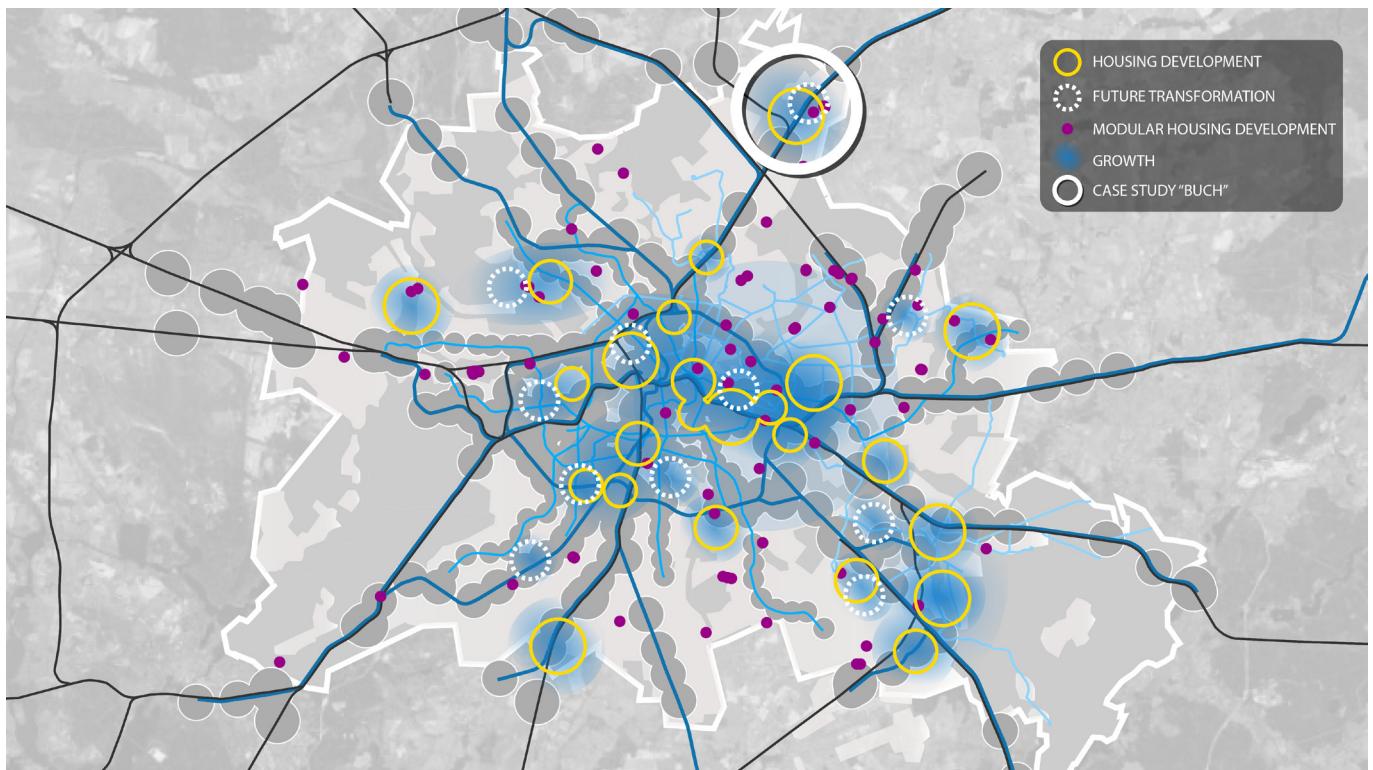


INTEGRATED DESIGN FOR FAST-GROWING CITIES



RESPONSE CITY BERLIN, GERMANY

Berlin is a rapidly growing city, with 300,000 more people expected to be living in the German capital by 2030. Alongside this natural growth, since 2015 Berlin has experienced an unprecedented inflow of refugees, with 80,000 people arriving in the city in less than a year. The refugee population has been housed in various types of accommodation, but Berlin is not yet an "Arrival City". Refugees are often placed in isolated accommodation at the city fringe, preventing them from integrating in to local communities.

BuroHappold's project is based on the view that Berlin's current in-migration, while posing challenges, also offers possibilities for the city if both natural growth and migration are considered in one coherent approach. We believe that providing suitable housing and infrastructure for refugees should be aligned with current development plans, creating mixed, diverse and vibrant communities with refugee housing and services at the core of the growth areas.

This approach has been tested with a case study to help understand local needs and formulate strategic interventions to

meet them. The case study focused on Berlin-Buch, one of the strategic future growth locations in the city. Buch faces the challenges of economic development as a research and technology centre, heavy population growth, and the integration of refugees in to the community. The study identified growth trajectories for both natural population increase and migration in the area and examined the demands on city and neighborhood scale. A series of interventions that cater for both the new residents and the refugees were then proposed, focusing on social infrastructure and providing low-cost interventions that are flexible and adaptable to future population growth and migration patterns.

One intervention our team focused on was the reuse of vacant buildings as a school that caters both for refugees and the new population of Buch, in order to encourage integration and the forming of a community. They also looked at the idea of a temporary library that connects the refugee accommodation with the existing residential area, which in the future can be reused as an education centre.

CLIENT
Happold Foundation

PROJECT VALUE
€31,000

DURATION
2015 – 2016

SERVICES PROVIDED BY
BUROHAPPOLD
Strategic Planning, Economic Development, Research