



**Bert Celis**

*Flanders' Bike Valley*

**CHIPS**

Cycle Highway Assessment v4.0

## What are cycle highways?

### European definition

*“A Cycle Highway is a mobility product that provides a high quality functional cycling connection. As backbone of a cycle network, it connects cities and or suburbs, residential areas and major (work)places and it satisfies its (potential) users.”*

### ASSESSMENT van CYCLE HIGHWAYS on 22 CRITERIA

f.e comfort, directness, gamification, coherence (park&bike hubs), safety, self-explaining readability, sheltered...

ALL CRITERIA have 4 LEVELS (highest LEVEL = European Benchmark)

## Goal of the CH Assessment?



- Assess AS IS CHs and future CHs
- Benchmark CH in other regions
- Compare and creation improvement plans based on CH Assessment
- CH Assessment = develop common language for CH Experts and CH Alumni
- CH Assessment contains FUTURE VISION >2020 (in LEVEL 3 & 4)
- Inspire & stimulate innovation



# • Basics of the TOOL

- Excell TOOL
- Version 3.0 (1.0 at first CH Academy in Arnhem)
- CHANGES: now with SECTION APPROACH and VOCABULARY
- Low-barrier tool: only video-source is enough to use tool (PREDICTOR)
- For Detailed analysis - ECHO can be used

<b>CYCLING HIGHWAY ASSESSMENT TOOL</b>				Tool Version	3.0
© Created by Bert Celis, Flanders' Bike Valley					
ASSESSORS:	<i>people doing the joint assessment; Full Name (Organisation),</i>				
DATE					
<b>BASIC INFO</b>					
CYCLE HIGHWAY (CH) NAME / IDENTIFICATION:				FROM:	TO:
ASSESSED SITUATION**	<i>as is</i>	<i>to be</i>	<i>DATE (only for future CH)</i>		
TOTAL CH DISTANCE:	km				
COUNTRY:					
ROUTE-MAP*:	<i>link to picture or route on internet or to central CH site?</i>		<i>please print out on detailed A3 to do assessment !</i>		
VIDEO-SOURCE*:	<i>footage of CH e.g. on CH youtube channel, made by GoPro or Drone, or UPLOADED to KINOMAP</i>				
VR-SOURCE:	<i>Virtual Reality (open) source, e.g. on HTC Vive, Oculus Rift,...</i>				
<i>*required for this high-level assessment</i>			<i>**also future highways can be assessed</i>		

- How it works?

## (1) Read Criterium (2) Read Vocabulary (3) Assess

CRITERIUM	SCORE	LEVELING
1) <b>AWARENESS</b> <i>from the perspective of non CH users or potential users branding &amp; identity (e.g. by signs, all brand touch points)</i>	3	1. You have a Cycle Highway with no name and no identity 2. The route has a identity (name /signs are used locally on parts of the CH) 3. The CH has a Regional Identity, brand name, with regional scale factors 4. The CH uses a unified branding the National or preferably European Identity and brand with scale factors, website
2) <b>READABILITY in INFRASTRUCTURE</b> <i>readability elements: surface colors, landscape markers, road sig.</i>	3	1. There are some readability elements and you can find the road (but some stops are needed for new users to look for the road) 2. There are readability elements and new users can find the way without stopping 3. Level 2+ advanced information on direction is given before crossings / decision points 4. The CH has at least 2 continuously recognisable readability elements
3) <b>COHERENCE - CONNECTIONS</b> <i>connections by HUBS to road, train, bus, other bicycle networks</i>	2	1. CH connects 2 cities (or a city with a suburb, major workplace, etc.) at the start and end of the route 2. CH starts and end at pivotal points in the connected area and has no more than 50% missing links 3. CH starts and end at pivotal points in the connected area and has no more than 25% missing links 4. CH starts and ends at pivotal points in the connected area and has no more than 10% missing links and contains state-of-the-art <b>PARK&amp;BIKE HUBS</b> for Modal changes

Related to Criteriumnr	VOCABULARY CYCLE HIGHWAY	Explanation
0	Sections/Segments	A logical part of the cycle path to be assessed separately, preferably around 5km and the start is in a logical place
1	Awareness	Branding & identity (e.g. by signs, brand touch points), brand awareness of the CH, from the perspective of non or potential users
2	Readability	Readability in infrastructure (by signs and road color) but also readability in awareness (knowing that it's there, brand recognition)
2	Readability elements	Like surface colors, landscape markers, road signs, lamp design, horizontal marking...
2	Landscape markers	Railways, Canals, Rivers, Motorway, gas pipeline, coast (that are followed by the CH)
3	Pivotal point	Start point or end point of the CH
3	Missing links	Missing links; connections to public transport (train station, bus) and car parking, to the local cycle network
3	Missing links	Count the missing links as; two public transport links at start and two public transport links at the end, each village within 3km range: at least one link by bike
3	Public transport	bus station, train station, metro, ferry (excluded: airport)
3	Park&Bike HUB	Location where you change your transport modus, but focuses on Modal change for Bikers (f.e. contains bike sharing hub,...)

- How it works?

