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## OUTPUT 3.4.2



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# ***Paks: Improvement of the Roman Park “Lussonium”***

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**Project Progress Report. Danube Limes – UNESCO World Heritage project**  
**implementation and progress in Lussonium (1-15 months):**

**Reception building**

In addition to the reconstruction plans of the northern fortification walls and the two tower gates, the representation of the residential building found at the northern wall was also considered in 2006. The clay floor tiles, a part of the underfloor heating and several storage pits will be represented in the reception area of the large-scale building, which was once an integral part of the fortification walls.

**Excavations**

Since 2009, all excavation projects have been carried out by the Town Museum of Paks (Leader of excavations: Dr. Váradyné Péterfi Zsuzsanna) within the framework of the Danube Limes project. Thus, the excavation periods became longer.

An agreement has been concluded on 12th August 2009, between the local government of Paks and the Town Museum of Paks, to carry out archaeological works at Lussonium, as well as preserving, documenting and exhibiting archaeological finds.

Following the acceptance of the contract, a geodesic test has been carried out at the local government-owned area, allowing the accurate allocation of the two distinct excavation sites within the territory.

Excavation works started in 2009, on the northern part of the so-called 'Bottyánsánc', at a lowly situated area just north of the outermost north-western *fossa*. On the grounds of this site a visitor center will be built. Until now, no artifacts were found in the 5 x 10 m unit at the excavation site. Nevertheless, further excavations are planned to be conducted in the future by expanding the excavation site to the north and to the south. This would enable the complete exploration of the location of the new visitor center.



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In addition, excavation works at last year's site - situated at the north-eastern part of *Lussonium castellum*, around the inner side of the northern walls - have been carried on. A 10x10 m (ca. 100 m<sup>2</sup>) excavation trench was opened here last year, which was further studied this year. Since the beginning of this year's operations, experts have managed to identify the exact width of the North-South Roman road that passes through the centre of the military fort. The foundations of a building linked to this road from the east were also discovered. Apart from the previous objects, several other artifacts were found, including costumes, personal articles and ceramic bowls. These date back to between the first and fourth centuries. The most notable artifact was bronze emperor statue fragment, which was found during the end of the excavation period in the vicinity of a layer of burnt soil. Its uniqueness is underlined by its size and ornamentation. The artifact was transported to the Town Museum of Paks where, after a preliminary cleaning process, it could be presented to the general public at a national press conference.



The uncovered bronze emperor statue fragment

In order to gain a more detailed understanding of the uncovered archaeological finds and structures and to evaluate the historical-archaeological context of the research, a new north-south oriented excavation trench had to be opened. The new trench



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extended the former one from the south, and provided valuable information on the north-eastern part of the fort and its inner structures.

The Town Museum of Paks handed in another request in September 2009, to dig the supposed site of a cemetery that belongs to the military camp. The localisation of the long-sought burial ground would provide valuable information on the topographic conditions of the region during the Roman-era.

During the research, 6 looted graves were uncovered this year, but finds from the upper layer indicate a more extensive cemetery site.



Ground layers at Unit No. 6., Excavation Site No. 1.



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Furnace, Excavation Site No. 1.

The cleaning of ceramic finds (2050 ceramic-fragments) from Lussonium had started during the excavation period and was finished shortly after it.

Restoration works started during December. As a result, 203 bronze objects and fragments, 444 iron objects and fragmentary pieces, along with 14 glass fragments will be restored.

The documentation of the excavation, including the excavation diary, reports, drawings and photos, was also completed.



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The bronze statue fragment after its restoration



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### **Information day**

A high priority was given to regular communication with our Project Partners (stakeholders). Apart from the frequent phone calls and e-mails, a personal meeting was also arranged. An information day was held for the stakeholders in Paks and Tengelic on 19th-20th November 2009. After the consultations of the first day, participants visited Lussonium and the Town Museum of Paks on the second day, where they could observe the bronze emperor statue fragment before its restoration. The picture underneath was taken in Lussonium.



