



Cycling in hilly cities: A case study of Bern, Switzerland

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Postcards from Bern



Population 142'000
Metro Area 400'000
UNESCO-Heritage
Hilly City
Capital of a mountanous
Country



Vel^o HAUPT
STADT



Bern





5%

95%

Where do People live?



How do they come to the city centre?





hilly and narrow?
Yes... 500m-700m

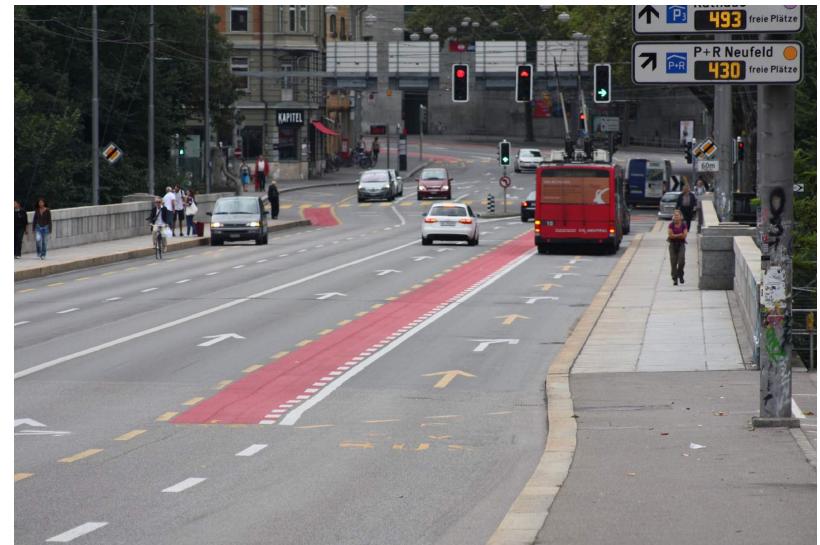


Too hilly and narrow for
a good cycling
infrastructure?

Which bridge is wider?



a) Dronning Louises Bro, Copenhagen

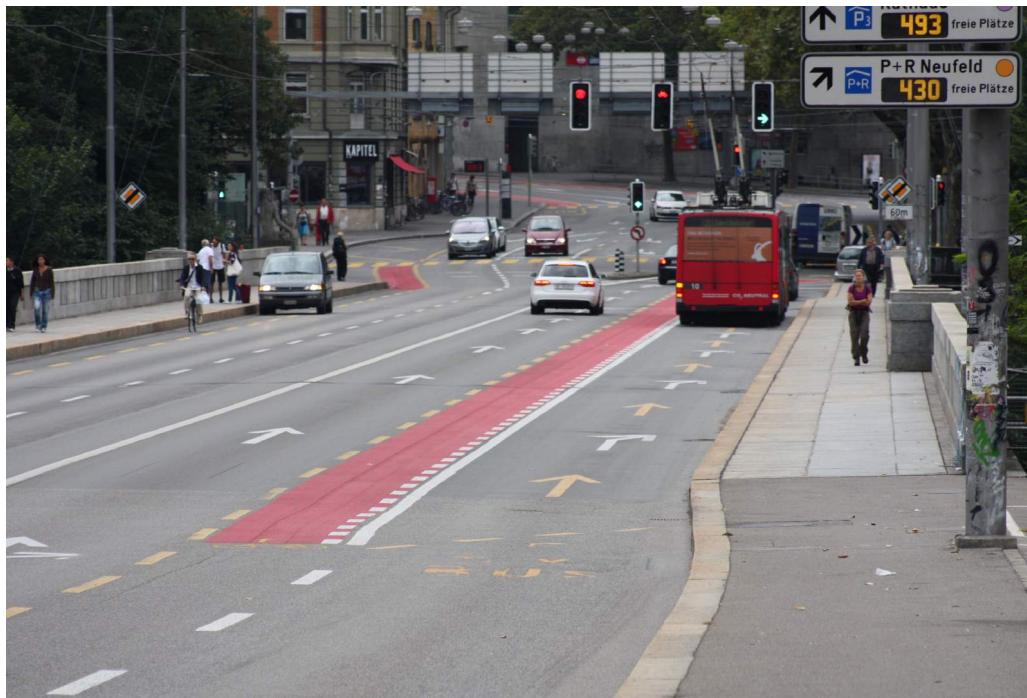


b) Lorrainebrücke, Bern

Which narratives do we tell? And what does it means for cycling policies?



