Havanna Estate: Local Challenges

COOLING HAVENS

the 64–75 Area · Site Visit Briefing

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18 BUDAPEST KAPUJA

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· THIS IS HAVANNA

Havanna was built for efficiency — not today’s climate

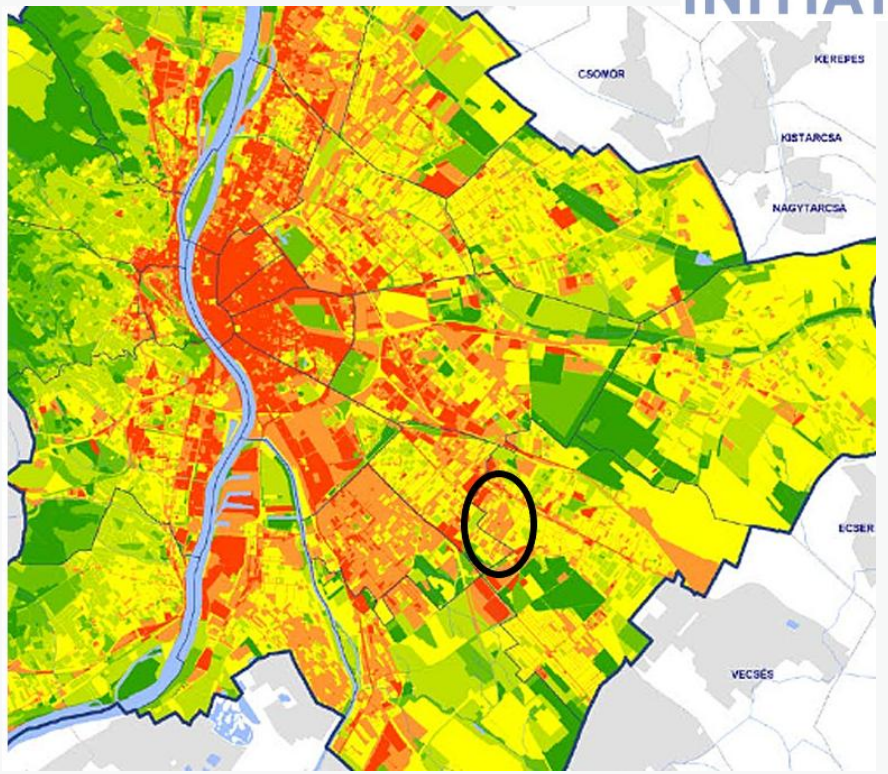
- ≈13,300 residents (KSH, 2022 census)
- Hungary’s largest prefabricated (“panel”) housing estate
- Public spaces shaped by functional planning, not community needs
- Renewal today is social as well as physical



· WHY IT MATTERS

Heat risk is local

- Large paved surfaces, dense building mass, too little shade
- Surface temperatures spike well above the citywide average
- Climate adaptation here means improving everyday thermal comfort



Budapest surface-temperature map — Havanna circled

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Four local challenges — and they connect

01

Summer heat

02

Public-space use

03

Green-blue infrastructure

04

Mobility & parking



Green-blue infrastructure & parking plan, 18th district

Residents' needs connect all four — none can be solved alone.

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· WHAT WE HAVE ALREADY TRIED

Renewal has progressed step by step

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Kondor Béla Promenade



Havanna Weekly Market



Community Gardens



Pavilion Row

The renewal of Havanna Market received the Special Award of the Hungarian Chamber of Architects at the FIABCI Hungary 2024 Quality Award Competition — an InnoK achievement.

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What earlier interventions taught us

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1

Use matters as much as design

How a space gets used day-to-day shapes its success more than its plan.

2

Participation builds ownership

Residents who help shape a space are the ones who look after it.

3

Maintenance must be planned from day one

Long-term upkeep needs a budget and an owner before construction starts.