## New: SECTION APPROACH !

yellow = automated do not fill in yellow zones					SECTIONS				
					1	2	3	4	5
	SECTION DISTANCE (km)			25	5	5	5	5	5
NR	CRITERIUM	WHAT TO COUNT ?	LEVEL	WEIGHTED AVERAGE SCORE					
5	DIRECTNESS in TRAVEL TIME	NUMBER of sharp curves or design speed problems per section	3	2,40	1	5	0	0	0
6	DIRECTNESS in INTERRUPTIONS	NUMBER of interruptions per section	3	2,00	0	4	1	0	0
7	ROAD SAFETY INTERSECTIONS	NUMBER of dangerous intersections per section	3	0,40	0	1	0	0	0
8	ROAD SAFETY - WIDTH	KMs of good width per section	3	38%	1	2,4	2	2	2
9	ROAD SAFETY - SEP. from PARALLEL TRAFFIC	KMs of safe separated section in km per section	0	36%	1	2	2	2	2
10	ROAD SAFETY - OBSTACLES	NUMBER of obstacles (but always clearance >0,9m !)	4	0,8	1	0	1	0	0

### THREE STEPS:

- 1) DIVIDE CYCLE HIGHWAY IN LOGICAL SECTIONS
- 2) COUNT FOR EVERY SECTION (See WHAT to COUNT ?)
- 3) WEIGHTED AVERAGE AND LEVEL IS AUTOMATICALLY CALCULATED



GOAL of the EXERCISE in the EXCURSION

TESTING THE SECTION APPROACH;

- Understanding what to count
- See if and how this works in the field

# SECTIONS



# Starting point SECTION 1



# Attractive Cycling in Section1



# The End of Section 1



# End of section 2 (after Station Herent)



# End of Section 3



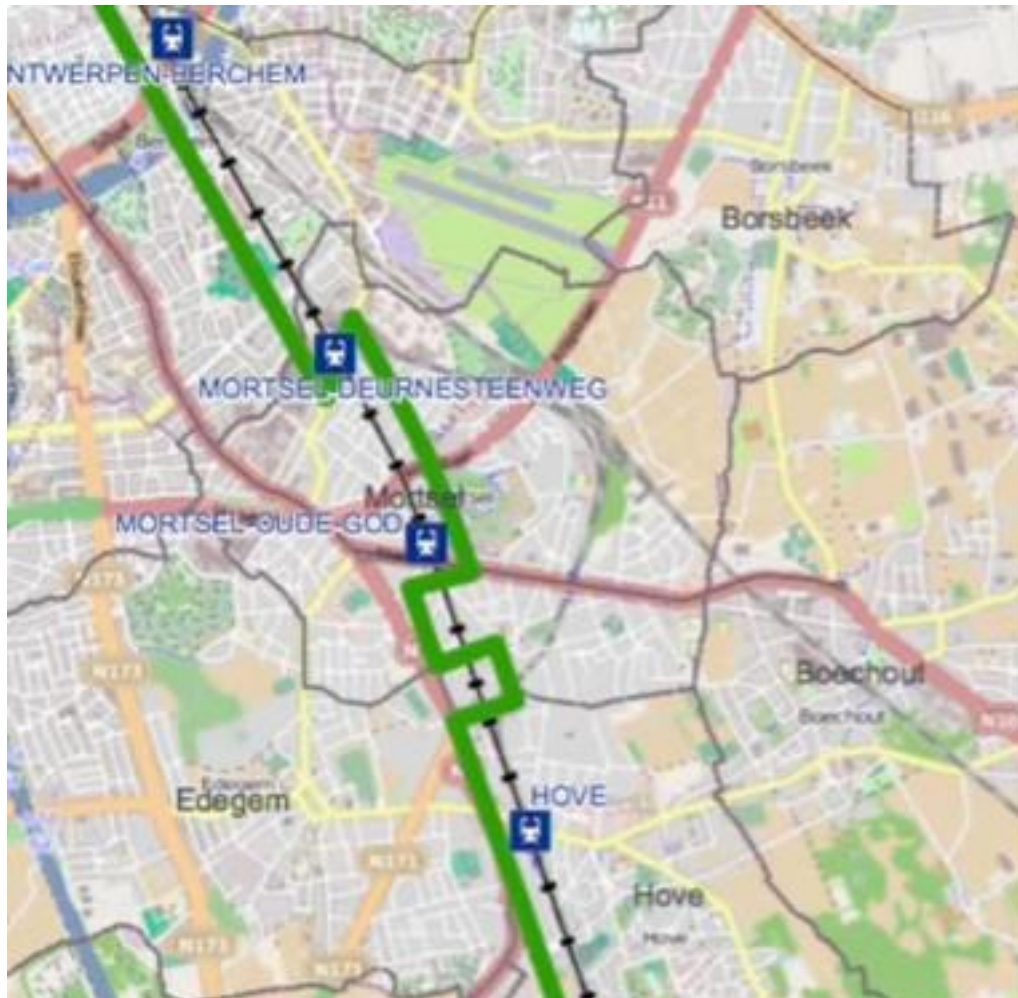
4)	<b>DIRECTNESS in DISTANCE</b>	4	1 The CH is not following the shortest route at all but takes a lot of deviations 2 The CH follows the shortest route and is in fact less than 20% different as the crow flies (vogelvluchtafstand) 3 The CH follows the shortest route and is in fact less than 15% different as the crow flies (vogelvluchtafstand) 4 The CH follows the shortest route and is in fact less than 10% different as the crow flies (vogelvluchtafstand)
5)	<b>DIRECTNESS in TRAVEL TIME</b> <i>Count the number of design speed problems (excl interruptions)</i>	3	1 The CH has less than 20 sharp curves per 10 km (=total distance vs total amount of stops) 2 The CH has between 5 - 10 design speed (fe sharp curves) problems per 10km 3 The CH has between 1-5 design speed problems (sharp curves) per 10km 4 The CH is an example of high design speed and has on average less than 1 sharp curve per 10km
6)	<b>DIRECTNESS in INTERRUPTIONS</b> <i>potential full stops</i>	3	1 The CH has less than 20 stops/interruptions per 10 km (=total distance vs total amount of stops) 2 The CH has between 5 - 10 stops per 10km 3 The CH has between 1-5 stops per 10km 4 The CH is an example of giving priority to cyclists and has on average less than 1 stop per 10km
7)	<b>ROAD SAFETY - INTERSECTIONS</b> <i>Dangerous intersection = no traffic lights or bicycle warning system Be critical for your own intersections traffic (non parallel)</i>	3	1 There are between 5 and 10 dangerous intersections per 10km 2 There are more than 2 and up to 5 dangerous intersections per 10 km 3 There are less than 2 dangerous intersections per 10 km 4 There are no dangerous intersections
8)	<b>ROAD SAFETY - WIDTH</b> <i>Judge each section and fill in km of good section a good section; where you have at least 3m space (bidirectional p</i>	3	1 The width is at least 2 meters everywhere (minimum condition) and 1,5m for one direction 2 The width is for more than 50% judged as a good section but less than 95% OK (the average throughput but throughput is OK ) 3 The width has been optimized regarding the throughput and generally the CH is large enough (>95% of its length) 4 The Cycle highway has multiple lanes (2x2) and separates fast (>25km/h) from slow moving traffic (<25km/h)
9)	<b>ROAD SAFETY - Separation &amp; parallel traffic</b> <i>safe section = where you have separated cycle path or mixed tra Fill in the safe separated section in km per section</i>	0	1 The CH has more than 80% safe sections 2 The CH has more than 90% safe sections but less than 95% safe sections 3 The CH has more than 95% safe sections but less than 100% safe sections 4 The CH is separated from the main road and has at least 2 lanes in 2 directions and 100% safe sections
10)	<b>ROAD SAFETY - Obstacles</b> <i>Obstacles: poles, fences, cattle grids, parked cars etc Count the obstacles per section</i>	4	1 There are more than 10 obstacles per 10km on the CH but all obstacles have a minimum clearance of 0.9m/direction 2 There are obstacles (all with minimum clearance and marked/visible) but the amount of obstacles is less than 10 per 10km 3 There are obstacles (all with minimum clearance and marked/visible) but the amount of obstacles is less than 5 per 10km 4 There are obstacles (all with minimum clearance and marked/visible) but the amount of obstacles is less than 1 per 10km

