RENOVATION OF TROYKATA SQUARE
BURGAS, BULGARIA

Description of intervention

The achievement of the project goals required expansion of the public space by incorporating the surrounding streets into the pedestrian area and development of flexible open areas over 25,450 m² (total development area).

Following the existing landmarks and large vegetation, a balance between the pass-through zones and the areas for social activities and recreation was established.

The monumentality of the square was emphasized through symmetry along the historical longitudinal axis and through the high proportion of granite elements.

The notion of identity was built on the preservation of the existing, revival of former and integration of new symbols: the modern interpretation of the Troykata historical electric pole in the four high lighting poles outlining a macro frame of the public space; the monument of the Soviet Army with the ritual space and the forum, the modern “Triple Wave” fountain with the recreation area on both sides; the dry “Mist Fountain” surrounded by leisure teak wood platforms.

An underground street across the Square was constructed to connect the eastern and western parts of the city and mitigate severe traffic problems.

Sustainability was achieved through the efficient planning scheme, environmentally friendly and durable materials, energy saving lighting systems, water saving automated systems, centralized monitoring and information systems.

Evaluation

The end of construction coincided with the Patron’s Day of the city when hundreds of people gathered and filled the space – indication of its well assessed capacity. Now, after a year of exploitation Troykata Square has passed the test and became a cause for local pride. Today it is a preferable meeting place for all groups of citizens and different types of social events.

Each of its zones functions according to their initial design, yet they are flexible and well integrated into the whole of the square. The contradicting patterns are reconciled, the symbols of different epochs have found their raison d’etre and coexist with dignity.

The underground street has fully fulfilled its objectives and the accessibility for all groups of people, modern street furniture, and sustainable materials and systems gave a new quality of the urban environment.

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