



**Press release**  
Rimini, 13 July 2019

## **PSBO: open to the public Piazzale Kennedy**

*The viewpoint above the construction site, the heart of the Bathing Safeguard Plan, is now fully accessible*

From today, Piazzale Kennedy is open to the public, the heart of the Piano di Salvaguardia della Balneazione (PSBO), created by Hera and the Municipality of Rimini together with Romagna Acque and Amir, one of the main hydraulic works of recent years in Italy, thanks to total investments for over 150 million euros, and reported by the UN for its importance in safeguarding marine environments.

After months of incessant work on the building site, under the Construction Management of the Hera Group, the area was in fact returned to the city and the first of the two viewpoints was completed. The high lookout (the so-called "torrino") is still not accessible, although partially completed, which will remain fenced for safety reasons until the end of the summer period, also thanks to panels that show the citizens the most important phases of the intervention.

Let us remember that Piazzale Kennedy is a project of great importance, not only from a plant engineering point of view, which the city of Rimini has undertaken. It is in fact the result of an important work of coherence between hydraulic works and urban planning and redevelopment guidelines. A synthesis of planning and architectural and landscape integration of the plant system in the city system.

Piazzale Kennedy is one of the most important construction sites of the PSBO both in terms of impact and complexity: started in 2016, the shipyard sees today completed about 90% of the works. At the end of the summer season the works will resume in the remaining part of the area to reach the final phase of the redevelopment, the most visible and spectacular, with the opening of the lookout above the new hydraulic garrison.

### **The underground part**

The new hydraulic facility provides an important accumulation infrastructure characterized by a total volume of almost 40,000 cubic meters, consisting of a first tank of 14,000 cubic meters of volume, which collects the first rainwater, and a second tank of 25,000 cubic meters with lamination and accumulation function. The first tank came into operation in mid-June, for the benefit of bathing in the Marina Centro area of Rimini. At the end of September, after the summer break, instead the works of the second larger tank will resume, which aims to limit, through a process of rolling the flood, the mixed flows that will eventually be conveyed to the sea. This tank is preparatory to the subsequent outflow lifting, with a pumping capacity of 18,000 liters per second, or to return to treatment at the Santa Giustina purifier. The large pool will come into operation once the sea pipelines have been completed, whose forecast for completion is scheduled for next autumn. In addition to the creation of new storage volumes and related lifting systems, particular attention was paid to the containment of odors. The project, in fact, provides a system based on forced ventilation that will convey the air drawn in from the tanks (both the first rain and the rolling one) to a treatment system that uses a specific activated carbon technology. Furthermore, the importance of the project must also be highlighted from the point of view of hydraulic protection: thanks to the work put in place it will in fact be possible to prevent flooding phenomena such as those already caused in the past by exceptional weather events. Finally, thanks to appropriate screening and storage treatments of the materials deriving from the excavations fielded by Hera, it was possible to recover over 20 thousand cubic meters of excellent quality sand, already used for the nourishment of the Rimini coasts. The operation is fully part of the initiatives aimed at protecting our beaches, because it helps to combat soil erosion, and as a good practice in a circular economy perspective.



### **The viewpoint**

The belvedere (or suspended promenade) is the most aesthetically suggestive and visible part of a building site which, together with the rebuilding of the sewage system foreseen in the PSBO, will deliver a largely redeveloped area to the city. It is a project of great importance from the landscape and engineering point of view, designed to mitigate the impact of the volumes necessary for the construction of the underlying plant for collecting water and, at the same time, contributing to the rebirth of the entire square, becoming an excerpt from the new Parco del Mare. In particular, once completed, the architectural project will include a casing that starts gently from the park and, through stairs and progressive steps (and a lift for the handicapped) rises to a maximum of about 6 meters in height compared to the current street level, wrapping the technological elements and covering them with a walk that culminates in two belvedere areas on the sea, at different heights. In the center a raised square of about one meter, inside which water plays, usable and accessible, and seats, which will give the possibility to exploit this central area also as a space for rest or for events, will be placed. The new green area focuses on the concepts of "usability" and "accessibility": connecting ramps with slopes of less than 8% connect the various differences in level, making the areas passable even by the disabled.