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College of Aldermen's Mission statement 2023 - 2029

Only the French version is binding.



Following the municipal elections held on 11 June 2023, the elected representatives of the CSV, déi Gréng and DP parties have proposed the formation of a new College of Aldermen with the following composition and distribution of areas of responsibility:

Mr Laurent Zeimet, CSV, Mayor

- Presidency of the College of Aldermen and the Municipal Council
- General administration and coordination
- Municipal budget
- Urban development and infrastructure
- Public order and emergency services
- Cultural affairs
- Religious communities
- Town twinning

Mrs Josée Lorsché, déi Gréng, Chief Alderwoman

- Education
- Education and care services
- Lifelong-Learning
- Social cohesion (equal opportunities, childhood, youth)
- Energy and climate
- Nature conservation and forest management
- Coordination of the Pacte Climat and Pacte Nature

Mr Gusty Graas, DP, Alderman

- Water and waste management
- Sports
- Club life and volunteering

Mr Jean Marie Jans, CSV, Alderman

- Humanitarian aid and development cooperation
- Social cohesion (senior citizens, inclusion)
- Digitalisation and administrative simplification
- Economy, trade and tourism
- Municipal finances
- Mobility
- Intercultural living together

The Board of Aldermen was sworn in on 6 July 2023 and the new Municipal Council took office on 14 July 2023.

In consultation with the elected representatives of the majority, the College of Aldermen has set the programme for the term of office from 2023 to 2029.

The agreement is a continuation of the work done by the coalition since 2011.

This mission statement announces the new projects, actions and initiatives that the members of the College of Aldermen intend to launch and implement in the coming years.

The College of Aldermen confirms the ongoing projects and commitments and will maintain them without listing them in this mission statement.

Urban development and housing

The construction of a new "Emile Hammerel" bridge connecting the eastern and western districts of the village of Bettembourg is a major challenge and will lead to a phased redesign of the centre of Bettembourg.

The implementation of the masterplan drawn up on the basis of the citizens' survey will be initiated with the completion of a project for the redesign of the Route d'Esch and the Place de l'Eglise.

Plans for a multi-purpose building on the current Cisbett site are being drawn up in consultation with the departments and associations concerned.

A renaturation of the "Diddelenger Baach" and an upgrading of the castle park are being carried out.

The redevelopment of the residential area "an der Uecht" (Rue Strecker, Rue Luc and Rue des Cheminots) is being prepared through a citizens' consultation.

The objectives set out in the "Plan d'action logement" will be pursued as a priority through:

- the launch of a public PAP procedure to create a new residential area in the centre of Bettembourg in collaboration with the Fonds du Logement.
- the realisation of a private PAP creating a mixed residential area with assisted living at the "Krakelshaff" site.
- the preparation of a public PAP for the creation of a new residential area at the "Fankenacker" site.

The offer of affordable housing is being expanded in collaboration with the Fonds du Logement, the Office Social and other initiatives active in the field of affordable housing. The house located 106, route de Peppange will be upgraded through a project with the "Ënnerdach Asbl" initiative. Before the agreement with the Social Office expires, the future use of the house located 108, route de Peppange will be analysed.

The programme to modernise playgrounds through an educational, inclusive and ecological approach will continue in Noertzange, in the residential area "A Leischemer" and in Parc Jacquinot.

The current General Development Plan (Plan d'aménagement général – PAG) will not be revised. The "quartier existant" development plans will be subject to selective adjustments.

Building regulations will be adapted to the challenges of the energy transition and the establishment of modular flats and "Tiny Houses" will be made administratively easier.

The building permit procedures are facilitated in particular by the introduction of a "déclaration de travaux".

The principles of the circular economy and sustainable construction will be respected in every new building project.

Mobility

The implementation of the measures of the regional mobility concept will be continued by:

- the redesign of the entrance to Route de Luxembourg;
- the redesign of the entrance to Route de Mondorf;
- the preparation of a project to secure the entrance to Huncherange coming from Bergem.

The municipality is collaborating with national authorities to ensure the modernisation of Bettembourg station. The construction of a new subway for pedestrians and cyclists between Rue de Peppange and Rue de la Gare, as well as a pedestrian and cyclist bridge connecting Parc Jacquinet to Rue de l'Indépendance and providing access to the railway platforms. These developments will promote connectivity through sustainable transportation and mobility between the eastern and western districts of Bettembourg.