Quelle: www.greatillustratedclassics.com



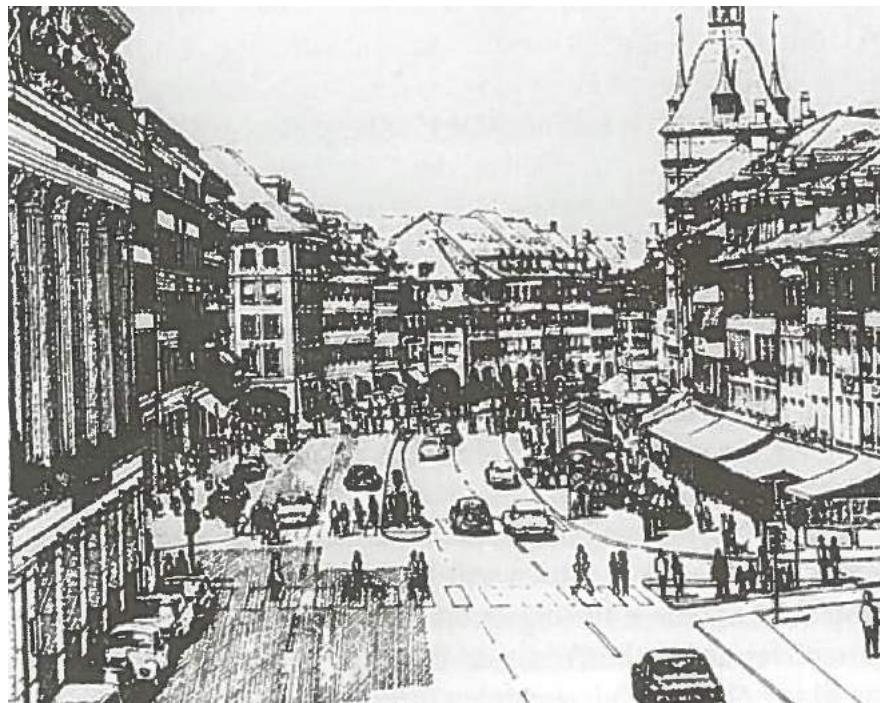
A brief history of mobility policies of Bern

