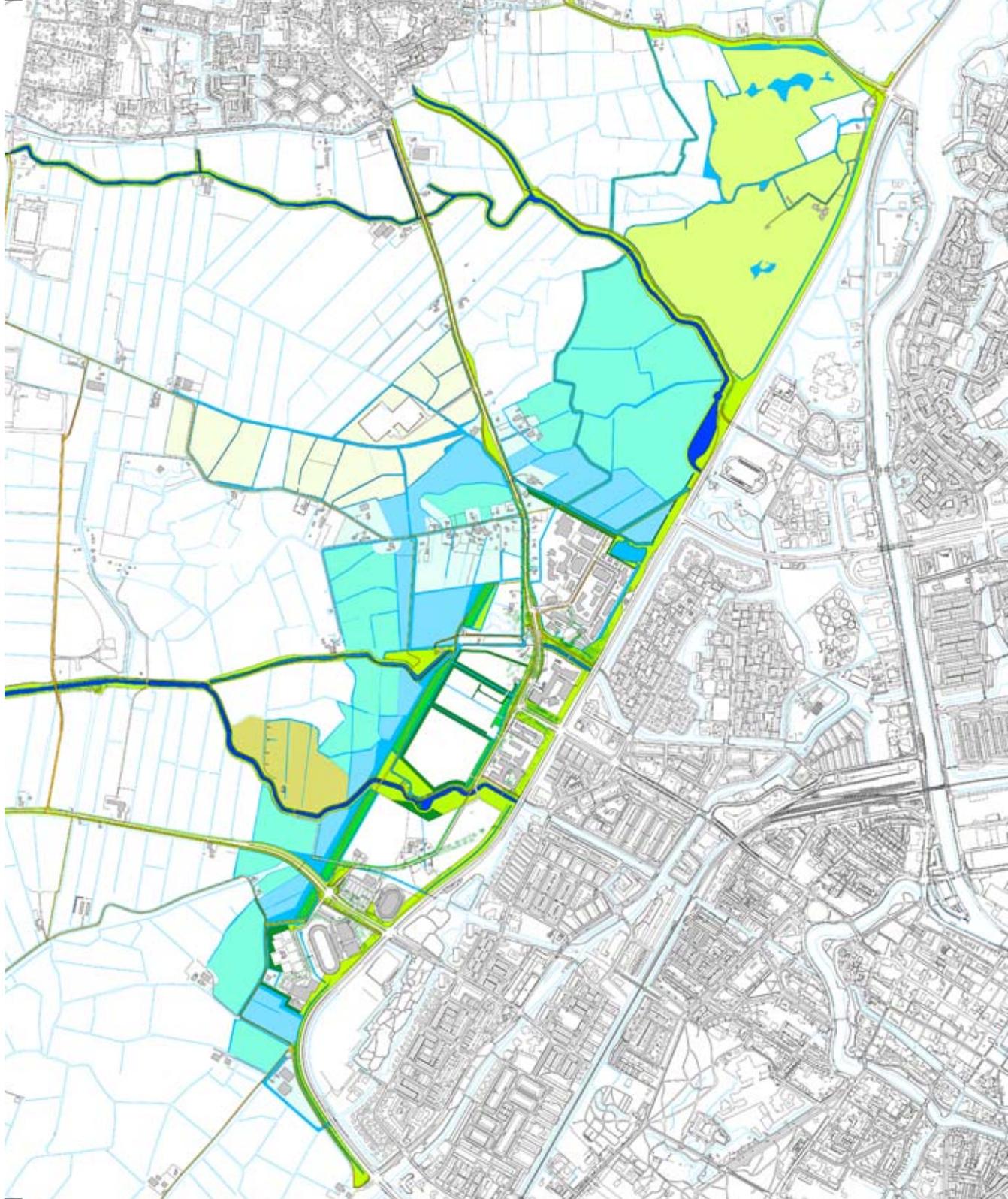# Alkmaar Western Rim Structural Vision >>>

Legend Structuring Framework

- rim of trees (cropped trees in flower-rich grassland) with broad watercourse, reedbanks and slow traffic route
- option for water storage in open grasslands: potential open water
- option for water storage in open grasslands: shapes less visible
- lots in water storage area with a different function than open agricultural pasture land
- flowery meadow
- flowery grassland or reed area (or other moist / marshy vegetation)
- new trees
- existing trees
- existing cropped trees in flowery grassland
- existing densely planted tree lane / groves
- transparent tree lane / groves (undergrowth removed, cropped trees)
- polder bank with reeds and flowery meadows and slow traffic route on the dikes
- polder bank (low waterlevel) with reeds and flowery grassland on the embankments
- ditch with reed banks
- ditches in the Western Rim
- existing road with bicyclepath and flowery banks
- existing road with secundary recreational function
- new cyclepath with ditches on both sides
- moved Olympiaroad with bicycle route, pedestrianpath and new trees
- farmhouse with extra recreational function
- allotment pardens
- Loterijlanden (existing nature)
- golf course
- rotated footballfield (main field)
- existing ditches outside the Western Rim
- existing buildings