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Jelenléti ív 2009.11.19	
Név	Aláírás
Dr. Peter Henrich	<i>P. Henrich</i>
Ms. Anna Tuharska	<i>Anna Tuharska</i>
Mr. Marek Bratsky	<i>Marek Bratsky</i>
Dr. Jankovich-Bésán Dénes	<i>J. Jankovich-Bésán</i>
Molnár Hajnalka	<i>Hajnalka Molnár</i>
Saad Judit	<i>Saad Judit</i>
Bechtold Ágnes	<i>Bechtold Ágnes</i>
Dr. Fejérdy Tamás	<i>Tamás Fejérdy</i>
Martin Lemke	<i>Martin Lemke</i>
Piotr Dyczek	<i>Piotr Dyczek</i>
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Sonja Jilek	<i>Sonja Jilek</i>
Anton Schabl	<i>Anton Schabl</i>
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Lóki Róbert	<i>Lóki Róbert</i>
Priskin Anna	<i>Priskin Anna</i>
Sebő András	<i>Sebő András</i>
Neiner András	<i>Neiner András</i>
Váradiné Péterfy Zsuzsanna	<i>Váradiné Péterfy Zsuzsanna</i>
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Visy Zsolt	
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**Jelenléti ív  
2009.11.20**

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RENATA GLASER-OPITZ



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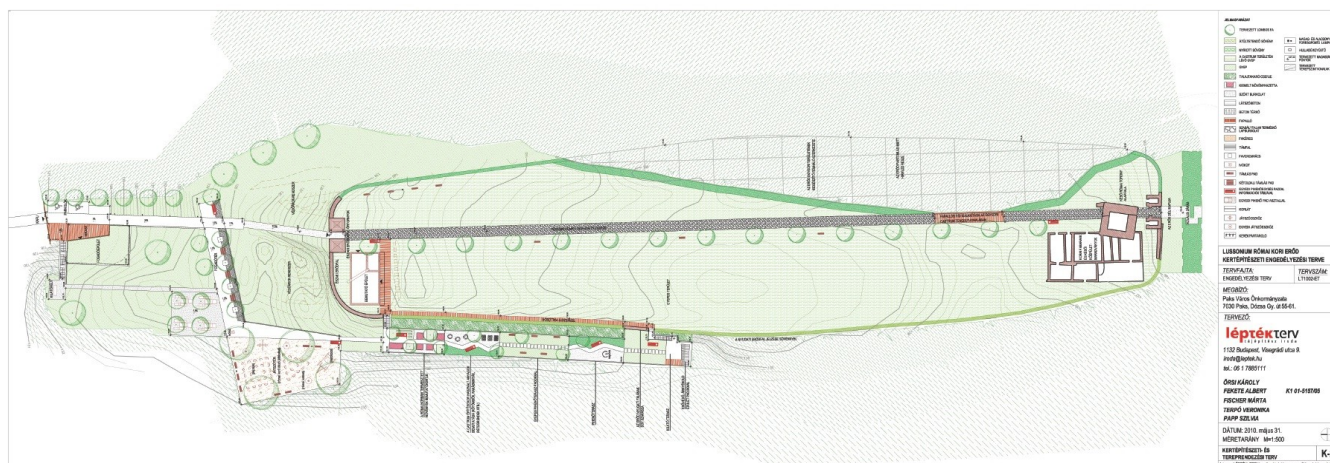
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## First measures and calls for tenders

Apart from the regular excavations, measures were taken during the first 15 months (until December 2009) according to the management plan of the project. Measures include the plans of the infrastructural development in Lussonium and providing didactic signs on the site. In line with Public Procurement Law, several requests for tenders have been issued and external experts have been selected for developing horticultural plans, creating a new homepage and didactic signs for Lussonium, building the new temporary exhibition and providing a feasibility study.

## Horticultural plans

Aside from the representation of the archaeological finds, the development of a new horticultural plan, which would provide the means for later historical restoration or reconstruction works to proceed within a coherent framework, was also of high priority. In 2009, an external expert (LÉPTÉK-TERV Tájépítész Iroda Bt) has been selected to create the horticultural plans of Lussonium. The officially approved plans arrived in 2010, but the call for proposals were issued until the 15th month (end of 2009), in compliance with the management plans.



