The Child Friendly City of Regensburg
1. Background

2. What’s so special about Regensburg’s child friendliness?

3. Detailed Examples

4. Future development
1.a. The City of Regensburg

- Ancient history: Roman fortress founded in 175 A.D.
- 12th and 13th centuries flourishing (ca. 20,000 people), UNESCO World Heritage
- Now: MINT companies, 3 universities, 170,000 people, rapidly growing
- Family and child friendly politics since the end of 80s / early 90s
1. b Our reasons for family and child friendly politics

How it used to be: (1950s, 60s, 70s)
How the future could have been like:

…(starting in 80s) and is in some parts of Germany now…
Crisis or chance?

solution:

family and child friendly politics!
2. What’s so special about Regensburg’s child friendly approach?
2. a Structure within city administration

- 1 person in charge of family and child friendliness (department of municipal youth work)
- „Federführung“ = lead and authority in ALL aspects concerning family- and child friendliness
- in this aspect lead over all departments
All local players are involved under the lead of the city of Regensburg.
2.c Main Goals

Regensburg shall be an attractive city for families in which children can grow up **healthy** and **happy** with **good support** and **prospects for development**.

**Children‘s rights** shall apply in Regensburg **for all**.
2.c Our approach

Procedure:

- professional
- scientific
- strategic and
- systematic planning approach

for ALL aspects of childhood and living conditions in the city

sustainable structures vs. short projects!
2.c Our approach

1. assessment of current state
2. networking and collaboration (administration, city council, social institutions, private sector)
3. long term goals, concepts, administrative regulations, municipal laws and bills and detailed action plans
4. pass by city council
5. put into action

Youth participation!
Looking at the bigger picture

Children’s rights: healthy development, fair chances and equal access to education, help, activities important for development, leisure activities…

- living conditions in neighborhoods
- education, help and support system – *accessibility* for all!
- support for disadvantaged
- participation and information
- work conditions for parents
- attractive leisure time opportunities for all…
3. Example: Family friendly work conditions

- Set example as local employer
- Educate: workshops and best practice visits for managers and HR
- Special price for family friendly companies
- Support companies in child care
3. Example: Child friendly urban planning

**Why?** Setting for playful and joyful experiences and living

positive development, physical, mental, social health

**How?** City has **quality standards**
3. Procedure: Project Spielleitplanung

City council: assignment to do "Spielleitplanung" = urban planning method with youth participation

Assessment of all of the public space (also parks, roads, sidewalks, downtowns, etc.) with youth participation

Collaboration of many departments of city administration

City council passes action plan

Administration puts measures into action

City council passes quality standards

All further planning and development follows the standards
Examples for quality standards

Standards for our urban downtown public spaces like downtown squares and pedestrian zones with qualities for all generations: quality to stay (benches, shade etc.), playful elements…
Quality standards for urban green

A green network for free play, exploration, recreation for all children all over the city:

public parks and green places, playgrounds, youth centers, outdoor sports, places and squares in the neighborhood.
Example standard: places for play for children and youth

- 1,5 square meters playground netto per inhabitant min.
- sensual experiences, nature
- to leave traces, be creative
- exploration, creativity and adventures…
- fine and gross motor skills…
- municipal law with standards for private green
Standards for planning of secure and independent mobility for youth

pedestrian zones, sidewalks, “Wohnverkehrsstraßen”, speed limits

bike paths,

short cuts and little streets for pedestrians away from the cars,

public transport system…
Family and child friendly living environment: surrounding of apartment houses with outdoor quality for families, communication areas, private playgrounds, streets for play, places for bikes and strollers.
Quality standards and concept for youth participation

author    Anna Schledorn    Department for Municipal Youth Work - City of Regensburg
4. Future development

analyses – action plan – label child friendly cities Germans, implementation of the plan – 2019 new action plan and further improvement
Kontakt

Anna Schledorn
Youth Welfare Planner, Child Friendly City Coordinator
Department of Municipal Youth Work
Domplatz 3
93047 Regensburg
Telefon 0941/507-1557
Telefax 0941/507-4559
schledorn.anna@regensburg.de

Photos: Pressestelle Stadt Regensburg, Amt für kommunale Jugendarbeit, Stadt Regensburg, Anna Schledorn, Teilnehmer der Streifzüge, Planungsbüro Stadt-Kinder, Petra Hartung Planungsbüro WRW FreiRaumArchiteken