1930`s / 1940`s / 1950`s



Quelle: Staatsarchiv Kanton Bern, Burgerbibliothek Bern

1960-1970`s



1980's



Since the 1980's

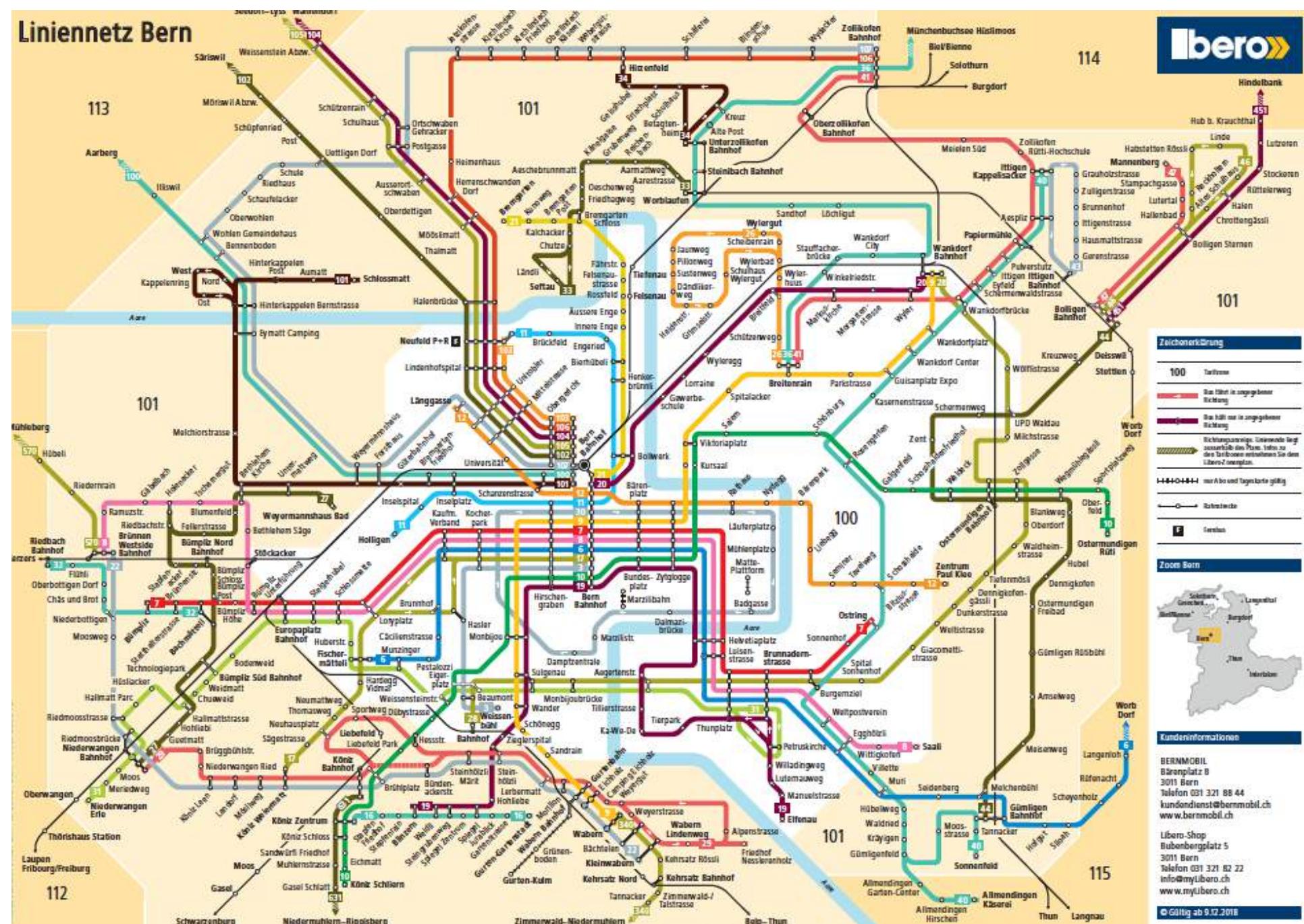


