

PROGRAMME

1. Brief historical description of the Competition site

Riga's historic centre is a living illustration of European history. Throughout the centuries, Riga has been the crossroads of various important events and the meeting point of European peoples, preserving to this day evidence of the influence of European cultural space on its historical development, as well as of the intersection of trade and cultural routes between the West and the East. Riga has always been a modern city, keeping up with the latest trends in architecture and urban planning, while preserving a sense of urban unity in its development.

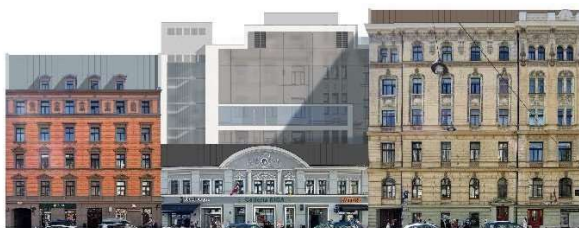
Riga, founded in 1201 as a port city, was the capital of the Baltic States from the 13th to the 15th centuries. In the 17th century, Riga was one of the most important centres of the Hanseatic League in Eastern Europe. In the 17th century it became Sweden's largest provincial city, and in the 19th century it experienced rapid industrial development, and in the 20th century it became the capital of Sweden. At the beginning of the 19th century, Riga became the city in Europe where Art Nouveau architecture was most concentrated. Riga also plays a role in the cultural, scientific and educational development of the region.

The historic centre of Riga is World Heritage Site No 852, inscribed on the UNESCO World Heritage List on 4 December 1997. The World Heritage Committee has recognised that "the Historic Centre of Riga, consisting of a relatively well-preserved medieval and later urban fabric, has considerable universal value, as a result of its medieval buildings, the quantity and quality of its Art Nouveau architecture, unmatched anywhere else in the world, and its 19th-century wooden architecture". The historical centre of Riga covers 435 ha, or 1.4% of the city's territory, and contains around 4000 buildings. In 2003, the Law on the Preservation and Protection of the Historic Centre of Riga was adopted.

Dzirnavu street connects Maskavas street and Pulkveža Brieža street. It crosses three neighbourhoods - Maskavas foršate, Avoti and Centre. Dzirnavu street is one of the oldest streets in the neighbourhood and has kept its original name. Dzirnavu street dates back to the 18th century. In the first half of the 18th century, it was built on the site of the Dzirnavu (Mill) Pond, which existed in the 16th -17th centuries. It is from this mill, which was located near the street, that it got its name. In 1885, the Dzirnavu street was joined by Lielā Riepiņķu street and the Dzirnavu Dam. During the German occupation, the street was renamed Richard Wagner StraÙe, but in 1944 it regained its historical name, which has not changed over time.



Photomontage of Dzirnau street facades



Photomontage of Rūdolfā Blaumaņa street facade

Rūdolfā Blaumaņa street borders Avotu, A. Čaka, Kr. Barona, Tērbatas and Brīvības streets. It was first mentioned in the list of Riga streets in the 19th century under the name "Lielā Fūrmaņu street". In the 19th century. In 1923 the street was renamed in honour of Rūdolfis Blaumanis. Its name has not changed over time. At the end of the 19th century, the street was called Neva street (*Невская улица*). In 1923 it was renamed after

Rūdolfs Blaumanis. Its name has not changed over time.

2. Characteristics of the urban environment of the Competition site

The shopping centre "Galleria Riga" at Dzirnavu street 67, Riga (cadastral No 0100 021 0024) is located within the boundaries of the Historic Centre of Riga City (State Protection No 7442), an urban monument of national importance, and within the protection zone of UNESCO World Heritage Site No 852 "Historic Centre of Riga". The building extends almost the full depth of the block from Dzirnavu to Blaumaņa street and is designed to respect the historic scale and urban structure of the block in terms of facade, scale and layout. The historical division of the plots and the rhythm of the facades of the existing buildings are also reflected in the main façade of the building. On the Blaumaņa street side there is a two-storey building, built in 1925 according to the design of E. Laube and reconstructed in 2010.

The roof terraces on the 8th floor (rooftop) of the building are open to the public and provide an opportunity to view one of the unique aspects of the architecture of the city centre - the roofscape. The roofscape is a culturally significant part of the historical heritage, which is accessible to the public from a limited number of locations. It is possible to get a close-up view of the characteristic motifs that make up the historic roofscape, as well as the incorporation of modern architecture into the historic one.

3. Galleria Riga – architectural description of the building

S/c "Galleria Riga" is an eight-storey building with two underground floors and a roof terrace open to the public, which can accommodate cafés/restaurants.

Underground floors are for car parking. Deliveries to the shopping centre's shops and waste removal are organised from the first underground floor. Both underground floors accommodate technical rooms for servicing of the building.

