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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 http://www.civitas.eu

COVER STORY

Integrated planning for cities of the future

Frank Wefering, Rupprecht Consult

What do we want our cities to look like 20 years from now? The expected answer is that they should be attractive places for people to live, work, visit and do business. However, today many European cities are still dominated by car traffic and are far from being considered attractive or liveable.

Integrated planning can make an enormous difference in cities trying to turn their mobility culture around. But what does "integrated planning" mean? Addressed prominently in the Action Plan on Urban Mobility (2009) and the Transport White Paper (2011), the European Union is promoting integrated planning with a more strategic/long-term view under the term "sustainable urban mobility plans" – SUMP for short.



Following consultations with over 100 experts and practitioners from all across Europe, Eltisplus developed a definition and identified the key characteristics: A SUMP is a strategic plan that builds on existing planning practices and takes due consideration of integration, participation, and evaluation principles to satisfy the mobility needs of people today and tomorrow for a better quality of life in cities and their surroundings.

One good example of what can be achieved through integrated planning is the CIVITAS city of **Ghent, Belgium**. After committing early to the principles of sustainable urban mobility planning, Ghent successfully transformed itself from a car and traffic dominated city to one focused on people and quality of life. It has been implementing mobility plans and sustainable transport measures with increasing degrees of success since the late 1980s.

A participatory approach is embedded in the SUMP concept. It means planning both for and with people, as the involvement of stakeholders, including citizens, in planning, decision-making and evaluation processes is generally encouraged.



Before and after: Integrated planning helped Ghent

Another core characteristic is an integrated approach. Integration can have various aspects, such as the geographic integration of a city with its surrounding areas or the institutional integration of different sectors (transport, health, urban development, land use planning, etc.), institutions or administrative levels. In a SUMP, an interdisciplinary planning culture is implied that is strikingly different from the engineer-driven traditional transport approach.

Multi-lingual support material and training offers on the SUMP concept can be found under http://www.mobilityplans.eu.

Many cities are keen to share their lessons learned on this topic through a dedicated discussion group. Visit http://www.civitas.eu/ integrated-planning for more information or contact Frank Wefering [f.wefering@rupprecht-consult.eu].





CITY NEWS

Promoting travel plans in Brescia

Brescia is encouraging more sustainable mobility practices through ecopassi, an experimental project that builds travel plans for businesses and their employees in the city centre.



A 30 percent discount on public transport was offered to retailers and their employees in the city's shopping district. Bike-sharing and carsharing services are also available through the new oMnibus Card.

Statistical analysis and face-to-face interviews demonstrate that attitudes towards transport modes and individuals' travel behaviour to more sustainable transport modes are shifting.

8.2 percent of shoppers have abandoned the car and have begun travelling on foot (67 percent) or by bus (33 percent). Also those working in town are slowly embracing more sustainable transport choices, though further initiatives may be necessary for them to make the change and leave the car at home.

For more information, contact Moris Urari [dissemination.brescia@gmail.com]. Brescia is a member of the CIVITAS MODERN consortium.

LED lights lower cycling travel times

A system of LED lights has been installed in the cycle path at a central intersection in Aalborg, Denmark, to facilitate faster access for cyclists.



The LED lights are installed between the university and the city centre and have been integrated into the regular traffic light system.

At night these green lights are automatically activated at part of the intersection. A detector is embedded in the cycle path around 200 meters before the crossing itself.

The new service is based on the idea that if cyclists follow the green lights lane at 18km per hour, they will get a green light at the intersection.

Though the concept is relatively simple, it is the first time this advanced technological system has been implemented in the city. Initial reactions have been positive.

For more information, contact Marie Lautrup Nielsen [aml-teknik@aalborg.dk]. Aalborg is a member of the CIVITAS ARCHIMEDES consortium.

Walking map of Ghent aims to increase footfall

The City of Ghent, Belgium, has created a map detailing the walking time between important locations in the city. Walking speed is calculated at 4.3 km/h and the time is presented in minutes.



The new map aims to stimulate walking in the city and help both locals and tourists discover Ghent on foot. Walking in Ghent is not only a good choice for recreation, but also a quick and efficient means of getting around.

For short distances in the city centre walking is as fast as going by car, bus or tram due to traffic jams and waiting time at bus stops.

