michael kloos planning and heritage consultancy



# HIA PRELIMINARY REPORT 2

Heritage Impact Assessment of the planned Bybanen Light-Rail Extension on the World Heritage Property Bryggen / Bergen

30 September 2021

# HIA PRELIMINARY REPORT 2 - Heritage Impact Assessment of the planned Bybanen Light-Rail Extension on the World Heritage Property Bryggen, Bergen

#### 1. HIA PRELIMINARY REPORT 2 – Background and Objectives

Bergen Municipality plans currently a Light-Rail Extension linking the Bergen regions to the centre. The planned Light-Rail Extension lies in the immediate proximity to the World Heritage Property Bryggen.

In October 2020, HIA PRELIMINARY REPORT 1 has been submitted to Bergen Municipality so as to assess potential impacts and risks of the planned Bybanen Light-Rail Extension.

Main recommendations of HIA Preliminary Report were:

- **Step 1:** Further development of the planned Bybanen Light-Rail Extension (day option)
- Step 2: Development of the alternative tunnel option in parallel
- **Step 3:** Assess and compare both options concerning their potential impact on the Outstanding Universal Value of World Heritage property Bryggen

With regard to this background, the main goal of HIA RELIMINARY REPORT 2 is to compare both alternative options concerning their functional, visual and structural impact on the OUV of the WH-property Bryggen from an independent point of view in order to provide a basis for future decisions. In so doing, the *ICOMOS Guidance on Heritage Impact Assessments for Cultural World Heritage Properties 2011* serves as a starting point of the report.

#### 2. HIA PRELIMINARY REPORT 2 - General Conclusions

The two options have completely different impacts on the World Heritage property Bryggen. The day option is situated at the forefront of the World Heritage property Bryggen and it will be clearly visible. The tunnel option passing behind the World Heritage property changes the environment only to a limited extent. But the building of the tunnel and a light-rail-stop with two planned entrances entails the demolition of existing houses at Øvregaten, part of the supporting values of the potential buffer zone of the World Heritage property. Besides, the planned tunnel can affect the groundwater level under the World Heritage Property.

As a consequence, both the modified day-option and the planned tunnel option generate positive and negative impacts and risks concerning the OUV of the World Heritage property Bryggen. The day option causes large functional deficits at the Hanseatic Museum and large to moderate negative functional and visual impacts on Bryggen Quay due to the length and the frequency of the light-rail-cars and the introduction of new elements such as the high-voltage-line. Besides, construction works might cause large negative structural impacts at Sandbrogaten and Bryggen Quay, though after its placement the planned pile wall at Bryggen Quay might have positive effects concerning the protection against flooding and changes of groundwater level.

The tunnel option causes mainly large uncertainties concerning its structural impact as it entails residual risks concerning groundwater subsidence under the World Heritage property. As the tunnel is irreversible, this risk can only be mitigated to a certain extent by infiltration and other groundwater stabilizing measures. Thus, it requires an active and continuous risk monitoring process including identification of further risk-reducing measures. Moreover, both planned tunnel entrances at Øvregaten cause the need to demolish buildings and to work in the immediate vicinity of archaeological layers. At Mariakirken, which is an important World Heritage attribute, this is considered as a very large uncertainty making it necessary to relocate this planned entrance.

Overall, the day option is therefore considered a safer solution for the World Heritage property considering the large structural risks in the present tunnel option. However, it should be noted that the day option also causes large negative impacts and risks which have to be mitigated to a maximum extent prior to the realisation of the project.

In the following, these main conclusions will be further explained.

#### 3. HIA PRELIMINARY REPORT 2 - Methodology

Throughout the assessment, this HIA PRELIMINARY REPORT 2, distinguishes

- Impact Assessment (Chapter 2)
- Risk Assessment (Chapter 3)

This separation is necessary because not all direct impacts on the structure of World Heritage property Bryggen are known at present. Therefore, the assessment grades here potential uncertainties and risks.

In detail, the following aspects have been considered:

### Impact Assessment:

• Functional Integrity: Traffic and Access at WH property Bryggen and Vågen area

• Visual Integrity: Visual transformations of WH property Bryggen

## Risk Assessment:

• Structural Integrity: Uncertainties and risks concerning archaeology & built heritage



According to the 2011 ICOMOS Guidance in Heritage Impact Assessments for Cultural World Heritage Properties the magnitude of impact is graded in the following 5 steps:

Very large: Severe Impact / uncertainties = Loss of OUV

• Large: Significant Impact / uncertainties = Risk to lose OUV: further elaboration

of existing plans is considered as necessary

Moderate: Considerable Impact / uncertainties = Existing plans are

considered to support the management of potential conflicts, greatest

care should be taken throughout construction activities.

Slight: Minor Impact on OUVNeutral: No Impact on OUV

#### 4. HIA PRELIMINARY REPORT 2 - Assessment

The assessment of impacts and risks leads to the following conclusions:

#### Functional and visual integrity: comparison day option / tunnel option:

- Both the day option and the tunnel option will support Bergen's goal to remove car traffic from the city's centre and will have a large positive impact on the overall traffic situation.
- There are differences concerning the coverage of Vågen Area and the city centre.
   Mainly due to the planned stop at Torget and Sandbrogaten the *day option* will have a large positive impact on the accessibility of these central areas while the *tunnel option* will have a large positive impact on the accessibility of the area at Øvregaten. However, it has only a limited potential to support access to Torget and Bryggen Quay.
- The tunnel option creates no need for buses at Øvregaten. It has no negative functional
  impact here and is assessed as neutral in this respect. For the day option Øvregaten will
  carry bus traffic. The negative impact is assessed as moderate due to the relatively
  restricted numbers of buses.
- The day option might cause large functional deficits at the Hanseatic Museum and on Bryggen Quay due to functional barrier effect of light-rail-cars (length and frequency) combined with a cycle path in the immediate vicinity of the museum's entrance. For the tunnel option these negative impacts are restricted to a moderate level.
- For the *day option* the modifications concerning urban design are seen as beneficial.
   However, the light-rail-cars cause due to their length and frequency combined with masts for the high-voltage line still a large / moderate visual barrier effect at Bryggen Quay. For the *tunnel option* the lowered number of buses compared to the present situation is mainly seen to have a slight positive impact on the visual barrier effect.

#### Structural integrity: comparison day option / tunnel option:

- The day option will have a moderate positive impact on risk preparedness for sea
  water rise and flooding due to the planned pile wall and higher quay level at
  Dreggekaien. The tunnel option is assessed as neutral as no measures against flooding
  have been planned.
- The day option might might cause large risks for built heritage foundations and
  groundwater changes during construction works on Bryggen Quay. The tunnel option is
  assessed as neutral as no substantial measures on Bryggen Quay have been planned.
- For the day option construction works in immediate vicinity of cultural layers in Sandbrogaten might cause large risks concerning medieval archaeological deposits and groundwater level. The tunnel option is assessed as neutral as no measures at Sandbrogaten have been planned.
- For the tunnel option construction works at tunnel portals might cause large risks with regard to built heritage and changes of groundwater levels in the World Heritage property and its potential buffer zone. Construction works in the area of Mariakirken are likely to cause undue damage and very large risks concerning damage of the cultural layers and building foundations. The day option will have no impact in these areas and is assessed as neutral.

#### 4. HIA PRELIMINARY REPORT 2 - Recommendations

For both of the options the following recommendations should be considered to mitigate negative impacts and risks:

#### Recommendations day option:

- ▶ DEVELOP a detailed concept for the planned cycle path on Bryggen Quay. This plan should show precisely how a potential barrier effect is avoided.
- ▶ DEVELOP a detailed concept for save mobility of larger groups at Finnegården.
- ▶ DROP high-voltage-line and masts. PROVIDE visualisations showing clearly the design state of Bryggen Quay. Include detailed information of the planned cycle path as well day and night views so as to show clearly how the lighting concept will work.
- ▶ DEVELOP a precise plan with a clear view concerning risks during construction activities at Sandbrogaten and Bryggen Quay. These plans should thoroughly discussed with all stakeholders and experts!

### Recommendations tunnel option:

- ▶ DEVELOP a detailed plan how to avoid groundwater changes in order to mitigate potential large uncertainties for the World Heritage property Bryggen
- ▶ DEVELOP a new plan for a light-rail-stop at Øvregaten without or with relocated entrance at Mariakirken.
- ▶ DEVELOP a detailed plan how to avoid or at least mitigate risks for built heritage at the entrances of the planned tunnel at Øvregaten.