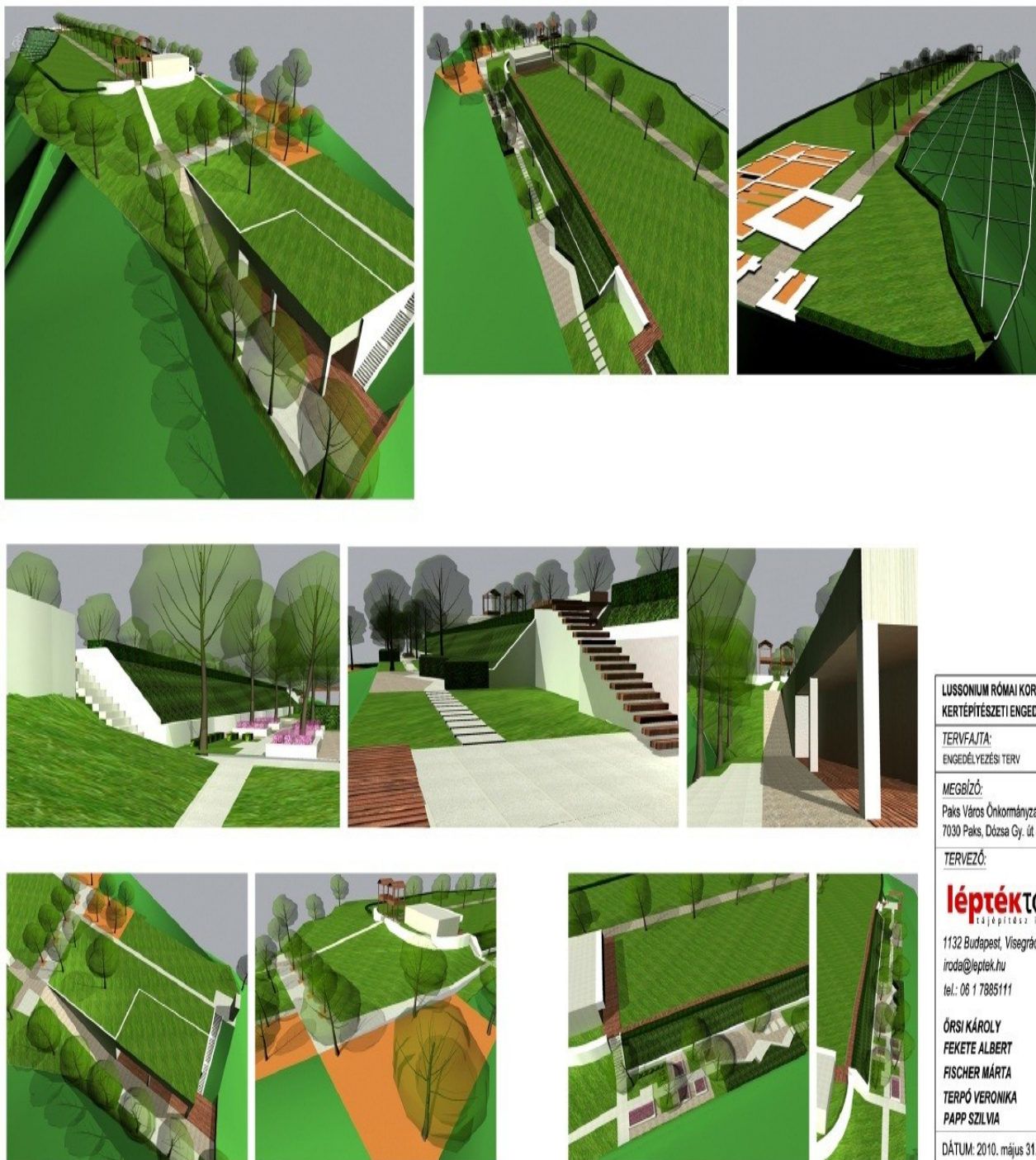
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LUSSONIUM RÓMAI KORI ERŐD KERTÉPÍTÉSZETI ENGEDÉLYEZÉSI TERVE	
TERVFAJTA: ENGEDÉLYEZÉSI TERV	TERVSZÁM: LT1002-ET
MEGBÍZÓ: Paks Város Önkormányzata 7030 Paks, Dózsa Gy. út 55-61.	
TERVEZŐ: <b>léptékterv</b> tájjépítész iroda 1132 Budapest, Visegrádi utca 9. iroda@leptek.hu tel.: 06 1 7885111	
ŐRSI KÁROLY FEKETE ALBERT K1 01-515705 FISCHER MÁRTA TERPÓ VERONIKA PAPP SZILVIA	
DÁTUM: 2010. május 31.	
LÁTVÁNYTERVEK	<b>K-7</b>
A terv a LÉPTÉK_TERV szakmai tulajdona, szerzői jogvédelem alatt áll.	

