



METAMORPHOSIS FACT SHEETS

Graz

Implemented measures of the Metamorphosis Project 2017 - 2020



Acknowledgements:

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 Preparation, coordination, compilation and editing: synergo GmbH, Zurich
 Final editing: Dr. Alan Wong, University of Southampton
 Layout: Breda University of Applied Sciences

Explanation

How to read the fact sheets

Outcome

The result describes how the measure was implemented in the respective city, the findings and details. How many times the measure was implemented, if it has been adapted or the number of persons reached.

Impact

The impact relates to the three project objectives set. The degree of achievement of the objectives is indicated in three stages (number of coloured elements). One: low impact; two: middle impact; three: high impact.



2 of 3 coloured.
impact level:
middle

Child friendliness: What impact does the measure have on child friendliness? How does the measure change the environment for children, in the short and long term?



1 of 3 coloured.
impact level:
low

Strengthening of neighbourly relations: How does the measure affect living together? Can the measure strengthen the relationship in the neighbourhood? Are people brought together?



3 of 3 coloured.
impact level:
high

Promotion of active mobility: How does the measure affect mobility behaviour? Is cycling and walking (and other non-motorised transportation) encouraged?

Process

Description of the individual steps for successful implementation (chronological order).

Implementation Details

Implementation details more or less indicate how much effort the measure involves. Both financial and personnel (time). It also indicates how far the measure can be extended to the geographical level.



2 of 3 coloured.
average effort:
two man-weeks

Personnel / time effort:

How many hours must be spent to plan, implement and evaluate the measure?

Indicated in working weeks, in three gradations: low (less than one week of individual work) average (two man weeks or more, collectively) and high effort (several parties and man-months of effort required).



1 of 3 coloured.
Typically for
just a street or
square.

Geographical extension of the measure:

How large is the effect?

Specified in three gradations:

- Typically for just a street or square.
- Wider neighbourhood impact or area
- Potentially city-wide application.



Costs for material, third-party costs and maintenance:

Graduated in three categories (number of coloured € signs).

1: 0 - 1000 €

2: 1001 - 15,000 €

3: more than 15,000 €

Valuation

The rating is on a scale of one to four, indicated in the symbol of a butterfly. The rating refers to cost-benefit, i.e. what is the effect of the implementation measured in terms of effort.

Recommendations

Based on the mistakes and experiences, the three most important suggestions were formulated as top tips. They should help to implement the measure successfully.

More information: <http://www.metamorphosis-project.eu/>



METAMORPHOSIS

BICYCLE TRAINING - GRAZ

Bicycle education is an important part of the curriculum for fourth graders in Austria. **Test results are alarmingly bad** in the City of Graz, compared to the countryside. This is due to the much more complex environments in our cities, and the schools are often not able to compensate for the lack of support and training. This bicycle training is much needed, as the bicycle training of FGM-AMOR (Mobility Research Association, Graz) is often the first chance for many children to **ride a bicycle in real traffic situations**. The local government supports this bicycle training for children.

Outcome

In total, **114 classes with around 2,000 children** were trained in dealing with real traffic situations. This was conducted by bicycle trainers associated with FGM-AMOR within the context of the Metamorphosis project. **Regular consultations with the local government** is taking place to **increase the effect** of this bicycle training, and to encourage more schools to participate.

Impact

Child-friendliness



Bicycle training can **help** children to **explore** the school surroundings and **to go to school by bicycle** on their own or accompanied by their parents.

Increase of neighbourhoodness



The neighbourhoods are explored by bicycle. Children are more motivated to **practice cycling together**. People living in the school surroundings interact with the training groups.

Promotion of cycling and walking



It is a direct **promotion of cycling**. It will impact parents too, by encouraging them to take their children to school through cycling and **reduce car use**.

Process

1. Find a sponsor for personnel costs and equipment.
2. Plan the supervisory duties with the school, according to the legal situation in your country/municipality.
3. Organise insurance for the bicycle training (highly recommended).
4. Train and educate the bicycle trainers (preferably not the teachers themselves) if necessary.
5. Start the training in a safe, traffic calm area, before progressing onto main roads.
6. Build the groups, with two trainers per group (cycling in the front and at the back of the group).

More information: <http://www.metamorphosis-project.eu/>



EU Metamorphosis Project



Low effort, typically individual - less than one man-week.



Potentially city-wide application.



Equipment costs for high-visibility vests, crayon, traffic cones, first aid kits etc. approx. € 300 - 500. Education of bicycle trainers and first aid courses: € 500 per trainer. Yearly operating costs: € 500 per class (organisation/ planning and execution).

Valuation



This measure can be implemented in every city. It is **easy to implement**, as there is just little equipment required to carry out the training. Children will remember the training for a long time, as it is **a substantial step in gaining independence** on learning how to cycle on their own.

Recommendations

1. **Funding** by the local authority and/or other sponsors will ensure that children from **low-income families** can also take part in the training (otherwise there are costs to pay).
2. The **less effort it takes** for schools, principals and teachers to participate, the **more likely they are to take part** (and encourage others to take part) in the training.
3. When cycling in real traffic situations, you **need to be certain about the legal responsibilities**. Supervisory duties have to be settled with the local educational authority.

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The project leading to this application has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement No 723375.



METAMORPHOSIS

EDUCATIONAL MATERIALS - GRAZ

Reducing traffic and reclaiming urban space is **not usually a topic included in the curricula of Austrian schools**. However, there are already good experiences with the integrating the topic of waste separation in the classroom, **where children acted as teachers to their parents**. The topic was brought back to the families via the children's homework, and this was **particularly successful in families coming from a migrant background**.

Outcome

Similar to waste separation, **good urban planning and traffic calming was integrated into the lessons** and these concepts were transferred home to pupil's families. The topic was approached through teaching booklets and instructions at the second and fourth elementary school level. **Each child became a "travel detective"** and investigated the topic indoors and outdoors by examining their way to school in all its aspects, including taking measurements and identifying dangerous spots. The "travel detective" booklets for second and fourth graders is available under the following links:

[For second graders](#)

[For fourth graders](#)

Impact

Child-friendliness



The activity is carried out and disseminated by children, and the benefits are also felt by children when they succeed in **calming the neighbourhood streets** from car traffic.

Increase of neighbourhoodness



The programme benefits not only for the immediate neighbourhood surrounding the school, but also **stimulates discussion** in the children's and parents' neighbourhoods.

Promotion of cycling and walking



The educational materials also contain **many instructions** that refer to the usage of **active mobility** on the way to school.

Process

1. Engage schools with basic information on the topic.
2. Communication with interested schools.
3. Downloading, (translating) and distributing the teaching materials.
4. Support the schools with working material.
5. Create (temporary) car-traffic exemptions around the schools.
6. Support requests for traffic calming from the families' housing estates (this is likely to follow).



Low effort, typically individual - less than one man-week.



Potentially city-wide application.



Low costs for printing and copying materials. 20 pedometers per class come to about € 150 - 250. Measuring tapes, clipboards and street chalks, approx. € 50. If desired: temperature gauge € 300 - 500, air gauge € 100 - 300.

Valuation

The materials **can be used in any city**. It is only necessary to translate into local languages and/or **adapt to local conditions**. In Graz, the feedback from the teachers was **very positive**, and the parents were also **very satisfied** with the information.