# **Abstract**

# Recommendation for both Day option and Tunnel option: Provide a strategic plan for a future buffer zone

- ► COMBINE *knowledge of cultural environment management, urban planning and transport planning* in order to identify risks and potentials in the entire Vågen area.
- ▶ DEVELOP a *sustainable strategy for touristic traffic management* with a clear view for the sensitivity of WH property Bryggen including Øvregaten.
- ▶ DEVELOP a *concept for a World Heritage buffer zone* on this basis.



# **Abstract**



## 1\_BACKGROUND

- a. World Heritage Outstanding Universal Value
- b. Attributes of the World Heritage Property Bryggen
- c. Planned Bybanen Light-Rail-Extension (Day option & Tunnel option)
- d. Issues for impact assessment and risk assessment
- e. Explanation of the HIA methodology
- f. Structure of the Report

## 2\_IMPACT ASSESSMENT

- a. Functional Integrity
- b. Visual Integrity
- c. Summary: Comparison of functional & visual impacts

## 3\_RISK ASSESSMENT

- a. Structural Integrity (Archaeology & Built Heritage)
- b. Summary: Comparison of structural risks

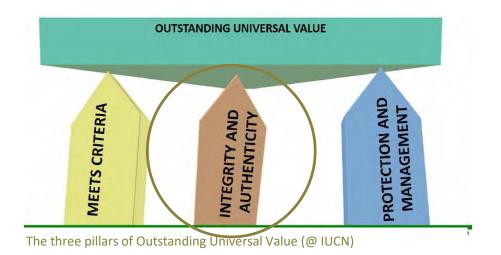
## **4\_RECOMMENDATIONS**

- a. Recommendations for day option
- b. Recommendations for tunnel option
- c. General Recommendations for day option / tunnel option

## **5\_APPENDIX**

# Content





## Operational Guidelines, §49:

"Outstanding Universal Value means cultural and/or natural significance which is so exceptional as to transcend national boundaries and to be of common importance for present and future generations of all humanity. As such, the permanent protection of this heritage is of the highest importance to the international community as a whole. The Committee defines the criteria for the inscription of properties on the World Heritage List."

### **MAIN ISSUE**

Assessment of impacts and risks of Day option and Tunnel option on functional, visual and structural integrity of World Heritage Property Bryggen

# Starting Point of HIA: World Heritage Values

## **Outstanding Universal Value**

Bryggen was inscribed in 1979 in the World Heritage List as a type of northern "fondaco", unequalled in the world, where the structures have remained within the cityscape and perpetuate the memory of one of the oldest large trading ports of Northern Europe.

Bryggen Quay witnessed transformations throughout history. But the setting of the WH-property in its medieval cityscape and the medieval cityscape as such are still understandable and should therefore not be disrupted.

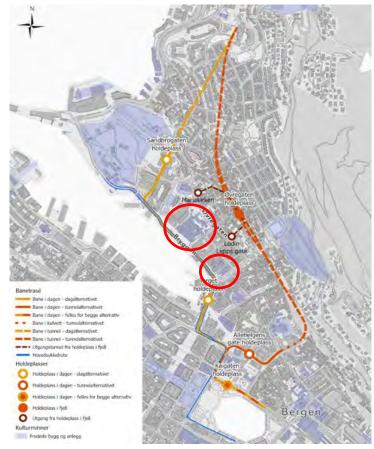


@Forvaltningsplan 2021-25



Key OUV ATTRIBUTE	OUV ATTRIBUTES
Bryggen in medieval Bergen harbour city (context and setting of the WHP)	Bergen medieval cityscape and urban layout
	Medieval urban structure with public spaces / allmenningar and access roads
	Medieval Vägen harbour and its quays
Bryggen Hanseatic Office (WHP)	Building conservation and continuity of Hanseatic building practice
	The relation between built structure of the Hanse atic Office and Bryggen quay

# Five Key Attributes as Basis for Assessment



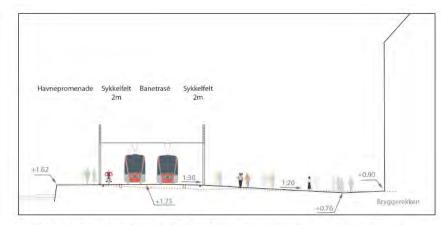
Routing of planned day option (yellow) and tunnel option (red) (@Miljøløftet)

- HIA PRELIMINARY REPORT 1 (submitted in October 2020) provided a
  first assessment of the impact of the proposed day option of the lightrail network (Bybanen) on the Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) of
  the World Heritage property Bryggen from an independent point of
  view.
- Recommendation 1: to modify proposed day option so as to mitigate negative impacts.
- Recommendation 2: to develop an alternative tunnel-option and to compare impacts and risks with the day option.
- It is the objective of HIA PRELIMINARY REPORT 2 to
  - assess both potential **positive and negative impacts and risks** of the two planned Bybanen Light-Rail alternatives on the Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) of the UNESCO World Heritage property Bryggen.
  - to **recommend future steps to mitigate potential negative impacts** and to enhance positive impacts respectively regarding the World Heritage Property's OUV so as to avoid, reduce, or compensate for negative impacts and to possibly amplify positive impacts.

## **MAIN ISSUE:**

COMPARISON of positive and negative impacts and potential risks on the OUV of WH Property Bryggen due to planned alternative day option / tunnel option

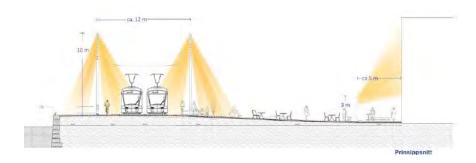
# Objective of HIA Preliminary Report 2



Figur 2-6 Snitt C-C' med høydeangivelse og fallforhold. Lavbrekk foran Bryggerekken er plassert med utgangspunkt i oppdatert plan fra "Mot Vågen". Rød stipling angir eksisterende terreng.

Day option: section through Bryggen Quay

@ Norconsult /asplan viak



Day option: Systematic section shows high-voltage line and lighting (@Mijøløftet)

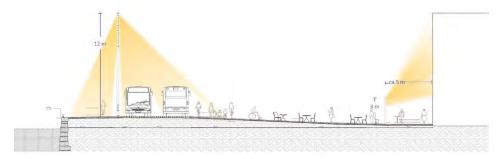
- **Routing:** The day option goes over Torget and Bryggen quay and continues in a tunnel at Sandbrogaten. It has two light rail stops in this section, on Torget and Sandbrogaten.
- **Traffic:** In case of the day option Bryggen Quay will be cleared from bus traffic. On both sides of the Bybanen track there will be located a cycle path. Bus traffic will go on Øvregaten.
- The day option has been assessed in HIA Preliminary 1. Recommendations in HIA Phase 1 have resulted in following adjustments:
- Lowered height of tracks: Tracks of the Bybanen in front of Bryggen have been lowered to 1.75 meter above sea level. By Dreggekaien and Finnegården the level is raised to 1.90 m so as contribute to a lower risk for flooding.
- Revised quay surface design: new coherent levels and a cobble stone paving.
- Improvements at Finnegården/Hanseatic Museum: Situation between the light rail track and bicycle zone at has been improved by widening the curve of Bybanen.
- High-voltage line along Bybanen: This system remains, a new design combines masts with lighting on both sides of the track and bicycle path. The possibility of Bybanen without high-voltage overhead system after 2050 has been investigated.
- Construction works: It is planned to renew and relocate existing infrastructure on Bryggen Quay. The functional integration of the Bryggen area with the city centre and the (redirection of traffic, replacing infrastructure, track building, tunnel from Sandbrogaten) are expected to take up to three years in the Bryggen area.

# Planned Bybanen Light-Rail-Extension\_Modified Day option



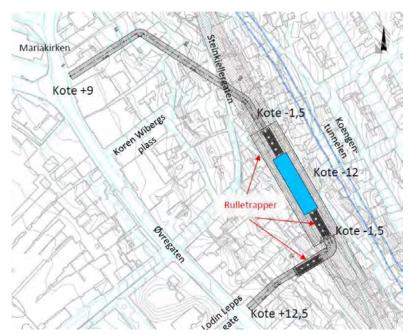


- The **tunnel option** goes in tunnel from Heggebakken in the centre to Sandviken. It has a tunnel station with two exits at Øvregaten, one at Lodin Lepps gate (Øvregaten 9/11) and one near Mariakirke (Øvregaten 43/43a).
- Traffic: In case of the tunnel option Bryggen Quay will carry bus traffic. On both sides of the bus track there will be located a cycle path. Øvregaten will be cleared from bus traffic.
- Exits: The proposed exits will likely require demolition or replacement of several existing buildings in the potential World Heritage buffer zone.
- **Construction works:** Time span to build the new entrances at Øvregaten is estimated for 3 years.



