

20 march
2025

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superblocks - a step towards the city of people?

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THURSDAY 20 March 2025 | 12:00 – 13:00 CET

Online (ZOOM)

Unil
UNIL | Université de Lausanne
Observatoire universitaire du
vélo et des mobilités actives

Superblocks – a step towards the city of people?

Superblocks represent an urban planning concept that prioritizes people over vehicles by transforming traditional city blocks into pedestrian-focused neighborhoods. These areas restrict through-traffic, creating safer, greener spaces where residents can walk, cycle, and gather.

Barcelona pioneered this approach, converting 9-block grids into community-centered spaces with increased green areas, playgrounds, and local businesses. The benefits are substantial: improved air quality, reduced noise pollution, stronger community bonds, and revitalized local economies.

Cities worldwide are now adopting similar models, tailoring them to local needs while maintaining the core principle of reclaiming urban spaces for human interaction. The presentation will focus on experiences in different cities. We'll examine how Brussels overcame initial resistance, the optimal site selection in Zurich and Barcelonas's challenges with business accessibility and other key factors.

conference series

This presentation is part of the conference series « making cities attractive for active mobilities » organized by OUVEMA with the support of the Competence Center in Sustainability and the Institute of Geography and Sustainability at the University of Lausanne.

registration

Please register using the link below:

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