

POLIS | ANNUAL
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CITIES AND REGIONS FOR TRANSPORT INNOVATION

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KARLSRUHE (DE)

Transitioning to efficient and sustainable urban logistics – The journey of Utrecht



Baden-Württemberg
Ministry of Transport



Karlsruhe

Utrecht, a big old city port



Facilitated multimodal urban logistics 800 years ago.....

.... catalyst for multimodal urban logistics now



Dilemma

- Utrecht grows from **350k** to **450k** inhabitants by 2040
- Limited space for urban logistics
- No expansion of road infrastructure

But.....

- Limited alternatives for road transport
- Lack of urgency in logistics industry to change the system (frontrunners excluded)
- Access restrictions are often painful for businesses



Figures

Historic inner city

City of Utrecht



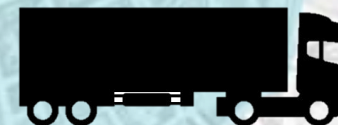
***Each
working
day***

9.000



34.000

1.000



3.500

Without policies:



Gemeente Utrecht

Action Plan Urban Logistics 2023-2026

Goal

Making urban logistics more sustainable and efficient (smarter) by 'taking control'

- 5% less logistics movements in 2026
- 50% less emissions from urban logistics
- 10% modal shift (boat and bike)

How?