Recommendations

1. The use of these educational materials has already had an **awareness-raising effect**.
2. Try it out for any age level, and develop **further materials** according to other level (ages) if required.
3. **Combining this simultaneously with (temporary) car exemptions** in the school environment **improves the effectiveness** of the educational material.

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METAMORPHOSIS

GARTEN FÜR ALLE - GRAZ ('Gardens for All')

During Metamorphosis, various **urban gardening projects** were implemented temporarily and permanently in Graz. One garden was implemented with the youth street work institution, containing **150m² of raised beds within a living room setting**. Another was set up in cooperation with neighbourhood centres on underused green space and unused squares. The aim was **to green the public space**. Neighbours were invited to plant beds and look after the gardens. **Coffee parties, neighbourhood meetings and workshops** were held on site every week. Several workshops on plant swapping, energy conservation and local food production also took place.

Outcome

Citizens experience how urban greening and additional seating can **increase the quality of life** within the city. The **durations of stay** in public space are also **significantly increased**. The citizens are also confronted with the need to co-design public space. This, and the gardens themselves **increase the communication and relationships** between neighbours. Networking of people living and working near by is **strengthened** and **awareness** of the benefits of urban greening, sustainability and local food production is increased. The public space is temporarily 'adopted', with the **participation of citizens and integration of different groups** (e.g. school workshops, kindergartens).

Impact

Child-friendliness



Young people can be involved in the preparation process and in the implementation. The urban garden **creates a child-friendly place** to meet and play.

Increase of neighbourhoodness



All kinds of people can tend the garden together, thus **creating a living space to meet and share time**. This also creates a feeling of belonging.

Promotion of cycling and walking



Urban gardening projects **enliven the neighbourhood** and generate a friendly environment, which encourages an **increase in walking and cycling**.

Process

1. Research the space needed for project and planning of the infrastructure.
2. Clarify legal issues and what cooperation is needed (who, when, where, what, how).
3. Prepare implementation (e.g. school workshops, invitation letters, public announcement).
4. Construction of garden(s).
5. 'Usage' and taking care of gardens.
6. Dismantle or keep garden (i.e. decide if seasonal).
7. Evaluate urban gardening intervention.
8. Repeat action in the following years if required.

More information: <http://www.metamorphosis-project.eu/>



EU Metamorphosis Project



Average effort, collective - two man-weeks or more.



Potentially city-wide application.



Investment cost dependent on size and material of the garden. One raised bed: € 300. Yearly operating costs: permit costs € 120; plus costs for transport and storage, soil and plants.

Valuation



Gardens offer a great opportunity to **improve people's the quality of life**. Attractive public spaces encourage a more differentiated perception of how public space is used. Urban gardening projects, which take place directly next to streets and squares, particularly point to the **dichotomy between individual motorised traffic use and community improved quality of life**.

Recommendations

1. **Involve people** in urban greening projects - community groups as well as local neighbourhoods and citizens.
2. **Consider maintenance:** somebody has to look after the garden(s) and keep them clean.
3. **Usability of the urban garden:** e.g. seating options increase the duration of stay, growing edible plants bind users to return to the garden.

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METAMORPHOSIS

VORSTADTGARTEN - GRAZ ('Suburb Garden')

Following the success of the urban gardening intervention 'Gardens for all' in Graz, raised plant beds (which included seating) were distributed to various neighbourhood streets. The beds were **built and planted together with young people and school pupils**. Many local shops/businesses have adopted one of the beds and **take care** of them permanently. People do not want to miss the urban greenery as the gardens **makes the dull streets more colourful**, and they serve as a social meeting point. With the support of the City management even more **companies** could be **integrated** into the scheme and the project could be extended further in time and on locations.

Outcome

Citizens experience how **street design can change their environment**, and how urban green and seating **can increase the quality of life within the city**. The involvement of local shops/businesses has **strengthened identification** with the district, and communication among these have increased. The garden also **increased communication and empowered relationships** among people in the neighbourhood, and increased their awareness of urban greening, sustainability and local food production.

Impact

Child-friendliness



Children and young people were **involved** in the planning and construction. The raised beds were **used for gardening, seating and to embellish** the public space.

Increase of neighbourhoodness



This measure especially strengthen the **community between local shops and businesses** in the neighbourhood. The green oasis is used for breaks and meetings.

Promotion of cycling and walking



Urban gardening projects **enliven the neighbourhood and generate a friendly environment**, which can led to an increase in walking and cycling.

Process

1. Research the space needed for the project and planning of the infrastructure.
2. Clarify legal issues and what cooperation is needed (who, when, where, what, how).
3. Prepare implementation (e.g. invitation letters to local people/shops/businesses, public announcement).
4. Construction of raised beds with children.
5. 'Usage' and taking care of the beds.
6. Consider dismantling the garden(s) in winter months.
7. Evaluate urban gardening interventions.
8. Repeat action in the following years if required.



Average effort, collectively - two man-weeks or more.



Potentially city-wide application.



Investment cost dependent on size and number of raised beds. One raised bed: € 300. Yearly operating costs: permit costs € 120; costs for transport and storage, soil and plants.

Valuation



Urban gardens offer a **great opportunity** to improve people's quality of life in cities. The **involvement of the local Shops and businesses strengthened the neighbourhood**. However, in the end, some raised beds were used purely as a **small green oasis** in the City. While this significantly improved appearance, the interaction with people living in the district was **only partially increased**.

Recommendations

1. **Involve your local city management** to reach more businesses and obtain **long-term permission for large-scale deployment**.
2. Make **clear agreements** with local companies, especially with regard to maintenance, installation and dismantling.
3. **Usability of raised beds:** seating options increase the duration of stay; consider the possibility of events on site; growing edible plants bind users to return to the garden.

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METAMORPHOSIS

'KLANGDOME' AND 'STROHBROID' - GRAZ

As part of the annual Lendwirbel festival, the Klangdome installation was set up on an empty, unused square. Klangdome is **a tent made out of wood and tarpaulin** in the form of a **geodesic dome with a special audio system**. The Strohbooid tent (with a size of 70m²) was erected in the same way in the following year. The tents provided a **home for various performances, workshops, readings and concerts**. It functions as a 'crystallisation' or central meeting and **gathering point**. In bad weather, both constructions are well protected by a rainproof fabric. In good weather the fabric can be removed, and the installation is perfectly integrated into the events, inside and out.

Outcome

Infrastructures with multi-functional design makes it easier for people to use the space, and their **curiosity is increased**. Furthermore, they may **exchanging ideas** and finding a common process of use, as the tents offer a **feel-good atmosphere** for many projects. They are easily accessible and have a low entry threshold, while at the same time offering weather and other protections which increases the quality of many projects. Citizens **experience how unused space can be transformed** into an open and friendly space for everyone. These crystallisation points **increase the quality of life** for people in the city and bring them out of their homes into the public space.

Impact

Child-friendliness



A special tent offers a **wide range of possible uses**, specially for children and young people. It offers a safe and **peaceful atmosphere** for relaxation and play.

Increase of neighbourhoodness



The diverse program attracted a wide variety of people. There were **lively exchanges between people** and the identification with their own neighbourhood increased.

Promotion of cycling and walking



Such measures **change people's perceptions** of their neighbourhood, and as a result, can encourage active mobility since people use bicycles or go by foot more often.

