

## Case Study:

# CREATION OF URBAN PATHWAYS FOR PEDESTRIANS IN VITORIA-GASTEIZ



## Project Summary

Vitoria-Gasteiz has traditionally been a walked city however regular surveys showed a declining trend in favour of cars and the authority responded with a SUMP in 2008 to boost the number of people going on foot to their destinations and make Vitoria-Gasteiz a more sustainable city

A Pedestrian Mobility Master Plan was produced, as part of the SUMP process which focused on delivering several 'super blocks' - where inner streets are entirely for people and not for vehicles - and a new network of urban pedestrian pathways, connecting the main urban activity hubs with walking-friendly public space where cars were minimised and priority given to pedestrians.

The government of the city council worked across the Environment, Mobility and Urbanism technical departments and further engaged the taxi community, residents, cyclists, ecologist, students and transport and technology companies to develop the policy in partnership.

The project tackled cultural change with an extensive communications campaign. There was a targeted engagement of neighbourhood leaders, citizens associations and others in a structured stakeholder forum.

Between 2009 and 2011 a pilot superblock was created and a pedestrian pathway was built linking the centre with the north of the city. The city had reallocated 29% of public space to pedestrians through the project and in response there was 55% more walking and 63% less cars in the area. A further mobility survey made in 2014 for the whole city showed walking back to the previous levels last experienced ten years before (55%) and 25 % less cars on the roads.

The city plans to extend the vision of pedestrian pathways to the whole city and to create more superblocks in other central neighbourhoods.



### LOCATION:

Vitoria Gasteiz, Spain



### ORGANISATION:

Vitoria Gasteiz City authority



### KEY OUTPUTS:

Pedestrian Mobility Master Plan; Walking Forum; reallocation of public space; Walkable 'superblocks'



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Urban pedestrian pathway in Vitoria-Gasteiz