Access Policy



Room for Logistics



Modal Shift



Bundling



Smart Logistics



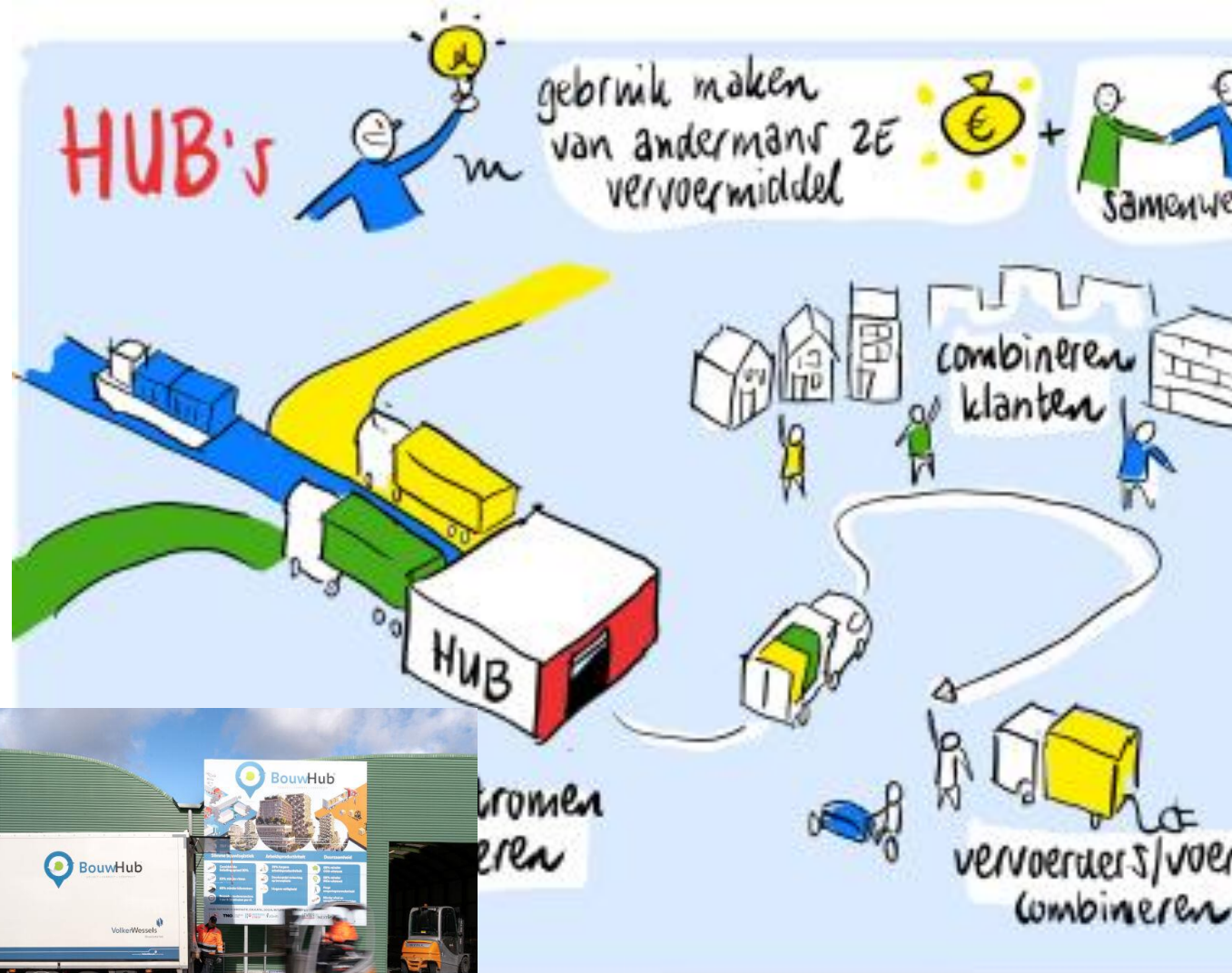
Access Policy

- Restricted access for heavy traffic
- Zero Emission Zone implementation January 1, 2025.
→ *Important but doesn't solve everything!*
- More privileges for clean, small and efficient
 - Wider or no window times
 - Use of bus lanes
 - Access to pedestrian zone



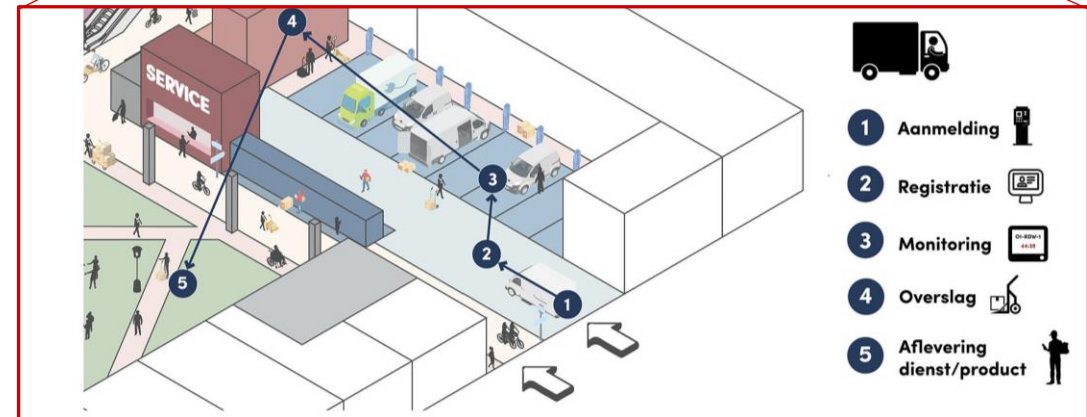
Bundling

- Urban Logistics Hubs
 - Retail
 - Construction
 - Fresh
- Local parcel hubs
- Promote, facilitate and stimulate



Room for Logistics

- Create and retain sufficient room for logistics in existing city
 - Logistics hubs
 - Microhubs
 - Loading zones
 - Indoor loading / unloading, unless....
- Integrate logistics into car-free neighborhoods (vehicle-free logistics)