# Cycle Highway Assessment

## Criterion 1

### DIRECTNESS in DISTANCE

Assessment by google maps or routemap vs bird flight distance



# Cycle Highway Assessment

## Criterion 2

### DIRECTNESS in TRAVEL TIME

Assessment by counting sharp curves; can you really cycle >30km/u?

DESIGN SPEED < 20 km/u



# Cycle Highway Assessment

## Criterion 3

### DIRECTNESS in INTERRUPTIONS

Assessed by the amount of stops or per 10km  
=> Count the stops or potential stops per section



# Cycle Highway Assessment

## Criterion 4

### ROAD SAFETY - intersections

Count the number of dangerous intersections (see vocabulary)

BIKESCOUT -> not dangerous intersection



# Cycle Highway Assessment

## Criterion 5

### ROAD SAFETY - width

Made simple => >3 meters – bidirectional and 2x2m for separate lanes



<http://www.fietsroute.org/fietsnelwegen>

# Cycle Highway Assessment

## Criterion 6

### ROAD SAFETY – separation & parallel traffic



# Cycle Highway Assessment

## Criterion 7

### ROAD SAFETY - obstacles

Bike lane Borgerhout, Belgium



# Cycle Highway Assessment

## Criterion 7

### ROAD SAFETY - obstacles

Bike lane Asse, Belgium



# Cycle Highway Assessment

## Criterion 8

### ROAD SAFETY – lighting and reflection and visibility



E.g. RETROFLEX light reflecting surface  
by Stradus Infra



# Cycle Highway Assessment

## Criterion 9

### COMFORT – surface rideability

Oude Kwaremont

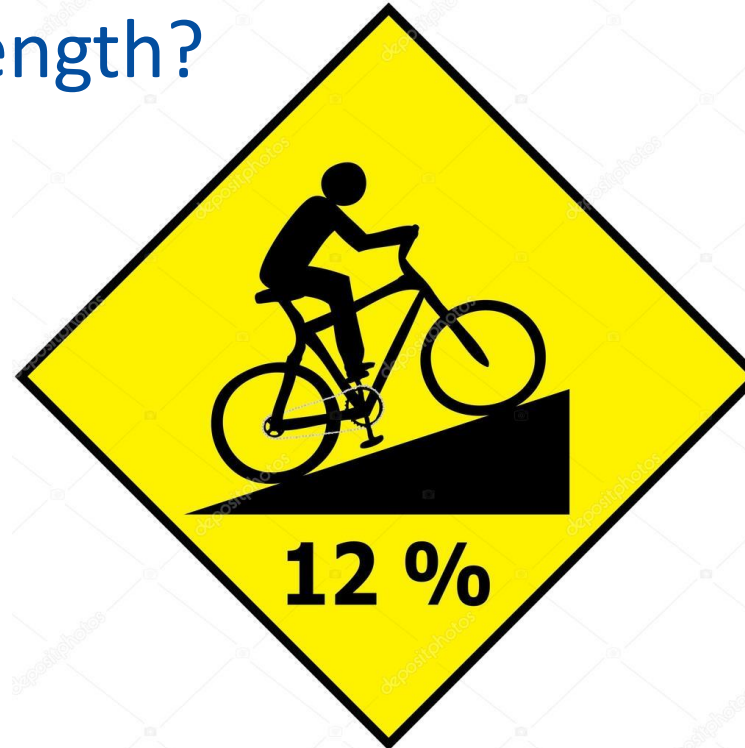


# Cycle Highway Assessment

## Criterion 10

### COMFORT – SLOPES COUNT

>5% >20m length?