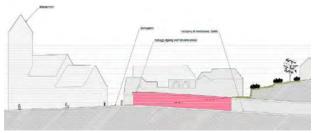
Tunnel option: Systematic section shows concepts for lighting of planned bus track and cycle path (@Mijøløftet)

# Planned Bybanen Light-Rail-Extension\_Tunnel Option



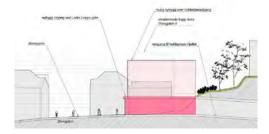
Tunnel option: Planned tunnel entrances (@Miljøløftet)





Tunnel option: Planned tunnel entrance at Mariakirken (Øvregaten 43/43a) (@Miljøløftet)





Tunnel option: Planned tunnel entrance at Øvregaten 9/11 (@Miljøløftet)

# Tunnel option: Planned entrances





Issue

Day Alternative

**Tunnel Option** 

**Functional Impact** 

Buses at Øvregatan Cycle lane on Bryggen Quay Planned stops at Torget / Sandbrogaten Planned light-rail-track at Finnegården/Hanseatic Museum

Buses on Bryggen Quay Cycle lane on Bryggen Quay Planned stop with entrances at Mariakirken / Øvregatan Planned bus-track at Finnegården/Hanseatic Museum

Visual Impact

Transformation of Bryggen Quay Transformation of Bryggen Quay

**Structural Impact** 

Planned tunnel and foundations of light-rail track at Sandbrogaten (Archaeology/Groundwater) Planned relocation of infrastructure and construction of pile wall on Bryggen Quay Construction works at Bryggesporden - Sandbrogaten Planned tunnel Heggebakken - Øvregaten (Archaeology / Groundwater)

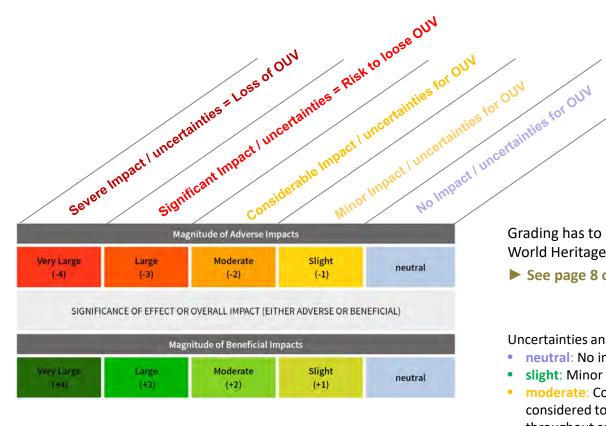
Planned Entrances Mariakirken / Øvregaten (Built heritage)

Construction works at Øvregaten

Impact Assessment

Risk Assessment

# Issues to be assessed\_comparison of day / tunnel option



(© ICOMOS / mkphc)

## **MAIN ISSUE**

Are there **very large** / **large** impacts or risks concerning functional and visual integrity of World Heritage property Bryggen which might endanger the OUV?

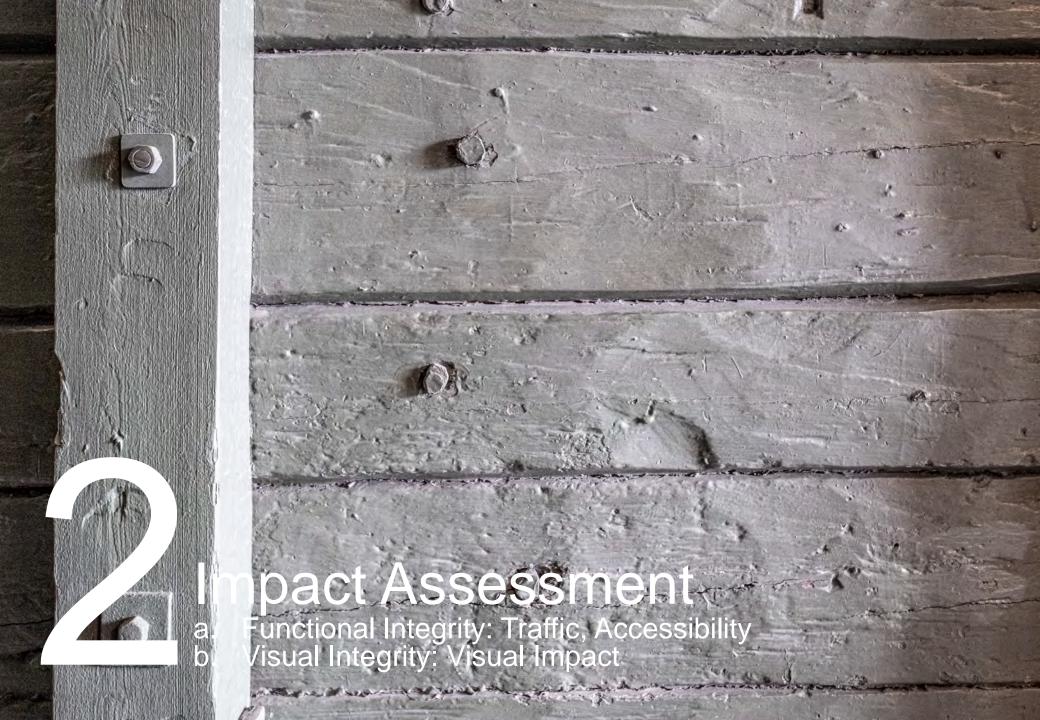
Grading has to be related to attributes which convey the OUV of World Heritage property *Bryggen* (physical or immaterial level):

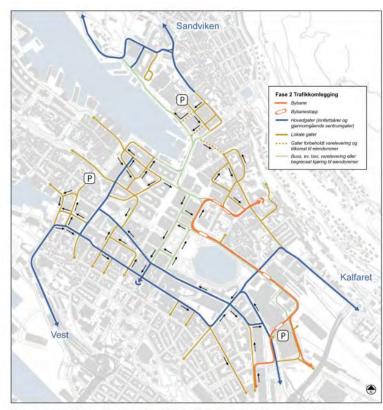
► See page 8 of this report.

Uncertainties and potential risks are considered as

- neutral: No impact / uncertainties
- **slight**: Minor impact / uncertainties, e.g. due to vibrations through traffic
- moderate: Considerable impact / uncertainties, but potential conflicts are considered to be solvable by existing plans, greatest care should be taken throughout construction activities
- large: Significant impact / uncertainties, further elaboration of existing plans is considered necessary
- very large: Very high impact / uncertainties, World Heritage Attributes might be damaged. Reconsideration of existing plans!

# Methodology – Assessment / Magnitude of Impact





Figur 1-5: Trafikkomlegging i fase 2 der både Torget og Bryggen er bilfrie

(© Miljøløftet)

## **Key Result**

Both the day option and the tunnel option will support Bergen's goal to remove car traffic from the city's centre and will have a large positive impact on the overall traffic situation.

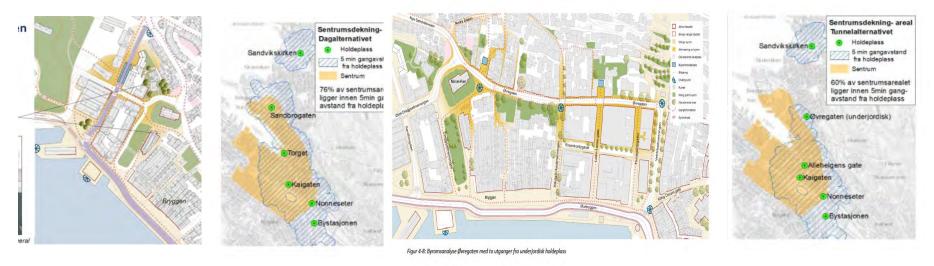
# Traffic: Planned future situation

## Traffic main principles:

- According to the City council decision 2016 «Trafikkplan sentrum» will be implemented.
- The amount of car traffic through the city centre will be the same for both day and tunnel alternatives.
- In the day option there will be 12 (electric) buses each direction in the peak hour and the buses will be in Øvregaten.
- In the tunnel option the (electric) buses will be on Bryggen. The exact number is not defined
- When the Fløyfjellstunnel is closed, the City centre will be used. This is
  also the case for normal maintenance works or accidents today. The
  National Road Authorities has started planning of new flexibility in the
  existing Fløyfjellstunnel to avoid using the city center in these occations.