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· NEXT TEST AREA

Why the 64-75 area matters

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CURRENT CONDITIONS

- Heat exposure, limited shade
- Fragmented everyday use

DESIGN TENSIONS

- Green space vs. parking vs. access
- Safety and long-term maintenance

A resident-centred adaptation test site

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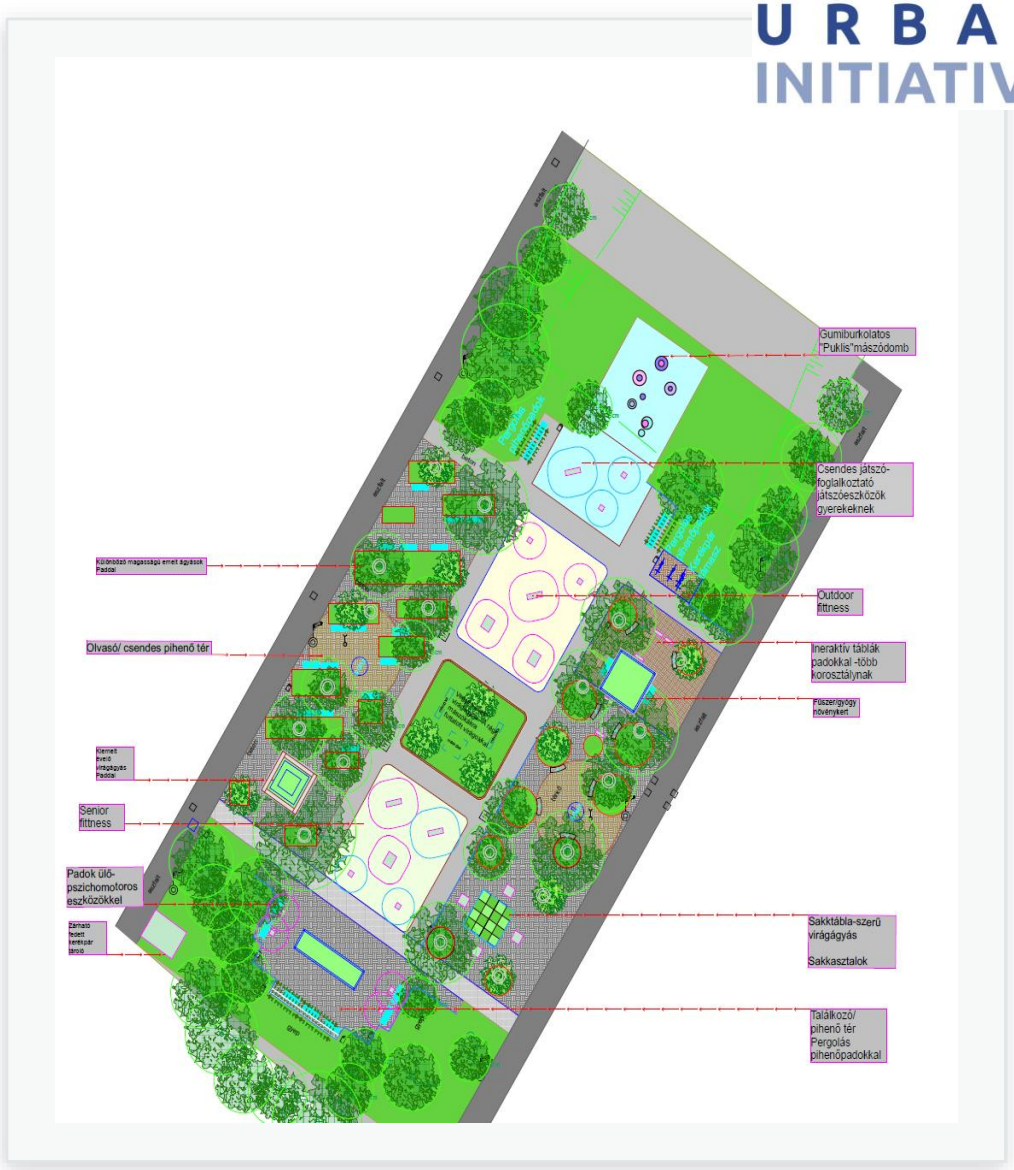
The 64-75 concept turns adaptation into a testable place

ADAPTING THE ATHENS MODEL

1. Smart cooling
2. Smart irrigation
3. Safe, accessible infrastructure
4. Environmental monitoring
5. Smart Lightning



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· OPEN QUESTIONS

What still needs to be decided?

This is not a finished plan — these are the open questions where we need your experience.

Q1

Where will cooling create the greatest everyday benefit?

