

Media release

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Helvetia presents the project for the Frohburg development in Zurich Oerlikon

Helvetia Insurance is planning a new residential development on the Frohburg site. The winning project has just been selected in a design competition. The project stood out due to its sustainable solutions that are in keeping with the area. Around 660 attractive rental apartments, that meet a wide range of needs, will be created.

The Frohburg residential estate in Zurich Oerlikon is located close to the Irchel university campus and borders on the Zürichberg wood to the south. The buildings in the existing development of 307 apartments were constructed shortly after the Second World War. Now over 65 years old, the properties no longer meet the current building regulations and standards, particularly in terms of energy consumption, soundproofing and age-appropriate and accessible living. A new-build project will therefore create a sustainable development with its own identity that is in keeping with the area on the site, which covers over 39,000 m².

Winning project "Mittag" set to enhance the area

A diverse jury of Helvetia representatives and external experts has now chosen the winner of the design competition. From the ten qualified design teams, Miroslav Šik Architekten, Knapkiewicz & Fickert Architekten, WT Partner Baumanagement and Ryffel+Ryffel Landschaftsarchitekten came out on top with the "Mittag" project. The jury was impressed by the construction project's elegant urban arrangement, clear layout of access roads and diverse range of apartments.

With the construction of two elongated, angular rows of buildings, the winning project will create a mix of living spaces for a wide range of lifestyles. A residential building is also planned with around 60 rooms for students. The rents will be in the lower to medium segment, in line with the location. In addition to high energy efficiency requirements, the project also meets socially and economically sustainable criteria. Helvetia is therefore aiming to obtain certification under the new Sustainable Building Standard Switzerland (SNBS).

The new development of the site will double the number of apartments, making a significant contribution to increasing density in urban housing. Despite the consid-

erably higher density, the estate will retain its green spaces. The estate will be accessed via Murwiesenstrasse, which will be designed as a traffic-calmed area with priority given to pedestrians. This will create a meeting place for residents to spend time and play. A café with local shop and a multi-purpose room, as well as plans for a new double kindergarten, will also enhance the development and the neighbourhood.

Planning application end of 2019 at the earliest

In the next 18 months, a detailed preliminary and main design will be drawn up on the basis of the winning project. The phased implementation will also be defined during this time, giving long-term tenants in particular the opportunity to remain on the site during the construction period and then move into a new apartment. Depending on the planning procedure, construction on the first phase will start at the earliest in spring 2021. Helvetia will inform the tenants concerned and the other residents regularly and in good time about the progress of the project.

More information and images relating to the project can be found at www.frohburg-helvetia.ch.

This media release can also be found on the website www.helvetia.com/media.

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Helvetia is active in the life and non-life business, and also offers customised specialty lines and reinsurance cover. Its business activities focus on retail customers as well as small and medium-sized companies and larger corporates. With some 6,500 employees, the company provides services to more than 5 million customers. With a business volume of CHF 8.51 billion,

Helvetia generated underlying earnings of CHF 491.8 million in the 2016 financial year. The registered shares of Helvetia Holding are traded on the SIX Swiss Exchange under the symbol HELN.

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