# Status regarding the City council decision in 2016 – Bryggen without car traffic – :

«Som en del av endelig sentrumsløsning skal Bryggen gjøres bilfri. Bystyret ønsker sak fram om hvordan dette kan løses på kortere og lengre sikt. I den trafikale løsningen ønsker Bystyret et mest mulig bilfritt Torget og trafikkreduksjon, eksempelvis i form av miljøgate, på strekningen Øvregaten - Nye Sandviksveien og Sandviksveien.»



**Day option** 

(@Miljøløftet / Norconsult asplan viak)

# Tunnel option

## **Key Result**

There are differences concerning the coverage of Vågen Area and the city centre. Due to the planned stop at Torget and Sandbrogaten the day option will have large positive impact on the accessibility of these central areas while the tunnel option will have a large positive impact on the accessibility of the area at Øvregaten but a limited potential to support access to Torget and Bryggen Quay.

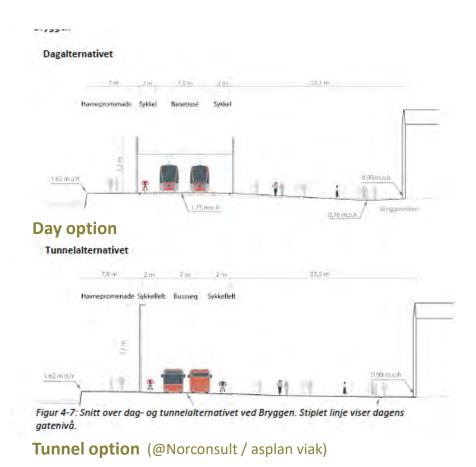
## Accessibility – Day option:

• Planned light-rail-stop at Sandbrogaten potentially improves the accessibility of Bryggen Quay and Mariakirken.

## Accessibility - Tunnel option:

• Planned light-rail-stops at Øvregaten potentially improve the accessibility of Bryggen World Heritage property.

# Traffic: Accessibility



## **Key Result**

The tunnel option has the clear advantage that there is no negative functional impact at Øvregaten while the day option might have a moderate negative impact here due to planned bus traffic.

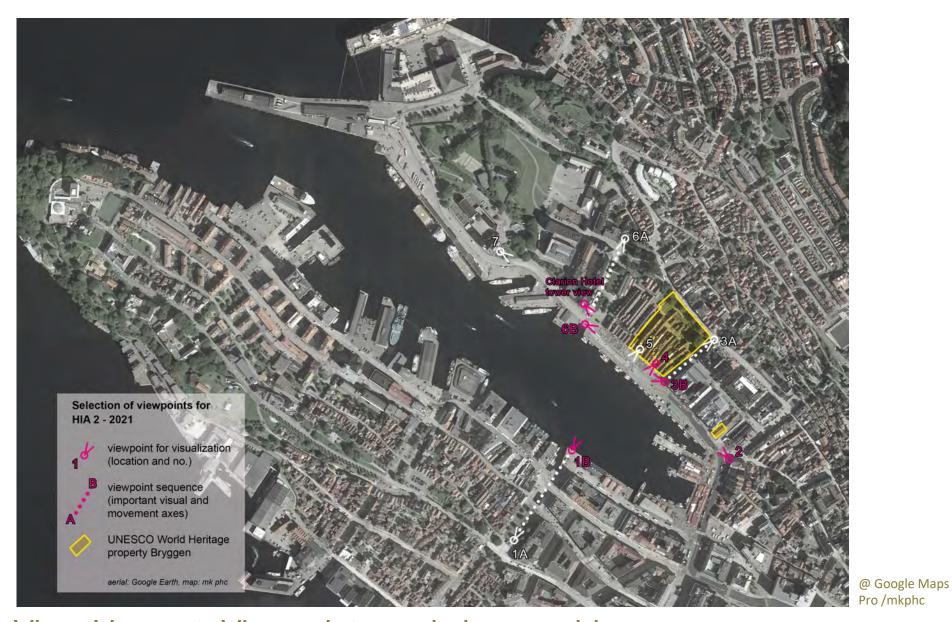
# **Traffic: Buses**

## Bus traffic – Day option:

• Bus traffic will run at Øvregaten, a narrow medieval street of high value, might have a moderate negative impact.

## **Bus Traffic – Tunnel option:**

• Bus traffic will run in forefront of Bryggen World Heritage property, but it will be reduced in number. The existing barrier

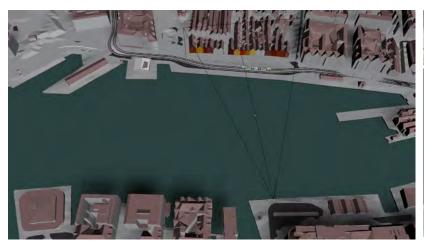


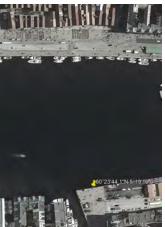
Visual impact: Viewpoints and view corridors (VPs colored white are not used in HIA 2)





Bryggesporden, 360° panorama stitch







Location determination and camera position in 3d model

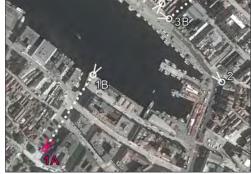
# Generation of Visualisations – 3D Model + digital photographs



**Situation:** The visually striking view of the Bryggen warehouses from across Vågen harbour is an iconic view of Bergen. Despite the new developments and change of use of the quay the setting of medieval Hanseatic Office maintains its integrity in the seascape and cityscape of Bergen.

**Current state:** During normal summer seasons, the quay is crowded by Bergen inhabitants, visitors and a large number of cruising ship tourists. The quay has outdoor cafés, pubs and leisure boats moor along the quay.





1580 Joachim Scholeus (@Bergen Byarkiv)

location: 60°23'44.1"N 5°19'16.0"E aerial photo: *Google Earth* 

# 1b\_Strandkaien: Situation





**Assessment day option:** Although the setting of the World Heritage property is partly degraded by housing blocks, buses and leisure boats, it is still possible to enjoy the vista to Bryggen and its setting.

The planned Light-Rail Extension is visually dominant to the quay. While the light rail facilitates an easier access to Bryggen it accentuates a visual barrier effect between the Hanseatic Office, Bryggen quay and Vågen harbour.

However, it is still possible to understand the relation between Bryggen and its setting.

**Assessment tunnel option:** Although the setting of the World Heritage property is partly degraded by housing blocks, buses and leisure boats, it is still possible to enjoy the vista to Bryggen and its setting.

The planned bus track is comparable to the existing situation.

Key OUV	OUV ATTRIBUTES	Impact grading + beneficial / - adverse	
ATTRIBUTE		Day Option	Tunnel option
Bryggen in medieval Bergen harbour city	Bergen medieval cityscape and urban layout	large (-3)	neutral
(context and setting of the WHP)	Medieval urban structure with public spaces / allmenningar and access roads	large (-3)	neutral
	Medieval Vågen harbour and its quays	large (-3)	neutral
Bryggen Hanseatic Office (WHP)	Building conservation and continuity of Hanseatic building practice	slight (-1)	neutral
	The relation between built structure of the Hanseatic Office and Bryggen quay	large/very large (-3,5)	neutral
Total		large (-2,7)	neutral / no change

# 1b\_Strandkaien: Assessment day / tunnel option



**Situation:** Although disturbed by ongoing traffic, the present view allows to identify the key themes of the World Heritage property and its setting; Finnegården – Hansa Museum, the Bryggen warehouses and quay, the Vågen harbour and the King's castle in the background. The harbour shed (Kur 11) is a listed building which represents the numerous harbour sheds which were on Bryggen quay.

**Current state:** The connection of Finnegården to the place is difficult to perceive even apart from the ongoing works. The entrance to Hansa Museum is often crowded by museum visitors as well as other tourists stopping by. Due to the present traffic hub the public space is fragmented by motorised traffic, pedestrian crossings, bus stops and a number of traffic signals.



1895 / 1900 Andreas Svanøe (@ marcus.uib.no)



location: 60°23'43.5"N 5°19'33.8"E aerial photo: *Google Earth* 

# Viewpoint 2\_Bryggesporden: Situation





**Assessment day option**: The redesign of the traffic area and the potential refurbishment of the adjoining Finnegårdsgaten / Vertlidsallmenning will ameliorate the public space and the urban quality.

