CiViTAS
Cleaner and better transport in cities

SUCCESS
LA ROCHELLE - PRESTON - PLOIESTI

THE CIVITAS INITIATIVE
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Political meeting in Preston

The 2nd political committee meeting of SUCCESS took place in Preston on 29th March 2006. The occasion was a reminder of how important our cooperation and the political ambition to CIVITAS objectives and EC policies in relation to Transport and the Environment are.
Held in the beautiful Committee room of Lancashire County Council, County Hall, the meeting was rich in exchanges and warm introductions. County Councillor Tony Martin, Member for Sustainable Development, welcomed the participants and County Councillor Jean Yates chaired the meeting, reminding all of the importance of the SUCCESS project for Lancashire and how pleased we were to see other councillors from Preston City South Ribble Borough Council and Lancashire County Council presented.
The Project Manager, Marie Launay, and the 3 cities representatives, Stuart Wrigley (Lancashire CC), Cozia Georgescu (Ploiesti) and Jean Marie Grellier (La Rochelle) present their progress so far.

Mr Denis Leroy, Vice-Mayor of La Rochelle

Denis Leroy, representing the Mayor of La Rochelle, said the CIVITAS Programme has given the chance for cooperation between the 3 cities, which are advanced in thinking and are ready to experiment. He stressed that we work together on two strands: the organisation and improvement of transport systems, and the human reality which is motivated by pricing, ticket flexibility, accessible systems and education. He added: “we have to take the public with us in order to succeed”. Finally, he underlined the role of CIVITAS in encouraging the evaluation of what we do, which is crucial to judge its economic value and to understand public opinion: we need to understand and explain both success and failures. He congratulated the working team on their achievements to date.

Mr Emil Calota, Mayor of Ploiesti

After reminding the importance of the SUCCESS project in the sustainable development policy of the oil city of Ploiesti, Emil Calota reported from the last Political Advisory Committee meeting held in Nantes, where he, Cllr Jean Yates and 35 politicians from other cities and projects discussed four topics: the need to develop a common language of sustainability; supporting political champions for best practice; involving politicians and citizens; using subsidiarity in the interest of citizens.
The next PAC meeting will be held in May 2006.

The SUCCESS participants and their city representatives are actively involved in CIVITAS Forums, which gather together those who are keen to make our cities a better place to live now and for the future.

The last forum in Nantes allowed good exchanges and nice representation of the project there. All the city managers involved in SUCCESS actively participated to the thematic workshops. Next Forum in Burgos ! See for more information about the CIVITAS Forum at: **http://www.civitas-success.org**

Communauté d'Agglomération de La Rochelle

Local Parnership
Communauté d'Agglomération de la Rochelle (CdA LR)
Ville de la Rochelle (LR)
Ecole d'Ingénieurs de la Rochelle (EIGSI)
Transport and Travel Research - France (TTR)

Focus on the **La Rochelle** city

Progress in La Rochelle since October 2005

Civitas French Events – Coming Events
12, 13 and 14 October 2005: « XXè rencontres du Transport Public » in Toulouse, with the GART and UTP organisations.
We had a common stand with GUARD and the French CIVITAS I and II cities.
Maria Alfayate, from the European Commission animated a meeting about the CIVITAS Initiative A specific group "Task Force France" gathering Lille, Nantes, Toulouse and La Rochelle has been created to promote the Civitas Initiative and the experimentations.
5 & 6 April: MUTA2006 Exhibition in Poitiers, dedicated to the clean vehicles.

In the coming months:

13 to 15th of June: the European Mobility Exhibition 2006 in Paris: the only trade exhibition in the field of public transport and sustainable mobility.

And in September, the 10th Day without my car in La Rochelle will be based on Civitas-Success measures. Several activities like conferences, tests, exhibitions will be organised during the Mobility Week.