The municipality is cooperating in the planning of a new bus station. The decision to establish a new "Park & Ride" facility is contingent on a preliminary study assessing its impact on traffic in the village of Bettembourg and its accessibility for the residents of our municipality.

Residential parking is introduced throughout the entire municipal area.

A public car park will be integrated into the multifunctional building to be constructed at the Cisbett site.

The car park at the Bettembourg cemetery will be expanded and developed with environmentally friendly features

The extension of the "Sonnepromenade" as a footpath and cycle path between Route de Luxembourg and Route d'Esch will be realised as part of the Alzette renaturation project, taking ecological conditions into account.

The program to secure pedestrian crossings will continue according to the established plan.

The offer of flexible and demand-oriented shuttle buses (Proxibus/eisen E-Bus/LateNightbus/Ris-Bus) along with the Vel'OK service will be maintained and adapted to the needs.

New "Pedibus" (walking bus) routes, carried out by chaperones, are being introduced.

In residential areas, additional cycle lanes are planned according to a concept yet to be drawn up.

The new cycle path connecting "Äppelbiërg" with the residential area "an de Lamidden" in Noertzange will be extended towards Rue de l'École and integrated into the national cycle network.

Consideration is being given to widening the footpath along the National Road between Fennange and Huncherange to accommodate cyclists.

A digitised map with all footpaths and cycle paths on the municipal territory is made available to the citizens.

In line with the recent recommendations of the MDDI, traffic calming measures will be implemented, particularly near school campuses.

Energy and "Pacte Climat"

The overall strategy and the measures defined in the "Pacte Climat 2.0" will continue to be implemented in order to gradually reduce the municipality's CO₂ footprint and achieve climate neutrality by 2040. They form the frame of reference for every political decision in this area. All related concepts, decisions and measures are published on the municipality's website.

Efforts in the fields of climate and energy will be sustained at a high level to secure both 'Gold' certification and government subsidies

The participation of citizens, especially young people, and cooperation with businesses in the "Team Climat" are encouraged.

The energy autonomy of the municipality is to be pursued by harnessing the potential of renewable energy sources within its territory.

Cooperation in the implementation of some measures of the Pacte Climat is planned with the "LIST" institute.

The establishment of energy cooperatives in cooperation with households, farmers and businesses is promoted and facilitated.

Local associations are offered a Pacte Climat and sustainable organisation of events is ensured. The organisation of events according to the "Green Event" criteria is promoted.

The "Repair Cafés" network will be given a permanent home in our municipality and the possibility of a "Repair Shop" will be evaluated together with social initiatives.

Teaching and training

The construction of the "Ëm de Bechel" education center and the design of its entrances and surroundings will continue.

An extension to the "Sonneschoul" building in Noertzange will be completed by the start of the 2024/2025 school year.

Planning for a new education center in Noertzange will be completed by the 2025 fiscal year.

The establishment of one or more field offices for centres of excellence catering to children with special needs is being evaluated in collaboration with national authorities.

The educational programme is adapted according to demand and expanded, particularly with the addition of new language courses.

Cooperation between schools and educational and care structures (SEA) is strengthened based on national guidelines.

Children and Youth

Democratic participation and support of children and young people, as well as activities aligned with the national reference framework for non-formal education, will be reinforced within a new structure known as the "Children and Youth Forum". Close cooperation with the "Zentrum fir politesch Bildung", the "Eltereforum", the Club Aktiv+ "de Forum" and other national and municipal partners will be ensured.

A representation of children and young people is established for the purpose of participation in any community project that affects them.

Activities and support services aimed particularly at young people between the ages of 12 and 16, will be expanded and tailored to their needs.

Young people will be offered an "Interrail" pass on their 18th birthday to raise their awareness of train travel.

Internships opportunities with companies are offered through cooperation with local partners.

Seniors and inclusion

The measures outlined in the municipal action plan for senior citizens are being implemented.

The "Club Aktiv + de Forum" programme is being developed in collaboration with partners, notably the "Service Cohésion sociale/Egalité des chances", commissions, associations, the "Sports & Loisirs" programme of the intercommunal syndicate "an der Schwemm" and the CIGL.

A "Design for all" municipal charter and an action plan ensuring accessibility for all are being developed.

Municipal assistance and allowances are being adjusted in consultation with the Social Welfare Office to align with evolving social parameters.

Following the relocation of the "Service des Parcs" to the new "Hall des Régies," the current premises of the "Service des Parcs" will be made available to the CIGL for a transitional period.