However, the understanding of the visual and functional relation of Finnegården with the medieval Bergen, Vågen harbour and Bryggen quay will be compromised by the high frequency of light rail traffic, related overhead masts, and track very close to Finnegården.

**Assessment tunnel option**: The understanding of the visual and functional relation of Finnegården with the medieval Bergen, Vågen harbour and Bryggen quay will be slightly compromised by buses, lighting masts and cycle path.

Key OUV	OUV ATTRIBUTES	Impact grading + beneficial / - adverse	
ATTRIBUTE		Day option	Tunnel option
Bryggen in medieval Bergen harbour city	Bergen medieval cityscape and urban layout	slight (-1)	slight (-1)
(context and setting of the WHP)	Medieval urban structure with public spaces / allmenningar and access roads	moderate (-2)	slight (-1)
	Medieval Vågen harbour and its quays	large (-3)	slight (-1)
Bryggen Hanseatic Office (WHP)	Building conservation and continuity of Hanseatic building practice	slight (-1)	neutral
	The relation between built structure of the Hanseatic Office and Bryggen quay	large (-3)	slight (-1)
Total		moderate (-2)	slight (-0,8)

# Viewpoint 2\_Bryggesporden: Assessment day / tunnel option



**Situation:** The pedestrian view along the Bryggen quay and towards the Vågen harbour encompasses the key attributes of the World Heritage property and illustrates the function and position of the Hanseatic League in Bergen.

**Current state**: Despite the changes of the Bryggen quay over time, the relation between the Hanseatic Office, the quay and harbour can still be experienced. The character of a harbour quay is compromised by the throughfare traffic and fragmented tourism facilities in high season.





location: 60°23'48.2"N 5°19'26.4"E aerial photo: *Google Earth* 

1860 /69 Knud Knudsen (© marcus.uib.no)

# Viewpoint 3b\_Bryggen / Nikolaikirkeallmenningen: Situation



Assessment day option: The light rail access potentially enhances the visibility and awareness of the World Heritage property. The concept of the planned design with less fragmentation of the public space is considered as beneficial. However, the high frequency of light rail traffic, the length of the light-rail-cars with overhead masts increases the already compromised visual and functional relation between the Hanseatic Office, its quay and Vågen harbour.

**Assessment tunnel option:** The planned refurbishment of Bryggen Quay and the expected reduction of the number of buses is beneficial. There are only slight compromises due to the planned bus track and lighting masts.



OUV	OUV ATTRIBUTES	+ beneficial / - adverse	
ATTRIBUTE		Day option	Tunnel option
Bryggen in medieval Bergen harbour city (context and setting of the WHP)	Bergen medieval cityscape and urban layout	large (-3)	slight positive (+1)
	Medieval urban structure with public spaces / allmenningar and access roads	moderate (-2)	neutral
	Medieval Vågen harbour and its quays	large (-3)	slight positive (+1)
Bryggen Hanseatic Office (WHP)	Building conservation and continuity of Hanseatic building practice	moderate (-2)	neutral
	The relation between built structure of the Hanseatic Office and Bryggen quay	large -3	slight positive (+1)
Total		large (-2,6)	slight positive (+0,6)

# Viewpoint 3b\_Bryggen /

# Nikolaikirkeallm.: Assessment day / tunnel option



**Situation:** The views from inside Bryggen out towards the Bryggen quay and Vågen harbour illustrate the daily life in the trading post. The close visual and functional linkage between the quay, the offices and warehouses encompass the spirit and feeling in a Hanseatic Office.

**Current state**: Under normal conditions the view towards the quay and Vågen harbour is impaired by existing traffic and street furniture, but the historic atmosphere and views from inside a Hanseatic Office toward the harbour can still be experienced.





location: 60°23'49.4"N 5°19'25.7"E aerial photo: *Google Earth* 

Bryggen 1918 -39 (@marcus.uib.no)

# Viewpoint 4\_Inside Bryggen





**Assessment day option:** The refurbishment of the quay will improve the overall quality of the urban design.

Although less raised, the view towards Vågen harbour is obstructed by the Bybanen track, the length of the light-rail-cars and frequency of light-rail-traffic.

**Assessment tunnel option:** The refurbishment of the quay will improve the overall quality of the urban design.

The view towards Vågen harbour is slightly obstructed by the buses but the expected reduction of the number of buses compared to the present situation is beneficial.

Key OUV	OUV ATTRIBUTES	Impact grading + beneficial / - adverse	
ATTRIBUTE		Day option	Tunnel option
Bryggen in medieval Bergen harbour city (context and setting of the WHP)	Bergen medieval cityscape and urban layout	Slight -1	slight positive (+1)
	Medieval urban structure with public spaces / allmenningar and access roads	moderate (-2)	slight positive (+1)
	Medieval Vågen harbour and its quays	very large -4	neutral
Bryggen Hanseatic Office (WHP)	Building conservation and continuity of Hanseatic building practice	moderate (-2)	neutral
	The relation between built structure of the Hanseatic Office and Bryggen quay	large (-3)	slight positive (+1)
Total		moderate (-2,4)	slight positive (+0,6)

# Viewpoint 4\_ Inside Bellgården: Assessment day / tunnel option



**Situation:** The view along the Bryggen quay towards the medieval centre of Bergen with Korskirken, Torget, Vågen harbour and the natural setting with mountains illustrates the important position of the Hanseatic Office in Bergen. The view also illustrates the different uses of Bryggen quay today.

**Current state:** The overall view of Bryggen quay in medieval Bergen is visible. It also shows the different uses with street traffic and areas for outdoor cafés and terraces along the waterfront buildings, quay walk and leisure boats. The public space is fragmented and degraded by the existing street



JFLDreierBryggen1817.jpg (@ https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File)



location: 60°23'51.8"N 5°19'17.3"E aerial photo: *Google Earth* 

# Viewpoint 6b\_Dreggekaien: Situation





**Assessment day option:** The view allows to understand the setting of the World Heritage property in the urban landscape. The concept of the planned design with less fragmentation of the public space and without motorized traffic is considered as beneficial.

However, the already fragmented quay character is compromised by the light-rail-cars, the light rail track and its overhead masts which generate a visual barrier effect between the Hanseatic Office and the Vågen harbour.

**Assessment tunnel option:** The view allows to understand the setting of the World Heritage property in the urban landscape. The concept of the planned design with less fragmentation of the public space and without motorized traffic is considered as beneficial.

The already fragmented quay character is compromised by the buses and cycle path and lighting posts to a moderate / slight extent.

Key OUV	OUV ATTRIBUTES	Impact grading + beneficial / - adverse	
ATTRIBUTE		Day option	Tunnel option
Bryggen in medieval Bergen harbour city	Bergen medieval cityscape and urban layout	large (-3)	moderate (-1)
(context and setting of the WHP)	Medieval urban structure with public spaces / allmenningar and access roads	Moderate (-2)	slight (-1)
	Medieval Vågen harbour and its quays	large/very large (- 3.5)	slight (-1)
Bryggen Hanseatic Office (WHP)	Building conservation and continuity of Hanseatic building practice	moderate (-2)	neutral
	Relation between built structure of Hanseatic Office and Bryggen quay	large (-3)	moderate (-2)
Total		Large - 2.7	moderate / slight -1.5