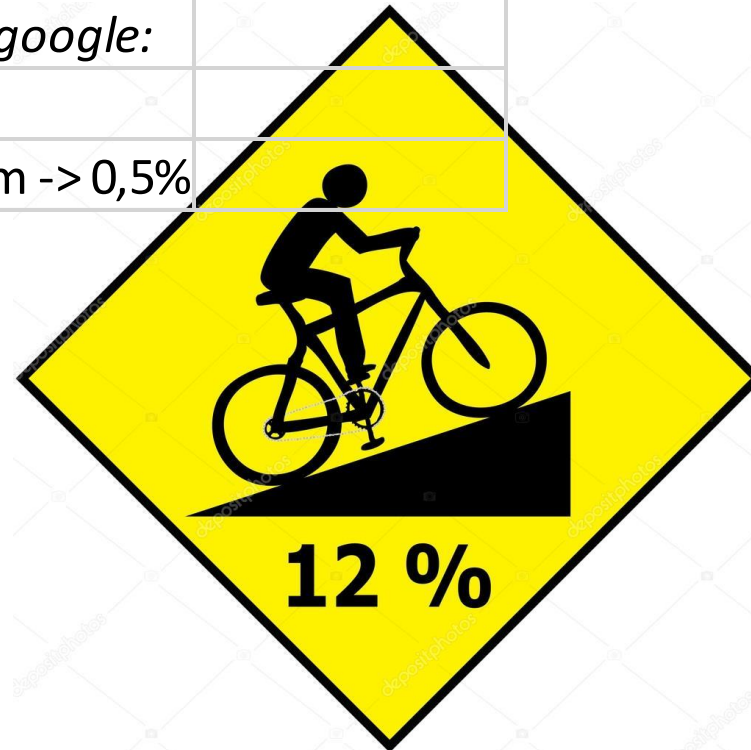


# Cycle Highway Assessment

## Criterion 11

### COMFORT - gradient

<i>average elevation by height meters from google:</i>		
	sum descending + ascending:	
	Zaventem-Leuven (21km): 106m -> 0,5%	



# Cycle Highway Assessment Criterium 12

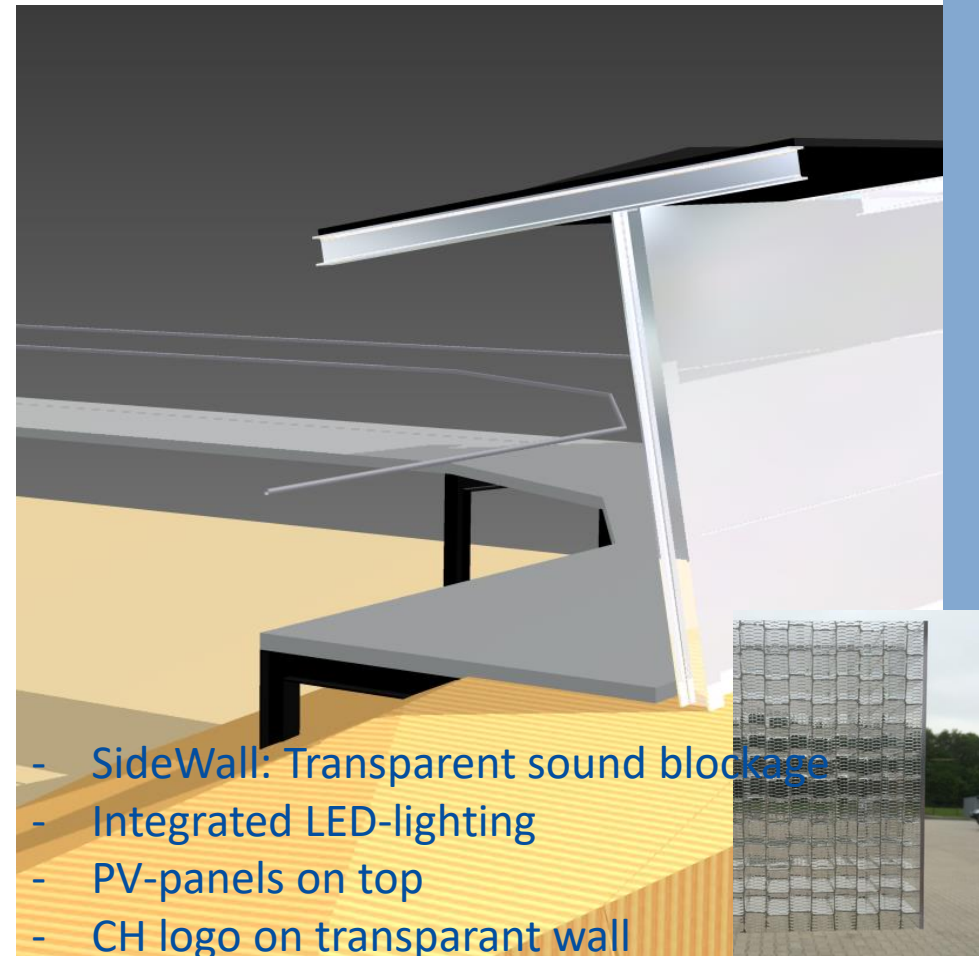
## COMFORT - sheltering

f.e. sheltering by PV-panels & sound barriers – joining Business Cases

### CURRENT SOLAR PARK INVESTMENTS



PPS-construction for PV-panels & cycle roads in backyards?



