

Development of an intermunicipal SUMP for rural areas

Institutional cooperation

Denmark – Norddjurs and Syddjurs

→ Context, objectives and target group

The Municipalities Norddjurs and Syddjurs are two small rural municipalities close to the second largest city of Denmark, Aarhus. The municipalities are linked to Aarhus via a rail connection that is to be upgraded to a light rail connection with more frequent departures and shorter travel time within the coming years. To create synergies and enhance the role of the light rail connection as the back bone of the transport system in the area, the municipalities wish to conduct a common strategic SUMP.

→ Description of the activities

The development of a common strategic SUMP in cooperation by two municipalities has not been seen in Denmark before. Furthermore, the municipalities of Norddjurs and Syddjurs wish to involve the regional level (Region Midtjylland) and the local transport company in charge of rail and bus service in the area (Midttrafik) in the development of the SUMP.

Therefore it was very important to create the necessary support both at political level, administrative level and among relevant stakeholders. The SUMP team decided to start the process by involving the local Business Council (Djurslands UdviklingsRåd, DUR) – a council where representatives from the local businesses and political level from both municipalities meet twice a year to discuss the development of the municipalities.

The presentation at the Business Council meeting resulted in support from all the stakeholders for the continued development of the SUMP. As a result, the planning team could propose a



project plan and a budget to the two city councils, the region and the local transport company. The fact that the Business Council had already given its support to the development of the SUMP made the political decision easier, leading to adoption of the decision by a large majority in both municipalities as well as at the regional level and by the transport company.

The development of a common strategic SUMP was adopted by the city councils in autumn 2014. The final strategic SUMP is expected to be published during the summer 2016.

→ Communication

The main message presented at the Business Council meeting was that planning for intermodality and prioritizing all modes of transport is necessary if rural areas like Norddjurs and Syddjurs wish to attract more citizens and businesses. The target audience was politicians and business stakeholders. The presentation was held by the city manager of the municipality of Norddjurs. This signalled that the development of the strategic SUMP is a high priority at the administrative level of the municipalities.

→ Costs and who paid them

The two municipalities, the transport company and the region decided to fund the project together. The budget for developing the SUMP is 1,600,000 DKK (€ 213,000) over a two year period – 200,000 DKK (€ 26,000) per stakeholder per year.

→ Project objectives, indicators, data and impact/results

OBJECTIVE	INDICATOR	DATA USED	IMPACT/RESULTS
Support from relevant stakeholders	The business Council supports the development of a SUMP	Meeting summary	The development of a sump is adopted by the city councils, region and transport company

→ Barriers

A central barrier was the creation of a common understanding of what a SUMP is. Most stakeholders in the Business Council tended to have a more traditional understanding of traffic planning as developing the infrastructure to meet the growing demand of road borne traffic. It was therefore important to highlight why the plan should have a multimodal focus and why behavioral change should be targeted in the plan. This was done by presenting “the multimodal traveller” (mobilisten) as the traveller of the future.

→ Drivers

The already confirmed construction of a light rail route that will improve the rail connection from Norddjurs and Syddjurs to the City of Aarhus was a central driver that had a significant impact on stakeholders’ interest in the development of a strategic SUMP. The development of a SUMP that strives to improve access to and use of the light rail service was for the stakeholders a relatively small investment with potentially significant positive effects.

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→ Details

“Fra infrastruktur til mobilitet – mobilitetsplanlægning mellem ideal og virkelighed”,
Master thesis, 2015 (confidential)

Mobilitet på Djursland:
www.mobilitet-paa-djurs.dk



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