



## CIVITAS awards urban transport innovations in three pioneering cities across Europe

The results of this year's CIVITAS awards, given in three different categories, have just been announced at the 2014 CIVITAS Forum in Casablanca! The best and brightest initiatives in sustainable public urban transport go to Malaga in Spain for Technical innovation, Bremen in Germany for Public participation, and Brighton & Hove in the UK for CIVITAS City of the year.

Beating Tallinn in Estonia and Torres Vedras in Portugal for this award, Malaga hinged its success on the electric vehicle or e-vehicle project, complete with a range of services to users such as home charging, maintenance, incentives and online applications. Spain's sixth largest city valiantly and successfully brought together several international companies to achieve its vision and eliminate barriers to electric mobility. With its new integrated management parking system, it achieved much better use of public space and improved mobility of residents, encouraging the use of public bicycles.

In the category of Public Participation, Bremen adopted a superbly integrated strategy to reach out to citizens and involve them in advancing public transport. It capitalised on novel media channels and diverse engagement tools, both in the virtual world and real world. Highlights included an online geo-referenced consultation platform where users could see approved posts, as well as a competition for employers to bike to work.

Gdynia came a close second in this category with an impressive mix of engagement techniques including on-street participatory audits, social media reports and citizen interactive exercises. Noteworthy among Gdynia's achievements are the bike-to-work competition and citizens' fund to further sustainable transport.

Interestingly, the third category of City of the Year had only two candidates, Odense in Denmark and the UK's Brighton & Hove. The latter won the award for building on the support of CIVITAS such as the floating bus stop concept, e-vehicles strategy and personalised travel marketing. In the case of Odense, getting rid of the four-lane urban highway that runs through the city centre has been an important achievement which almost earned it first place.



# CIVITAS PRESS RELEASE



All three award-winning cities and their activities will be showcased as examples of excellence, without ignoring the valiant efforts of the second and third runner-ups, inspiring other cities to further develop sustainable mobility initiatives. The European Commission will now formally recognize each of the three cities' commitment to promoting cleaner and more sustainable public transport, fostering a culture of sustainable urban transport across Europe and beyond.

If you are interested in joining the CIVITAS Initiative, or if you have questions, please contact the CIVITAS Secretariat at [secretariat@civitas.eu](mailto:secretariat@civitas.eu)

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## CIVITAS ONLINE



[www.civitas.eu](http://www.civitas.eu) is your portal to the CIVITAS Initiative. Visit the CIVITAS website to learn more about the CIVITAS Forum City Network, the ambitious policies and innovative measures many of its members have implemented, and how you can learn more about these at the annual CIVITAS Forum Conference.

With regularly updated News and Events sections, the site is your one-stop-shop for sustainable urban mobility.

Simply go to our website [www.civitas.eu](http://www.civitas.eu).



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