



## NEWSLETTER No. 01



### CIVITAS ELAN Kick-off

CIVITAS ELAN is a large and ambitious project of great strategic importance to its project partners and funding institutions. The mayors of the cities of Ljubljana, Gent, Zagreb, Brno and Porto have agreed to a common mission statement: "To mobilize our citizens by developing with their support clean mobility solutions for vital cities, ensuring health and access for all." CIVITAS ELAN has started on the 15th of September and will implement 68 measures in total. It will last for four years about € 29 million are available for the entire project.

Ljubljana / Susanne Loch

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### Arrival of New Hybrid Bus in Gent

Gent has welcomed its first hybrid bus. The bus will have a test period of about three months. After this period, Flanders' Public Transport Company 'De Lijn' will buy another 35 buses, of which 20 are destined to Gent. The buses will undergo a testing phase for about three months and after potential difficulties are resolved, another 20 buses of that kind will come to Gent. Another fifteen will go to Bruges and Leuven.

Gent / Patty Delanghe

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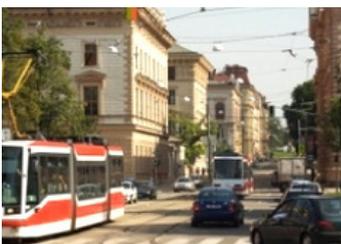


### 37 New Trams and 45 New Buses in Zagreb

As part of CIVITAS ELAN, Zagreb Holding - Department ZET - has successfully conducted a tender which led to the introduction of the first 37 new trams plus 45 buses that run on bio diesel in regular traffic. All vehicles were presented to the public at press conferences. Test rides were attended by the Mayor of Zagreb, Mr. Milan Bandić as well as representatives from Zagreb Holding - Department ZET.

Zagreb / Ariana Vela

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### Intermodal Transport Planning Workshop in Brno

A CIVITAS ELAN workshop on Inter-modal Infrastructure Planning took place in Brno (Czech Republic) on January 15, 2009. About 40 participants from all CIVITAS ELAN partner cities, Ljubljana, Gent, Porto, Zagreb and Brno, CIVITAS ARCHIMEDES and external experts met in the Old City Hall premises. Various diverse approaches towards planning inter-modal transport and building multimodal hubs, integrating different roles of transport modes in urban areas were presented. The workshop contributed to best practice exchange on a European level and helped the participants to learn from unsound solutions.

Brno / Barbora Šancová

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## Anti-theft frame for students bikes in Gent

The City of Gent offers a rental bike to students at very low costs (€ 40 per year). A lot of these bikes get stolen or are missing. In order to decrease the number of bike thefts, a unique frame has been developed where a large serial number is engraved. StudentENMobiliteit (S&M) is a non-profit organization founded by the City of Gent, the University and schools for Higher Education. The organization rents out more than 5,000 bicycles to students.

Gent / Patty Delanghe

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## Airborne Imaging System on Zagreb Corridor

The University of Zagreb (ZOFT) arranged a helicopter flight above the selected CIVITAS ELAN corridor in Zagreb. During the flight data on traffic flow performances and images of the corridor were taken. This will ensure accurate traffic modeling and a sound evaluation of activities. The helicopter was equipped with a multi sensor imaging system containing GPS unit, RGB camera (Red-Green-Blue), thermo-vision camera and infra-red camera.

Zagreb / Marko Matulin

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## IMS - Information for Mobility Support

In the scope of Porto's participation in CIVITAS ELAN, local project partners are working on an innovative measure - Mobile Mobility Information - that hopefully will increase the level of mobility information in the Asprela area in Porto. The local partner OPT is working hand in hand with the transport operators (METRO, STCP and AN-TROP) to develop an innovative decision support tool for mobility in public transport that helps people to plan and decide on their trips, based on real time information.

Porto / Sara Meireles

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## Knowledge exchange on hybrid bus in Gent

On the 31st of March 2009, a delegation of the public transport company LPP (Ljubljanski Potniski Promet D.O.O.) visited the Public Transport Company De Lijn in Gent to inspect their brand new hybrid bus. The three representatives were impressed by the results and driving style of this new articulated hybrid bus. The representatives from LPP came to Gent to exchange knowledge on hybrid vehicles and to see if they could use the experience of De Lijn for their future purchases. LPP wants to buy hybrid buses in 2010.

Gent / Patty Delanghe

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## Faster buses thanks to better busstops

In April, Gent starts with works concerning the improvement of the public transport circulation. After the works are finished, Gent will be able to provide better service to the many public transport users. A first step is to re-arrange 150 bus stops and make them safer. This means that the buses will be able to stop easier and safer, and to drive faster through the city.

Gent / Sophie Gillaerts

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## Public opinion survey performed in the Ljubljana CIVITAS corridor

In October and December last year the first public opinion survey was conducted by Faculty of Social Sciences at the University of Ljubljana on different locations of the corridor in Ljubljana. Within 2 weeks around 1000 returned questionnaires were collected and entered into a data base for further analysis. The first results showed that the car transportation is deeply-rooted within the transport infrastructure of Ljubljana.

Ljubljana / M. Ursic, F. Trcek

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## Ljubljana introduces "Urbana" City Card

Ljubljana is introducing an electronic payment system, the so called "Urbana" city card for public services. If the trial period starting on April 15th, 2009 proves successful, local residents and tourists will start to use the new card for public transport and parking already as early as August 2009. In the first phase people will be able to use their "Urbana" card to pay for travel on public transport in the city, parking, the trip by funicular to Ljubljana castle, and for municipal library services. In the next phase the city card will also include admission to museums, sport facilities, and cultural events.

Ljubljana / Simona Berden

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## CIVITAS ELAN Tram Line

During the Project Management Meeting held in Zagreb from 21st until 24th April 2009, the CIVITAS ELAN tram line number 20 was introduced, operating along the demonstration corridor. The purpose of the introduction of the new tram line was to raise awareness of the citizens for the CIVITAS ELAN project, as well as other important issues dealing with transport problems in the City.

Zagreb / Ariana Vela

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## Civitown Agreement on Bus Rapid Transit Scheme

Ivana Diamant (Chamber of Commerce), Vaclav Verde (Citizen's Action Committee) and Wout Mesto (City Council) were just three out of about a dozen stakeholders coming together on 24 April for a final and at times controversial stakeholder meeting in Civitown. Contrary to the expectations of most Civitonians, the stakeholders were able to reach a common agreement on the long-awaited bus rapid transit scheme in the centre of Civitown.

Zagreb / Frank Wefering

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