## Feasibility Study



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The reconstruction of the ruins of Lussonium alone will not be sufficient for the increase of visitor numbers. Sadly, our historic heritage which dates back to more than 2000 years holds the attention of the general public only until the completion of restorations and reconstructions. Preserved ruins decay without accomplishing their cultural mission. In order to raise the attention of visitors on the theme, make them learn about it and understand the spirit of the age, an adaptable development strategy and identity policy has to be built. A new concept would be made that includes suitable elements from national and international examples, while also learning from their shortcomings. This unique concept would build on the characteristics of Lussonium and will not imitate tourist attractions.

In compliance with the archaeological research project of the Roman fort of Lussonium, an adaptable development plan has been made. Following a call for tenders in line with the Public Procurement Law, the Kapos Innovációs Tanácsadó és Kutatásfejlesztő Nonprofit Kft. was chosen to provide the required feasibility study, which was completed in 2010 (Title: **Design and Technical Planning**). The main sections of the study were the following: situation analysis, presentation of existing good practice, defining the elements of the identity strategy, summary.



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# Lussonium

## Design and Technical Planning



2010.

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## Didactic signs for Lussonium

**Homepage:** [www.lussonium.hu](http://www.lussonium.hu)

Last year's excavations showed the necessity of an own homepage for the Roman fort of Lussonium, which would not only serve as a static information base, but a dynamic, interactive webpage with information for experts, 3D graphics and Flash animations. The calls for tenders were issued until the end of 2009 and the new webpage of Lussonium was completed by the middle of 2010 (Developer: Pazirik Kft.). The webpage contains valuable information on the history of the Roman fort, 3D reconstructions of the excavated and supposed buildings and provides news of current excavation projects. The page is constantly developed and improved, with the English version also being discussed.



## Information signs



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For a more detailed and professional coverage, information signs have been placed throughout the territory of Lussonium. These signs serve the purpose of stopping, preoccupying visitors and call attention to the visible (or non-visible) historic relics of the former Roman military fort.

The calls for tenders were issued until the end of 2009 and the new information signs that help visitor orientation were placed in Lussonium in 2010.

At the Roman ruin garden, which was constructed in 2003, a coloured stone sign indicates the location of the two southern gates, the barracks and the Late Roman tower.

The multi-language (English, Hungarian, German) information table at the northern gate tower provides information on the history of Lussonium and the fort's importance within Pannonia province. The bilingual (English, Hungarian) textual and visual signs across the Roman fort inform visitors of the research history, the functions of uncovered structures and the everyday life of a Roman fort.

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### **Temporary exhibition**

After uncovering the bronze emperor statue fragment in 2009, a temporary exhibition was planned to present this unique and very important artifact to the public. The other aspect of the exhibition was the presentation of the Danube Limes exhibition project and its finds before the end of the programme.

The calls for tenders for an exhibition installation were issued until the end of 2009, with the aim to open a new temporary exhibition in 2010.

The new temporary exhibition titled "Császárláb nyomában" (The Emperor's LEGacy) will be opened in the Town Museum of Paks on 21st May 2010, on the occasion of the World Museum Day. The exhibition will present the most remarkable archaeological finds from last years' excavations.



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The plans required for the construction of the new exhibition were completed by the Town Museum of Paks until the end of 2009, along with the collection of exhibition materials. The plan suggest that apart from the didactically presented objects, 3D building reconstructions and textual information should be placed in the exhibition cases for better understanding. The bronze emperor statue fragment can be observed in an exhibition case, along with an animation that illustrates the speculative reconstruction of the original statue.

The opening ceremony will include various programmes that popularize the Roman Age and Lussonium (Roman fashion-show, tasting of a Roman menu, making Roman jewellery and fibulae, guided tours in the exhibition).

The manuscript of the exhibition catalogue that is going to be published in 2011 will also be completed shortly.

The Town Museum of Paks plans to include the temporary exhibition, which can be visited for one year, in several other programmes to provide a wider coverage of the excavation project in Lussonium and its results.

### **Public relations**

The press conference, in which the bronze emperor statue fragment was presented to the public was held in the Town Museum of Paks on 12th November 2009. Following this, several other newspapers, TV stations and online newspapers broadcast of the unique artifact and Lussonium.



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Press conference at the Town Museum of Paks

The local TV-station of Paks constantly gave coverage of the developments in the Lussonium project and the excavations, which were later summarized on a DVD-edition of the news in 2010.

The Tolna Megyei Népújság county newspaper and a local newspaper, the Paksi Hírnök also published several articles of Lussonium, informing the people of Tolna County and the Town of Paks alike.



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