Process

1. Research into companies who can provide the infrastructure.
2. Research the space needed for the project.
3. Clarify legal issues and what cooperation is needed.
4. Prepare implementation (e.g. workshops, invitation letters to people in the neighbourhood, public announcement), connect participants.
5. Construction of the crystallisation point.
6. Use, play and celebrate.
7. Take down/dismantle.
8. Evaluate crystallisation point.



Average effort, collectively - two man-weeks or more.



Potentially city-wide application.



Operating costs: € 6,000 for Klangdome rent and € 4,000 for Strohbooid rent, including construction, supervising, deconstruction and transport. € 300 for permit costs. € 500 material costs for workshops and side programmes.

Valuation



A **unique atmosphere** was created with the tents, as they define a protected area and are easily **accessible**. This atmosphere was also supported by being part of a festival. A **pull effect** is created by people already lingering, who in turn **attract newcomers** to spend time in the same space, which is important for the identification with the place/site.

Recommendations

1. Bring **interested parties** together beforehand to develop a **holistic programme**. Pay special attention to target groups. The programme does not have to be continuous, as **breaks** offer people the **opportunity to network**.
2. Determine the **people in charge** of each part.
3. **Find a suitable place**; easy to reach and suitable for the programme.

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METAMORPHOSIS

PLUS/MINUS - GRAZ

The 'Lendplatz Süd' square is dominated by a large car park, a farmers' market and gastronomy stands. Many families live in the area, but there are no playgrounds nearby. During the Lendwirbel festival it was made car-free for ten days. The installation **Plus/Minus - Gemeinsam Raum schaffen** of Studio Magic (a Graz collective) formed the central and starting point of this project. Through the **participation of local** residents, schools and other interested parties, a structure of wooden struts and frames was built, which resulted in a **public living room**, or a place where people could linger, meet, and spend time after shopping at the farmer's market or to have a coffee break.

Outcome

Children and families especially **made good use of this new space**, because there is a general lack of playgrounds and other social spaces in the neighbourhood. In addition, a **relaxed, friendly atmosphere** is created, through the space being free from commercialised outlets, while at the same time offering people the opportunity to buy food and drinks from surrounding shops, should they wish to. People also realised **the potential of this place without cars**, and recognised how such newly-created places can **increase the quality of life** for many people. The installation was truly inspiring. Different parts of the installation were then given away to kindergartens, schools and museums.

Impact

Child-friendliness



Through the **integration of schools and kindergartens** from the planning phase onward, the children helped designing and shape the place. It became 'their' place.

Increase of neighbourhoodness



Through the open concept of the structure, different forms of **participation** were created. The **interaction** between neighbours as well as with the surrounding businesses increased.

Promotion of cycling and walking



The transformation of parking spaces to common-space directly influenced the mobility behaviour of local people. The measure **encouraged people to travel by bike or walk** instead of using the car.

Process

1. Research the companies who can provide the knowledge and infrastructure.
2. Research the space needed for the project.
3. Clarify legal issues and what cooperation is needed.
4. Prepare implementation (e.g. school workshops, invitation letters, public announcement).
5. Construction of Plus/Minus (or other structures).
6. Use, play, and celebrate.
7. Document the process of building and usage.
8. Deconstruct.
9. Evaluate the project.

More information: <http://www.metamorphosis-project.eu/>



EU Metamorphosis Project



High effort, several parties and man-months of effort required.



Wider neighbourhood impact or at area level.



Investment cost: € 8,000 for material, planning and construction, supervising. € 600 for permit costs, street and parking lot closure.

Valuation



Through an **interactive process** with local residents, businesses, schools and kindergartens, a **long-term identification and redesign** of a square can be achieved. The opportunity to **participate actively** in the design of the sculpture was perceived as very positive. When an entire parking area is blocked, **intensive communication** is necessary.

Recommendations

1. **Involve** schools and the neighbourhood in the **development process of the project**, and update people on the planning progress.
2. In order to free up a larger area from cars, it is necessary to **contact the relevant authorities** in the city administration at an **early stage**. Also, to create a long-term design for the square, not only a best practice example is needed, but also a **good concept and local support** (involving companies and district heads).
3. **Communicate** with people who use the parking lot (e.g. farmers whose buyers use the lot, neighbouring businesses, and residents).

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METAMORPHOSIS

NEIGHBOURHOOD MAP - GRAZ

The dominant car traffic that exist across the City **makes it difficult for children** to explore their own districts. Therefore, children **hardly ever go out** on their own, to get to know their own neighbourhoods. **They know places that are further away better than nearby ones**, as they go there with their parents for exploration trips. However, a map made by children now show other children **great places** to explore in their own neighbourhood.

Outcome

The **district was explored**, with groups of children, and the interesting things, including beautiful, exciting, funny or curiosities, were **recorded on a city map**, along with potentially dangerous and disturbing situations. Four routes involving children through the district were described in this way, with a small link and shown on a child-friendly map. This document then formed the **basis for schools and kindergartens in local district excursions**. A total of four primary schools, with 28 classes, as well as three kindergartens and three children's organisations used the booklets and maps/cards. In the first edition, 1,000 copies were made available to children across the district.

Impact

Child-friendliness



Increase of neighbourhoodness



Promotion of cycling and walking



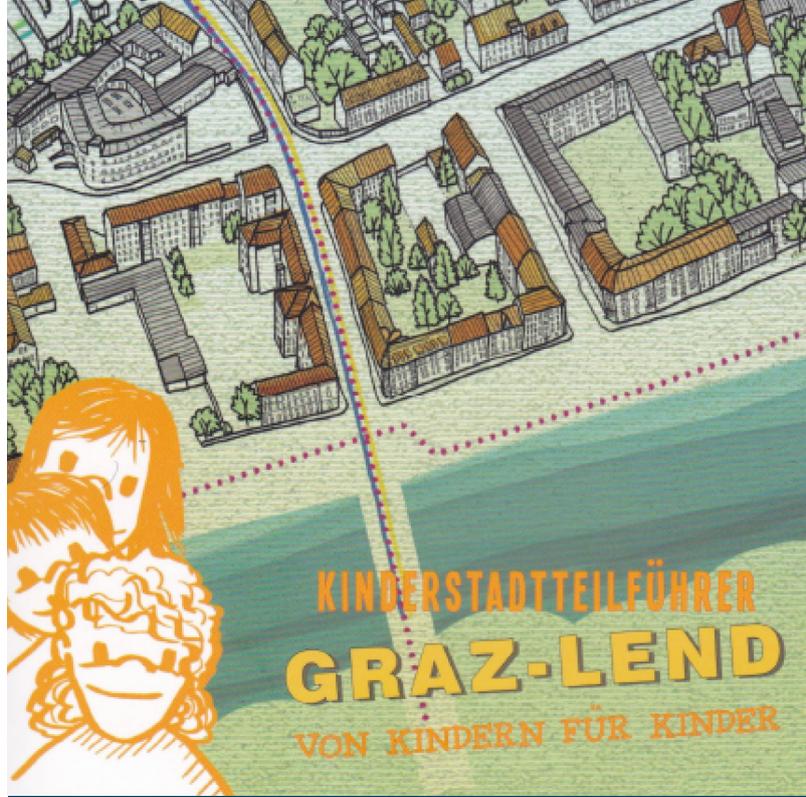
"Hidden treasures" in the neighbourhood **motivate children** to spend more time in the neighbourhood. This is a first step towards reclaiming public space for child use.