Once the new "Hall des Régies" on Route de Dudelange is operational, the site on Route d'Abweiler will be made available for establishing new premises for the social initiative CIGL and potential partners.

The promotion of medical centers, in consultation with doctors, will continue to be encouraged.

Intercultural Living Together and Equal Opportunities

The commitment within the framework of the "Pakt vum Zesummeliewen" will be sustained.

A project for a community and intergenerational house is to be developed, which will include initial reception services for new residents and facilitate intercultural exchange, among other things.

The establishment of a public writer position will be initiated.

“Assises sociales” are organised at regular intervals to connect all partners actively engaged in the social sector.

Prevention initiatives in the realms of physical, mental, and social health are being launched.

Citizen participation, particularly among young people, is strongly encouraged in numerous events aimed at combatting all forms of discrimination and promoting human rights.

Culture

A cultural strategy and plan will be developed in consultation with the cultural associations and on the basis of a citizens' survey.

The "LiteraTour" and "Nuit des Merveilles" festivals will continue and be further refined.

A diverse and innovative programme is offered at KulTourhaus in cooperation with cultural associations.

Regional cooperation initiated within the framework of the "Esch 2022" European Capital of Culture project will be deepened.

The social bookshop "de BicherKueb" will temporarily relocate to the "Centre Louis Ganser", and a project will be completed on Rue Collart to house the social bookshop and a local library/media library in the future.

The library/media library will be connected to the National Library network and will feature a collection focusing on local specificities.

The “Museksgaard” project for babies and toddlers by the regional music school is offered free of charge, and local clubs are encouraged to provide more musical introductions.

The "Beetebuerger Geschichtsfrënn" association is supported in its research on the municipality's history, and a public documentation centre is established within the local library/media library.

In collaboration with the "Musée national de la Résistance" and the "Beetebuerger Geschichtsfrënn" association, a commemorative trail is being prepared to mark the 80th

anniversary of the bombing of Bettembourg on 11 May 1944, and the municipality's liberation from Nazi occupation in September 1944.

The development of a trail highlighting the railway heritage of the municipality by the CFL is actively monitored.

Town Twinning

Activities and exchanges among associations within the context of town twinning are encouraged. Young people from Flaibano and Valpaços are invited to participate in the literary competition as part of the "LiteraTour".

The advisability of establishing a twinning relationship with the municipality of Forbach is being assessed based on initial informal discussions.

Religious Communities

The beautification of the cemetery in Huncherange with a canopy and the improvement of the canopy in Bettembourg are underway.

The allocation of places of worship will be determined in consultation with the responsible parties of the "Kierchefong".

Dignified and respectful usage of all churches will be ensured.

Sports

The proposals from the Masterplan for Sports will be implemented according to their prioritisation.

The planning of a new sports centre in Bettembourg is underway in consultation with the clubs. Alterations to the existing sports hall are planned.

A dog training area will be established to facilitate dog training practice.

A mini-stadium for all generations is being established in Huncherange.

Consideration is being given to the renewal of synthetic football pitch 2 at the municipal stadium.

The possibilities of installing an additional football pitch are under investigation.

In consultation with the federations, equal opportunities in sports will be promoted through a charter and a good practice guide.

Club Life and Volunteering

The provision and joint use of logistics facilities for associations will be expanded and ensured.

Cooperation between childcare services and clubs in out-of-school childcare is encouraged.

Security

A new "police" ordinance will be established to define rules of living together, taking into account the new powers granted to municipal officers.

A local security plan is being drawn up in cooperation with the police, in which targeted video surveillance and control by security companies at sensitive locations are being explored.

A resilient community plan is adopted to ensure the continuity of services.

The flood protection plan is being updated, and advice is being provided on the implementation of protective measures.

Information and awareness-raising measures (see secure) against cybercrime will be intensified.

Measures and information on protection against bullying, cyberbullying and violence are being offered.

The "Watchful Neighbours" campaign in the neighbourhoods will promote mutual assistance and good neighbourliness.

Nature Conservation and Pacte Nature

The overall strategy and measures outlined in the Pacte Nature continue to be implemented and serve as the reference framework for all political decisions regarding environmental protection and the enhancement of biodiversity within the municipality's territory. The municipality's website provides information to citizens about these various measures.

Participation from civil society, especially youth and farmers, is actively encouraged to join the Pacte Nature.