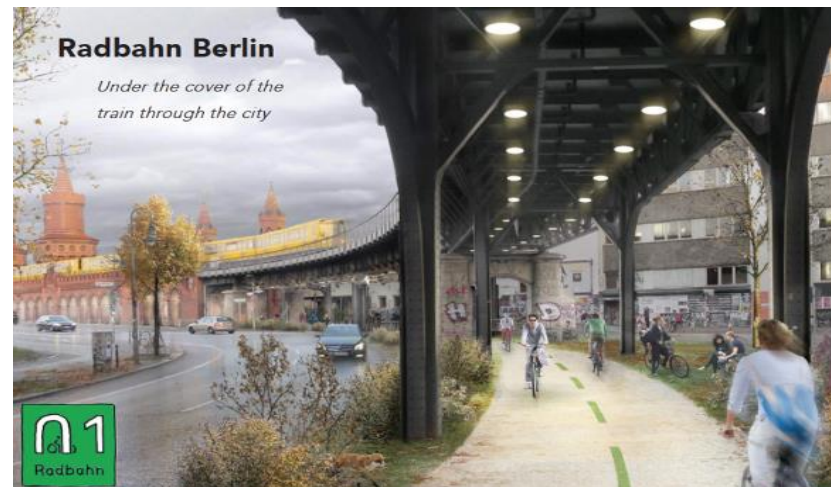
- SideWall: Transparent sound blockage
- Integrated LED-lighting
- PV-panels on top
- CH logo on transparant wall

# Cycle Highway Assessment

## Criterion 12

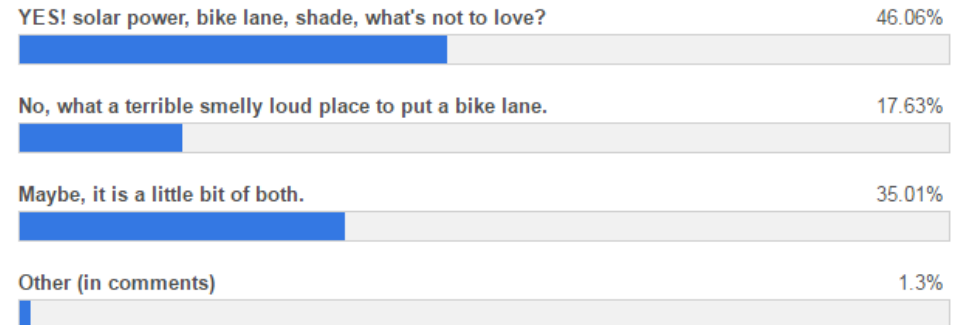
### COMFORT - sheltering

Examples: South Korea – 28kms; city connection Daejeon - Sejong



I am conflicted. I love the idea of inter-city bike infrastructure being provided, the shading and protection from the solar canopy is a big help, and of course the bonus of the clean solar power. But it seems like a terrible place to ride a bike. What do you think?

**Thank you for voting!**



# Cycle Highway Assessment

## Criterion 13

### COMFORT - services

Toilet, pub, reparation, logistic services, bike sharing, emergency service, etc.



