Swedish expo offers solutions to urban housing crisis

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Expo demonstrates quick, economical housing solutions

Spotted: A Swedish experiment has created a new model to resolve long-standing urban housing challenges. Known as the Vallastaden model, 40 different developers have created nearly 1000 residences in five years.

The project, which could disrupt traditional urban planning, focuses on creating a new social, environmental and economically sustainable district. Developers had a free hand to construct sustainable housing in the new community. The dozens of developers involved each created a unique building. Within a single block, you can find a mixture of detached houses, apartment buildings, student accommodation and commercial spaces.

The result is a vibrant community that encourages residents to interact, according to the organisers. There is ample green and recreational space. The neighbourhood also features narrow streets and limited traffic.

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Takeaway:

Cities around the world from London to Hong Kong are struggling to provide affordable housing and sustainable urban planning. Vallastaden offers a concrete model for how urban planning could be handled in the future. It addresses core issues like diversity and sustainability. It also demonstrates how developers are addressing challenges like reducing the environmental impact of construction. Springwise recently reported on other innovations disrupting urban planning, including the use of digital twins to making planning more efficient and homes so small they fit in water pipes.