



**"WE CREATE THE FUTURE  
FOR ECHTERNACH"**



*List 3*



**Electoral programme for the  
municipal elections 2023**



## 1. For a livable community through green urbanism and clean mobility

***We are committed to contribute through urban planning to a livable community where everyone can live well and feel.***

- We are committed to develop a coherent concept to promote a visually attractive design of the city center, focusing especially on the Haalergaass and the market square.
- In the old town center, we are adopting the PAG allowing for greater density (filling gaps between buildings) and reducing the number of prescribed parking spaces per residential unit.
- We adapt the building ordinance for the future, especially regarding energy transition, with higher building heights and a lower parking key.
- We promote systematic greening of the locality and avoiding excessive sealing of surfaces in new settlement projects.
- We complement the existing parking management with an intelligent system of collective parking or multi-storey car parks.
- We optimize the management of construction sites to ensure that associative events are disturbed as little as possible.

***We ensure that everyone can get around comfortably and safely. This is especially important for our elderly citizens and people with reduced mobility.***

- We plan to create a "shared space" zone in the center.
- We ensure active cooperation and transparent processes in the implementation of national traffic projects.
- We work towards optimizing the bus concept to make it more flexible in terms of times and stops. This also applies to the industrial zone and Cité Manertchen.
- We ensure the immediate implementation of a coherent and consistent bicycle concept with comprehensive signage. This also implies installation of bicycle stands and charging stations for e-bikes.
- We work on improving accessibility to public buildings and put in place flexible offers for people with limited mobility (call bus).
- We improve the offer of new forms of mobility and services such as car sharing, carpooling and electric mobility.
- We improve access to Marktplatz and Haalergaass for people with reduced mobility by widening the pavements and installing a walking strip.

## 2. For a strong local economy and attractive tourism

***We need to consistently support our local business people to maintain our regional "Akaafsstadt" and make it even more appealing.***

- We cooperate with owners to reduce vacancy of buildings.
  - We support and motivate innovative young entrepreneurs to settle in Echternach.
  - We involve service, craft and agricultural businesses.
  - We will strengthen retail and restaurant businesses. We notably increase flexibility when placing terraces and outdoor sales areas.
  - We will promote nightlife in Echternach by making closing hours more flexible.
  - We will offer financial support to improve accessibility and embellish the exterior of shops.
- We will valorize the monthly market, by introducing seasonal and hobby markets and promoting the sale of organic, fairtrade and regional products.

***We are planning an innovative and versatile tourism offer that will promote Echternach as a tourist and cultural stronghold and increase the quality of life of citizens and visitors. The protection of our rich cultural heritage is of great importance to us.***

- The new project "Marquise" must definitely be planned as a highlight of the city.
- In addition to active tourism, we will strengthen gastronomic and cultural tourism.
- Local tourist accommodation must be promoted and further developed.
- The city manager will be supported in his task of active marketing of the city at home and abroad. For that, all actors in the tourism sector will be supported and connected through a network.

## 3. For the preservation and promotion of our culture

***The archaeological excavations at the Marquise site are of utmost historical importance and offer a unique opportunity to enhance our city. Therefore, we want to plan the "Petite Marquise" not only as a cultural meeting place, but also as a multifunctional centre.***

We want to define the "Petite Marquise" project as the new heart of Echternach and plan it as a multifunctional centre with:

- - Modern and flexible exhibition of Echternach's rich history
- - Public library
- - Seat of the tourist office

- - Meeting rooms for Echternach's associations
- - Gastronomy establishments
- - Commercial space for marketing local and regional products
- - Flats

***We cooperate with the citizens in developing a strategy to render the city's cultural heritage accessible to everyone.***

- We examine the existing cultural offers and create synergies.
- We ensure the renewed establishment of a cultural commission.
- We continue to expand the "Service communal culturel".
- We create free cultural offers (especially concerts in Trifolion, Echterlive, museums etc.) for Echternach's children, students and young adults.