# Viewpoint 6b\_Dreggekaien: Assessment day / tunnel option

Functional and visual impac	ts			
World Heritage property OUV + Attributes	Day Option	Remark	Tunnel Option	Remark
Impact on Reduction number	er of motorized traffic and no	ise	N-	
Vågen area - Torget	Very large positive (+4)	Reduction of traffic after realisation of «Trafikkplan sentrum».	Very large positive (+4)	Reduction of traffic after realisation of «Trafikkplan sentrum».
Øvregaten	moderate positive (+2)	Reduction motorized traffic Reduction of bus traffic, use of electric buses	Very large positive (+4)	Reduction of managed traffic Potential pedestrian street
Finnegården	Very large positive (+4)	Reduction of motorized traffic after realisation of «Trafikkplan sentrum».	Very large positive (+4)	Reduction of traffic after realisation of «Trafikkplan sentrum».
Bryggen (Quay)	large (#2)	No motorized traffic at Bryggen after realization of "Traflikkplan sentrum". Buses at Øvregaten	moderate positive (+2)	Reduction of bus traffic on Bryggen guay after realisation of «Trafikkplan sentrum"
Impact on Walkability and A	Accessibility			
Vågen area - Torget	very large positive (+4)	New light-rail-stop at Torget	slight positive (+1)	Light-rail-stops at Øvregaten are partly beneficial for accessibility of Torget:
Øvregaten	moderate positive (+2)	Better accessibility of areas around Sandbrogaten and Mariakirken	large positive (13)	Better accessibility of areas around Sandbrogaten and Mariakirken and NikolaialImeningen
Finnegården	very large positive (+4)	New light-rail-stop at Torget	slight positive (+1)	Na light-rail-stop
Bryggen Quay	large positive (+3)	New light-rail-stops at Torget and Sandbrogaten	slight positive (+1)	Light-rail-stops at Øvregaten are partly beneficial for accessibility of Bryggen Quar
Impact on Functional barrie	rs			
Vågen area - Torget	large positive (+3)	Reduction of current barrier effect by elimination of motorised traffic, bus- shelters and platforms, traffic equipment.	large positive (+3)	Reduction of current barrier effect by elimination of car traffic, reduction of bus traffic.  Potential barrier effect due to buses and cycle traffic
Øvregaten	moderate (-2)	Potential conflict with bus traffic at Øvregaten.	Neutral	
Finnegården	Terps regularie (+3)	Potential functional conflicts due to train track combined with cycle traffic in immediate vicinity of entrance Hanseatic Museum. Safety concept for mobility and for large groups at Hanseatic Museum considered necessary.	Moderate -2	Potential barrier effect due to buses and cycle traffic immediate vicinity of entrance to Hanseatic Museum
Bryggen Quay	Sensorepose (S)	Potential barrier effect due to cycle traffic combined with tram track. Upgraded planning concept for cycle path needed	moderate (-2)	Potential barrier effect due to buses and cycle traffic. Upgraded planning concept for cycle path needed
Impact on Potential visual b	arrier effect	7		
Vågen area - Torget Viewpoint: Strandkaien	Geran 1 4 XII	Minimisation of barrier effect by avoiding a raised quayside and complete update of urban space.  However, leggth, and number of Bybanen cars cause visual barriers.	Neutral/no change	
Finnegården: Viewpoint Bryggesporden	moderate (-2)	Minimisation of barrier effect by avoiding a raised quayside and complete update of urban space.  Bybanen-cars cause visual barriers due to their length and frequency.	Slight negative (-0,8)	Minimisation of barrier effect by avoiding a raised quayside and complete update of urban space.  Buses cause slight visual barriers due to their length
Bryggen Quay: Viewpoint Bryggen / Nikolaikirkeallmenningen	120	Minimisation of barrier effect by avoiding a raised quayside and complete update of urban space. Bybanen-cars and masts for high-voltage-line cause visual barriers due to their length and frequency.	Slight positive (+0,6)	Minimisation of barrier effect by avoiding a raised quayside and complete update of urban space. Reduction of number of buses but traffic and masts for lighting cause visual barrie effect.
Bryggen Quay: Viewpoint Bellgården Office 33	moderate (-2,4)	Minimisation of barrier effect by avoiding a raised quayside and complete update of urban space. Bybanen-cars cause visual barriers due to their length and frequency.	Slight positive (+0,6)	Minimisation of barrier effect by avoiding a raised quayside and complete update of urban space.
Bryggen Quay; Viewpoint Dreggekaien	1.71	Minimisation of barrier effect by avoiding a raised quayside and complete update of urban space. Bybanen-cars and masts for high-voltage-line cause visual barriers due to their length and frequency.	slight / moderate (-1,5)	Minimisation of barrier effect by avoiding a raised quayside and complete update of urban space.  Reduction of number of buses but bus traffic and masts for lighting cause visual barrier effect.

# Summary: Comparison functional and visual impact day- / tunnel option

**KEY RESULTS** The upgrading of Bryggen Quay is beneficial for both options.

**Day option:** Positive impact on overall traffic situation in city centre.

Positive impact concerning accessibility and walkability Vågen area / Torget / Finnegården.

Buses on Øvregaten, a narrow medieval street of high value, have a moderate negative impact.

Potential large functional deficits at the entrance of Hanseatic Museum and on Bryggen Quay due to

functional barrier effect of light-rail-cars.

The length and frequency of light-rail-cars and masts for high-voltage line causes a moderate / large

visual barrier effect.

**Tunnel option:** Positive impact on overall traffic situation in city centre.

Positive impact concerning accessibility and walkability of Øvregaten but limited potential to support

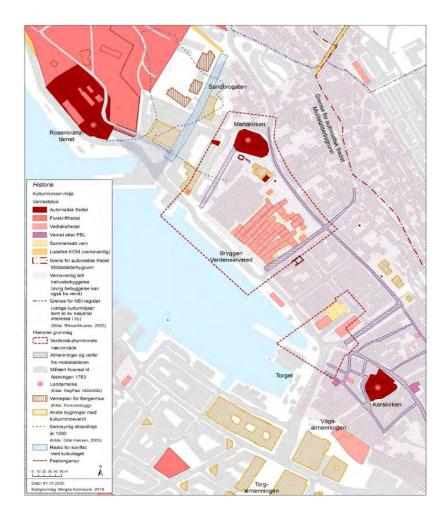
access to Torget and Bryggen Quay.

Reduction of buses on Bryggen Quay is beneficial.

Bus and cycle traffic might cause a moderate functional barrier effect at Finnegården.

# Summary: Comparison functional and visual impact day- / tunnel option





## IMPORTANT FACTORS WITH REGARD TO STRUCTURAL IMPACT

### DAY OPTION:

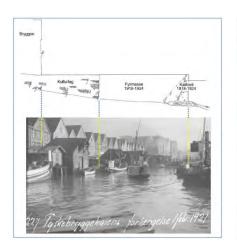
Hydrology: Securing the groundwater level Construction works along Bryggen Quay Construction works on top of cultural layers in Sandbrogaten (tunnel & light-rail-track) Operation of Bybanen light-rail-track on top of cultural layers

## **TUNNEL OPTION:**

Hydrology: Securing of groundwater levels
Construction works at the entrances and tunnel portals
Construction work of the tunnels
Demolition of houses at Øvregaten for tunnel entrances

Cultural heritage at entire planning area (@ source Norconsult / asplan viak)

# Overview: Potential structural impacts





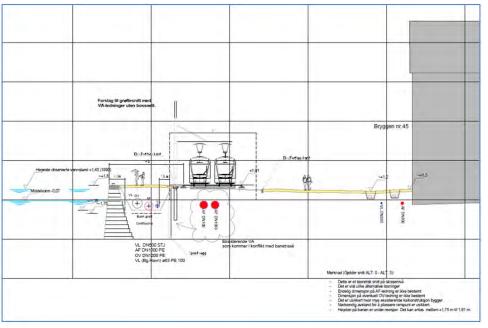
Archaeological layers at Bryggen quay (@ source Norconsult / asplan viak)

## **Key Result**

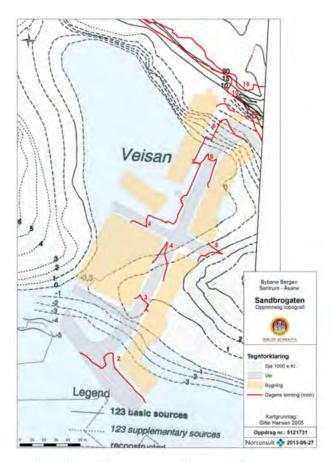
The day option will have a moderate positive impact on risk preparedness for sea water rise and flooding due to the planned pile wall and higher quay level at Dreggekaien. However, large risks for built heritage foundations and groundwater changes during construction works on Bryggen Quay. The tunnel option is assessed as neutral as no measures against have been planned.

## Bryggen (Quay)

- The light rail track is planned on the 1918- 1922 fillings of the quay.
- The works include replacing of the existing infrastructure.
- To ensure later access and avoid damaging of the track, the ditch for infrastructure will be secured with a pile wall.
- The introduction of the pile wall in the fillings outside Bryggen is expected to function as a water threshold securing the groundwater in zone C. Zone C is characterized by thick archaeological deposits in an excellent state of preservation.