# Cycle Highway Assessment Criterium 14

## ATTRACTIVENESS in spatial context/environment

Cycling along Winchester's landmarks, UK



# Cycle Highway Assessment

## Criterion 15

### ATTRACTIVENESS in monotony



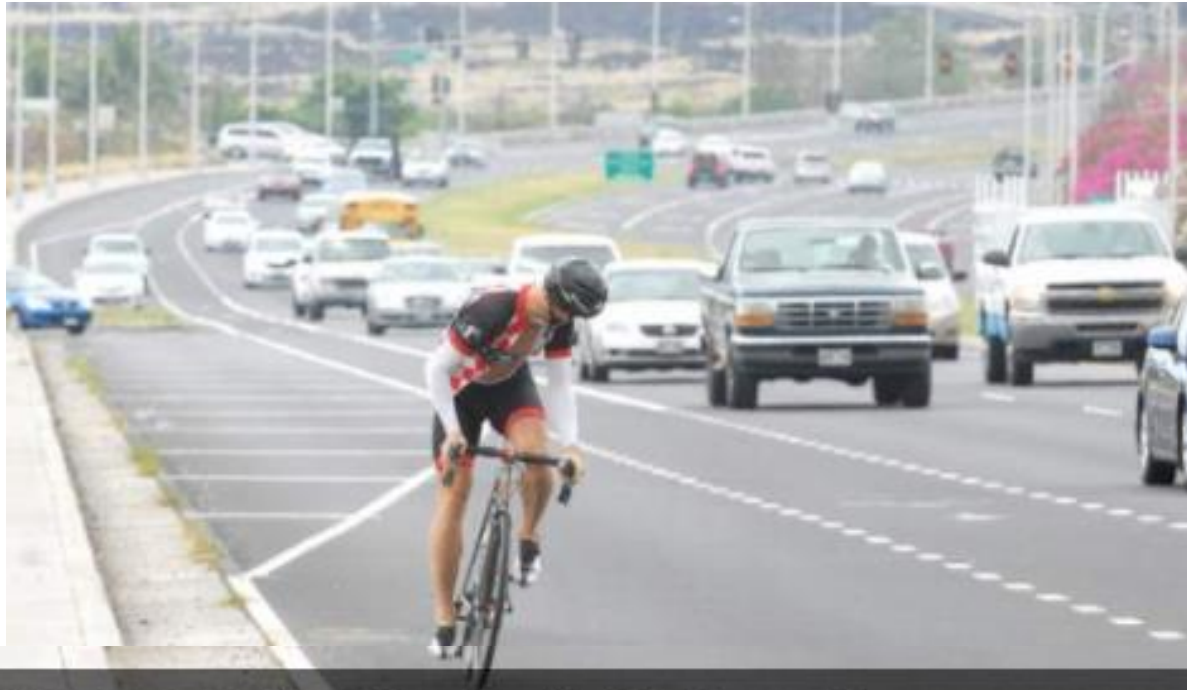
# Cycle Highway Assessment

## Criterion 16

### ATTRACTIVENESS – social safety



# Cycle Highway Assessment Criterion 17 ATTRACTIVENESS – health, pollution & hinderance



**A cyclist looks for traffic as he enters the bike lane on Queen Kaahumanu Hwy on Thursday. Laura Shimabuku/West Hawaii Today**

# Cycle Highway Assessment

## Criterion 18

### ATTRACTIVENESS – activation & stimulation



APPS: Strava, cyclemaps, map my ride,...



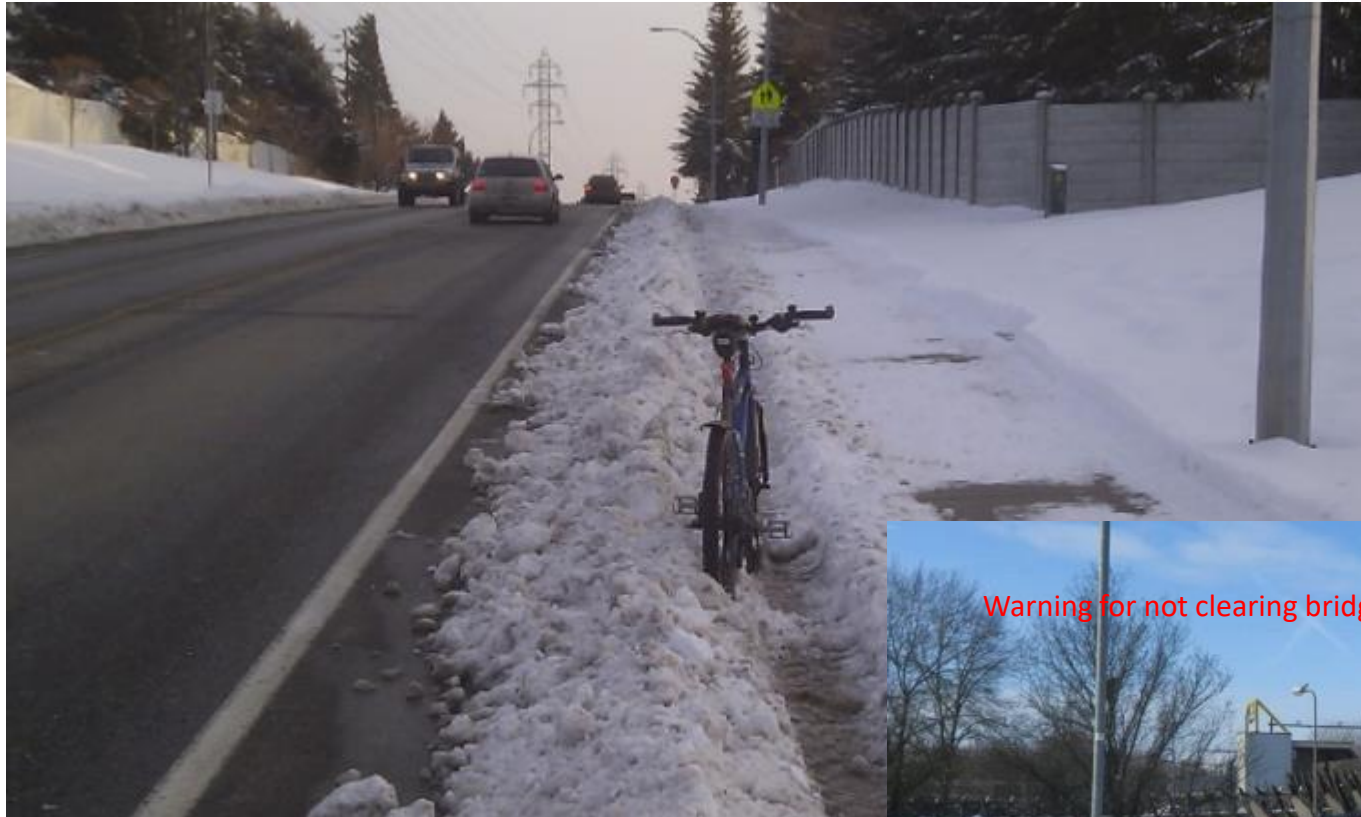
VR



# Cycle Highway Assessment

## Criterion 19

### ACCESSIBILITY 24/7 12/12



# Cycle Highway Assessment

## Criterion 20

### AWARENESS

## Eén logo, één identiteit f.e. F5 = Antwerpen - Hasselt

Als je dit logo ziet, dan weet je dat je op een fietssnelweg - of fietsstrade - bent. Of in de buurt ervan. Het is meer dan louter signalisatie. Het logo geeft de fietssnelwegen een eigen identiteit. Met uitgekende bouwstenen in dezelfde huisstijl kunnen wegbeheerders aan de slag om fietssnelwegen heel herkenbaar te maken, met meer veiligheid en meer comfort. Zo kan de fietser de route intuïtief volgen, begrijpen en gebruiken. Zoals een autosnelweg.