Alkmaar Western Rim Structural Vision

project
Alkmaar Western Rim Structural Vision

location
Alkmaar

designers
Hilke Floris
Berrie van Elderen
Remco Rolvink

client
Municipality of Alkmaar

size
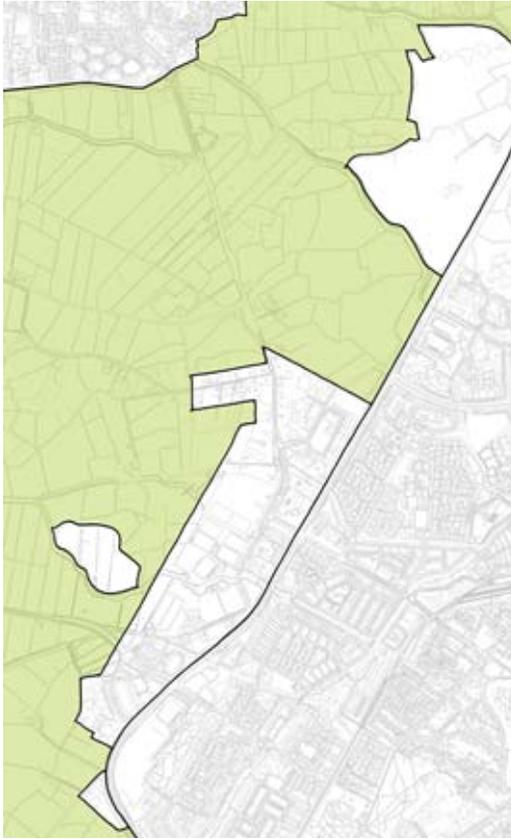approx. 300 ha

year of design
2004 - 2010

Western rim structural vision
The western suburban area of Alkmaar is extremely diverse and has the image of being an open grassland area, home to a number of first-class sports and recreational facilities. These qualities contrast sharply with a number of somewhat untidy places and the poor character of a number of buildings in the area.
The Structural Vision offers a broad framework by maintaining the qualities of the western rim, and introducing a new structure. Future developments can then be valued and situated in a way that allows their presence to contribute to the wider quality of the area.

Inventory and discussion
Prior to creating the Structural Vision, an extensive analysis of the existing area was carried out, focusing on both spatial and functional aspects. A large number of interviews were carried out with residents and users of the area, in which techniques such as specific quotes and 'mental maps' with markings were used to interpret the value of the different parts of the area. The results of the discussions held with regard to requests and possibilities for the future of the area were summarised in an 'outline guide' upon which the Structural Vision is based.