# Day option: Potential structural impacts on Archaeology & Built Heritage at Bryggen Quay



Archaeological layers at Sandbrogatan (@ source Norconsult / asplan viak)

## **Key Result**

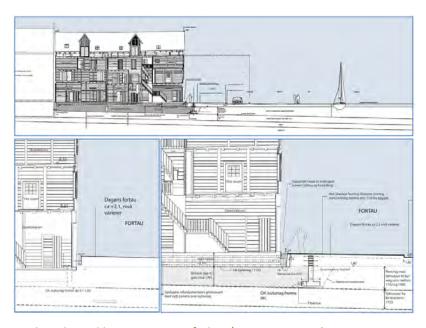
For the day option construction works in immediate vicinity of cultural layers in Sandbrogaten might cause large risks concerning medieval archaeological deposits and groundwater level. The tunnel option is assessed as neutral as no measures at Sandbrogaten have been planned.

## Sandbrogaten:

The area where today's Sandbrogaten is was reclaimed during the medieval period.

- According to Riksantikvaren the site holds the oldest and most important archaeological deposits in Bergen.
- Medieval finds are from 1.32 m below surface and deeper.
- The day alternative light rail track is planned on a basin 1 meter below surface.
- The location for the ditches for the replacement of the infrastructure of 1-2 meters deep are planned to be located in areas with more recent fillings.

# Day option: Potential structural impacts\_Archaeology Sandbrogaten



#### Finnegården

- The building is under restoration.
- A basin is being constructed around the foundations as prevention from eventual changes in groundwater level.





Archaeological layers at Finnegården / Bryggen Quay (@ source Norconsult / asplan viak)

### **Key Result**

For the day option construction works in immediate vicinity of the Hanseatic Museum are assessed as slight negative as effective measures have been taken to secure the groundwater level. The tunnel option is assessed as neutral as no measures at Finnegården have been planned.

## Day option: Potential structural impacts at Finnegården



@Byantikvaren

#### **Key result**

For the tunnel option construction works at tunnel portals might cause large risks with regard to built heritage and changes of groundwater levels in the World Heritage property and its potential buffer zone. Construction works in the area of Mariakirken are likely to cause undue damage and very large risks concerning damage of the cultural layers and building foundations. The day option will have no impact in these areas and is assessed as neutral.

#### **Tunnel option**

The present proposal is not adequately developed for an in-depth risk assessment.

- The main potential impacts are the overall hydrogeological risks for changes of groundwater levels especially during construction works and the impacts on the medieval built heritage at Mariakirken and Øvregaten.
- The entrance at Mariakirken entails the demolition of medieval buildings.
- Construction works in the area of Mariakirken are likely to cause undue damage to the cultural layers and building foundations.
- The construction works for the entrance at Lodin Lepps gate contains risks to existing buildings.









Planned location for tunnel entrances at Øvregatan 9 / Mariakirken (@Norconsult / asplan viak)

## Tunnel option: Potential structural impacts

Uncertainties concerning Structural Impact / Archaeology and Built Heritage				
World Heritage property / Attributes	Day Option	Remark	Tunnel Option	Remark
Uncertainties due to Sea Wat	er Rise / Flooding:			
Finnegården	Slight positive	Risk preparedness for sea water rise and flooding has been improved by planned pile wall	neutral	
Bryggen (Quay)	Slight positive	Risk preparedness for sea water rise and flooding has been improved by planned pile wall and higher quay level at Dreggekalen. The lower level of the quay is estimated to be within the operational levels.	neutral	
Uncertainties throughout cor Hydrogeology / ground water		act on built and archaeological heritage	7	- <del></del>
Sandbrogaten		Planned tunnel and light-rail-track:  Construction works in immediate vicinity of cultural layers in Sandbrogaten cause potential conflict with medieval archaeological deposits and groundwater level. More detailed plans are necessary.	neutral	
Øvregaten	neutral		Jarger	Construction works at tunnel portals might cause structural conflicts and changes of groundwater levels in World Heritage property and its potential buffer zone. Detailed ground investigations, as well as investigations on impact of tunnel on groundwater level are considered necessary.
Mariakirken			Territories	Construction works in the area of Mariakirken are likely to cause undue damage to the cultural layers and building foundations.
Finnegården	Slight	Preventive conservation measures around the foundations have been applied	neutral	

# Comparison: Uncertainties concerning structural impact of day / tunnel option for archaeology and built heritage

### **KEY RESULTS for day option and tunnel option**

**Day option:** Risk preparedness for sea water rise and flooding has been improved by planned pile wall and higher quay

level at Dreggekaien.

Risks for built heritage foundations and groundwater changes during construction works on Bryggen Quay.

Construction works in immediate vicinity of cultural layers in Sandbrogaten cause potential conflict with

medieval archaeological deposits and groundwater level.

**Tunnel option:** Construction works at tunnel portals might cause large structural conflicts and changes of groundwater

levels in World Heritage property and its potential buffer zone.

Construction works in the area of Mariakirken are likely to cause undue very large damage to the cultural

layers and building foundations.

## Summary: Comparison of uncertainties concerning structural impact of day / tunnel option for archaeology and built heritage



#### **KEY MESSAGE**

Both options have potential positive and negative impacts!

But overall, the day option is considered a safer solution for the World Heritage property considering the large structural risks in the present tunnel option. However, it should be noted that the day option also causes large negative impacts and risks which have to be mitigated to a maximum extent prior to the realisation of the project.

## General findings / steps to take

#### **General Conclusions**

The two options have completely different impacts on the World Heritage property Bryggen. The day option is situated at the forefront of the World Heritage property Bryggen and it will be clearly visible. The tunnel option passing behind the World Heritage property changes the environment only to a limited extent. But the building of the tunnel and a light-rail-stop with two planned entrances entails the demolition of existing houses at Øvregaten, part of the supporting values of the potential buffer zone of the World Heritage property. Besides, the planned tunnel can affect the groundwater level under the World Heritage Property.

As a consequence, both the modified day-option and the planned tunnel option generate positive and negative impacts and risks concerning the OUV of the World Heritage property Bryggen. The day option causes large functional deficits at the Hanseatic Museum and large to moderate negative functional and visual impacts on Bryggen Quay due to the length and the frequency of the light-rail-cars and the introduction of new elements such as the high-voltage-line. Besides, construction works might cause large negative structural impacts at Sandbrogaten and Bryggen Quay, though after its placement the planned pile wall at Bryggen Quay might have positive effects concerning the protection against flooding and changes of groundwater level.

The tunnel option causes mainly large uncertainties concerning its structural impact as it entails residual risks concerning groundwater subsidence under the World Heritage property. As the tunnel is irreversible, this risk can only be mitigated to a certain extent by infiltration and other groundwater stabilizing measures. Thus, it requires an active and continuous risk monitoring process including identification of further risk-reducing measures. Moreover, both planned tunnel entrances at Øvregaten cause the need to demolish buildings and to work in the immediate vicinity of archaeological layers. At Mariakirken, which is an important World Heritage attribute, this is considered as a very large uncertainty making it necessary to relocate this planned entrance.

#### **Negative**

Functional Impact:

Potential large barrier effect of light rail and cycle path on Bryggen Quay

Potential large functional conflict at entrance area of Finnegården



#### Functional Impact:

► DEVELOP a detailed concept for planned cycle path on **Bryggen Quay**. This plan should show in detail how the potential barrier effect is avoided!

► DEVELOP detailed concept for mobility and safety of larger groups at **Finnegården**.

#### Visual Impact:

Potential large visual impact on Bryggen Quay.

Visual impacts have been slightly improved, but will only be solvable to a limited extent due size of light-rail-cars and high-voltage line.



#### Visual Impact:

▶ DROP high-voltage-line and masts and PROVIDE visualisations showing clearly the design state of Bryggen Quay without high-voltage line. Include detailed information of the planned cycle path as well day and night views so as to show clearly how the lighting concept will work.

#### Structural Impact:

Large risks concerning archaeological deposits at Sandbrogaten:

Large risks for changes for structural damage to built heritage during the construction period on Bryggen Quay.





#### Structural Impact:

- ▶ DEVELOP precise plan with a clear view concerning risks during construction activities at **Sandbrogaten**. Communicate this plan especially with experts from Riksantikvaren!
- ► DEVELOP precise plans to mitigate risks during constructions!

#### RECOMMENDATIONS

## Issues & Recommendations for day option

#### **Negative**

Several very large / large issues concerning structural Impact:

- 1. Potential **very large structural impact** on archaeological deposits at *Mariakirken*:
- 2. Potential large risks for structural impact due to changes of groundwater level at Bryggen World Heritage property and its potential buffer zone.
- 3. Potential large risks for demolition of listed buildings at medieval Øvregaten.
- 4. Potential large risks during construction activities for entrances at Øvregaten.