Since the 1980's

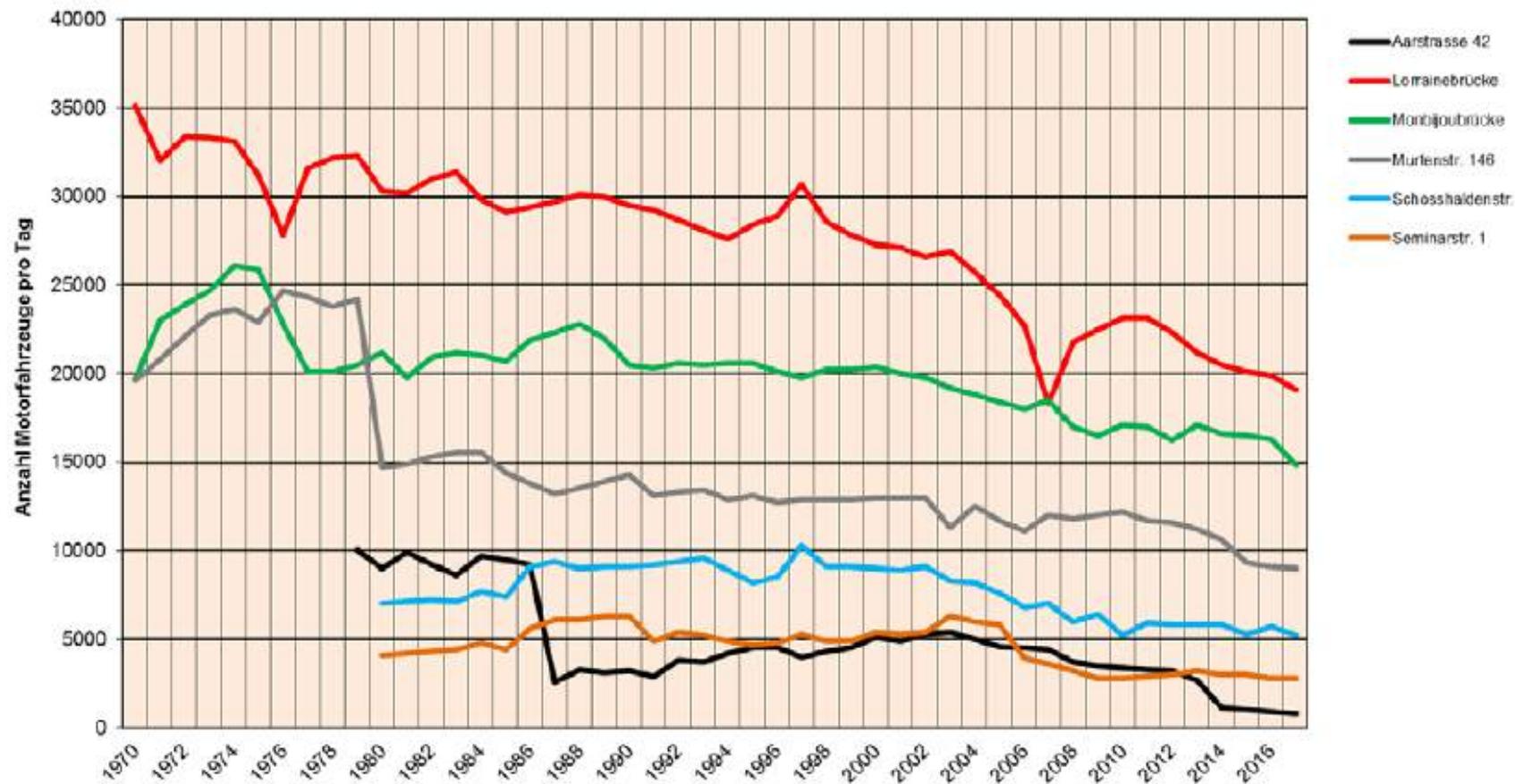


Liniennetz Bern

libero



Inner city car traffic since the 1970