Children are often a trigger for communication between adults. In this way, **contacts are made** and neighbourly **relationships are established or strengthened**.

Since the map is aimed at primary school children, **walking or scooter riding is typically used** for the exploratory tours.

Process

1. Define the area for the map.
2. Search for project partners, clients and sponsors.
3. Contact schools and start planning the project.
4. Inspect the sites with groups of children with on-site documentation.
5. Creation of the routes in the plan.
6. Edit the text and illustrations of the booklet and plan the design in a child-friendly way.
7. Printing and distribution in schools, kindergartens and children's organisations.



Average effort, collectively- two man-weeks or more.



Potentially city-wide application.



Investment cost about 200 – 250 hours for concept, the walks with children and documentation. € 2,000 - 3,000 for design and € 1,000 for printing costs of maps and booklets.

Valuation



The measure is **easy to replicate**, and can be sensibly applied across every district, and to other cities.

Recommendations

1. **Work together** with children and youth organisations to conduct the surveys.
2. **Communicate** with schools through official channels.
3. Support the action with **community resources** if possible.

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METAMORPHOSIS

HYBRID ZONES - GRAZ

Hybrid zones are **where the private and public realm meet**. Examples include the transformation of large pavements into a 'living room', or when hairdressers or bicycle repair shops **perform their work on the street**: it creates a subtle transition zone in which **social contact and interaction** with neighbours and visitors is encouraged. This creates a feeling of neighbourliness. From 2017 to 2019, five areas in the district of Lend in Graz were transformed temporarily into hybrid zones, for between one to seven days. The streets were closed to motorised traffic, and many local businesses and neighbours took part in the action, to collectively make the neighbourhood **lively and colourful**.

Outcome

Hybrid zones offer small shops/businesses the opportunity to **get in touch** with their customers more easily, and reach a wider audience. With each implementation, **more businesses participated** and the services offered became more diverse. For example, there were open-air living rooms, shop window concerts or lectures, outdoor hairstyling, screen printing workshops, outdoor workplaces, fashion fairs, outdoor craft workshops and stands. The participating shops, bars and business services do not have many children as customers. However, family members who work at these locations as well as their customers now like to bring their children with them, more often than before.

Impact

Child-friendliness



It makes neighbourhood **child-friendlier**. Children can **discover** and try new things. They can more easily meet other children and the **radius** of their movement **increases**.

Increase of neighbourhoodness



Hybrid zones encourage people to spend time in public spaces and **interact** with each other – residents, shop owners and business people.

Promotion of cycling and walking



People spend more time in the neighbourhood, which changes their **perceptions and mobility behaviour**. People often travel more by bicycle or on foot.

Process

1. Research the space needed and willing businesses.
2. Clarify legal issues and what cooperation is needed (who, when, where, what, how).
3. Prepare implementation according to the deal.
4. Construction of hybrid zone - street closure.
5. Put hybrid zone in action.
6. Deconstruct.
7. Evaluate hybrid zones.
8. Repeat action including lessons-learnt.



Average effort, collective - two man-weeks or more.



Potentially city-wide application.



Investment costs were covered by the participants by themselves. Yearly operating costs: permit costs and allocate for street closure (depending on duration, space and size of hybrid zone).

Valuation



Hybrid zones offer a **great opportunity** to improve the quality of life in cities. Inhabitants enjoy the creation of these creative and social environments. Roads become **more lively, colourful and attractive**. Private and public spaces are starting to **merge**. Residents and companies connect, meet and spend time together in these spaces.

Recommendations

1. Try out the zones initially as a **temporary activity**, but repeat it and try to make them permanent.
2. **Communication is key**. It is important to communicate what hybrid zones are: a social place to **strengthen the neighbourhood**, not a commercial action. There is no need for mass advertising or branding on the street.
3. It is important to **encourage local businesses and neighbours actively** to try out the on-street activities. It helps to show them examples of what it could look like. It might also be helpful to connect different local businesses and neighbours to try the scheme together on a smaller scale for the first time.

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METAMORPHOSIS

NEIGHBOURHOOD BREAKFAST - GRAZ

“Die Scherbe” is a well frequented restaurant and bar in the neighbourhood of Lend. The owner and his team are well involved with the neighbourhood. With the opening of their large windows, they bring life to the street in front the restaurant and blur the distinction between private and public space. During international “**Mobility Day**”, the street in front of the restaurant was closed to motorised traffic, and “Die Scherbe” organised a public breakfast where people brought their own food or bought it in the café. In the opened windows, a band played some music, and games encouraged people to stay. The action was very well visited by local residents and visitors to mobility day.

Outcome

This is one example **where people can see how their streets change**, when instead of cars or parking lots there is common space available, including room for a breakfast table, a table-tennis table, etc. Small businesses can use these opportunities to establish a better connection with people and their customers. Both visitors and people from the neighbourhood can **get to know each other**, or can network or keep in touch more easily. The concept of people bringing their own food encourages them to share. The length of stay in the public space is significantly increased. Citizens recognise they can use the public space themselves, and more children and young people can be counted.

Impact

Child-friendliness



Hybrid zones make a neighbourhood more **child-friendly**. With a street opening for a public breakfast, childrens’ freedom of movement increases significantly.

Increase of neighbourhoodness



The public breakfast encourages people to spend more time in public spaces and **interact with each other**.

Promotion of cycling and walking



People spend more time in the neighbourhoods, which changes their **perceptions and mobility behaviour** – people often travel more by bicycle or on foot.

Process

1. Research the space needed and willing busniesses.
2. Clarify legal issues and what cooperation is needed (who, when, where, what, how).
3. Prepare implementation according to the deal.
4. Construction of public breakfast - street closure.
5. Hybrid zone in action.
6. Deconstruct.
7. Evaluate hybrid zones.
8. Schedule as first action.
9. Public reation and announcements.



Average effort, collectively - two man-weeks or more.



Typically for just a street or square.



The restaurant owner paid their own costs. Yearly operating costs include permit costs and costs for street closure (depending on duration, space and size of hybrid zone).

Valuation



Hybrid zones **enliven a city** and **bring people together**. Private and public space start to **merge**, and people begin to show more interest in this space and start to shape it. The measure implemented depends on the **local initiative of people**, as the example of the restaurant “Die Scherbe” shows.

Recommendations

1. Try out the zones initially as a **temporary activity**, but repeat it and try to make them permanent.
2. **Communication is key**. It is important to communicate what hybrid zones are: a social place to **strengthen the neighbourhood**, not a commercial action. There is no need for mass advertising or branding on the street.
3. It is important to **encourage local businesses and neighbours actively** to try out the on-street activities. It helps to show them examples of what it could look like. It might also be helpful to connect different local businesses and neighbours to try the scheme together on a smaller scale for the first time.

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More information: <http://www.metamorphosis-project.eu/>



METAMORPHOSIS

LIVING SPACE LABORATORY - GRAZ

The public square, Lendplatz, is divided into a **market square with a farmers market and a large car park**. There are no commercialisation-free communal areas or playgrounds, although many families with children live in the area. During international "Mobility Day" in 2017, the **car park and roads were closed and converted into child-friendly living spaces**. Children, schools and adults could take part in various games, exchange ideas in their neighbourhood or school environment, and try out cargo bikes. **The closure was repeated several times**. The aim was to show the qualities this space can provide when it is not used by cars or for car parking.

