

Heidelberg - breaking new ground



Prof. Dr. Würzner Photo Tobias Dittmer

Ladies and gentlemen,

Following the departure of the US army, Heidelberg was presented with a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity: 180 hectares of land for redevelopment. Five sites across the metropolitan area will undergo development to create highly diverse neighborhoods.

Heidelberg Innovation Park (hip) is being built on the site of the former Patton Barracks. The City of Heidelberg and the developer Entwicklungsgesellschaft Patton Barracks (egp) acquired the site in April 2017. Development work had already begun officially by December and the first companies moved in in April 2019. The work done at hip focuses on creating solutions for the digital world and is characterized by an interdisciplinary and international approach, with constant dialog between researchers, start-ups and established companies. That is why hip's slogan is "work connected". In addition, a large sports arena with capacity for up to 5,000 spectators is being constructed on the southwestern edge of the site.

Heidelberg has outstanding prospects for the future. We are a growing city – one that attracts predominantly young and highly qualified people. Heidelberg University is ranked the best in Germany and among the top 50 worldwide. The city also features regularly at the top of German rankings for child daycare facilities and quality of school education. In ZDF's quality-of-life ranking "Wo lebt es sich am besten", comparing 401 districts and municipalities in Germany, Heidelberg won the silver medal. And every year around 12 million tourists come from all over the world to visit our city. We're looking forward to what the future will bring!

Yours sincerely

Prof. Dr. Eckart WürznerMayor of the City of Heidelberg

Heidelberg Innovation Park

Digitalization is the industrial revolution of the 21st century. Solutions for the digital world are being created at Heidelberg Innovation Park. Short distances, an open campus atmosphere with attractive meeting places, and flexible usage models in the buildings promote vigorous cooperation between creative minds.

Since 2017, hip has been growing on the approximately 15-hectare site of the former Patton Barracks. The site is in an easily accessible location on Speyerer Strasse and directly adjacent to Bahnstadt, the city's new district of the future. The main station is within walking distance and there are several tram and bus stops on the site itself.

The first company moved into hip in April 2019. Shortly afterwards, Digital-Agentur, the City of Heidelberg's own digital agency, and the state-funded Digital Hub kurpfalz@bw for the Rhine-Neckar metropolitan region followed. Both of them located to hip to support start-ups and established companies in expanding further.

All the buildings are being equipped with fiber optic cables for broadband access. The project also takes into account new forms of working, such as co-working spaces or a makerspace, for example. Joint events, lectures, forums and presentations will be held on a regular basis. Also, the park will have its own app, allowing companies located at hip to present themselves and connect. The entire environment at hip is intended to help to ensure that ideas and scenarios will evolve into joint projects involving industry, research and business. After all, the innovation park's slogan is "work connected".



Photo Philipp Rothe







Top right The first occupants of Heidelberg Innovation Park celebrated in July 2019 **Photo** Tobias Dittmer

Top Albrecht Metter, CEO of the first company that moved to the hip, explains a virtual promoter to Mayor Eckart Würzner. **Photo** Tobias Dittmer

Right Roofing ceremony for the sports arena in July 2019. **Photo** Christian Buck









Vision for the heart of the hip. **Rendering** Hosoya Schaefer Architects

Patton Square and open spaces

A green corridor will form the central link between the east and west parts of hip. Patton Square lies centrally on this axis 1. The square itself is an invitation to visitors, employees and passers-by to meet, communicate and work. The square will have islands for sitting and working, in addition to café seating. The former stables will be preserved and will help to enliven the environment along with the start-ups located there. At the northern end of the green corridor, the space broadens out into a large, sunny meadow – Patton Park 3.



BDC will be finished in the fall of 2019. **Photo** TF GmbH

Business Development Center

One of hip's first milestones will be the Business Development Center (BDC). 4. The first young start-ups and research spin-offs will be moving into the 4,000-square-meter building in the fall of 2019. BDC HD is a multifunctional office and laboratory building for high-tech start-ups. There is space to the north for another building 5 if there is demand for the BDC to be expanded.



Ein Unternehmen der Stadt Heidelberg und der Sparkasse Heidelberg

Innovation Industry

The "Innovation Industry" site 6 offers flexible construction plots for large and medium-size companies. This development site is characterized by a high degree of flexibility, scalability and visibility from Speyerer Strasse.

Sino-German Cooperation

The Sino-German High-Tech Park 7 will be home to the R&D departments of major Chinese companies, economic zones, research institutions and development platforms belonging to cities and associations. The aim is to create a center for start-ups, development and innovation which will play a bridging role between Germany and China.

Repurposing the Old

The former chapel **8** is being refurbished and is serving as an information and neighborhood center during the first phase. Some other existing buildings around the chapel are being repurposed. The first tenants – including Digital-Agentur, the City of Heidelberg's digital agency, and the Rhein-Neckar metropolitan region's Digital Hub kurpfalz@bw funded by the State of Baden-Württemberg – moved into one office building **9** in 2019 The German-American Institute is also planning what it calls a "Begeisterhaus" **10**. With 1,200 square meters of usable floor space, this building will be open to all, serving as a workshop, think tank and meeting place at the same time.



Photo Philipp Rothe

Sports arena

The city will soon have a new home for mass and top-level sports: With capacity for up to 5,000 spectators, the new sports arena under construction on Speyerer Strasse 11 is scheduled to open in the fall of 2020. Primarily, it is intended for club and school sport, but it will also have the necessary infrastructure to stage top-class competitions, professional sports events and TV broadcasts. A multi-level parking garage is to be built next to the arena 12.



Vision for the new sports arena. **Rendering** BAM sports

Living at the Innovation Park

The planned residential development 13 will be located to the south of hip on Kirchheimer Weg. This development will consist of two separate block structures, linked by an internal green corridor. As the site does not belong to the City of Heidelberg, no date has yet been set for implementing the plans.

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