At the measure level

Success of the experimentation of 2 bus lanes during the 2005 Mobility Week
The implementation of the 2 Bus lanes (Vieljeux Street and the Cognehors Boulevard) has been formalized after a real success of these experimentations during the Mobility Week.

Implement Further Integration of Ticketing System
Following a conclusive study the public transport subscribers will have in the coming months an access to the P+R with their Pass'Partout 17 ticket or smart card, within a new ticketing machine. A new sales point of Pass Partout 17 at the P+R Jean Moulin will be operational in May 2006.

Cognehors Bld: new bus lane

Cycle way: a part carried out

New mobility services
For the new mobility services such as the car sharing and the goods distribution, the strategy for the next ten years has been defined. A call for tender has been launched to delegate the implementation of some operational activities.
Another call for tender has been launched concerning the reorganization of the bus network, including new lines and a new operator who will strengthen the urban network efficiency.

Students Travel Plan
The set up of the Pass'Etudiant 17 has been a real success with 720 subscribed students (9% of all students). Many communication actions have been made, supported by different speeches to the students in the classrooms and at forums. 20 students became ambassadors of mobility to promote the Pass'Etudiant 17 on the campus. In the same way, a survey has been conducted involving 450 students.

Work in progress

The implementation of the first 3 kilometres of the **cycle way** (connecting La Rochelle to Esnandes) began in October. 8 Kilometres will be implemented in the next 6 months, and inaugurations will be organized at each important step.

The beginning of the implementation of the **new Park and Ride in Lagord was in March**. A hierarchized axis for the public transports will make a link between the P+R and the city centre.

*The studies regarding the biggest shopping area of the urban community, called "Beaulieu" have been finished and validated by local politicians. The implementation began in March for a 5 months period. Theses **dedicated bus lane** representing 1.5 kilometres are in complement of the retractable terminals. This will improve significantly the time to enter in this shopping area.

Cycle way under construction

Lancashire County Council

Local Parnership
Lancashire County Council (LCC)
Preston Bus Limited (PB)
Transport and Travel Research (TTR)
Preston City Council (PCC)
South Ribble Borough Council (SRBC)

Focus on the **Preston** city

Progress from Preston

Progress continues in Preston and South Ribble and several of the projects are now moving on apace.

Overground Network

The overground bus network map has been established. This map is in an easier to understand format and shows the high frequency network of bus services in and around Preston and South Ribble. It has been distributed to a large number of outlets including city centre boutiques and coffee shops as well as the traditional Information Centres. We are aiming to encourage more public transport usage through distributing to a wider range of outlets.

We have started the branding of bus routes to tie in with the colours on the map. We have completed three routes to date, the red, purple and green routes, and infrastructure, bus stop plates, have been branded with a colour and the CIVITAS logo. Our next stage is to brand several more routes into the city, carry out some additional marketing and public awareness campaigns then look at some additional bus branding so a complete coordinated approach will be in place.

Demand Responsive Bus Service

In June 2006 a bus service serving a rural area of South Ribble running into Preston City Centre will be revised to form a new Demand Responsive service. It will be enhanced to run at more convenient times and will be developed to pick customers up on demand from their door. It will also be extended to serve Preston Railway Station, on demand. The bus will be liveried and will display the Civitas SUCCESS logo.

Leyland Town Centre Regeneration

The South Ribble Borough Council led initiative to regenerate Leyland Town Centre over the next 10-15 years is seeking to bring forward sustainable transport measure in line with the Civitas SUCCESS project.

The methodology of the process will run until October 2006 when the final masterplan is produced. Considerable stakeholder and public consultation will take place and will consider walking distances, cycle networks, pedestrian flows, bus frequencies and car parking facilities.