The map covers much of the city. Locations highlighted include the main railway station, the city centre, public transport hubs, hospitals, parking lots, car sharing stations, schools, museums, playgrounds, parks and more. An accompanying smaller map details the shopping district, making it easy to come up with a good shopping route on foot.

For more information, contact Wim Schuddinck [wim.schuddinck@gent.be]. Ghent is a member of the CIVITAS ELAN consortium.

POLICY UPDATE

Commission seeks insights on promotion of clean and energy-efficient vehicles

DG MOVE is currently undertaking a study to support the preparation of a monitoring report on the directive on the promotion of clean and energy efficient road transport vehicles. This study will compile relevant information from all Member States as well as from other national and European stakeholders.

To be completed by December 2012, the study will identify how the directive has been transposed into national legislation and implemented in each of the EU Member States. It will also examine relevant experiences on the market for clean and energy efficient vehicles.

Towns, cities and urban areas represent a key element of this study. A large number of European cities can be considered as good examples of the application of clean and energy-efficient technologies to public transport fleets. Vehicle manufacturers, transport operators and national bodies responsible for implementing the directive will also be consulted.

For more information, contact [Franz-Xaver.SOELDNER@ec.europa.eu] or [Carlos.GARCIA-BARQUERO@ec.europa.eu].

More information on the Directive itself can be found at: http://ec.europa.eu/transport/ urban/vehicles/directive/directive_en.htm

Stay informed!

Subscribe to the e-version of the MOVE newsletter and stay up to date on CIVITAS activities in the field of sustainable urban mobility. Simply go to our website, http://www.civitas.eu, and click on News.



CITY NEWS

Better city cycling with portable parking

Utrecht has launched two new portable bike parking facilities in the city centre. These facilities are made available during peak periods, and then taken away in less busy periods.



As cycling becomes a part of daily life for many commuters in Utrecht, the need for readily available bike parking spaces is increasing. Introduced in 2009, portable bicycle facilities have been extremely successful in offering convenient, secure and free bike parking to cvclists.

The parking can be set up whenever demand exists and then later removed, freeing up space for pedestrians. In November and December a total of 6,445 bicycles were parked in the three mobile parking facilities, with 2,808 bikes parked for over 14 days in one area.

Utrecht will continue to implement its bicycle parking action plan focusing on enforcing existing bike parking regulations whilst creating further mobile bicycle parking facilities.

For more information, contact Rijk Jan van Alfen [r.van.alfen@utrecht.nl]. Utrecht is a member of the CIVITAS MIMOSA consortium.

Motorist mindset changed in Perugia

Perugia, Italy, has changed the way people think about mobility. The city has increased public transport trips by three million since 2008, largely thanks to the introduction of the innovative Mini-metro.



Some 1.3 million of these new trips are based on park and ride, replacing an equivalent of 5,000 car journeys to the city centre per day.

Perugia has seen major changes in the awareness and attitudes of car drivers. Surveys of 2.000 motorists carried out in autumn 2009 and 2011 indicate that a large majority wish to travel in a more sustainable way.

Almost half of motorists surveyed in 2011 support public transport getting priority at intersections, compared to 28 percent in 2009. Over 60 percent emphasise the need to select a residential location close to public transport, which is a 10 percent increase on 2009. The proportion supporting a limited traffic zone to protect the historic city centre has also increased from 34 to 43 percent.

For more information, contact Leonardo Naldini [l.naldini@comune.perugia.it]. Perugia is a member of the CIVITAS RENAISSANCE consortium.

MOVE-ME app available for ihhone

ELAN city Porto, Portugal has launched the mobile application MOVE-ME for iPhone, providing mobility information to users on the ao.



The app evolved as a result of users seeking convenient access to mobility information through new channels, including smart phones.

Developed by partner OPT in cooperation with transport operators, both private and public, the aim of the app is to improve the quality of and access to public transport information in Porto.

Participating operators ensure routes and network information, schedules, stops and destinations are online. The national rail company also feeds in data for urban services around the city.

With an average of 1,000 requests per day, MOVE-ME has found great acceptance amongst local urban travellers.

For more information, please contact Sara Meireles [smmeireles@opt.pt]. Porto is a member of the CIVITAS ELAN consortium.

