

Peer Review of Örebro City



Peer Review of the progress towards sustainable urban transport
City of Örebro
24th - 28th April 2006



Örebro - BUSTRIP so far...

- You have begun the work to prepare and implement your SUTP over the next two years.
- Your self assessment report has been completed and reviewed by the team of Peer Reviewers
- Peer reviewers - including representatives from other Bustrip cities - has carried out a review of your city over the last week to provide friendly independent constructive comments
- Peer reviewers will prepare a full report within a month.



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Örebro - the Peer Review Team

- Mr Sönke Behrends
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- Ms Mari Kinttula
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 - Kaunas City Municipality, LITHUANIA
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What were we looking for?

- Evidence of a sustainable urban transport plan (SUTP) that is integrated with an overall sustainable development strategy and that is promoted to and understood by the people of the city
- Evidence of strong political commitment to the issues and financial support for the implementation of sustainable urban transport measures
- Evidence of a functional cross-sector SUTP working group that has a clear idea of its roles and responsibilities within the project to the city, and ultimately to the public



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Our key findings...

6 main findings

1. City provides a good mix of different modes of urban transport
 - *but needs to consider a stronger approach to making public transport more attractive and relevant to a wider group of passengers*
2. City provides a very good cycle network across the city and its outer suburbs
 - *but still needs a clear vision for the future development and improvement of this*



...key findings...

3. City has a knowledgeable and informed public that are very much aware of the issues and problems
 - *but need to convince the public that politicians and city planners do listen to, are interested in, and understand their thoughts, ideas and opinions.*
4. City has produced a large number of detailed and specialist plans, strategic reports and research documents to help improve city transport and environment
 - *but needs to consider better coordination between departments and steering committees that produce them*



...key findings...

5. Cross-sector working group is an excellent mix of professional skills and knowledge with clear roles and responsibilities for the project management and implementation
 - *but needs to make sure that the actual practicalities of implementing actions that overlap different Directorates will not be problematic*

6. City produces many different and useful types of information for public consumption
 - *but there needs to be a much more proactive system of promotion, marketing and dissemination of information*
 - *especially city achievements.*



Additional findings...

- City understands the need to reduce car traffic in city centre - recognising the contribution that must be made by "park and ride" and "bike and ride" systems to help deliver sustainable transport systems
- City continues its record of road safety improvements in city centre - decreasing speed limit to 30 km/h
- Promotes a compact city with an efficient use of land and space - with respect to green belt areas



However...

- There is real concern over the accessibility of services - particularly the effects on public transport usage - of out of centre developments
- public may be suffering from '*major report and research fatigue*' - and so real efforts must be made to produce a clear timetable of expected results from all major new projects and developments in the city
- More balance needs to be considered for all changes to mobility forms in the city eg: incentives and restrictive measures



Summary Recommendations

Cycling

- that consideration is given to the development of the network in order to make it a priority form of transport in the city - particularly with street signals
- that safety improvements are considered for cycle tracks outside of the city centre - especially lighting
- To make the cycle network a 'flagship' network for the country



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...recommendations...

Public Transport

- Priority bus lanes and traffic lights for specialist routes between key destinations in the city - especially for the big employers
- More stability in decision making and realistic long term development plans eg: free travel after 7.00pm
- That consideration is given to providing more late night and evening services for outer city areas
- To promote more free public transport inclusive in major event tickets



...recommendations...

SUTP Management and Implementation

- To establish a core set of specific sustainability indicators and to clearly delegate these to individuals with a clear plan for regular evaluation and reporting of results - particularly to the public and other external stakeholders
- To have target values and a clear timeplan for achievement - again, with a regular reporting link to the public and external stakeholders



...recommendations...

Stakeholder consultation

- City should plan to provide a regular means of communication with the public - especially to encourage behavioural change - through such activities as public forums, campaigns, and publications that are effectively distributed.
- City should aim to provide more feedback and - ideally - more tangible results for all the research and action plans that have been produced.



What next.....

- For us:
Write up our assessment as a report which will be with you in a month's time
- For you:
 - Comment and correct our report
 - Pass on any further comments and information that you feel will help us to complete the report



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Thank you for your hospitality and support and we look forward to seeing you again in the near future



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