#### 4. For a child-, youth- and family-friendly community with strong cohesion, prevention, and good health care

***We want to make Echternach a participative, citizen-oriented and family-friendly city.***

- We will consistently expand childcare facilities and accompany families in the search and admission processes.
- We promote alternative care structures such as forest education, nature house etc. and intergenerational activities.
- We commit ourselves to the observance of the protection of children and young people.
- We establish a youth forum for the active participation of young people in decisions and projects.
- We enable young people to discover Europe in a sustainable way by offering them a free Interrail ticket on their 18th birthday.
- We create meeting places with leisure activities in the city center and reintroduce summer activities during the holidays.
- We set up a Seniors' Commission to represent the interests of our seniors.

***Our associations are an important pillar of good coexistence and i for promoting and strengthening social competence. Therefore, our main focus is to support all associations in Echternach.***

- We offer support to associations upon founding, when dealing with organizational or administrative problems and in organizing the traditional Echternach events.

- We create a space for meetings, small festivities and as an association workshop e.g. repair café.
- We make the associations' offer more visible and expand the Echternach App and Gemengebuet accordingly.
- We create a contact point for voluntary service in the municipal administration.

***We take note of the population structure and of the needs of the citizens when coming to a good living together in the city. We want to promote charitable, socially beneficial actions as well as critically examine problems and develop solutions.***

- We work for the establishment of a medical care structure 24/7.
- We create structures for support in emergency situations in cooperation with organizations such as "Jugend an Drogenhëllef", "Reseau Psy-Psychesch Hëllef dobaussen" or similar.
- We create a support structure for homeless people with showers, toilets, washing machine.
- We provide free hygiene products and contraceptives in public toilets.
- We are planning an outdoor fitness park.

## 5. A clean, secure and affordable energy supply

***It is our top priority to make Echternach climate-neutral in the next few years by relying on renewable energy and reducing local energy consumption.***

- We are expanding the energy-saving advisory services for citizens and promoting educational work among children and young people in our community.
- We create local heating networks as a neighborhood solution in the city center and offer an alternative to conventional heating.
- We offer financial support for energy-efficient renovation and climate-friendly behavior.
- We install solar panels on municipal roofs in cooperation with the Mëllerdaller Energiekooperative or other actors. We will actively promote solar projects and help citizens to take advantage of opportunities offered by the solar register.
- We will become a member of the Climate Alliance Lëtzebuerg and implement Climate Pact 2.0, together with all local actors and a larger climate team.

## 6. Protection against floods and other consequences of the climate crisis

***The catastrophic flood event of 2021 has shown that the consequences of the climate crisis are also being felt here. Every effort must be made to be better prepared for such dangerous situations in the future. This also applies to the consequences of heat waves.***

- We take flood protection seriously and will develop a municipal flood emergency plan.
- We support the affected private households and businesses with subsidies for the installation of flood protection.
- We ensure the implementation of flood measures and plan a near-natural transformation of the Sauer riverbank as well as the redesign of the park in cooperation with all state actors.
- In the flooded area of the old town center, we will enable the owners to extend or heighten the upper stores into living spaces.
- We are developing a climate adaptation concept with special attention to the elderly and people in need during heat months.
- We offer public water dispensers and encourage local restaurants to participate in "refill" actions.

## 7. Preservation of our natural livelihoods

***We are committed to a nature-oriented community, we conserve our natural resources and preserve biodiversity.***

- We are pushing ahead with the implementation of the Nature Pact and strengthen cooperation with the Nature Park and the Mëllerdall Nature Conservation Syndicate.
- We strive for FSC certification through sustainable management of the municipal forests.
- We protect our drinking water sources with concrete measures in cooperation with the Nature Park.
- We design the municipal areas close to nature by using native flora.
- We provide information for businesses and private households about nature-oriented design of gardens and green spaces, alternatives to pesticides and create incentives for the redesign of existing rock gardens.