Our efforts in nature conservation and biodiversity enhancement within the municipality's territory will be sustained at a high level with the goal of achieving Gold certification as soon as possible, to maintain the pioneering role at national level and to be able to benefit even more from government subsidies.

Light pollution is further reduced through the use of smart LED lighting and minimal and the implementation of targeted night-time public lighting.

The establishment of a regional animal shelter is being supported through close cooperation with partner municipalities.

Cooperation with farmers is being strengthened through agreements with the Sicona union to develop additional biodiversity projects in the open countryside areas.

Façade greening aiming to reduce building heating and to promote biodiversity is being promoted.

A "Tiny Forest" project to create a habitat for wild species and indigenous trees in urban environments will be implemented, making it accessible for educational and scientific purposes.

Ecological gardening and training in the "Jacquinoetsgaard" community garden " are promoted through cooperation with gardening associations. The establishment of a seed bank in the community garden is under analysis.

Additional ecological allotment gardens in residential areas are created in response to citizens' requests.

Financial support is being offered for the neutering of domestic cats to prevent unwanted reproduction.

In close cooperation with the Nature and Forest Administration, the highly endangered wildcat population is to be protected by defining new corridors and prohibiting interventions in existing corridors.

Water and waste management

The cost and pricing of water will be evaluated and adjustments to regulations will be proposed, with the feasibility of implementing a tiered pricing system for households based on their consumption.

The renaturation of the Alzette river will continue and the renaturation of the "Diddelenger Baach" will be initiated. The relevant public authorities are urged to intensify their efforts in implementing these two crucial projects, which are essential for restoring the natural landscape and reducing the risk of flooding.

Local cafés and restaurants are encouraged to participate in the "Refill Lëtzebuerg" campaign, which involves filling drinking bottles with tap water.

Access to clean drinking water is enhanced by installing water dispensers in all community buildings.

In light of the new legislation, waste management regulations will be reviewed with the aim of increasing prevention, reduction and recycling.

The new "police" ordinance will address the issue of littering.

Private or associative initiatives like "Grouss Botz" and "Pick up" type are supported.

Participation in the financing of the expansion and modernisation of the wastewater treatment plant and the recycling centre is guaranteed.

Economy and Trade

The establishment of companies that respect the environment and adhere to the principles of the circular economy is encouraged within the business parks.

Restaurants and cafés are encouraged to harmonise the decor of their terraces.

Outpatient catering services are offered at Parc Jacquinot, with an appropriate space to be set up.

The feasibility and attractiveness of a "Beetebuerg Card", offering certain benefits to the municipality's residents, are being investigated.

The development of "pop-up stores", which provide young entrepreneurs with the opportunity to display and market their products, is being considered.

A digital map of walking and cycling routes within the municipality will be created.

The weekly market will be revitalised with stalls selling Luxembourg handicrafts and regional products from Luxembourg's nature parks. The organisation of biannual markets, in consultation with local traders, is proposed.

Humanitarian Aid and Development Cooperation

The municipality's commitment to cooperation and humanitarian action will continue in partnership with "Beetebuerg hëlleft" and other NGOs and initiatives.

Additional measures are being taken to encourage local trade and associations to use fair trade products.

General Administration and Finance

Communication will be adjusted to facilitate the participation of everyone, particularly by utilising social networks and applications.

The digitalisation of administration and services is being expanded, and decentralisation is being considered.

New interactive digital information boards will be installed at the castle, sports centre, KulTourhaus, and the church square.

A municipal ordinance will determine the criteria for honorary and merit awards.

The multi-annual financial plan has been aligned with this agreement and is regularly updated.

The Board of Aldermen will maintain budgetary discipline characterised by prudence and will be dependent on the economic and financial development of the Grand Duchy.

To finance large infrastructure projects, borrowing may be unavoidable. The coalition will ensure that the recommendations of the highest authorities in this regard are adhered to.

Implementation of the Programme

The organisational plan will be adapted to ensure proper services and the effective implementation of the programme. The use of teleworking will be regulated in accordance with the provisions applicable to the State administration. The reorganisation of services will be prepared in close cooperation with the responsible individuals and delegations.

The programme is implemented in dialogue with citizens. Regular information and exchange meetings will be organised, and active participation will be encouraged. A consultation phase will precede the preparation of all major projects.

Before being discussed by the municipal council, the projects are submitted to the relevant advisory committees for their opinions.

Bettembourg, 9 October 2023