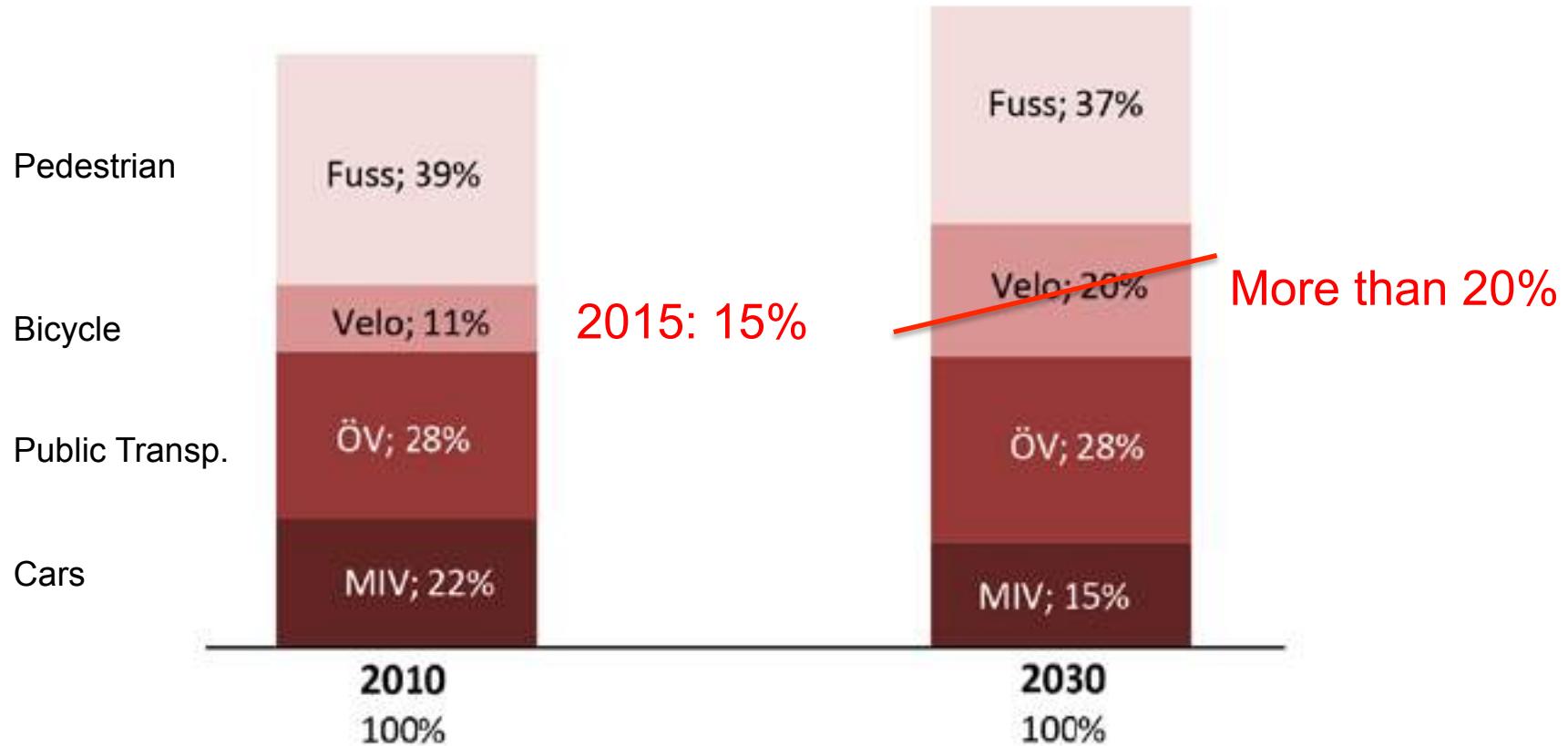


2015:
57% car-free households



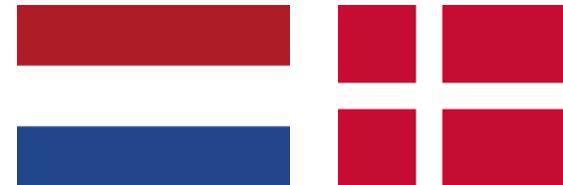


Modal Share



what narratives do we tell?