Het logo is een initiatief van de vijf Vlaamse provincies en is ook ontworpen door de architect Stefan Schilling.

De letter F van fietssnelweg of fietsstrade. Na de F kan de unieke code van een fietssnelweg worden vermeld. De combinatie van een letter met een getal laat de mogelijkheid open om in een ander land of taalgebied een andere letter te gebruiken. De C van cycle, bijvoorbeeld.

De driehoek symboliseert een fietszadel. Een handige vorm die ook kan dienen om een richting aan te geven.

Een unieke code van 1, 2 of 3 cijfers. Iedere Vlaamse fietssnelweg kreeg een eigen nummer. Een nummer maakt communiceren over een route gemakkelijk. Ook voor routeplanners zijn codes erg handig.

Het logo heeft een hemelsblauwe kleur. Lichter dan de standaard blauwe kleur uit de wegcode om duidelijk het verschil te maken. Maar ook een logische variant: lichter in het verkeer, dus sneller en vlotter, onder de blote hemel.



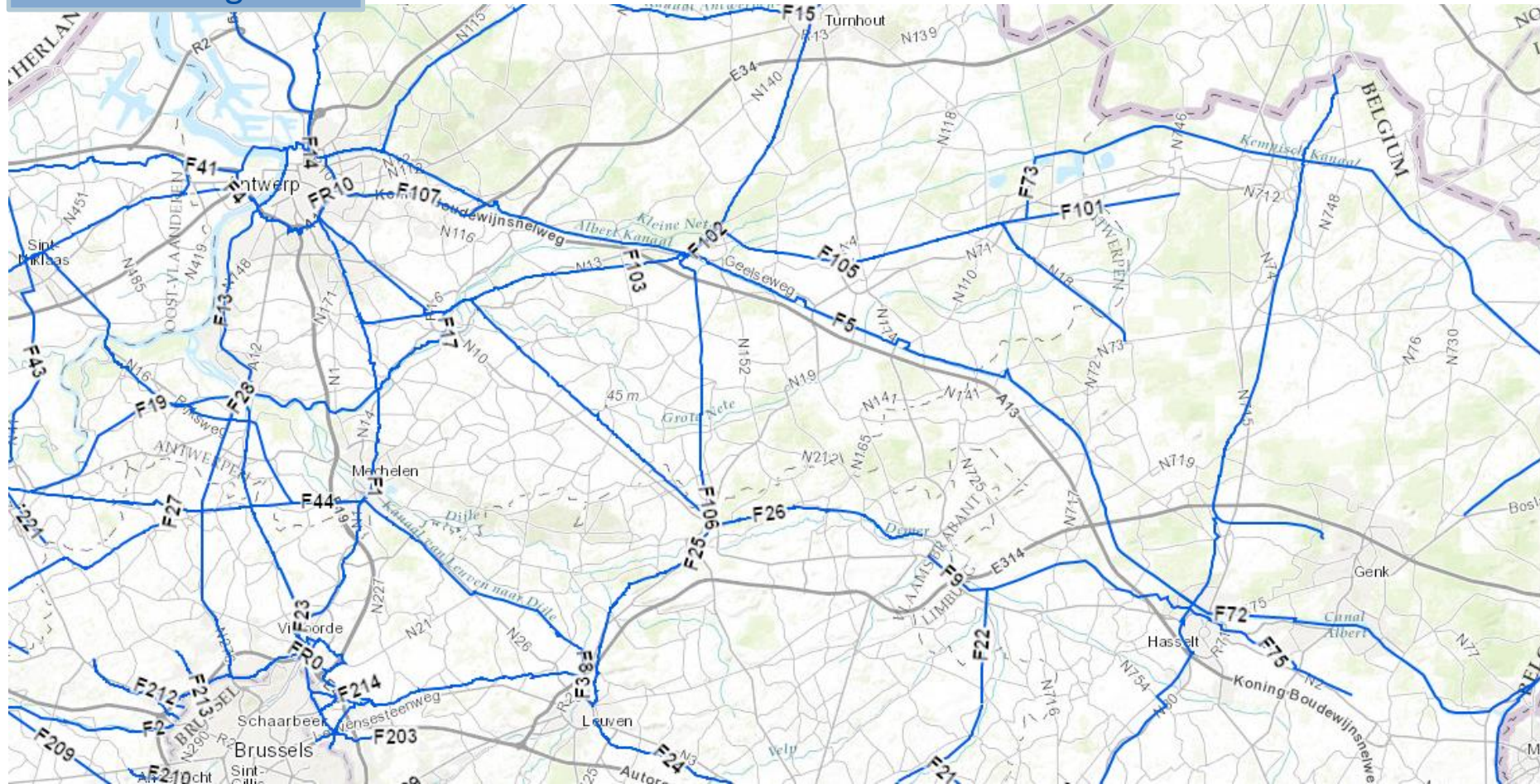
# Cycle Highway Assessment

## Criterion 20

### AWARENESS

[Fietsnelwegen.be](http://Fietsnelwegen.be)

f.e. F5 = Antwerpen - Hasselt



# Cycle Highway Assessment

## Criterion 20

### AWARENESS

**Interreg**   
EUROPEAN UNION  
North-West Europe  
**CHIPS**  
European Regional Development Fund



# Cycle Highway Assessment

## Criterion 20

### AWARENESS

(also awareness for other vehicles)