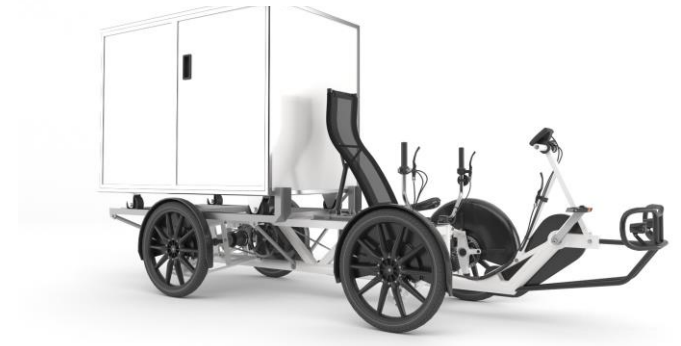
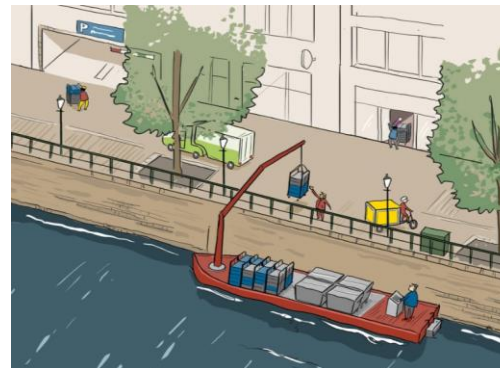
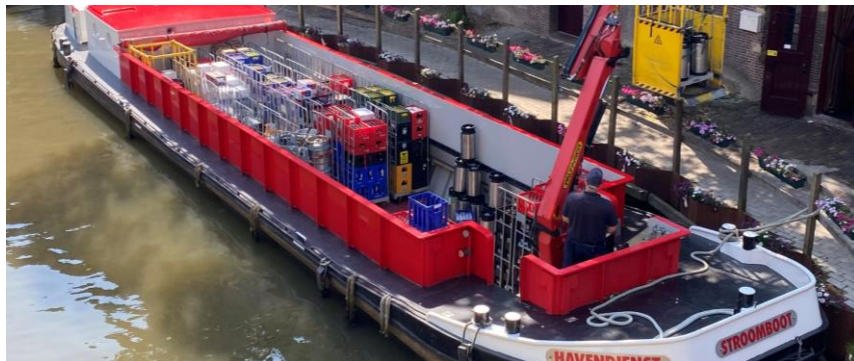
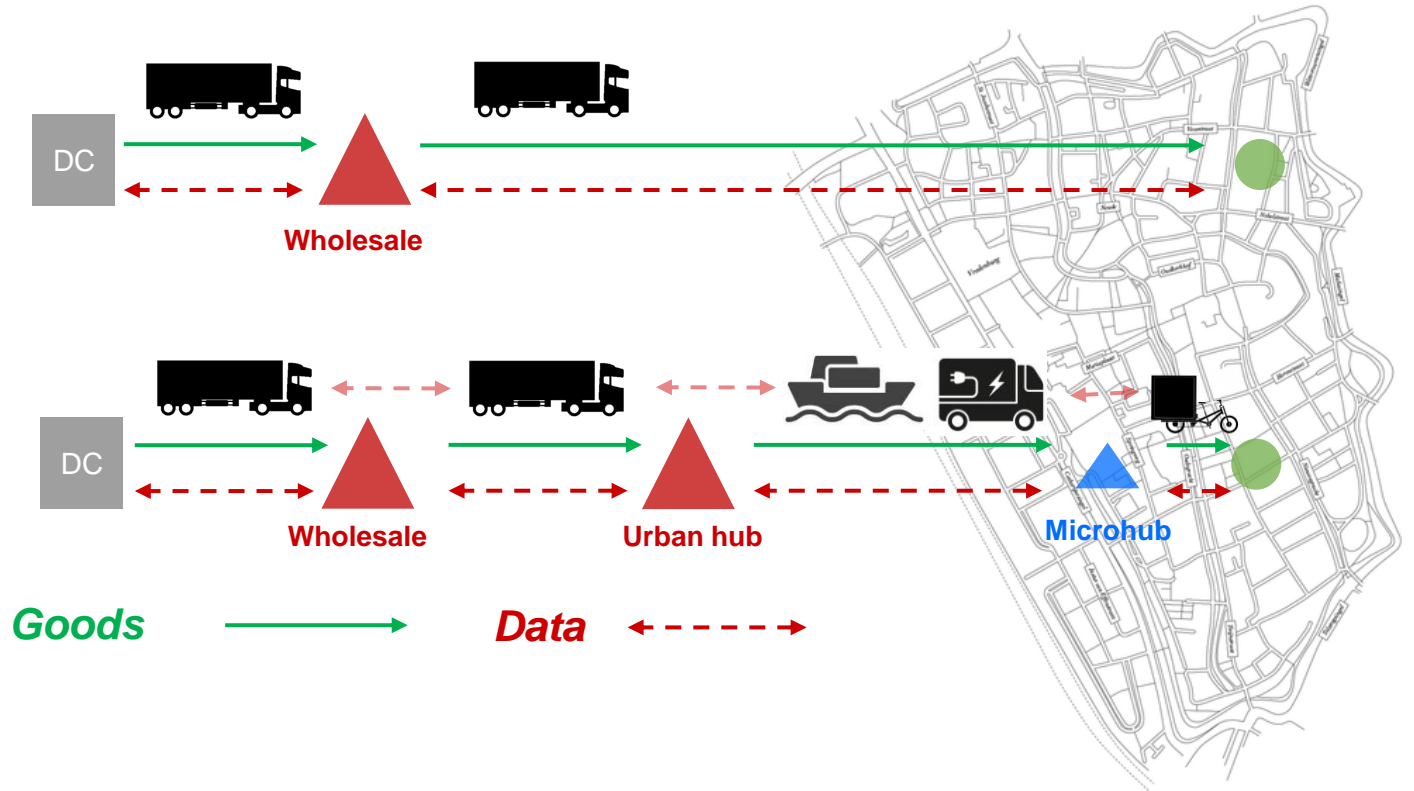


Modal Shift

Going from unimodal to multimodal

What's needed?

- Limit handling costs
- Containerisation of urban logistics
- Cooperation and exchange of data



Smart Logistics

- Monitoring & Visibility
- Make public space smart
- Smart Access
- Smart loading and unloading

Smart Logistics Solutions

Parking sensors

License plate cameras

Vision Tech

?



Challenges

After 1.5 years into the action plan, what are our biggest challenges?

- No off-the-shelf solutions
- Struggling with the role of the city, for example in the creation of hubs and bundling initiatives
- Access restrictions put pressure on other challenges, such as construction / transformation
- Internal lobby for priority in city (takes a lot of time)