

Increasing bicycle use in Burgos

The objective of this measure is to link up sections of the existing bike lanes to one and to foster bicycle use as an alternative means of transport. The bicycle was frequently used for sport but not as a means of daily transport. One of the most important challenges was therefore to change perceptions of the bicycle and the way it was used.



Objectives / Innovative Aspects

Objectives

- The objective of this measure is to link up sections of the existing bicycle path to one another and to foster bicycle use as an alternative means of cleaner transport.
- A further 15 km of bicycle path will be put in place, so that the network will reach a total length of 38 km.
- Link peripheral neighbourhoods with the city via bike lanes.
- Improvements to safety features and information on bike lanes.

Innovation Activities

- Design and implementation of new sections of the bicycle paths associated with daily travel, presenting the bicycle as an alternative means of transport, rather than just to be used for recreational activities.

The Measure

For many years there has been a demand for bike lanes to allow travel throughout the city in safe and comfortable conditions. Various sections have been put in place as planned by new urban development plans and to connect the city to the green belt at its edge. Nevertheless, the current bike-lane network is not interconnected and not all are equipped with safety features to guarantee the pedestrian and cyclists' safety since they often occupy part of the sidewalks. Presently, a 23 km bike lane extension project is being developed. For a medium-sized city like Burgos, this implies an important step forward towards an integrated bicycle network.

Innovation activities

The innovation element of this measure will consist in analyzing the

The new sections to be introduced will be equipped with the latest safety mechanisms (traffic lights, appropriate signs, road markings) and will provide information panels on bicycle lane maps and parking facilities for bicycles, including underground facilities in commercial and administrative centres.

The demonstration activities are divided in the following steps:

1. Design routes taking into consideration the stated demands of bicycle users and associations.
2. Design routes for the bicycle paths and safety measures.
3. Construct links between existing bicycle lanes and connect up surrounding areas.
4. Install bicycle parking facilities.

Innovation and Dissemination Activities

- Public information campaigns.
- Direct marketing activities.
- The effectiveness of the technological options contained in this measure and the evaluation of their impact will be disseminated through local, national and European forums.

Evaluation

- This measure will be evaluated and monitored throughout the duration of the project.

Implementation Status

The working steps described in the following have been finalised.

Administrative processes for the purchase of bike racks and management of the public invitation to tender:
 Procedures for the adjudication of the tender for bike racks.
 Meetings with the local association promoting bicycle use:
 Various meetings with the local association promoting bicycle use

existing bike lanes and defining the new sections.

Important activities are in the field of the safety, parking, and bike lanes that are adapted to stakeholder needs and conditions in Burgos. Innovative services will be set up around the bike-lane scheme.

Demonstration activities

The aim is to extend the existing network of bike-lanes, paying particular attention to three fundamental aspects:

- Extension of the bicycle lanes to schools, institutes, commercial areas, markets, supermarkets and business zones to encourage bicycle use as an alternative means of travelling to work or on daily errands.
- Link up bicycle paths to the bicycle network, facilitating safe, continuous mobility between various points in the city. Include the new urban sectors in the bike-lane network.
- Connect peripheral areas of the city to the bike-lane network, allowing cyclists to travel more easily to other zones of the city.

with a view to defining different proposals for action.

Study on bicycle use:

The criteria have been defined for the analysis of bicycle use in the city and to arrive at reliable data on that type of mobility. The administrative procedures have been completed and the study is underway.

Poster competition for bicycle use:

A poster competition has been organised to place posters (3x3 metres) in various parts of the city. The competition specifies that the spirit as well as the theme of CIVITAS-CARAVEL must be respected: Promotion of bicycle use. The annual bicycle festival in Burgos (Burgos En Movimiento - BEM) will be complemented by events to encourage bike use and bike-related performances.

The following working steps are currently on-going.

Preparation of a map of bike lanes in the city and other recommendations for bike use in the city:

Design of the map of bike lanes and other recommendations for bike use in the city.

Design of new networks to link bike lanes and possible new extensions:

The question is how to define the new sections, given the complexity of the city, and how to define the most satisfactory method, without having to undertake large-scale works.

Results

- 48 km of bike lane, the highest rate of km of bike lane per inhabitant of Spain
- More than 250 parking bike racks installed
- From 20-40 bikes per hour accounted in the main bike lane to more than 120-140 per hour
- Completely change of mind of the citizens

Author

Diego Fernandez Malvido (dfernandez@aytoburgos.es)

Contact

Diego Fernandez Malvido (dfernandez@aytoburgos.es)

Posted: 16-01-2009

In cooperation with:

