

Promoting Walking in the Tampere SUMP

Interreg Europe's Webinar Series on Active
Mobility
Part II – Integrating walking into mobility and
transport policy

Sheba Nair
Researcher, Tampere University, Finland
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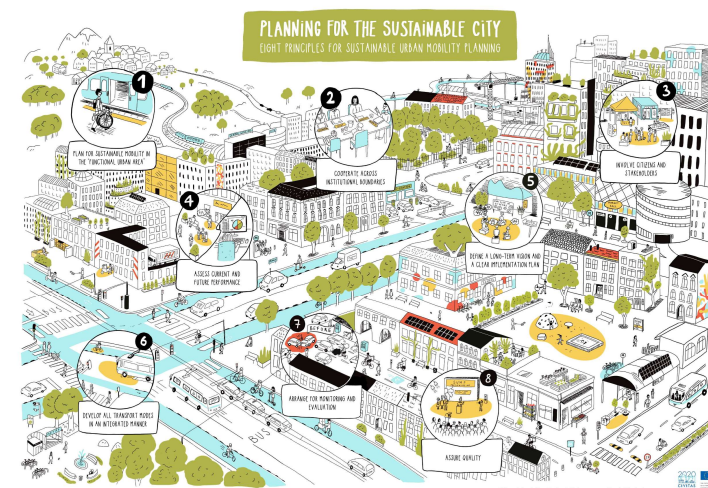
Tampere, Finland

- "Welcome to Tampere: Finland's Hidden Gem"
- Tampere is the third-largest city in Finland, located in Northern Europe between two large lakes, Näsijärvi and Pyhäjärvi.
- Known as the "Manchester of Finland" for its industrial history, now a vibrant hub for education, technology, and culture.
- Famous for its stunning natural beauty, saunas, and the unique Moomin Museum.



SUMP

- A Sustainable Urban Mobility Plan (SUMP) is a forward-looking strategy designed to tackle urban transport challenges comprehensively and sustainably.
- It emphasizes enhancing accessibility, efficiency, and reducing environmental impacts while prioritizing sustainable, integrated mobility solutions.
- Collaboration with stakeholders, including policymakers, transport providers, and citizens, is a key aspect of ensuring inclusive and effective planning.



SUMP of Tampere

- Tampere's Sustainable Urban Mobility Plan (SUMP) strategically addresses mobility needs, aiming to enhance quality of life. The plan prioritizes sustainability by promoting walking, cycling, and public transport, reducing car dependency, and supporting environmental health and efficient space utilization.
- SUMP aligns with the Climate Neutral Tampere 2030 roadmap, integrating mobility strategies with broader environmental goals. The plan focuses on equity, accessibility, and reducing emissions while enhancing safety and activity in urban spaces.
- The European Commission recommends the SUMP framework to tackle challenges like congestion, air quality, and climate change. Tampere uses this approach to create sustainable, human-centered urban mobility systems for a livable future.
- By 2030, Tampere aims for 69% of trips to be made using sustainable modes of transport, such as walking, cycling, or public transport. Achieving this goal requires persistent efforts and resource allocation for infrastructure and accessibility improvements.



"Walking is man's best medicine."

- Hippocrates

An ancient Greek physician

Walking in Tampere's SUMP

- Promoting walking is a core focus in Tampere's Sustainable Urban Mobility Plan (SUMP), which aims to enhance active mobility and achieve carbon neutrality by 2030. Walking contributes significantly to reducing emissions and improving public health in urban areas.
- The presentation explores Tampere's strategies to promote walking, including infrastructure improvements, public engagement, and safety measures. Key elements include rationale, implementation, costs, impacts, future goals, and lessons for other regions.
- Walking initiatives focus on creating a clean, livable city while reducing car dependency. Integrating walking paths with public transport ensures seamless mobility and enhances the overall quality of urban life in Tampere.



Rationale for Promoting Walking

- Achieving carbon neutrality by 2030 is a central goal of Tampere's Sustainable Urban Mobility Plan. Walking reduces emissions from short trips and supports the transition to sustainable mobility systems, aligning with Tampere's environmental and climate objectives.
- Walking promotes public health by encouraging active mobility. Reduced vehicle emissions improve air quality, leading to a healthier urban environment. Walkable cities also contribute to mental well-being and foster stronger community connections.
- Creating walkable urban environments enhances quality of life by reducing noise, improving accessibility, and fostering cleaner, safer streets. Prioritizing walking aligns with Tampere's vision of a sustainable, vibrant, and inclusive city.



