

THE CIVITAS INITIATIVE
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PRESS RELEASE – FOR IMMEDIATE DISTRIBUTION

Thursday 3 October, Freiburg and Graz

Europe's cities given fresh help with sustainable mobility planning

Clean, green mobility in Europe has received a significant boost with the release of the widely anticipated “Guidelines for Developing and Implementing a Sustainable Urban Mobility Plan”, or SUMP. An all-important update to the first edition from 2013, the document was launched yesterday at the CIVITAS Forum conference 2019 in Graz, Austria.

A milestone release for Europe's transport community, the guidelines make it easier for city planners and policy makers to integrate mobility into their visions for dynamic, modern, and liveable cities. SUMP's seek to take cars off the road and encourage a shift towards sustainable transport and the creation of people-centric spaces. Indeed, a state-of-the-art SUMP is increasingly seen as a must-have for aspirational cities.

Their need is urgent, as Matthew Baldwin, Deputy Director-General, DG MOVE, European Commission, outlined: “We have multiple challenges: on climate change, where we have to reduce our emissions by 90% in the coming decades; on air quality, where 500,000 Europeans are dying prematurely each year; and on road safety where 25,000 people continue to die annually on Europe's roads. All of these issues have a strong urban dimension, and SUMP's can help cities to learn from each other in tackling them.”

However, much has changed in the six years since the first guidelines came into the world, including new business models, the onset of driverless technologies, and the further rise of digitalisation and automation.

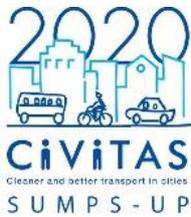
Mobility habits and awareness are also different – with a shift from owning to sharing, increased active mobility, and a greater understanding of the relationship between public health and transport. The new SUMP Guidelines provide the perfect reference point and basis for cities to take their ambitions and planning a step further.

With over 300 contributors and case studies from 60 cities, the document reflects the immense European knowledge in the field. A special Editorial Board steered the bottom-up, co-creative authorial process that included leading mobility academics, the European Commission's DG MOVE, DG REGIO and INEA, CIVITAS SUMP projects and Eltis. CIVITAS SUMP's-Up coordinated the vast undertaking.

Matthew Baldwin is inspired by the “extraordinary SUMP story. Over 1,000 now exist in Europe and we need to ensure this number continues to grow – every city has the capacity to benefit.”

The members of the CIVITAS Political Advisory Committee (PAC) and CIVITAS Forum network also welcomed the release of the Guidelines by releasing an endorsement **ADD URL** of the document.

Read and download the full Guidelines [here](#). Browse and download the series of accompanying topic guides and practitioner briefings [here](#).



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NOTES TO EDITOR

Photos of the signing ceremony are available upon request.

About the CIVITAS Initiative

CIVITAS is a network of over 320 cities dedicated to cleaner, better transport in Europe and beyond. Having started in 2002, CIVITAS currently supports three "living labs" projects where a range of sustainable mobility solutions are being implemented and 13 research projects under the European Commission's Horizon 2020 funding programme. Find out more here: civitas.eu

About the CIVITAS Forum Conference

The CIVITAS Forum is the annual flagship event of the CIVITAS initiative, which has supported EU cities since 2002 in implementing sustainable urban mobility measures. This has been to the benefit of their citizens and for producing re-applicable learnings which other cities can use.

This year's event in Graz marks the 17th time the Forum Conference has taken place, and sees the event returning to where the very first Forum took place.