1st floor The main entrance to the building, as well as the entrance and exit to the underground car parks are organised from Dzirnavu street. A wide pedestrian arcade has been created in the middle of the building, which is connected to the retail space. There is also a second entrance to the building towards Blaumaņa street, as well as additional evacuation exits to the courtyards of adjacent buildings.

2nd -7th floor The typical floors are occupied by retail space, which connects to the pedestrian arcade. A large covered atrium runs through the middle of the building, with escalators and stairs along its edge, and lifts at either end of the atrium. The 7th floor is dedicated to restaurants/cafés and various services. There is also a public bathroom block on this floor.

8th floor The 8th floor of the building is a roof floor, which is intended as a public open space and for cafes/restaurants. Visitors can access the roof by lifts from Blaumaņa street, stairs from the 7th floor and two escape staircases.

The building is designed as a complex of individual volumes grouped around a wide atrium. The atrium is covered by a skylight at roof level, and skylights are also located above the 7th floor rooms. The roof is made up of several horizontal planes.

The façade is shaped differently within each historic plot. The main facade of the shopping centre faces Dzirnavu street. This street facade retains the three-storey volume of the historic building, merging it with the newly built part. The newly built façade follows the rhythm of the façades of the neighbouring buildings. The part of the building volume closest to Brīvības street is in harmony with the adjacent Art Nouveau buildings, the vertical division is emphasised, the projection on the façade is in harmony with the bay windows of these buildings. The other part of the façade volume, on the other hand, is designed as a silhouette of a wooden building with roof projections and wooden cladding; this part of the building is dominated by horizontal division, which is characteristic of the adjacent eclectic buildings.

In 2016, a partial reconstruction of the Dzirnavu street facade was carried out, thus creating glazed windows from the 1st to the 3rd floor of the building.

At the end of 2023, a new reconstruction of the Dzirnavu street facade is planned, creating a glazed facade at the 5th and 6th floor level, thus providing windows (daylight) for the office areas. On the other hand, from Blaumaņa street and the side terraces (towards Brīvības and Tērbatas streets) the façade will be partially opened and glazed at the 5th floor level. The facades are and will be decorated with modern finishing materials, glass, metal, concrete and wood.

4. Stopping points for urban planning

The land plot is located in the centre of Riga and, as mentioned above, it is a UNESCO World Heritage Site - Riga Historic Centre protection zone and such an assessment implies that special attention should be paid to the cultural heritage when planning any kind of development on this site.

Using modern materials, to create contemporary architectural forms with the aim of integrating into the landscape of the historic environment, preserving its authentic character and scale, as well as creating high quality public open space. The wide flat roofs are more characteristic of the 20th century modernism, which is not in keeping with the characteristic roofscape principles of historic buildings. The humanisation of the extensive roof terrace space would allow for a high quality addition to the roofscape of Riga.

Respecting the characteristic heights of the surrounding buildings, set new buildings back from the Dzirnavu street frontage so that they are not exposed to the view from the street. New building volumes shall not exceed the maximum height of the existing roofs.

In accordance with the graphical part of the Spatial Plan of the Riga Historic Centre and its Protection Zone and the Territory Use and Building Regulations, the land plot is located in the perimeter building area, therefore the permissible building height and yard formation conditions shall be determined in accordance with the requirements of Chapter 3.6 of the "Regulations on the Territory Use and Building of the Riga Historic Centre and its Protection Zone " and the requirements of these Regulations.

5. Main requirements for the Competition Object

The aim of the Competition is to find an architecturally high-quality solution for the development and humanisation of the roof space. To improve the quality of the existing roof landscape, to create a publicly accessible, multifunctional outdoor space and to create a coherent style of fixed pavilions for the use of the roof terraces of the building, also in the winter season. The building volume solution should fit into the existing urban landscape in terms of scale and detail. Care shall be taken in the siting of the new buildings to ensure that they do not project from the public open space of Dzirnavu street.

The Competition entries shall be based on the zoning of the roof terrace plan developed by the Client, attached as Annex 8, respecting the sometimes extreme natural conditions of Latvia in the choice of materials. Deviations from the zoning may be permitted if the Participant's solution provides a superior functional solution. For the 8th floor of the building, a coherent landscaping, planting and lighting solution for the public area shall be developed, taking into account the existing 7th floor rooflights.

The existing roof terrace railings on the 8th floor will not be altered and are part of the visual identity of the shopping centre. Indicate the amount of demolition required to create the new pavilions.