The aim is to create a network of landmarks and spaces connected by pedestrian friendly routes, to encourage a walkable town with safe and attractive public realm, high quality landscaping, street furniture and lighting. We will expand the cycling and walking networks and provide appropriate cycle parking, manage demand for accessing the town centre and train station by private vehicles, and create a bus focus to facilitate interchange.
The Masterplan will set out an overall vision for Leyland in the year 2021 and the path to get there. It will be delivered through projects like Civitas SUCCESS designed to meet strategy objectives.

Adelphi Street Area, Preston

As part of the Civitas SUCCESS project the area surrounding the University of Central Lancashire in Preston has been identified as an ideal location to encourage the use of more sustainable modes. In partnership with Preston City Council, Lancashire County Council, the University and equally the surrounding community we will examine the street scene in the area and explore areas which could be enhanced to favour walking and cycling.

We aim to reduce traffic flows and speeds, improve walking and cycling routes, crossing places, street lighting, signing and enhanced landscaping to make it a more attractive area.

On the 27th to 29th March 2006 an exhibition was held in the University for those in the local area to express their views and for us to understand their concerns. This was backed up by a questionnaire to all households and businesses in the area. This information will be used to draw up an action plan on which further consultation will take place later in 2006.

Transport Telematics in Preston and South Ribble and City Centre Clear Zone

Proposals are in place to further develop Transport Telematics as part of the Civitas SUCCESS project. Further information will be made available on the web site and in the 3rd newsletter.
Plans are also developing for a Preston City Centre Clear Zone. A long term strategy will be devised and will be consulted on in Summer 2006. This will form the base to deliver clear zones not only in Preston but also throughout Lancashire in the future.

Focus on the **Ploiesti** city

Local Parnership
Ploiesti City Hall (PMP)
Public Transport Company (RATPP)
Petroleum and Gas University of Ploiesti (UPGP)

Progress in Ploiesti

CIVITAS- SUCCESS in International meetings
Representatives of Ploiesti City Hall presented the project and its impact, during their participation at the international meetings, organized in Romania or abroad, such as:
- **URBACT** Program Meeting in Nicosia, Cyprus, November 2005

- **„Enhancing Management for Urban Development in the local public authorities from Moldova, Romania and Ukraine"** – Experience Exchange organized by Romanian Municipalities Associations in December 2005
- **Final Conference of the CIVITAS-TELLUS project**, Bucharest, January 2006.
- **URBACT** – European Qualifying Path on Urban Transport Issues – Study Visit in Ploiesti, February 2006

At the measure level

Conversion of Buses to LPG
Taking into account the technical conditions of the buses that will be converted to LPG it is necessary to develop the overhauling with our own funds.
The first 6 LPG equipments have been purchased in March 2006 and we have already started to install them.
We have now 3 diesel buses converted to LPG.
According to Romanian legislation it is necessary to homologate the buses at the Romanian Register for Road Vehicles before starting to use them. This is the next step to be made.

Development of a Clear Zone
In March 2006 took place a public debate in order to present and discuss the first version of the Strategic scheme for development of a Clear zone: area development context, vision of zonal development, strategical objectives, development politics and programs in coordination with measures 11.9 and 11.10.
Elaboration of a Strategic scheme for development of a Clear zone (Regulations and measures for the Clear Zone) is running in collaboration with the Institute for Human Studies (IHS).

Planning for alternative Transport Modes
Search Corporation Company produced until the end of March 2006 the first draft of the Strategic Plan for Soft Transport based on the Urban Transport Planning Method in 4 steps. This draft intends to offer solutions for daily urban traffic characterized by undergauge streets, traffic jams and pollution.

GPS system in public transport fleet
- Now, there are 10 dispatchers at the end of each route that work in three shifts, 24 hours a day.
- The communication between the drivers and the dispatching centre was highly increased and, as a consequence, the promptness in solving all the unexpected situations (accidents, faults etc).
- The quality of the public transport in Ploiesti is continually improved because the timetables are better accomplished.

New mobility services - Work in progress
Smartcard instead of season-tickets:
the ticketing equipment was tested over a one week period.

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