultural as well as socio-economic heritage that need to be taken into account. A potential redesign of the public park, as well as an innovative design addressing the lack of an interconnected public space and missing pedestrian zones, should be addressed in the proposal. The purpose of the competition is to study a suitable amount of designing development in the project and broader strategic area, to create a high-quality, environmental-just solution and an architecturally successful public space.



 Project site



City Park



Green Market



Sports Hall



Department for vineyards and wine





Wineyards



Grapes