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# Citizen participation in local health and environmental equity in Utrecht

**U=23**

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	2019	2040
 Inwoners	352.940	455.000
 Woningvoorraad	153.845	+ 60.000
 Banen	261.165	+ 70.000



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## The 10-minute city

City residents can find everything they require within a 10-minute walk or by bike

### Crucial factors

- proximity
- diversity
- density



# Monitor health inequalities

## Underlying causes

- Inequalities in:
  - health and health behaviour
  - health care
  - income and social welfare
  - education, skills and health literacy
  - employment and working conditions
  - physical environment
  - safety
  - social environment

## Specific groups

- Inequalities between:
  - men and women
  - age groups
  - educational levels
  - migration backgrounds
  - (not) being able to make ends meet
  - neighbourhoods

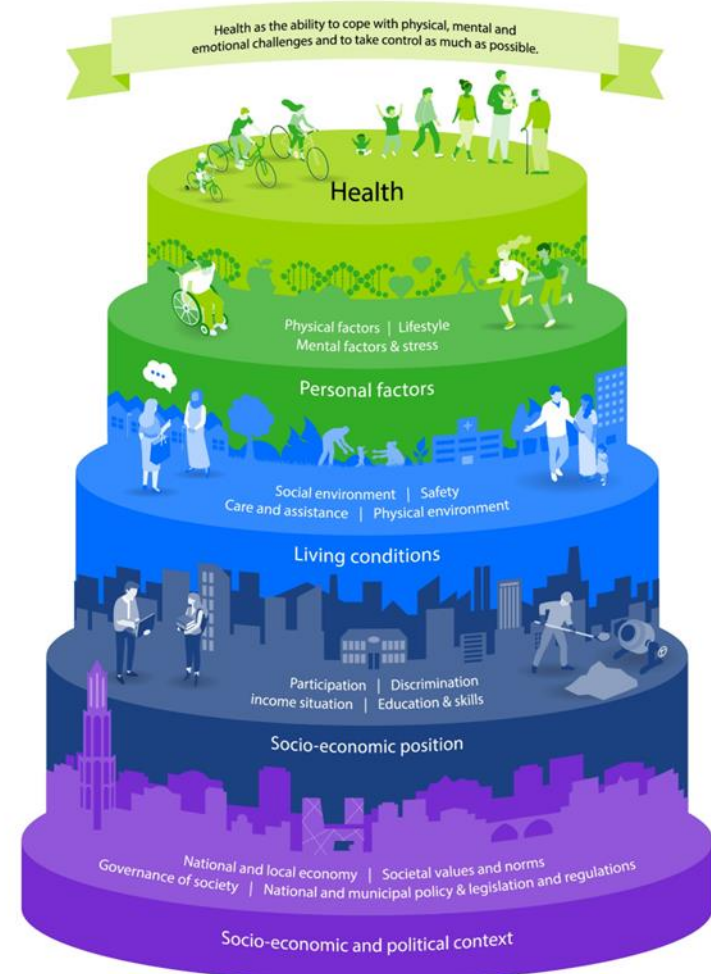


in collaboration with WHO Health  
Equity Status Report (WHO Venice)



- Health
- Personal factors
- Living conditions
- Socio-economic position
- Socio-economic and political context