Outcome

By **repeatedly blocking off the parking** lot for cars, the **potential for the neighbourhood** in terms of car-free use of the square was shown to local people, visitors and the city administration. Many different people from the neighbourhood took advantage of these changes. In work shops, the participants learned more about their neighbourhood. In the beginning people were afraid of losing their parking space, and **it takes time to convince the (car-using) residents of the advantages** of a car-free space. The City of Graz especially had to be convinced of this project, and be willing to change the existing situation. However, after the blockade was repeated several times, the acceptance from car owners actually increased.

Impact

Child-friendliness



Playgrounds and exercise areas for children and adults make a neighbourhood more child-friendly.

Increase of neighbourhoodness



A market area is a **central meeting place** and strengthens both **identification and social cohesion** in a neighbourhood.

Promotion of cycling and walking



A car-parking **free zone** around the market **encourages people** to use **public transport or bicycle** more when they go shopping.

Process

1. Planning the closure as well as possible activities.
2. Research the space needed and willing participants
3. (schools, small businesses, institutions, etc.).
4. Get in touch with local officials.
5. Clarify legal issues (approval for street closure).
6. Prepare implementation and communications.
7. Carry out the action.
8. Gain feedback about closure from locals.
9. Evaluate the intervention in public space.
10. Repeat closure at same place.
11. Start discussion for long-term changes.

More information: <http://www.metamorphosis-project.eu/>



EU Metamorphosis Project



Average effort, collectively - two man-weeks or more.



Typically for just a street or square.



Yearly operating costs: € 300 for permit costs, and parking lot closure. Budget for the intervention depends on size.

Valuation



During the parking blockade, the full potential of the Lendplatz as a **meeting point** became visible, also because it became **more child-friendly**. It was used for various events. The more often the square was opened, the more people were in favour of a long-term change. That started discussions in the city administration to **check long term solutions**.

Recommendations

1. The **place** must be **lively** in the closed area. Try to **attract** as many people as possible to join the activities through **different programmes and attractions**.
2. **Repeat the closure** of the parking lot many times. People need time to get used to it.
3. **Involve city administration** at an early stage of planning.

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The project leading to this application has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement No 723375.



METAMORPHOSIS

LEI(N)WÄNDE - GRAZ

The public space intervention **Lei(n)wände** is a combination of **outdoor pallet seating furniture and an oversized wooden screen**. On the white canvases, children and adults can **share their wishes for a child-friendly neighbourhood**. The canvases were also used to ask people about the quality of life in their city, including urban gardening, mobility choice, habits etc. People were also invited to get creative and draw on them and about **20 screens were set up in public places**, with associated seating and **on parking lots, which could not then be used by cars**.

Outcome

The colourful screens **can improve the quality of stay** in unused public spaces. The intervention is **inexpensive and effective**. Old recycled wooden pallets and chipboard were used as base materials. Afterwards, the screens were painted white and a resistant wooden board was mounted as a surface for sitting. Children had fun participating. One school class was invited to draw their wishes for a friendly green Graz on the screens. Many people used the seating option to rest or meet friends. Questions asked on the screens **encourage residents and pedestrians** to think about their own living environment. Schools, institutions and local businesses were **involved in the design** and can take partnership ownership of one of the screens.

Impact

Child-friendliness



Increase of neighbourhoodness



Promotion of cycling and walking



The space can be a **playground for children with no limits**. They can hide behind the screens, paint them or make themselves comfortable and read a book or have a chat. People **meet, exchange ideas** and get to **know each other**. It strengthens the identification with the own neighbourhood and brings people together.

No direct promotion, but **attractive squares** encourage people to walk or cycle in their neighbourhood.

Process

1. Research the space needed and willing participants. neighbours, schools/kindergartens, small businesses etc.
2. Clarify legal issues and clarify cooperation.
3. Prepare implementation, design and build screens.
4. Install the screens in public space.
5. Gain feedback from users and city officials.
6. Deconstruction or permanent installation.
7. Evaluate the intervention in public space.
8. Repeat action in the following months including lessons-learnt and a tougher time schedule to the first action.
9. Public relation and announcements.

More information: <http://www.metamorphosis-project.eu/>



EU Metamorphosis Project



Low effort, typically individual - less than one man-week.



Potentially city-wide application.



Investment cost for construction material, and colours to draw on the canvas wooden screens. Yearly operating costs for permit costs depend on where the places are (sidewalk, parking lot, squares etc).

Valuation



The Lei(n)wände intervention is a **low-cost and effective** method of temporarily designing public spaces. In addition to new seating possibilities, the paintable canvases create a place to **exchange thoughts and desires**. Depending on the concept, different institutions can participate in the design and conception. There are no limits.

Recommendations

1. Involve as **many different stakeholders** as possible in the development and implementation process.
2. Try to make the **participation as easy and flexible** as possible. Find somebody who takes care of the screens.
3. **Implement** screens in **places with little quality** of stay, the more the better.

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METAMORPHOSIS

CARPET DISKO & DANCE KARAOKE - GRAZ

Under the motto **“Dance Karaoke! We film - you dance!”**, brave people dance on a carpet in public space during the annual neighbourhood Lendwirbel festival. The filming **takes place over several days** on various squares and closed streets in the Lend district. The dancers have different ages and backgrounds. Most **live or work in Lend** or are well known in the neighbourhood. After collecting and cutting the film material, **the finished video is projected on a house wall**. The public space then becomes a dance floor, and the crowd tries to imitate the movements of the actors/dancers as well as possible.

Outcome

The public space is **transformed into a large public dance floor**. The intervention brings people together and is great fun. It is very participatory and is suitable for **all age groups and backgrounds**. The project has grown in recent years from a few to **a few thousand people who participate** in watching and karaoke dancing. The **willingness** of the people dancing and **being filmed has also increased** due to a higher level of awareness.

Impact

Child-friendliness



The motivation of the children is contagious and many adults are inspired. Children's dancing creates an **awareness of the space**.

Increase of neighbourhoodness



Having fun laughing and dancing connects people. Especially during filming, people exchange ideas and get to know each other.

Promotion of cycling and walking



The effects on cycling and walking are **rather small during this intervention**. Only the use of a larger space during the screening of the video is there an indirect effect on traffic.

Process

1. Research for space to film and the final projection.
2. Get in touch with local officials.
3. Clarify legal issues (projection on house, use of square).
4. Announce the event and contact people to participate.
5. Carry out the action, film.
6. Prepare video material and final dance karaoke movie.
7. Project movie on a house wall.
8. Evaluate the intervention in public space and gain feedback of participants.
9. Repeat intervention at same or different place.
10. Public relation and announcements.

More information: <http://www.metamorphosis-project.eu/>



EU Metamorphosis Project



Low effort, typically individual - less than one man-week.



Typically for just a street or square.



Investment cost: material needed for video projection (cargo bike, beamer, boxes, power cable). Yearly operating costs: Permit costs depending where the screening takes place.

