

NATIONAL ART MUSEUM AT VESTBANEN  
'1-CASCADE-09' SUMMARY

In essence, the primary building components are comprised of two sloping, terraced wedges flanking the east and west sides of the primary central lobby and atrium space which runs exactly north to south through roughly the center of the project site. This central corridor slice, defined by the two panelized wall systems creates a central interior 'streetscape' connecting the Enga & Dronning Mauds gate on the north side of the property with the southern side, where Dokkveien meets the Pipervika. The primary building entry, at the south side of this central corridor, intersects directly with the main footpath walkway which passes in front of the east façade of the Nobel Center along the western side of the Radhusplassen, as well as provides direct proximity to the public transit station adjacent to the project site. At the northern entry, there is public access both at the upper level at Dronning Mauds gate to accommodate bus and upper level pedestrian traffic as well as access at the Enga, which directly connects to another clearly defined footpath walkway. While the central wall passage slices northward and gently touches the upper deck at Dronning Mauds gate, a bridge over Enga is created, allowing vehicular and pedestrian traffic through at all times.

Overall, the building mass dips at the westward side in deference to the scale of the existing Nobel center which is gently nestled into the eastern wedge, then terraces up in the westward direction creating a more monumental scale overall, with the counterpoint and balance of the central wall slices which define the central atrium core streetscape space and the two major flanking wings. With the forceful presence and shape of the central 'street' walls reaching towards the fjord at the south and the terraced decks of the rooftop patios connotations of ship-like and nautical imagery is subtly imbued by the overall character of the building itself harkening to the strong nautical Nordic heritage. Hence while the building elicits a forward looking spirit and strong contemporary design, incorporated are strong cultural character and integration into the historic setting.

As to materials, it is anticipated that the two large central walls defining the atrium are of a smooth to polished stone finish, preferably granite panels, possibly marble. The 'wedge' walls' materials are expected to be comprised of cast stone, with a fine finish to compliment the central wall panels. These are to be infilled with a combination of curtain wall and patterned mesh screening systems of perforated metal – anodized aluminum with satin bronze finish.

The entire complex is designed for ease of access given the proximity of the two main entry nodes to existing pedestrian and vehicular thoroughfares. Additionally accessible access for the disabled is provided at all points and all areas of the building be it public or museum staff will have accessibility to all points meeting the principles of universal design standards.