



# EcoMobility

**PRIORITY FOR ECOMOBILITY IN OUR CITIES. A SERIES OF LOCAL STORIES**

## Lund, Sweden

### An ambitious city of ideas and innovation

**Summary:** In July 2011, Lund Municipality was awarded recognition as Sweden's most environmentally sustainable city. An area of sustainability in which Lund is especially strong is transportation. The municipality of Lund has a highly developed environmentally adapted transport plan (abbreviated to LundaMaTs) that has been extended to develop the transport system to encompass environmental, economical, and social sustainability (abbreviated to LundaMaTs II). The plan represents a long-term effort to reduce car travel and increase the proportion who walk, cycle, or travel by public transport.

#### Pedestrians

Pedestrian traffic in a small city like Lund is especially significant. That is, with the right infrastructure, most trips could be made on foot as most things are within walking distance. Most transport demands can be met by walking. The city has already closed several streets and squares to car traffic, and several more are limited to bus traffic during certain parts of the day. Lund is already an attractive pedestrian environment, but project proposals for further improvement include a pedestrian traffic plan, improved accessibility for the disabled, an increased number of safe outdoor environments.

#### Bicycle infrastructure

Lund is already one of Europe's foremost cycling cities. The municipality has made efforts to improve cycling infrastructure to make cycling appealing. Further plans include additional bicycle infrastructure improvements, bicycle traffic safety campaigns, and working with private and public actors to develop new ways to increase cycling. In Lund, 43% of all trips are made by bicycle. There are 5000 bike parking spaces in the town, including a multi-storey facility at the central train station, and 160 km of bicycle paths. There has been no increase in car usage for the past 10 years, and the city has ambitions of decreasing car use.



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**Lund Central Station Bicycle Facilities**

#### Decreasing car use and increasing transport safety

Statistics of kilometers driven by car annually, per inhabitant were measured. In 2010 the figure was 2 percent lower than the previous year, meaning that motorists in Lund slightly decreased their car use. Measured by the lowest mileage by car per capita is Lund in 5th place in Sweden, just behind Stockholm which ranks 4th. Alternatives to private automobiles are plentiful, thus making it quite easy to travel without a car. In addition to the options of cycling and walking, there is an accessible bus system that connects approximately 400 bus stops with 11 bus lines. The bus fleet is run on compressed natural gas, with a few smaller busses using diesel fuel.

Plans of introducing a tram network are currently underway, to allow for faster public transport with a greater passenger capacity. Lund is also well-connected to nearby Malmö, Sweden's third largest city, by train, bus, and bicycle path. Decreasing car use is also part of an effort to increase road safety, a measurement in which Lund ranks highly. Despite already being reputed as a city with high mobility safety, Lund has a vision of zero deaths and injuries from traffic. In the past 10 years, the city has halved the number of deaths and injuries from traffic accidents.

## Using technology to encourage reevaluation of modal choice

A new internet service is now available to people who wish to review their everyday travel choices. The online application allows people to compare different vehicles based on cost, time, environmental impact, and physical enrichment. The map uses a service known as the Open Street Map, a wiki map, where users constantly contribute by updating the content to improve its accuracy. Over time, the map becomes more and more refined.

## Plans for continuing and increasing EcoMobility

While Lund is already an outstanding example in many respects, the city continues to strive for higher levels of excellence in the field of sustainable transportation. These efforts are exemplified in the LundaMaTs II plan, which takes a broad approach and incorporates innovative interdisciplinary perspectives. The six areas within which concrete measures are organized: urban planning, pedestrian traffic, bicycle traffic, public transport, road transport, and commercial transport. Projects included in the action plan are: a pedestrian traffic plan, physical accessibility, coordinated goods transport, intelligent transport systems, and dozens more. These projects are intended as steps to reach the conditions that must exist (management, planning, implementation, follow up and cooperation) to meet the plan's vision and targets for sustainable transportation.

### Citizen awareness and involvement

As a university city with a high proportion of young people, youth involvement is often directed at environmental issues, with students organizing awareness-raising campaigns, or working with the city government to improve local sustainability. Lund is also home to a number of high tech companies and manufacturers, whose attention to sustainability can have a great impact.



Certain streets in Lund are closed to car traffic, allowing only busses and taxis as motorized vehicles on the streets.



Lund, Sweden

**The City of Lund** is located in southern Sweden and has a population of approximately 82,800 people. It is one of the oldest cities in present-day Sweden, founded around the year 990. It is also home to Lund University, one of Scandinavia's largest institutions for education and research. The city has a density of 3,215 inhabitants per km squared and covers a total area of 25.75 kilometers squared.

**Name:** Christian Ryden  
**Department:** Lunds kommun  
**Email:** christian.ryden@lund.se  
**Website:** [www.lund.se](http://www.lund.se)



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[ecomobility@iclei.org](mailto:ecomobility@iclei.org)  
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