## Utrecht Health Model

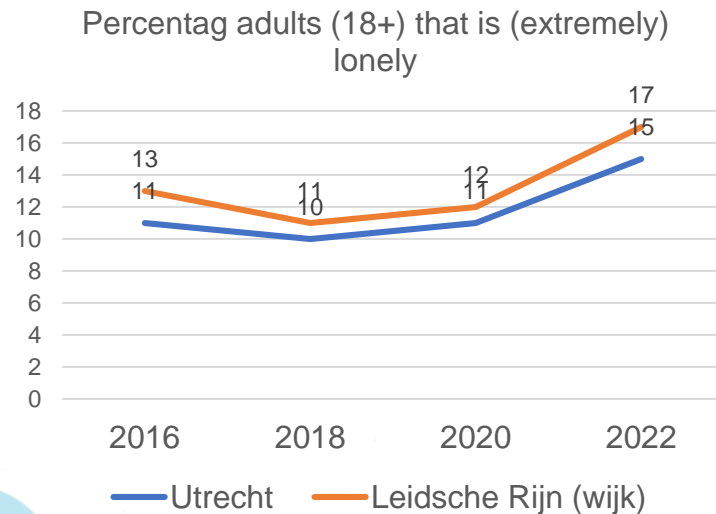






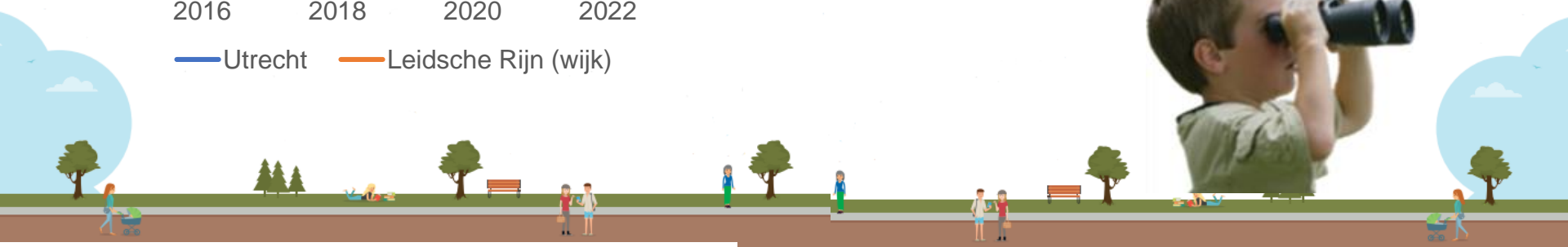
# Vital and social new neighbourhoods

## Why this new approach?



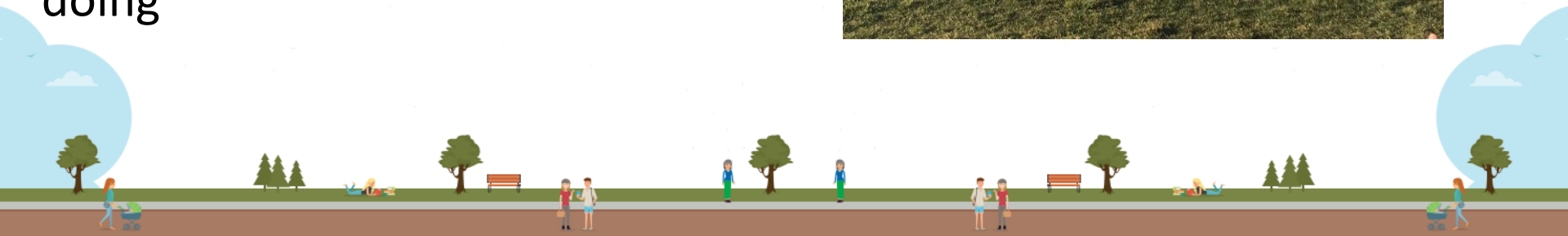
## Idea:

-Temporarily (2-3 years) of intensive involvement in order to initiate social contacts and citizen engagement and initiatives



## Principles of cooperation

- Resident-centered
- Looking beyond our own organizational interests
- Building on what we are already doing





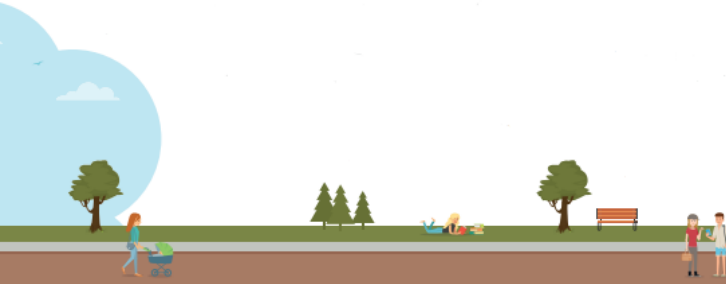
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# Leeuwesteyn

- 1100 rental and owner-occupied houses
- 30 % social housing







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# Getting to know the residents