Features of Walking Initiatives

- Walking infrastructure is expanded through connected pathways, wider sidewalks, and pedestrian-only zones. Enhancements ensure accessibility, safety, and comfort for all users, addressing mobility needs across diverse age groups and abilities in urban areas.
- Improved wayfinding systems and well-lit paths guide pedestrians effectively. High-quality crossings, traffic-calming measures, and pedestrian-friendly designs create safer environments, reducing conflicts between vehicles and walkers.
- Integration with public transport ensures seamless travel. Walking routes connect to bus stops, tram stations, and park-and-ride facilities, enabling convenient, multimodal journeys within the city.



Responsible Entities and Stakeholders

- Tampere City is responsible for implementing walking initiatives within the Sustainable Urban Mobility Plan. Collaboration occurs across departments, including city planning, transportation, and public works, ensuring a coordinated approach to infrastructure development and mobility planning.
- Community organizations and residents actively contribute through workshops, surveys, and consultations. Public input shapes pedestrian-friendly designs and policies, ensuring alignment with the needs and expectations of local communities.
- Partnerships with environmental groups and academic institutions provide additional expertise. These stakeholders contribute to innovative approaches and best practices for sustainable, pedestrian-oriented urban planning in Tampere.



Timeline of Walking Initiatives

- The Sustainable Urban Mobility Plan was approved in 2021, marking the start of systematic walking initiatives. Initial phases focused on planning, public consultation, and integrating walking into the broader mobility framework.
- Implementation is ongoing, with infrastructure improvements rolling out incrementally. Milestones include pedestrian path expansions, safety upgrades, and public engagement campaigns. Progress is tracked regularly to adapt strategies as needed.
- The goal is to create a fully walkable city by 2030. This timeline aligns with Tampere's carbon neutrality objectives, ensuring walking initiatives contribute to broader sustainability goals.



Financial Investment

- Walking initiatives are part of the €50 million budget allocated to sustainable mobility. This budget also supports cycling and public transport improvements, ensuring a cohesive and integrated urban mobility system.
- Specific allocations include infrastructure development, such as pedestrian paths, crosswalks, and safety upgrades. Public engagement campaigns to promote walking are also included, maximizing the impact of investments.
- Shared infrastructure, such as multi-use sidewalks for pedestrians and cyclists, optimizes resources. This approach ensures cost-effective implementation while meeting diverse mobility needs within the city.

Key Performance Indicators and Results

- Key performance indicators for walking initiatives include increased pedestrian traffic, reduced car dependency, and improved air quality. These metrics guide progress and ensure alignment with Tampere's carbon neutrality objectives.
- Early results indicate positive changes, with more residents choosing walking for short trips. Improvements in pedestrian safety and accessibility have received favorable public feedback.
- Enhanced public engagement has strengthened community support for walking initiatives. Regular feedback mechanisms ensure the city can adapt plans to address emerging needs and challenges effectively.



Vision for 2030

- The vision for 2030 includes walking as a primary mode of transport for short trips. Expanded pedestrian pathways, green spaces, and improved crossings will make walking safe, accessible, and enjoyable for all residents.
- Integration with public transport hubs will ensure seamless connectivity between walking routes and other sustainable mobility options. This approach strengthens Tampere’s commitment to reducing car dependency.
- The ambition aligns with Tampere’s goal of becoming a carbon-neutral, livable city. Enhanced pedestrian infrastructure will promote active mobility, fostering healthier communities and a cleaner urban environment.

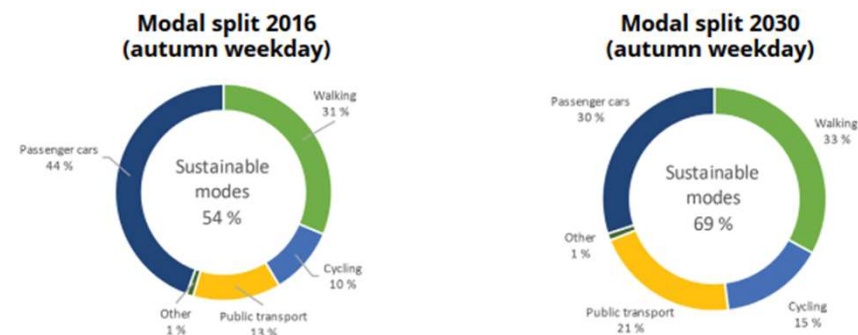


Image 64. The modal split in 2016 and the targeted modal split in 2030.

Lessons for Other Regions

- Regions should prioritize walking infrastructure as a foundation for sustainable mobility. Investments in safe, accessible pedestrian paths reduce car dependency and enhance urban livability.
- Community engagement is essential for successful implementation. Public input ensures walking initiatives address local needs and gain widespread support from residents.
- Regular monitoring and adaptability strengthen the impact of walking initiatives. Evaluating key performance indicators helps regions refine strategies and respond to emerging challenges effectively.



References

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Kiitos! Thank you!

*"A city that is good for walking
is a city that works for
everyone."*

Jan Gehl

Danish architect and urban design consultant