- ▶ DEVELOP a **new plan** for a light-rail-stop at Øvregaten without planned entrance at Mariakirken.
- ▶ DEVELOP a **detailed plan** how to seal planned tunnel in order to avoid potential large uncertainties for World Heritage property Bryggen.
- ▶ DEVELOP a **detailed plan** how to avoid or at least mitigate these risks.
- ▶ DEVELOP a **detailed plan** how to avoid or at least mitigate risks due to construction activities.
- ▶ **Provide active risk management** and identification of further risk-reducing measures.

#### **RECOMMENDATIONS**

#### **ISSUES**

## Recommendation for both day option and tunnel option: Provide a strategic plan for a future buffer zone

- ► COMBINE knowledge of cultural environment management, urban planning and transport planning
- ► IDENTIFY risks and potentials in the entire Vågen area.
- ► DEVELOP a sustainable strategy for touristic traffic management with a clear view for the sensitivity of WH property Bryggen including Øvregaten.

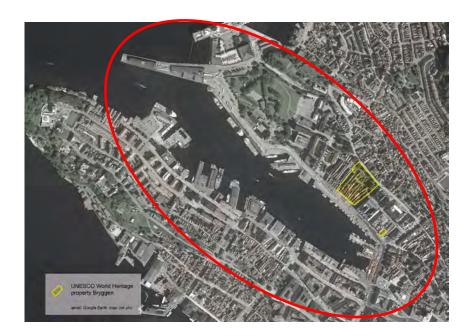


► DEVELOP a concept for a World Heritage buffer zone!

#### **ISSUES**

Suggested investigation area for future buffer zone of World Heritage property Bryggen (@ mkphc)

#### **RECOMMENDATION**



#### **KEY ISSUE**

Think about potential buffer zone which needs to cover entire Vågen area!

## General recommendation for Day option and Tunnel option





UNITED NATIONS EDUCATIONAL, SCIENTIFIC AND CULTURAL ORGANISATION

CONVENTION CONCERNING THE PROTECTION OF THE WORLD CULTURAL AND NATURAL HERITAGE

Adopted by the General Conference at its seventeenth session Paris, 16 november 1972



English Text

1 UNESCO (1972): Convention Concerning the Protection of the World Cultural Heritage6 2 UNESCO World Heritage Centre: The Operational Guidelines for the Implementation of the World Heritage Convention, Paris 2017. The Operational Guidelines are updated in regular intervals. This Assessment is based on the Operational Guidelines 2019

UNESCO-World Heritage properties are protected under the World Heritage Convention ("Convention concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage") 1. The World Heritage Convention that took effect in 1972 is an international agreement between the states parties and the United Nations. The objective of the World Heritage Convention is to identify, protect and use the most important natural and cultural heritage of man-kind for intercultural mediation. World Heritage properties are inscribed on the World Heritage List to protect them for future generations due to their Outstanding Universal Value. The Outstanding Universal Value is therefore the central point of reference for all activities within the UNESCO World Heritage property.

Pursuant to the World Heritage Convention, the State Parties are responsible for the protection and sustainable development of the World Heritage properties. According to Article 4 of the World Heritage Convention, "each State Party recognizes that the duty of ensuring the identification, protection conservation, presentation and transmission to future generations of the cultural and natural heritage referred to in Articles 1 and 2 and situated on its territory, belongs primarily to that State".

The protection and sustainable development of UNESCO World Heritage properties must therefore be ensured by State Parties that joined the World Heritage Convention. For this purpose, the internationally applicable guidelines must be observed, in particular the various charters on the implementation of the World Heritage Convention and the so-called Operational Guidelines serving to implement the World Heritage Convention.2

## Background Information: World Heritage Convention



The three pillars of Outstanding Universal Value (@ IUCN)

3 The Operational Guidelines define the OUV as follows: "Outstanding Universal Value means cultural and/or natural significance which is so exceptional as to transcend national boundaries and to be of common importance for present and future generations of all humanity. As such, the permanent protection of this heritage is of the highest importance to the international community as a whole. The Committee defines the criteria for the inscription of properties on the World Heritage List." See: UNESCO World Heritage Centre: The Operational Guidelines for the Implementation of the World Heritage Convention, Paris 2019

#### **OUTSTANDING UNIVERSAL VALUE (OUV)**

The inscription of World Heritage properties on the World Heritage List depends on their Outstanding Universal Value (OUV). The concept of the Outstanding Universal Value in the World Heritage Convention and its im-plementation stands for all UNESCO World Heritage properties in all regions of the planet. After inscription on the UNESCO World Heritage List, the Out-standing Universal Value is set in stone and must not be impaired.3 The Outstanding Universal Value is therefore the central point of reference for all activities within the UNESCO World Heritage property.

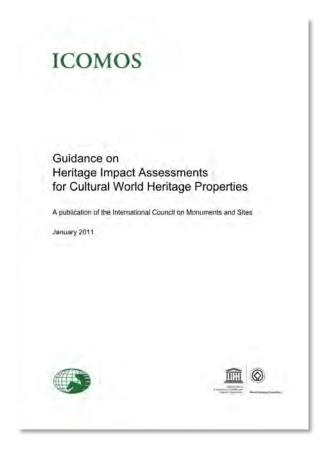
#### **WORLD HERITAGE CRITERIA**

Cultural and natural sites whose Outstanding Universal Value is acknowledged by the World Heritage Committee and its advisory organisations ICOMOS International, IUCN and ICCROM are inscribed on the World Heritage List using specific criteria. These criteria are defined in the internationally applicable guidelines for World Heritage properties, the Operational Guidelines. Six different criteria (criteria (i) - (iv)) exist for cultural World Cultural Heritage Sites. After a State Party to the World Heritage Convention has nominated a site for inscription on the World Heritage List, the UNESCO World Heritage Committee decides whether:

- at least one of these criteria applies, so that the Outstanding Universal Value of a site and therefore its inscription on the UNESCO World Heritage List is justified (Operational Guidelines, paragraph 77),
- any potential World Heritage property also meets the criteria of Integrity and Authenticity,
- any potential World Heritage property has an adequate system for its protection and management (Operational Guidelines, paragraph 78).

These above-mentioned conditional criteria are summarised in compact form for all World Heritage properties in a Statement of Outstanding Universal Value (SoOUV). For any World Heritage properties that were inscribed on the World Heritage List without a SoOUV, a so-called Retrospective Statement of Outstanding Universal Value (RSoOUV) is prepared. The RSoOUV must always be considered in compliance with the information provided in the nomination file, and cannot be applied in isolation. Therefore, the selection criteria are the starting point of this Heritage Impact Assessment, because these criteria must be maintained by all means and must not be impaired.

## Background Information: Outstanding Universal Value



#### Heritage Impact Assessments (HIAs)

Heritage Impact Assessments are required by the UNESCO World Heritage Committee and its advisory organisations IUCN (Natural World Heritage Sites) and ICOMOS (World Cultural Heritage Sites) in order to evaluate and assess transformations in the World Heritage properties and consequences for their Outstanding Universal Value. A major reason for such requirements of Heritage Impact Assessments is that they explicitly take account of the particularities of the system of values of World Heritage properties, in particular the Outstanding Universal Value, and the Selection Criteria, respectively.

In contrast to Strategic Environmental Assessments (SEA) and Environmental Impact Assessments (EIA), Heritage Impact Assessments (HIA) have currently not been planned under EU law. The realisation of Heritage Impact Assessments and the implementation of the resulting recommendations is therefore done on a voluntary basis and usually falls under the responsibility of the individual State Parties.

ICOMOS International established applicable guidelines for the performance of Heritage Impact Assessments in World Cultural Heritage Sites, the so-called *ICOMOS Guidance on Heritage Impact Assessments for Cultural World Heritage Properties 2011.* It is planned to review this Guidance soon.

1 https://www.icomos.org/world\_heritage/HIA\_20110201.pdf

## Background Information - Heritage Impact Assessments

#### **ABBREVIATIONS**

HIA: Heritage Impact Assessment

ICOMOS: International Council on Monuments and Sites, Paris

OUV: Outstanding Universal Value

RSOUV: (Retrospective)Statement of Outstanding Universal Value

UNESCO: United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization

WHC: UNESCO-World Heritage Centre, Paris

### **Abbreviations**

#### **Contracting Authority, Coordination and Data Transmission**

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