Picknicktafels in het  
Willem Alexanderpark

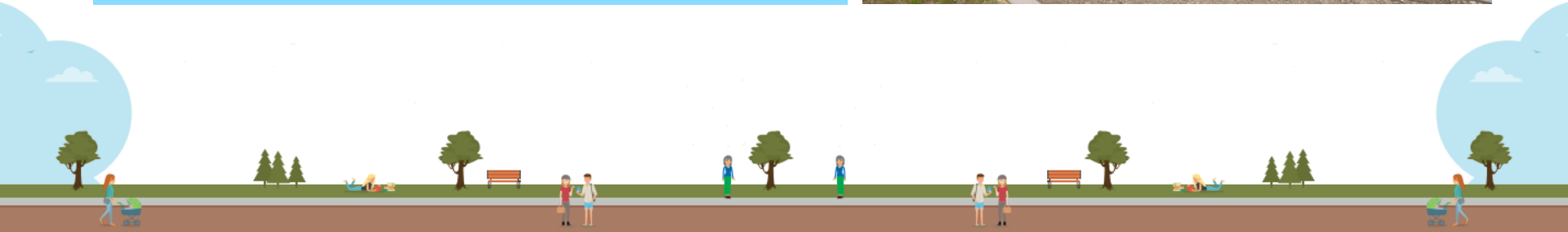
vrijdagmiddag 28 mei	14.30-16.30
maandag 31 mei	19.00 20.30
vrijdagmiddag 4 juni	14.30 - 16.30



Kun je niet naar ons toe komen? Dan komen wij  
met onze bakfiets naar jou.  
Mail ons op [bhogeweide@DOCK.nl](mailto:bhogeweide@DOCK.nl)



Liever online? dat kan ook  
op dinsdag 1 juni 19.00 - 20.30  
Mail ons op [bhogeweide@DOCK.nl](mailto:bhogeweide@DOCK.nl)





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# Various projects



Sports activities



Cultural activities



Festivals





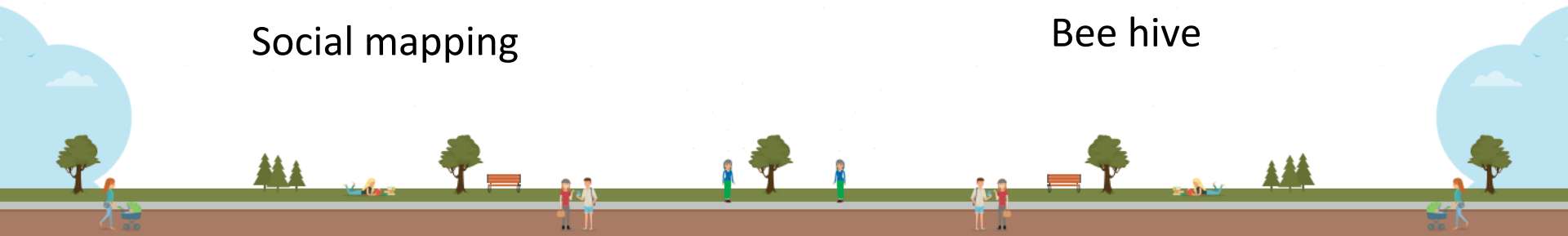
# Various projects



Social mapping



Bee hive







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# The community gets started!