6. 6. Additional and exceptional conditions for the Object development parameters

- 6.1. Existing buildings are designed in accordance with the perimeter building situation.
- 6.2. The height of the eaves of the building in relation to Dzirnavu street is 21.1 m, with the rest of the building set back from the street facade, reaching a maximum existing height of 29.3 m within the block, indicating that the building was originally designed as an urban design accent of local significance.
- 6.3. New constructions do not exceed the building's existing height mark of +29.30m.
- 6.4. Deviations from the height standards are permitted in order to complement the existing urban accent of the building at Dzirnavu street 67 by moving it away from the street facade, while respecting the height system of the surrounding area and not exceeding the existing maximum height of the building.
- 6.5. The additional and exceptional provisions mentioned in this point of the program have

been agreed upon by the Riga Historical Center Preservation and Development Council (here and after referred to as the Council) in accordance with the procedures set out in Article 318.3 of the RVC AZ TIAN and the permissible if they improve the quality of architecture and increase the public benefit (see Councils in Annex No.10 decision),

6.6. In the case of an architectural accent, it may not only be an accent in height but also have a functional role.

7. Building programme

Spatial programme

To develop a unified concept for improving the architectural and functional quality of the outdoor space on the 8th floor roof terraces of the shopping centre. The solutions should include all-season pavilions, replacement of the terrace flooring, environmental accessibility for all levels of the roof terrace, a two-runway solution around the atrium rooflight glazing, in accordance with the Client's terrace zoning plan. The zoning plan (see Annex 8) is based on many years of experience in the retail and catering sector, taking into account visitor and staff flows. The Participant may propose its own layout for the 8th floor roof terraces if, in its opinion, the solution is more successful both functionally and aesthetically.

The programme foresees the creation of a total of 5 pavilions on each of the existing roof terraces. The main function of the pavilions is catering, which would also operate during the winter season. The pavilions are arranged in such a way that each pavilion functions independently and can be transferred to different tenants. Both closed and open space areas and a separate kitchen area of approximately 35 m² have been created. Each of pavilions is configured in separate terrace room:

- In room 009-93, a pavilion with closed and open part (combined type), separated kitchen space, the open part is 1/6th of the total area, ~ total area 120m²;
- In room 009-94, a pavilion with a closed and open part (combined type), separated kitchen space, the open part is 1/5th of the total area, ~ total area 180m²;
- In room 009-95, a closed type pavilion with a separate kitchen space is desirable, total area 100m²;
- In room 009-96, an open canopy without a closed kitchen part is desirable, ~ total area 150m²;
- In room 009-97, a pavilion with a closed and open part (combined type), a separate kitchen space, the open part is 1/5 of the total area, ~total area 160m².

The new building volumes are designed in a style that is in keeping with the building, using modern, non-combustible materials. Their height should not exceed the existing maximum height of the building and shall be set back from the outdoor space of the public street and shall fit into the space formed at an angle of 45 degrees, measured from the main eaves. A proposal for the interior design of the public spaces of the pavilions shall be developed. Participants should consider, as a possibility for future design, splitting the actual implementation of the closed all-season pavilions into 2 stages:

- Stage 1: open-air pavilions implemented,
- Stage 2: construction of wall envelope structures, creation of enclosed spaces, including installation of heating networks.

In an independent project (not related to the competition), an additional evacuation staircase "A" (see zoning plan in Annex 8) will be implemented on the Dzirnavu street side, which will allow 700 visitors and 50 employees (750 people in total) to use the roof terrace at the same time.

A coherent design of the landscaping, planting and lighting of the public area is to be developed, the details of which will need to be worked out in the future design process after the Competition. The maximum length of the escape route from the cul-de-sac of 45m should be

The Client foresees connections between the 7th floor and the roof terraces via open staircase "B" (see zoning plan in Annex 8, not considered as an escape route), this solution will be developed in an independent project. The location of these staircases must be taken into account when designing the Competition Entry. The Competition Entry shall include the

construction of a canopy (roof structure) over the staircase (see Annex 8) in a uniform style with the pavilions to be designed. The canopy solution may be free-standing or combined with the adjacent pavilion(s).

8. Infrastructure

All utilities (including ventilation, heating, power supply) are to be connected to the existing building systems. For this purpose, connection points have been established on the 8th floor of the original design of the building, see details in Annex 8 to the Competition Regulations. Participants should take into account the location of communications when designing their Competition Entry. Technical solutions are not to be included and addressed in the Competition Entry and will be developed in the subsequent design process.

9. Description of construction and finishing materials

When designing the visual and technical solutions, the Participants must take into account the choice of materials that are safe and sustainable for use, especially in view of the changing and sometimes extreme weather conditions, such as thick snow cover, hail, strong winds, rain and sun, as well as the large number of people - up to 750 people can be on the terrace at the same time. For example, for aluminium-glass structures, it is recommended to use an energy-efficient 3-layer glass unit with sun protection, as transparent and glare-free as possible.