OUTREACH

Out of the laboratory and into the real world

After five years, the Best Practice Transfer Action, CIVITAS CATALIST, comes to an end.

CIVITAS CATALIST ensured the exploitation of experiences gained within the CIVITAS Initiative at the local, national and EU levels, further driving the CIVITAS multiplier effect. This has guaranteed that the effects of the CIVITAS Initiative are significant and durable.

A key feature of the project was the offer of funding to promote the uptake of the CIVITAS approach.

An activity fund was made available to more than 50 cities for a wide range of activities stretching from simple attendance at conferences and site visits to the fully fledged implementation of staff training and transport studies

The main outcomes of the project will be available on the CIVITAS website this summer and will provide best practices on how to transfer knowledge, how to involve politicians and guidance on what urban mobility professionals can do to accelerate the application and development of a sustainable urban transport system.

With its flexible approach, CIVITAS CATALIST was able to reach more than 150,000 people around the world to promote the CIVITAS Initiative and cleaner and better transport in cities.

For more information, contact [info@civitas.eu].

> Don't forget to register for the CIVITAS Forum 2012 in Vitoria-Gasteiz, Spain!

> 24-26 September 2012

http://bit.ly/CIVITAS-Forum-2012

www.civitas.eu



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CITY IN PROFILE

Skopje, FYR Macedonia

Although support for public transport and walking remains relatively high, there is an increasing trend in the Macedonian capital of Skopje of people switching to less sustainable transport modes.



This is a trend the city is eager to counteract within CIVITAS RENAISSANCE. Skopje is working on a strategy for the development of a sustainable urban transport system, with a particular focus on the development of public transport.

Service quality will be improved through real-time passenger information, and smart ticketing solutions based on an integrated fare system for all public transport services.

The public transport fleet will be renewed and converted from diesel to compressed natural gas. Electric vehicles will also be introduced to reduce pollution, as well as a light rail transit system.

For more information, contact Mirjana Apostolova [mirjanaa@skopje.gov.mk]. Skopje is a member of the CIVITAS RENAISSANCE consortium.

EVENTS

CIVITAS Workshop on CO₂-free logistics

The third workshop in the series "Effective solutions for green urban transport - Learning from CIVITAS cities" will take place on Friday 12 October in Rotterdam, the Netherlands.



This workshop will explore the future of urban freight transport in cities. In its White Paper of 2011, the European Commission stated its ambition to have CO₂-free city logistics by 2050.

CIVITAS has been a real world laboratory for new developments in sustainable transport for 10 years. The experiences with new forms of urban freight transport in CIVITAS cities, such as Aalborg, Denmark, and Utrecht, the Netherlands, will form the basis of the discussion.

With its nautical location aboard the SS Rotterdam, the workshop is organised as a side event to the EEAC/RLI Conference "Keep moving, towards sustainable mobility." Both events can be registered for separately.

Mobility experts also have the possibility to participate in a study tour on innovative sustainable freight transport, taking place in Utrecht the day before (11 October 2012).

For more information, visit: http://bit.ly/CIVITAS-Workshop-Rotterdam.

NATIONAL NEWS

Supporting the spread of good practice

An ideal platform to foster the take-up and improvement of sustainable urban mobility plans (SUMP) is provided by the CIVITAS national networks. These are well positioned to promote peer-to-peer exchange on SUMPs in local languages and institutional/legal frameworks.

Increasing the take-up of SUMPs amongst small and medium–sized cities was explored at a recent CIVINET Espana y Portugal event in Torres Vedras, Portugal. Recognising

that reduced budgets can result in a less participative SUMP process, the consensus was that creative approaches are more necessary now than ever.

Some of the national networks already have well-developed SUMP practices in place, for example France, UK, Italy and the Netherlands, which are keen to share their experiences.

For more information, visit: http://www.civitas.eu/civinet or contact [civinet@civitas.eu]. Look out for details on the upcoming CIVINET SUMPs event at Open Days in Brussels on 8-11 October 2012.

About the MOVE newsletter

This quarterly newsletter serves to inform all those with an interest in sustainable urban mobility. It reports on developments in the field, including activities of pioneering CIVITAS cities and policy updates from the European Commission. Contributions are sourced from participating cities and organisations, as well as from the Directorate General for Mobility and Transport. Free copies can be obtained from the CIVITAS Secretariat:

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