Various sports groups



Clean up activities



Neighbourhood  
gatherings







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# Lessons learned

Social and vital design neighborhoods  
-> spatial perspective

Social dynamics new construction  
neighborhood  
-> resident perspective

Working in new (built) neighborhoods  
-> organizational perspective





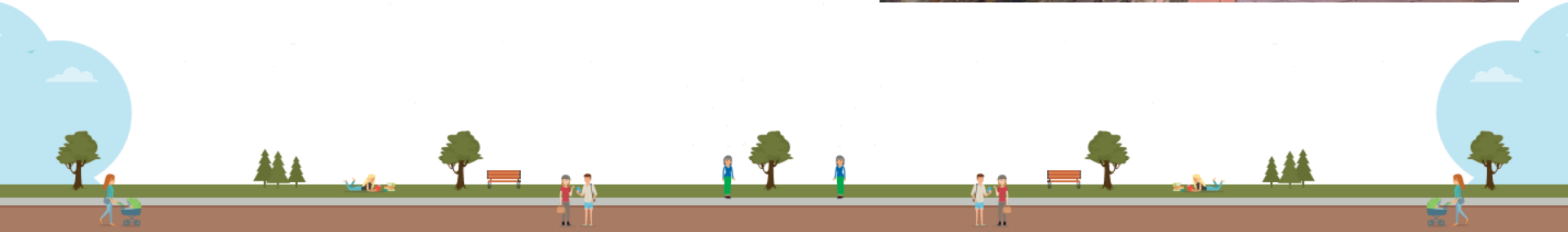
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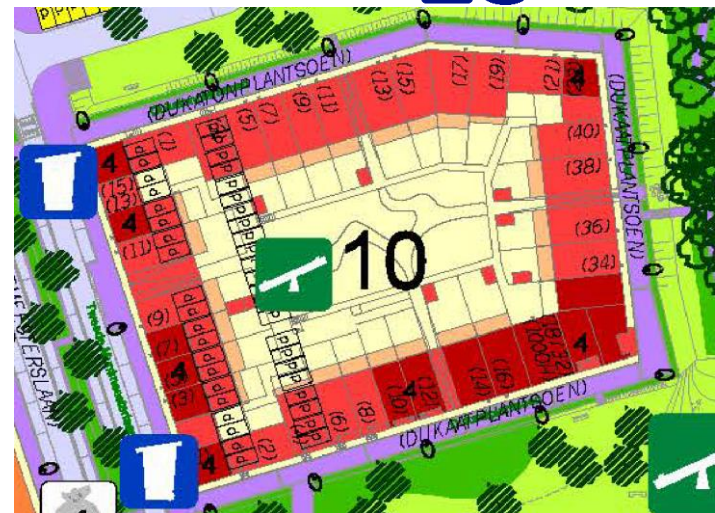
# Spatial perspective

*The more socially organized the neighborhood is, the more natural interaction between residents will take place.*



# Spatial perspective

*Spatial design always has social repercussions*







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# Designing public space for social interaction







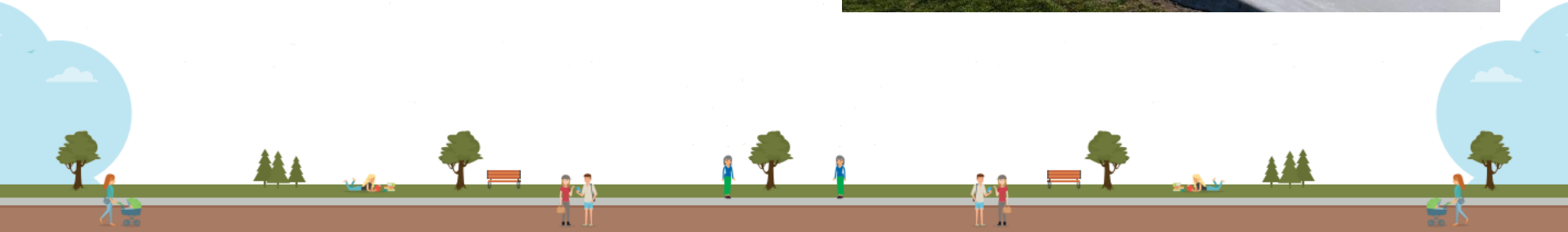
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# Spatial perspective