Valuation



Dance karaoke is a **simple and inexpensive** intervention in public space. It does not need much to **bring joy** to many people. For many people, participation in “Dance Karaoke” has become a highlight point of the year. People like that the public space is used as an **unconventional community zone**. They start to discuss the social and cultural aspects of the public space.

Recommendations

1. **Announce** the filming as well as the dance karaoke. **Do not only use social media**, but also design notes for the neighbourhood to **reach as many different people as possible**.
2. Filming is best done on **several days and at different locations**. So there is always an alternative for a bad weather day and you automatically reach more people, because when filming, the rule is: **the more, the merrier**.
3. Find a few people who dance **simply and easily** to choreographies. That makes it easier for others to follow.

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METAMORPHOSIS

STREET & BACKYARD FLEA MARKET - GRAZ

The backyard flea market took place during the neighbourhood Lendwirbel festival in May 2018 in **various backyards** in the Graz districts of **Lend and Gries**. It was organised by the team of the district association Annenviertel. **People opened** their backyards, staircases, driveways, or used parts of the pavements or blocked parking spaces to set up their own flea market stall or **gave other people the opportunity** to do so. All the flea market places were marked with balloons on the street and on a map so that visitors could easily find the different locations.

Outcome

The neighbourhood was shown from a new perspective, as visitors were able to gain access to inner courtyards, which are not usually accessible to the public. Many **flea market stalls also offered coffee and cake, or music and dance**. Thus, a simple flea market consisting of several backyards became a small neighbourhood festival. The flea market **brought neighbours together**. The flea market was organised as a private event, with the permission of residents as well as the owner of the respective houses. This motivated other parties from the same house to participate as well. Some people organised the **blocking of parking lots** under their own initiative and had their flea market stand on the street, which made many people think about how much space cars take up.

Impact

Child-friendliness



Flea market stands can set up a children's programme. In addition, children can **run their own stand** and give away toys and thus get to know other children.

Increase of neighbourhoodness



A flea market is an **easy way to bring neighbours together**. Side programmes such as offering coffee and cake often helps to get conversations going.

Promotion of cycling and walking



Visitors stroll through the quarter, which promotes walking in the neighbourhood. The use of parking spaces prompts people to think use of public space.

Process

1. Find date and start advertising (online and offline).
2. Get in touch with local officials (blocking parking lots).
3. Clarify legal issues.
4. Collect registrations for flea market places and participants.
5. Connect people participating in the same house and street.
6. Create a map with backyards and houses.
7. Celebrate the flea market.
8. Evaluate the action and gain feedback of participants.
9. Repeat the flea market.

More information: <http://www.metamorphosis-project.eu/>



EU Metamorphosis Project



Low effort, typically individual - less than one man-week.



Wider neighbourhood impact or area level.



Yearly operating costs: printing costs for location map and posters. And permit costs if you transform a parking lot into a flea market.

Valuation



A flea market is an **easy-to-organise event** that brings people from the neighbourhood together and **enlivens any area**. **Social interactions increase** and new contacts and friendships are made, even in the long term. Children especially can benefit from the increased social interactions

Recommendations

1. **Promote** the flea market mainly **in the neighbourhood** itself. Design posters and distribute them in the houses and shops in the area.
2. Find out about the **legal background**: are the flea markets collectively registered as an event, or is there a possibility that each flea market is a private event? Inform the participants about this.
3. Create a **separate category** on the map **for children's** flea market and include child-friendly programme.

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METAMORPHOSIS

OPEN STREET GALLERY - GRAZ

Through the intervention Open Street Gallery, the public space becomes an **open-air art exhibition**. Art often hides behind closed doors. In order to give art more publicity, give access to more people and encourage participation in the design of public space, various artists from Graz implemented this project together. **Billboards, house walls and shop windows were chosen as exhibition spaces.** Depending on the concept, artworks can be taken home and a self-chosen amount can be paid to the artist's account (noted on the back of the artworks). Some other works of art **hung for a long time or stayed permanent** in public space.

Outcome

Cities are liveable when their inhabitants are able to **shape and use public space**. This also applies to identification with one's own neighbourhood. Artists have the **great potential** to support this with their work. In the Open Street Gallery, artists can present their work and **add colour to public spaces**. People passing by get to know the local artists. Art offers conversation material for passers-by and neighbours. This project also explores **the value of art** for individuals and society.

Impact

Child-friendliness



Increase of neighbourhoodness



Promotion of cycling and walking



A **colourful and lively neighbourhood** creates good conditions for a child-friendly environment. They are **encouraged to explore** and to **discover art**. Neighbourhoods became **more colourful, lively and unique** which encourages residents to spend time in the neighbourhood.

Attractive and lively streets **encourage** people to **walk or cycle** in their neighbourhood because they want to **discover** if there are new paintings or art pieces in the surroundings.

Process

1. Connect and collaborate with local artists.
2. Find suitable places together with local artists.
3. Clarify legal issues and what cooperation is needed.
4. Prepare implementation: rent billboards if necessary, arrange the use of shop windows and similar.
5. Public relation and announcements.
6. Carry out action.
7. Enjoy art in public space.
8. Collect feedback from all participants, including the artists, business operators, and audience.
9. Repeat intervention.

More information: <http://www.metamorphosis-project.eu/>



EU Metamorphosis Project



Low effort, typically individual - less than one man-week.



Wider neighbourhood impact or area level.



Yearly operating costs: € 100 - 200 for materials for the preparation of the exhibition space.

Valuation



Art not only makes public space more colourful, but can also **promotes the exchange of ideas** and the identification with one's neighbourhood. This intervention promotes local artists and is **easy to implement**. The barrier to interaction between pedestrians and artists is low, with exchange and networking taking place. Schools could also be involved in the project.

Recommendations

1. **Collaborate with different artists** (or schools), the more diverse the range, the greater the interaction.
2. Find **different places** in the neighbourhood for the exhibition. **Identification** with the district **increases as visitors explore new places**.
3. **Take pictures** before the exhibition is opened, because especially with the "take away" art pieces it often does not take long until all of them have gone.

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METAMORPHOSIS

KEPLER & KUNST - GRAZ

The Kepler high school is framed by a large street and shopping facilities. Children spend very little free time in the school area due to the **concrete embossed environment**. In spring 2019, the **pupils worked on a performance** to express their impressions of the school surrounding. During the neighbourhood Lendwirbel festival, the performance was presented in the form of a **walk through the district** with several stations and performances. There were small funny but also critical plays, readings and music, for example on the subject of fine dust and cars. The school environment was redesigned with the help of graffiti artists, **which is now colourful**.

Outcome

During the preparation phase, the **pupils studied the history** of the school and the neighbourhood, and thus learned a lot about their daily environment. Creativity was supported by working with **different artists**. Different classes as well as the teachers took part, which also greatly **enhanced social interaction** within the school. The pupils and teachers gave **cheerful and colourful performances** consisting of different art forms. Children of many ages (10 to 18 years) participated, and were able to incorporate their own wishes, experiences and worries into the programme and express them to an audience.

Impact

Child-friendliness



The children worked with their **own ideas**, which flowed into their performances. Their concerns were also **shown to an audience**.

Increase of neighbourhoodness



The school is an important part of the neighbourhood, due to its size. People **get in touch** with each other through such projects.

Promotion of cycling and walking



The performance was in the **form of a walk**. Also, students have dealt with the topics of public space and transport. Especially the fine particles produced by cars concerned them.