***We protect our natural resources so that a good life remains possible for future generations.***

- We are developing a local strategy for waste prevention towards a resource-saving circular economy, including advice for citizens and associations.
- We fight food waste, promote local initiatives such as Foodsharing East and initiate an "anti-gaspiration" campaign.
- We introduce sustainability criteria for public purchases and have future investments checked for sustainability.
- We advocate modern use of materials true to the motto "zero waste" (RE-Duce, RE-Pair, RE-

Use, RE-Cycle, RE-Cover).

- We counteract light pollution by using the latest technology (LED) and a modern lighting concept for the inner-city area.
- We impose a general ban on fireworks in the city of Echternach.

***We are creating a modern waste and water management system.***

- We are expanding the temporary recycling center into a permanent resource center with citizen-friendly opening hours and simultaneously creating incentives for waste reduction and avoidance.
- We initiate the renovation of the municipal water supply network and ensure that it is regularly checked for damage.
- We promote the use of rainwater through additional municipal subsidies and raise awareness for the economic use of drinking water.

## 8. Living safely in a good neighbourhood

***People of 83 different nationalities live in Echternach. We promote solidarity in our multicultural society.***

- We organize a social forum, draw up a social plan and set up a social commission with actors from the social sector and voluntary service.
- We create the post of a social coordinator (social pedagogue or similar) and a street social worker with the following tasks:
  - Promoting coordinated cooperation (Office social, Adem, CIRJE, Crèches, non-profit associations) and improving cooperation through regular exchange.
  - Networking of existing and new structures
  - Improving the information offered to citizens
  - Attendance at regularly scheduled consultation times
- We take stock of critical places and corners in terms of security, work to improve them and, if necessary, provide public camera surveillance.
- We work to increase the number of personnel and improve the opening hours of our local police station.
- We set up a working group for interested citizens to strengthen solidarity and civil courage among the population and promote citizens' initiatives in residential areas.
- We pay attention to a good diversity in the new residential areas.

## 9. For a good supply of housing for everyone

***We take an inventory of the number of vacant housing units and the demand for unmet housing needs and work out solutions to problems.***

- We promote multi-generational housing and assisted living structures.
- We facilitate alternative and innovative forms of housing.
- We inform owners of vacant residential properties about government funding opportunities (GLS).
- We strengthen cooperation with social services (AIS, FDL, SNHBM).
- We provide information and help in finding social housing (AIS).
- We ensure rapid renovation of municipally owned properties to offer them on the housing market.
- We create emergency housing for urgent needs (fire, flood).
- We initiate the implementation and increase of the vacancy tax and the creation of a tax on building land that has not been built on for a longer period.

## 10. Participatory democracy, citizen-oriented administration, and solid and transparent municipal finances

***We want a policy that is not only made in the municipal council, but also offers active participation opportunities for the citizens. This includes a modern, well-organized, and citizen-friendly administration.***

- We set up special office hours in the municipal administration to help with administrative difficulties.
- We ensure a good working atmosphere in the municipal administration.
- We provide training opportunities for our employees and workers.
- We integrate the activities of the town marketing into the municipal administration.
- We make the municipality's website clearer and offer opportunities for digitalized services.
- We improve the Gemengebuet in terms of content and design.

***We will create new forms of participative processes.***

- We will monitor important projects in advance through citizens' meetings and hearings and make information available on the website.
- We set up advisory commissions for building, environment, culture, finance, social affairs, solidarity, mobility...and open them to interested citizens.



- We are setting up a children and youth council.
- We offer regular community council consultation hours.

***We take care to maintain a solid financial position that will allow us to respond to the challenges of the future.***

- We examine the infrastructure work that needs to be done urgently and draw up an execution and financing plan.
- We pay attention to careful planning of new investments.
- We give priority to the utilization of state and European funding possibilities.
- We set up a citizens' budget for individual projects, which can be developed by interested citizens and adopted by majority vote.

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