*Combine spatial interventions with social programming*



# Creating an identity for the neighbourhood



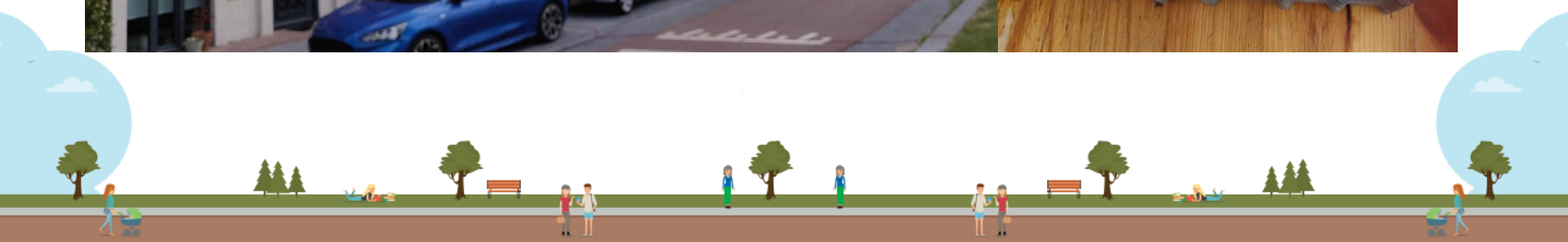


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# Identity







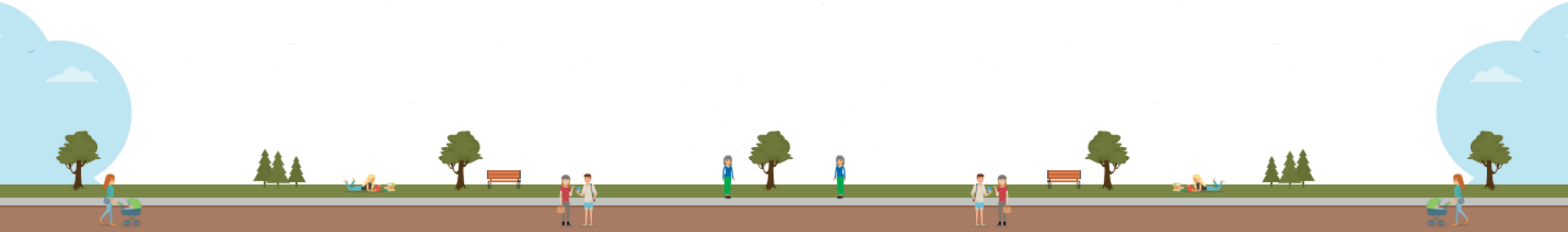
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# Residents' perspective

*An opportunity to jointly define the culture*







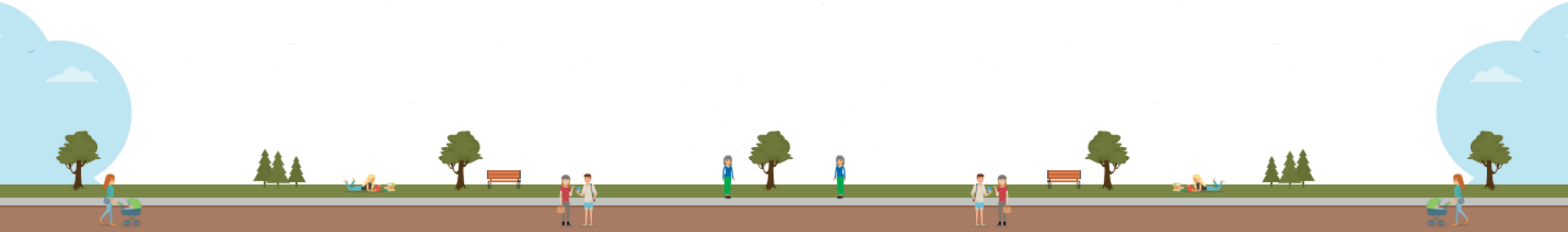
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# Residents' perspective