Process

1. Define what kind of programme you want to do.
2. Obtain necessary permissions (e.g. performance in public space, attaching a sign to a private building, etc.)
3. Find an overall theme.
4. Develop the content with students and teachers, leaving room for individual thoughts and desires.
5. Invite parents, people from the neighbourhood, politicians, etc.
6. Perform and have fun.
7. Evaluate and collect feedback.
8. Repeat parts or the whole program.

More information: <http://www.metamorphosis-project.eu/>



EU Metamorphosis Project



High effort, several parties and man-months of effort required.



Typically for just a street or square.



Investment costs € 1,000 for workshops with artists and € 550 for material costs for school sign. € 400 - 600 material costs for the performance (signs, costumes).

Valuation



The performances of the federal high school Kepler dealt with the school itself as well as the direct neighbourhood and offered students and teachers various possibilities to **contribute thoughts and visions**. The new school-design was an important part of this process. Now **more students spend their free time** in the school environment.

Recommendations

1. Find an **overarching topic** that all performance parts can deal with, and that students of all ages can **identify with**. It should also be school-specific.
2. **Invite artists** appropriate to the type of performance or theme to work on it together with the pupils.
3. **Connect all** performance parts with each other.

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METAMORPHOSIS

COURT CULTURE - GRAZ

Graz is a city with an **incredibly high number of public sports grounds**. These are often **rarely used or unknown**. The initiative “Court Culture” aimed to change that. It wanted to support residents to **re-discover the sports field**. In the context of the project, the initiative used streets as sports fields. During the neighbourhood Lendwirbel festival in 2019, a street was closed to cars for several days and turned into a temporary sports field, by simply adding e.g. basketball baskets, football goals and street chalk. Workshops and small competitions were organised. The highlight for spectators and participants was the **skating contest** where the whole street was transformed into a roaring arena.

Outcome

People of **all age groups** took advantage of the varied sports programme. They tried out and got to know new sports. The participants were **surprised** how well the **road is suited for sports activities**. As the programme extended over several days, many people, including those who had just passed by, were involved. Local residents, especially children, were **very happy** about the offer. Participants, passers-by as well as the city administration were involved in discussions about how many people can **use the street space** when **motorised traffic is not banned**.



Average effort, collectively - two man-weeks or more.



Wider neighbourhood impact or area level.



Investment cost € 100 - 1,000 for equipment for sport activities (if not already existing) . Yearly operating costs: permit costs for street closures.

Impact

Child-friendliness



The idea of using **public space as “playground”** is great. Encouraging children to try out different sports promotes their health and social interactions.

Increase of neighbourhoodness



Activities in public spaces, and especially **sport connects** people, no matter what background or age. Social interactions in the neighbourhood also increases.

Promotion of cycling and walking



The street closure changes the daily traffic temporarily. Also, the level of daily sports activities **encourages the use of bicycles** or walking more often to carry out daily tasks.

Process

1. Planning the street closure as well as possible activities.
2. Get in touch with local officials.
3. Clarify legal issues (approval for street closure from city council).
4. Find motivated sports clubs to hold workshops.
5. Invite locals, neighbours, schools, kindergartens, institutions and small businesses to get involved.
6. Public relation and announcements.
7. Carry out action.
8. Gain feedback.
9. Repeat action at same or different place.

More information: <http://www.metamorphosis-project.eu/>



EU Metamorphosis Project

Valuation



Cities are usually very dense and there is a **lack of space** to move freely, especially for children. Roads therefore offer **great unused potential**. With relatively simple measures, roads can be transformed temporarily into playgrounds and sports areas. People get the opportunity to stay outside, to do play sports and to meet people.

Recommendations

1. **Be aware** that some sports, such as skateboarding, are loud and people may react negatively to that. Alternate activities so that there is **not too much noise pollution** for neighbours.
2. **Repeat the activities** at regular intervals to reach more people.
3. Plan **workshops** to learn about **sports activities** as well as areas where you can play your **own games** or use sports facilities freely.

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METAMORPHOSIS

STADT.LIEBE.DISKURS - GRAZ

What place is better qualified to **talk about the design of public space** than in the public space itself? Too often these discussions are held behind closed doors. During the neighbourhood Lendwirbel festival in 2019, different topics relating to the design of public space were discussed every day with pedestrians, interested people and experts. The discussion topics, times and places for the discussions were announced on large canvases for better visibility in the neighbourhood. **After the discussions, results and ideas were presented** on these canvases in public space.

Outcome

Public discussions are low-threshold and people find it easy to participate. The content also reaches passers-by. Through this discourse in public space, city dwellers have the opportunity to **express their opinions on current issues** and they can get in contact with other interested people. The topics were specifically chosen for Graz and were directly related to current topics, e.g. urban gardens, active mobility, community issues, district work or energy production. In the foreground of each discussion was people's love for their own city, and potentials to **increase the quality of life for all residents**, especially children.

Impact

Child-friendliness



Even though children are not addressed with discussions about city planning, the **results might influence** the development of a child-friendly city.

Increase of neighbourhoodness



A discussion event in public space might **reach more people**. Discussing future scenarios of a city brings people closer together also.

Promotion of cycling and walking



Mobility issues can be discussed. By meeting other people and getting to know alternative ways of mobility, a change to cycling and walking can be supported.

Process

1. Define what kind of discussion programme is required.
2. clarify legal issues (permit for street closure).
3. Find an overall theme of the action.
4. Develop the content together with partners (schools, city planners etc.) but also publicly.
5. Invite interesting speakers.
6. Invite people from the neighbourhood, politicians etc.
7. Public relation and announcement.
8. Carry out the action.
9. Evaluate and collect feedback.
10. Repeat action (same or different place or topic).

More information: <http://www.metamorphosis-project.eu/>



EU Metamorphosis Project



Average effort, collectively - two man-weeks or more.



Wider neighbourhood impact or area level.



Operating costs: printing costs for advertising. Rent: technical material such as microphone, loudspeaker. Permit costs for road/parking closure.

Valuation



Public discussions increases people's **participation in the daily life** of their neighbourhoods. With relatively little effort and low costs, a format can be created that brings people closer together. People can exchange views on different topics, ask questions and **learn new things**. The interest in shaping their own living space increases automatically.

Recommendations

1. Chose **current discussion topics** that affect people in the city and/or neighbourhood.
2. Choose a **day and time** when many different people have time to participate.
3. Try to make the discussion format **as open as possible** and involve the participants and passers-by in the discussion. A lively discussion motivates people to continue participating.

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METAMORPHOSIS

BICYCLE SPACE TRANSFORMERS - GRAZ

Graz has 280,000 inhabitants and 60,000 car parking spots on public roads and streets, i.e. more than 1 for every 4-5 cars. Thus, public space is used by motorists at a low price and blocked for all other road users, such as cyclists and pedestrians. **People without a car are discriminated** and excluded from access to this enormous space resource. Hence Graz tried to challenge the existing road use code with a **bicycle construction which temporarily transformed parking spots** - and thereby made them accessible for everyone.

