Congratulations to Ljubljana, Slovenia's beautiful capital, which will host the next CIVITAS Forum in 2015!

After a long debate of the three shortlisted city candidates, the CIVITAS Political Advisory Committee selected the Slovenian capital as the most ideal candidate to host the CIVITAS 2015 Forum. The city, after all, has made excellent progress in implementing sustainable urban mobility initiatives in recent years. It became a member of CIVITAS in 2005 and was involved in two CIVITAS projects, MOBILIS and ELAN, having implemented 24 CIVITAS measures in total.

Recent achievements include significant pedestrianising, new parking policies, and architectural biking tours, as well as transport support for children and those with special needs. Importantly, the city also won the European Green Capital Award for 2016, receiving recognition for raising environmental awareness amongst its citizens for its sustainability strategy 'Vision 2025'. Other recent accolades beyond hosting CIVITAS in 2015 and winning the Green Capital Award include the European Mobility Week Award and the Eurocities 2013 Award for 'Providing Safety and Equal Opportunities in Traffic for Children & People with Disabilities.

Next autumn, the city plans to showcase all its achievements and transport initiatives to CIVITAS delegates, along with its beautiful architecture, historic buildings and charming neighbourhoods. The city's public transport system is continuously being modernised, with improvements such as better travel planning, enhanced intermodality, and extended bus lines out to the suburbs.

While Ljubljana emerged as the host city this year, it is also worth pointing out the efforts of the other two runners-up, namely Odense in Denmark and Reggio Emilia in Italy. Odense is working fervently on easing traffic, promoting cycling, planning a light rail system and encouraging sustainable modes of transport, with 34 key mobility measures currently in progress. In parallel, Reggio Emilia has been working on its urban mobility plan since 2008 which involves reducing car traffic, developing cycling infrastructure, promoting high-speed rail and implementing an integrated fare system.
Congratulations go out to all three cities in making significant progress in advancing sustainable urban mobility. Next year, after 10 years as a member of CIVITAS, it will be Ljubljana's turn to host one of the world's most important conferences on sustainable urban mobility. We hope to see you there next autumn!

If you are interested in joining the CIVITAS Initiative, or if you have questions, please contact the CIVITAS Secretariat at secretariat@civitas.eu

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CIVITAS ONLINE

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.

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