*In a new neighborhood, it is sometimes harder to ask for help*





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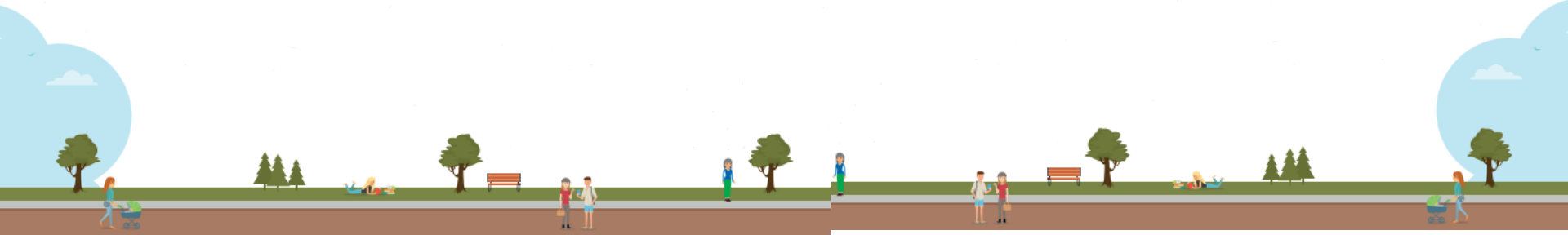
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# Organisation perspective

*Working in a new neighborhood really requires something more and different than working in an existing neighborhood.*

*Collaborate with social entrepreneurs and organisations*





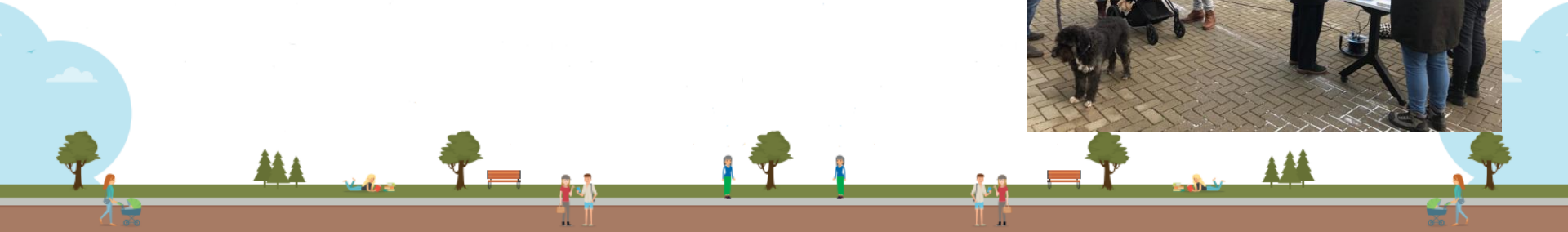
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# Organisation perspective

*Build relationships first before directing questions to appropriate organizations. Everyone is a point of contact in the early stages. Listen to what is going on and build trust with residents*





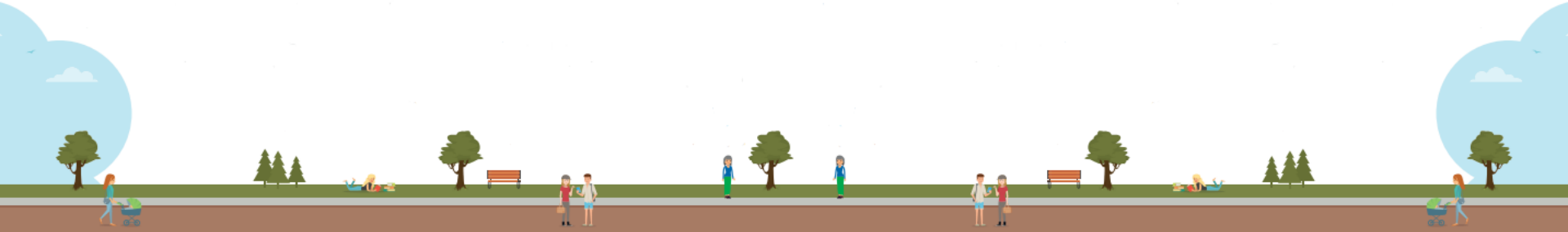
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# Organisation perspective

*‘Commit to initiatives. Tap into where the energy is’*







# Conclusions

## It works!

- Governments/organizations can work with residents to boost social cohesion.
- Preventive/positive effects:
  - Solitude
  - Health
  - Safety
  - Conflict
- There is enough initiative power in a newly built neighborhood.
- Above all, just do it!





**Contact:**

Miriam Weber

[m.weber@utrecht.nl](mailto:m.weber@utrecht.nl)



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