Outcome

Initially, a hand-pulled construction designed as a wooden car was removed by the city authority due to legal reasons. In a second try, a **"space transformer" based on a cargo-bike** was constructed. When two such space transformers are put side-by-side, they take up the room of a car parking space. Legally, the devices are parked bicycles, and in that way, they are obeying the Austrian road code. In addition, two six-seated Italian beach bikes were used to transform parking spots. People were very happy about the public space transformers and **the possibility to spend time in public space** without obligation to consume anything. The building instructions can be found here: <http://metamorphosis-project.eu/sites/default/files/downloads/Construction Plan Street Transformers.pdf>

Impact

Child-friendliness



Children love these space transformers, and they use it as a **pop-up playground**. Due to its location (parking spot) the use is only possible under supervision by adults.

Increase of neighbourhoodness



Space transformers help to improve the perception of a street as a lively public place. It allows **people to connect** and meet.

Promotion of cycling and walking



The promotion of cycling and walking is indirect through the **reduction of parking spaces**. The device supports walking, by offering pedestrians a place to rest.

Process

1. Clarify the legal situation in your country relating to the parking of hand-pulled vehicles and bicycles.
2. Build a 'space transformer' (see open source plans and guidance on the Metamorphosis website).
3. Put contact information on the space transformer to allow people to contact you.
4. Use the transformer and make people happy!
5. Find a "host" in the vicinity of the parking space to keep an eye on it and to store equipment like pillows, umbrellas etc. overnight.
6. Inspire others to follow your example.

More information: <http://www.metamorphosis-project.eu/>



EU Metamorphosis Project



Average effort, collectively - two man-weeks or more.



Potentially city-wide application.



The costs for a basic cargo bike will be around € 2,000 – 3,000. Adaptation and additional material: € 1.000€.

The working effort per device: 3 - 4 days. In addition: Renting costs for the workshop space and tools: € 200-300.

Valuation



This measure is strongly recommended to other cities, as it is an 'eye opener' regarding the unequal access to public space. It is a very **elegant method to facilitate a change in space allocation within legal boundaries**.

Recommendations

1. Get advice from a lawyer about the **legal situation** in your country relating to the parking of hand-pulled vehicles and bicycles.
2. Use the **advice** from the Metamorphosis webpage www.metamorphosis-project.eu.
3. **Start with one** or two devices and expand step by step.

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METAMORPHOSIS

LIVING LAB - GRAZ

In many cities, parents do not feel safe letting their children walk or cycle to school because of the traffic situation – not realising that they themselves contribute to the **dangerous situation by dropping off** and picking up their children by car. Graz tried to change this by **converting the areas in front of three schools** in the district of Lend into “Living Labs”: an area for educational purposes, as well as games and leisure activities.

Outcome

From one day to one week, **the street in front of the schools were closed** to motorised traffic and transformed into Living Labs. In total, over 80 teachers and 1,000 students were involved in the Living Labs. Besides gaining space for the school and its pupils, this action had a **positive effect on the traffic behaviour** of all participants. Active modes of transportation were promoted as parents could no longer drop off their children in front of the school. **It was shown that traffic behaviour has changed:** more children came to school on foot or by bike than using motorised transport. The lab experience raised awareness amongst parents of the benefits to active travel.

Impact

Child-friendliness



To reallocate the space in front of schools to children is one of the **most effective ways** to create a child-friendly neighbourhood.

Incrementation of neighbourhoodness



Living labs in front of schools improve the perception of a street as a lively place. It **promotes the exchange between schools and local residents.**

Promotion of cycling and walking



The proportion of children **transported by car has decreased by 45%** and active modes increased correspondingly due to the implementation.

Process

1. Plan activities in schools (workshops, teaching lessons) .
2. Communication with residents.
3. Clarify legal issues and get permission.
4. Temporary transformation of school environments.
5. Plan activities for the way to school.
6. Integrate the topic of traffic calming into the curriculum.
7. Evaluate (after each implementation).
8. Repeat multiple times (with the same school).
9. Clarify whether permanent changes are possible.
10. Communicate about the measure.



Average effort, collectively - two man-weeks or more.



Potentially city-wide application.



Fee for the road closures (€ 700 - 1,000).
Some material costs for the street activities (teaching and playing material, mats to sit on).
Costs to rent a venue for workshops and tools: € 200 - 300.

Valuation



The Living Lab is a comprehensive approach to **reallocate street space in front of schools**. The space is no longer dedicated to cars but to children, before the school starts and after it finishes, within the breaks and especially for outdoor lessons. Living labs in front of schools are especially necessary for those **schools that have too little outdoor space**.

Recommendations

1. **Support schools** with analysis and conceptual work as well as with administrative procedures relating to road use for educational purposes.
2. **Communicate** with residents about the change of priorities in street use and involve them in the procedure of long-term changes.
3. Make teachers aware about **educational materials** relating to street transformation, and encourage them to integrate these into teaching lessons.

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EU Metamorphosis Project



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METAMORPHOSIS

OPEN STREETS - GRAZ

Temporarily closing roads to motorised traffic is equivalent to opening them up to people. On various occasions, five central streets in the neighbourhood of Lend as well as three streets directly in front of kindergardens and schools were **temporarily closed to motorised traffic**. Some of them were for just a few hours and others up to one week. People from the neighbourhood and local businesses were encouraged to use the space provided. They used the **open streets for various purposes**, like hybrid zones where private and public space blurs or crystallisation and meeting points, as well as to build up public space interventions.

Outcome

The space for active movement is considerably expanded, and it is often used in a new way, including for play. The quality of life for city residents increases as a consequence, as **the streets become a place for personal movement and living space**. Also, the identification with one's own city increases. A temporary street opening trial can serve as a rest **for a permanent redesign** without great risk. For most cities, there remains a need for a step-by-step improvement of the administrative procedures to approve street closures. Also, the issue of insurance for the street activities has to be sorted out in advance.

Impact

Child-friendliness



The quality of life increases with a road closure. The noise level of the cars is reduced and the air quality improves. **The streets become playgrounds.**

Increase of neighbourhoodness



When people use the public space in front of their homes as extended living space, neighbours **get in touch with each other more easily**. A family atmosphere is created.

Promotion of cycling and walking



Even if there are negative voices at the beginning, a **traffic-calmed street** is a great benefit for the neighbourhood. People more often choose to cycle or walk.

Process

1. planning the street closure as well as possible activities.
2. Get in touch with local officials.
3. clarify legal issues (approval for street closure).
4. Contact local residents, schools, institutions, etc.
5. Carry out action.
6. Get feedback about the street closure from residents.
7. Repeat the street closure at the same or a different place (also parallel closures).
8. Public relation and announcements.



Average effort, collectively - two man-weeks or more.



Wider neighbourhood impact or area level.



Depending on the size and duration of street closure. Small scale (one street = €), big scale (Lendwirbel = €€€)

Valuation



Temporary street closures for motorised traffic can be used **to test whether permanent traffic calming will work**. This is especially in front of schools and kindergardens, traffic calming increases safety. The street can also be **used to play** or spend time e.g. during breaks and leisure time. In neighbourhoods, a ban on motorised traffic increases the quality of stay in public spaces.

Recommendations

1. If possible: publish a guideline and a **low-threshold guide** for road closures in cooperation with the city administration.
2. **Avoid any kind of commercial sponsoring** and commercial use of public space.
3. **Inform the neighbourhood** and interested groups at an early stage. Try to motivate them for an interactive use of the street opening.

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