



Okkar Kópavogur 2024-2027 – information in English

Purpose and objectives

Okkar Kópavogur is a project that is meant to improve and beautify Kópavogur, with direct input from its inhabitants. A total of ISK 340 million will be divided between the two main areas of Kópavogur. The money is for projects proposed by the inhabitants in September and October 2024 and voted on in early 2025. The projects will be implemented in 2025, 2026 and 2027.

The purpose of the project is to improve relations between Kópavogur town authorities and its residents, to give residents more responsibility and to engage them in the decision-making process in relation to the town's development. In addition, to improve residents' sense of well-being and their experience of their local community, and to make the neighbourhoods more pleasant and enjoyable.

The objective of the town authorities is to:

- distribute power with participatory budgeting
- engage all social and age groups
- encourage the community to work together towards making better neighbourhoods

The objective of the project is to:

- encourage all residents to take an interest in their local community and to have an opinion about it
- encourage residents to present their ideas
- encourage residents to take part in allocating the town's funds

Who can participate?

Everyone, regardless of age or whether s/he is a resident of Kópavogur, can submit ideas for projects. Only residents with legal domicile in Kópavogur who are born in 2011 or earlier and who have electronic ID can vote on projects.

Division into neighbourhoods

For this project, Kópavogur is divided into two areas, based upon the municipality master plan a:

- Lower Kópavogur: Kársnes, Digranes and Smárahverfið. Here is the coastline, Kópavogur Swimming Pool and the two valleys, Kópavogsdalur and Fossvogsdalur.
- Upper Kópavogur: Fífuhvammur (Lindir and Salir) and Vatnsendi. Here is Guðmundarlundur and nearby area and Salalaug swimming pool.

The process

The process consists of a gathering of ideas in September and October of 2024. A vote will then be held on selected ideas in the beginning of 2025. The elected projects will be realized in 2025-2027.

Electric collection of ideas



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Residents can submit ideas at community meetings and through the internet on the project's website from September 12 to October 9, 2024. Ideas can be submitted and studied at this link: <https://okkar-kopavogur-2024-2027.betrailand.is>

People register their name and email address and can then submit an idea for a project. Residents are also encouraged to familiarise themselves with other ideas that have been submitted and discuss them.

Up to 100 ideas will be presented for a public vote, 30-50 in each area of Kópavogur.

We draw attention to the fact that a special button will be placed on the tablets of primary school children in Kópavogur during the idea collection.

The ideas

The ideas submitted must be in Kópavogur public land and within urban areas, and can involve play areas, residents' recreational areas, environmentally friendly transportation, improved public health or the environment in general. For an idea to be considered and submitted for a public vote, the project must meet the following criteria:

- Be an investment, not an operation.
- Cost of individual projects may neither be lower than 3 million ISK nor exceed 50 million ISK.
- The lifetime of the investment shall be for five years minimum.
- Projects shall tie in with the zoning plans and policies of the municipality of Kópavogur.
- Projects must be under the full control of the municipality of Kópavogur.

The idea must be realizable, clear and descriptive so others can easily grasp what the project involves. The project must be described, and exact location given. A clear description facilitates assessment and helps grab the attention of other residents if it goes through to the election. Furthermore, the idea must be in line with the municipality's policy and cannot depend on consultation or negotiations with other institutions or municipalities. Kópavogur employees can request further explanations about each idea.

The election

A web-based election process will be held in January/February 2025.

Every resident with legal domicile in Kópavogur, born in 20011 or earlier and who has an electronic identification (audkenni.is) can vote on projects.

The election is not in accordance to article 107 of law 138/2011, but rather a consultation with residents about the priorities within the town of Kópavogur.

The projects

The elected projects will be erected in 2025, 2026 and 2027.

The status of projects elected in former runs of the program can be viewed in the list on the right here: <https://www.kopavogur.is/is/ibuar/ibuaverkefni/okkar-kopavogur>