Q2

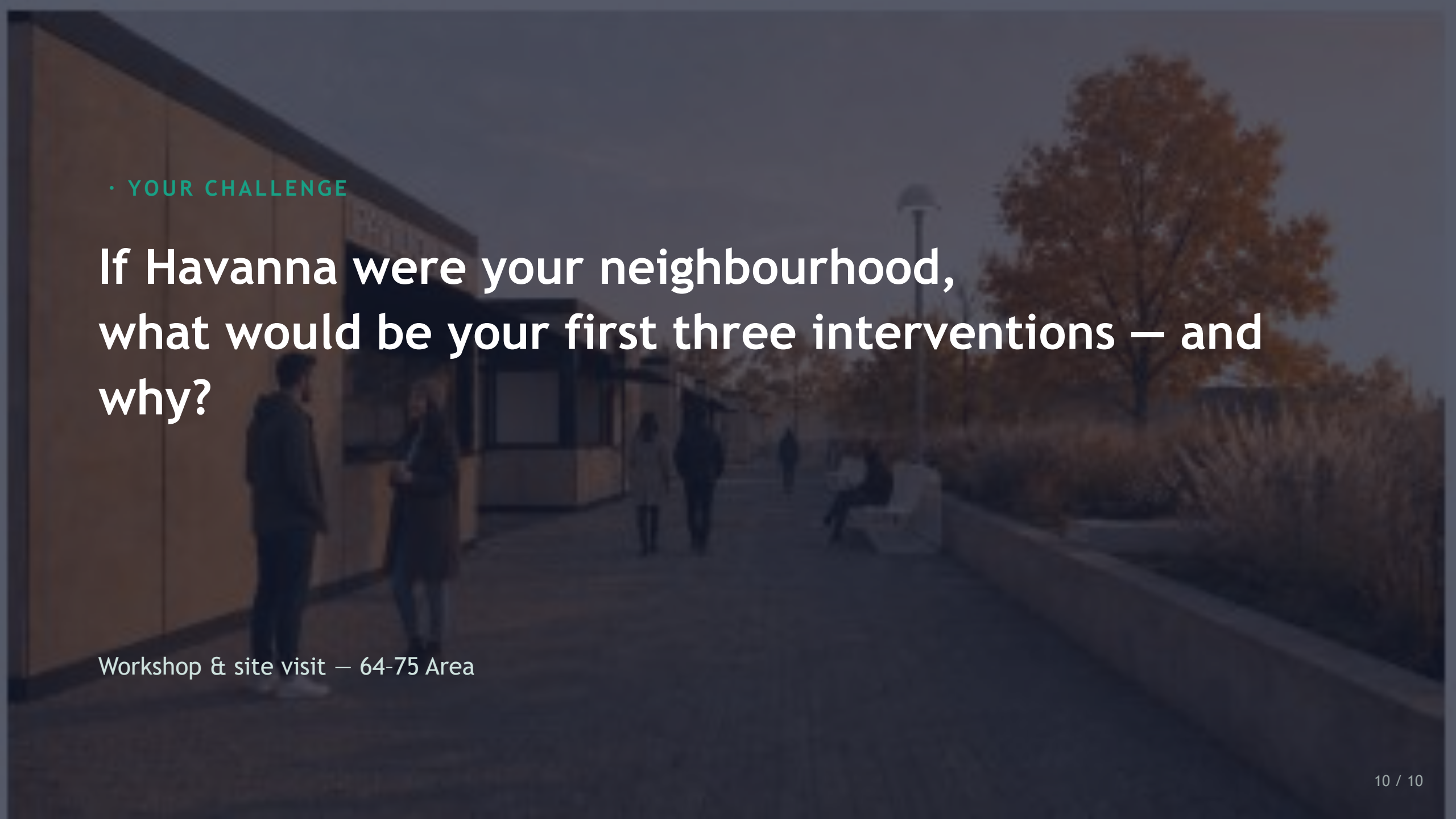
How can blue-green infrastructure fit parking and access?

Q3

How should residents co-design and help sustain the space?

Q4

What can be piloted and measured within 0–24 months?



· YOUR CHALLENGE

If Havanna were your neighbourhood, what would be your first three interventions — and why?

Workshop & site visit — 64–75 Area