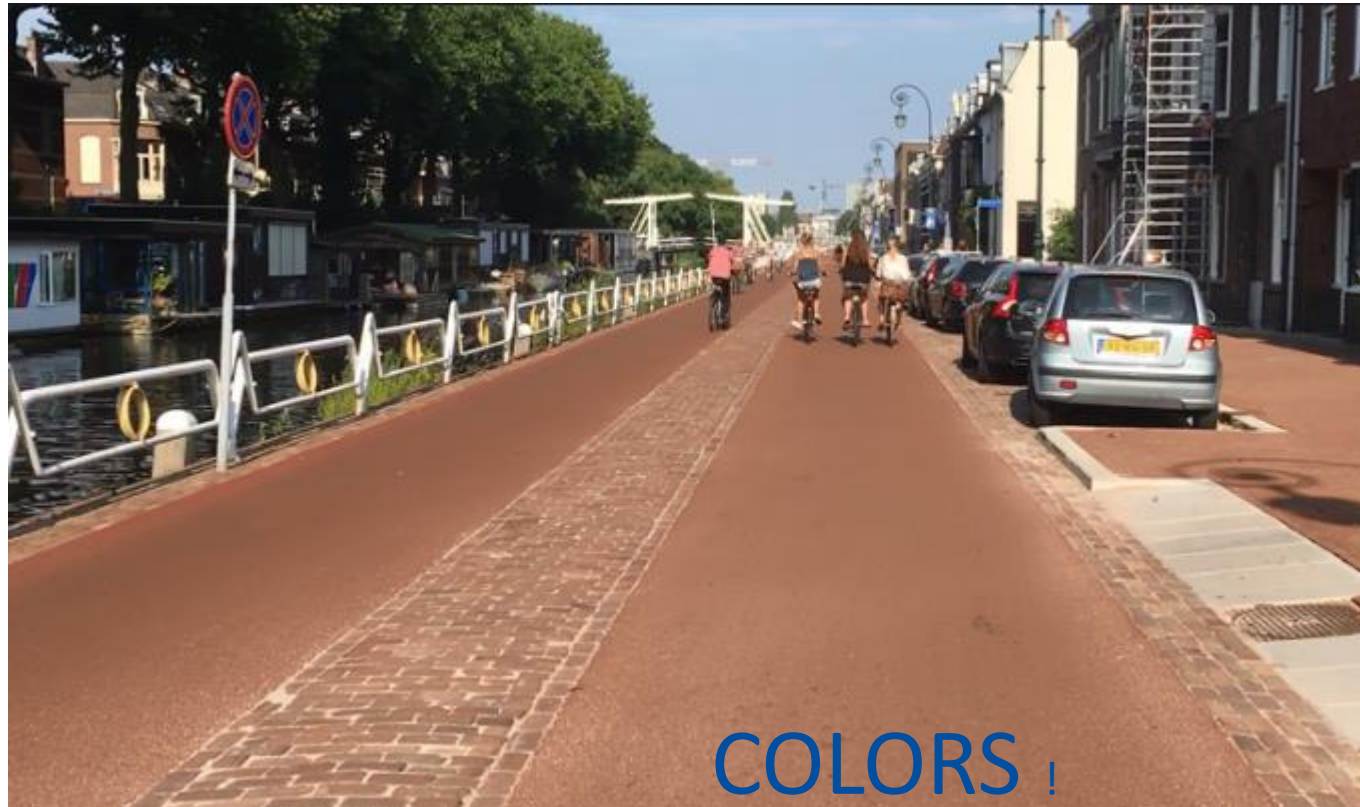
# Cycle Highway Assessment

## Criterion 21

### COHERENCE – INFRASTRUCTURE

### READABILITY

(Consider horizontal markings / vertical markings / landscape markings)



# Cycle Highway Assessment

## Criterion 22

### COHERENCE – CONNECTIONS

*e.g. Park&Bike HUB, Mobility HUB*

Will the “Mobility Hub” Replace Freeways



By Allon Schoener on February 28, 2015 in Lifestyle



Connections to road, train, bus and bicycle network  
Count missing links at pivotal points



# Cycle Highway Assessment

## Criterion 22

### COHERENCE – CONNECTIONS

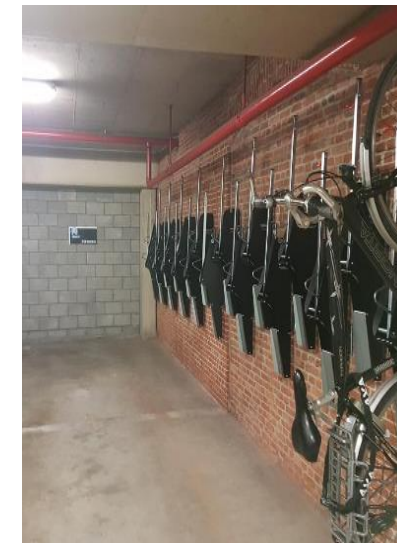
*e.g. Park&Bike HUBS: smart storage*



Gridbox



Veloboxx , also in e-Veloboxx



VeloWup

# Cycle Highway Assessment

## Deleted criterium =

## SUSTAINABILITY

F.E. SKELLET – FULLY RE-USABLE COMPONENTS (CIRCULAR-infrastructure)



# EXERCISE

- EVALUATE LEVELS – setting of European level

# Interreg



## North-West Europe

## CHIPS

European Regional Development Fund

# Thank you!