

Cycling, the Dutch context

An introduction to a cycling nation

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The Dutch and their bikes



> Introduction



Senior Advisor Mobility City of Nijmegen, Netherlands Since 2001 design – 2006 policy *www.fietsberaad.nl*









Bicycle share in European countries



Urban mobility: trips to 7,5 km



Modal share all trips: 27%

Are the Dutch a special breed of people when it comes to cycling?

Is Dutch knowledge, practical experience and way of implementation usable in the Australian city context?



Traffic planning

- Integral transport policy
- > Cycling policy Promoting bicycle use Creating bicycle networks

 - **Bicycle parking**
- > Embedded policies
 - \rightarrow land use policy urban

development

 \rightarrow parking policy

 $\rightarrow \dots$

- > Pro-active road safety system
- Intermodality bikes and train

- > Some history
 - 70s: roadsafety as a precondition
 - national level
- > Why do people cycle?
- > Why promote?
- > SMARTcity:
 - > Embedded urban planning
 - > Basics road safety
 - > Creating networks and HQ routes
 - > Intermodality

Where did it all start?



The Hague, 1964



Cycling in European cities in the 20th century



Figure 5: Historical development in bicycle share in 9 European cities Source: A.A.ALbert de la Bruheze and F.C.A. Vervaart, Bicyle traffic in practice and policy in the twentieth century, 1999

Decrease 50s-60s- turningpoint 1973







Safety by numbers



Policy national level

- > 1950-1975 no policy laissez fare
- > 1976 subsidies
- > 1987 first complete cycle network
- > 1989 first national scheme
 - & masterplan fiets
- > 1999 law on liability
- > 2008 renewed regulation cycling sheds subsidie first super cycling highway







Legal context

- > High way code (RVV)
 - > Traffic signs
 - > Behaviour road users
- > Administrative regulations (BABW)
 > Procedures for road authorities

 Planning law traffic and transport
 > Defines relationship between national, provincial and local transport plans

Why do people cycle? Journeys by motive





Why do people cycle ? Amsterdam 70% (very) pleasant (23% very) 70%: 50% fast and easy 19% enjoying surroundings 17% sporty and healthy unpleasant: asocial trafficbehaviour, unsafety, scooters, trouble parking

Why do people cycle? (agegroup, Delft)



A van de fiets in Amsterdam, 1910-2010



Corner stones of Dutch cycling policies

- > Cycling: fully fledged mode of transport
- > Looking for the 'optimal mix'
 - > Utilizing strengths of each mode of transport
 - > Providing alternatives to mitigate negative impact
- > Unwritten but true knowledge:

cyclists make cities function



Optimal mix and freedom of choice

Cycling > Short trips < 7,5 (<15) > Inner urban trips > NEW: regional trips (e-bike 15k)

Public transport

- > Longer trips (train)
- > Mass transportation
- > Feeder trips required

Car

- > Longer trips
- > Thinly populated areas
- > Less or not suitable for dense urban areas
- > pay





> B. Individual level







Something about health



More health benefits bicycling

20-30% risk reduction chance of dying due to

- \rightarrow Coronairy hartdiseases, approx -/- 40%
- → Stroke -/- 20-25%
- \rightarrow -/- 40% diabetes 2
- → -/- 20-40% breastcancer

Less staying away from work (unfit)

Less obesitas

Cyclists are more fit and feel better/healthier

Fietsers zijn goede klanten



redenen om voorrang te geven aan de **fiets**

- 1. Bijna 40 procent van uw klanten komt op de fiets
- 2. Een fietser besteedt per week net zo veel als een automobilist
- 3. Fietsende klanten komen vaker in de daluren
- 4. Een fiets neemt tien keer zo weinig ruimte in als een auto
- 5. Goede fietsenrekken staan boven aan het wensenlijstje van klanten

Bicyclists are great customers



- 1. 40% of customers on a bike
- 2. A bicyclist spends the same amount (or more) per week
- 3. Customers on a bike come more often during off peak hours
- 4.A bike takes 10x less space than a car
- 5. Quality bicycle racks are top of list



Reason n° 1.

Urban planning Urban development Land use policies

Urban planning cityregion 1950



No and

From: Hybrid Landscapes - Must, 2004

Cities like Groningen: 60% all trips



Houten: smart transport system



Urban activities, short distances, restrictions car use, Urban quality of life

Reason n° 2.

Road safety

Safety: Functional Road Design

- > Road functions
 - > Flow
 - > Distributor
 - > Access
- > Balancing function, usage and design



City arterial: 50 of 70km/u

Low speeds, mixed street





Goals:

- > Minimise conflicts
 - > segregation, volume cars, unbundling
- > Minimise outcome of conflicts
 - > speeds, traffic calming
- > Allow for interaction between road users
 - > make sure they see each other
- > Provide safety margins
 - > don't add up minimum widths





Embassy

Reason n° 3.

Cycling network





5 main requirements

- > Coherence
- > Directness
- > Safety
- > Comfort
- > Attractiveness
- It all starts with Quality

And cycling policy should be: Continuous -- prolonged Integral -- embedded Consistent -- political attention, keep on investing

Quality

-

Million

RAAM



Regional collaboration

New horizon: e-bike





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The freedom of cycling!

You're invited!