open grassland

landscape boundary

infrastructure + green lines

Landscape as a basis

The greenery and landscape in the western rim plays a vital role. The ambition of the Structural Vision is to preserve an open grassland area whilst transforming the built-up parts of the western rim in pursuit of a coherent and clearly delimited area that is equipped to efficient, first-class standards for new and existing (professional) sport, recreation and business functions.
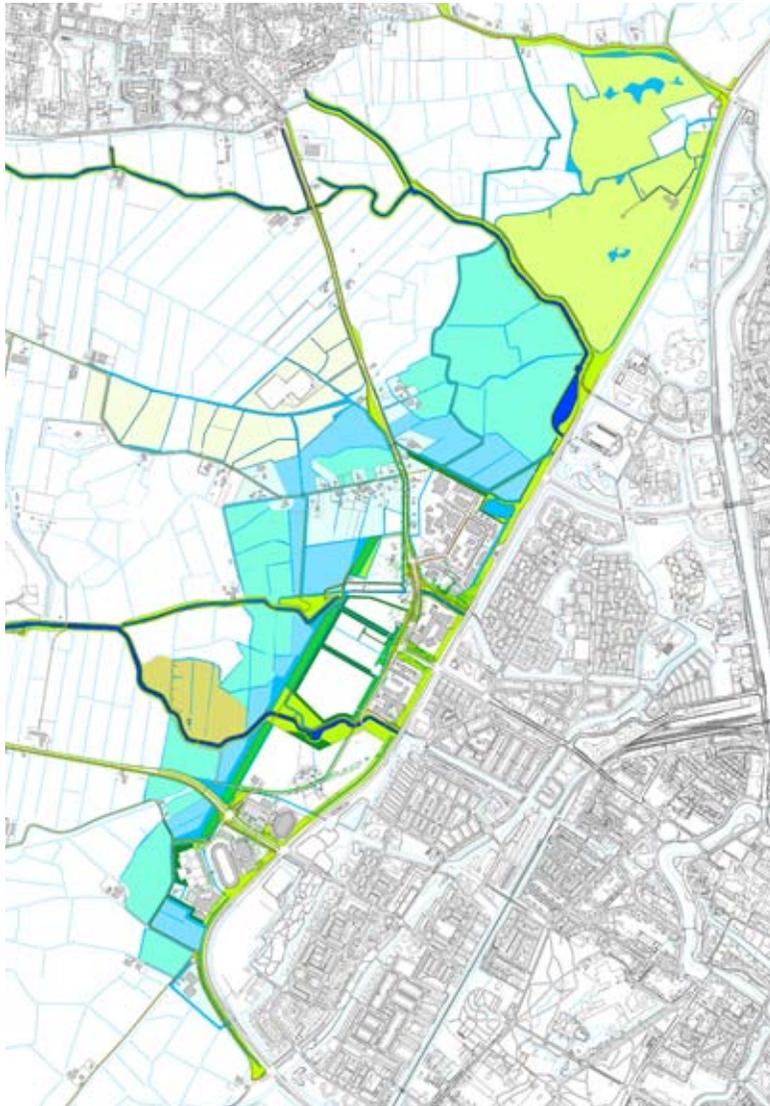
space within the framework
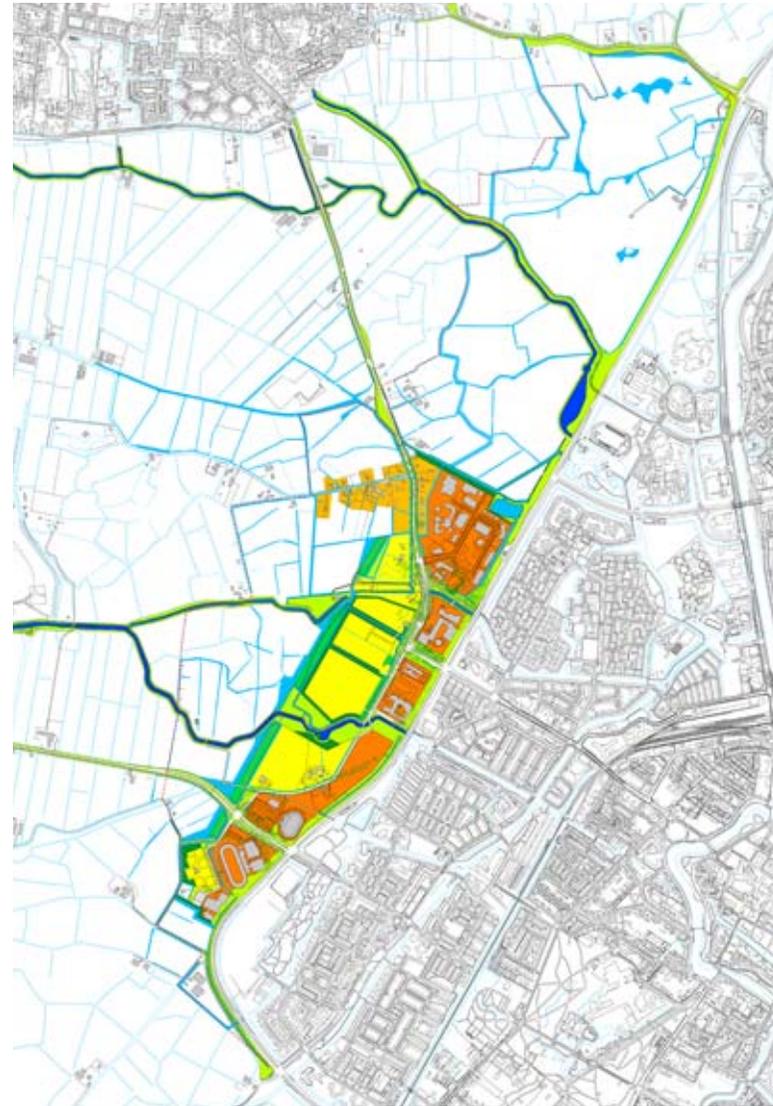

emanation

dual partition of functions

Structure and flexibility

The Structural Vision consists of two components: a structural framework and space for functions. The structural framework comprises a rigid landscape and recreational structure. This spatial basis of the western rim strengthens the green character of the area and helps to delimit the urban area. This established framework offers the flexibility and scope to incorporate new and existing functions. In order to highlight the opportunities available, the Structural Vision contains a number of examples of possible interpretations. In addition, an image quality plan has been included to ensure that the functions achieve the desired character.

structurizing Framework

space for functions