Yes we can

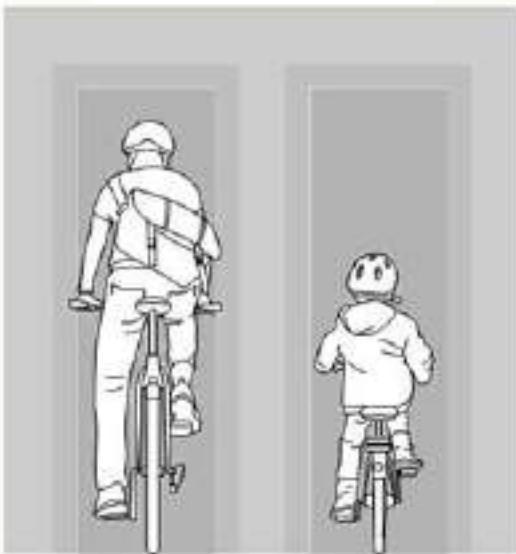


Masterplan Veloinfrastruktur



Standards

Neu



Nebeneinander/Überholen

2.50 m

-> stets anzustreben

Neu



Veloanhänger

1.80 m

-> Minimum für Hauptrouten

Stadtvelo

1.50 m

-> Minimum



From 8 to 80

Quelle: Michael Liebig



2.50m



Cycle Tracks

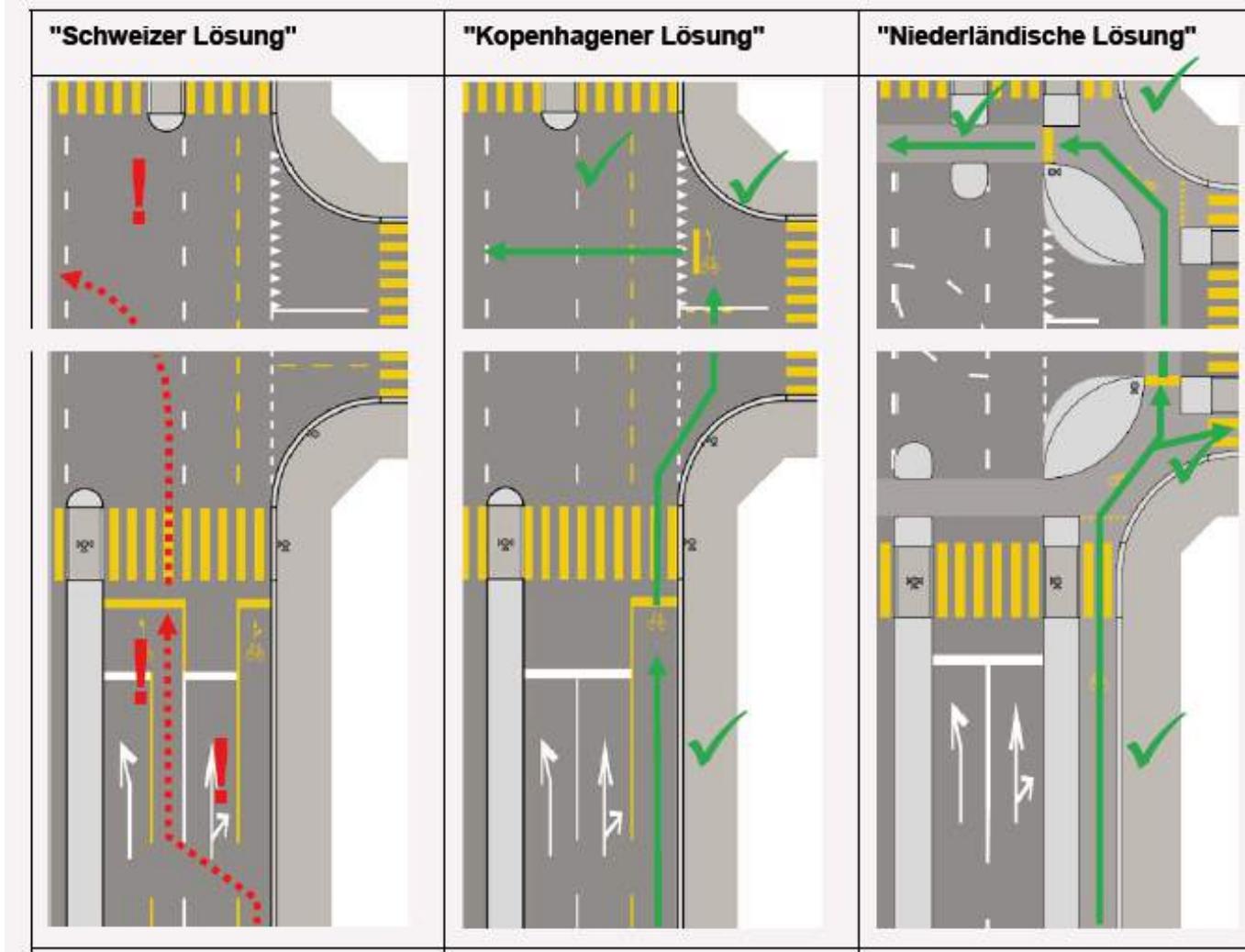


Cycle Tracks



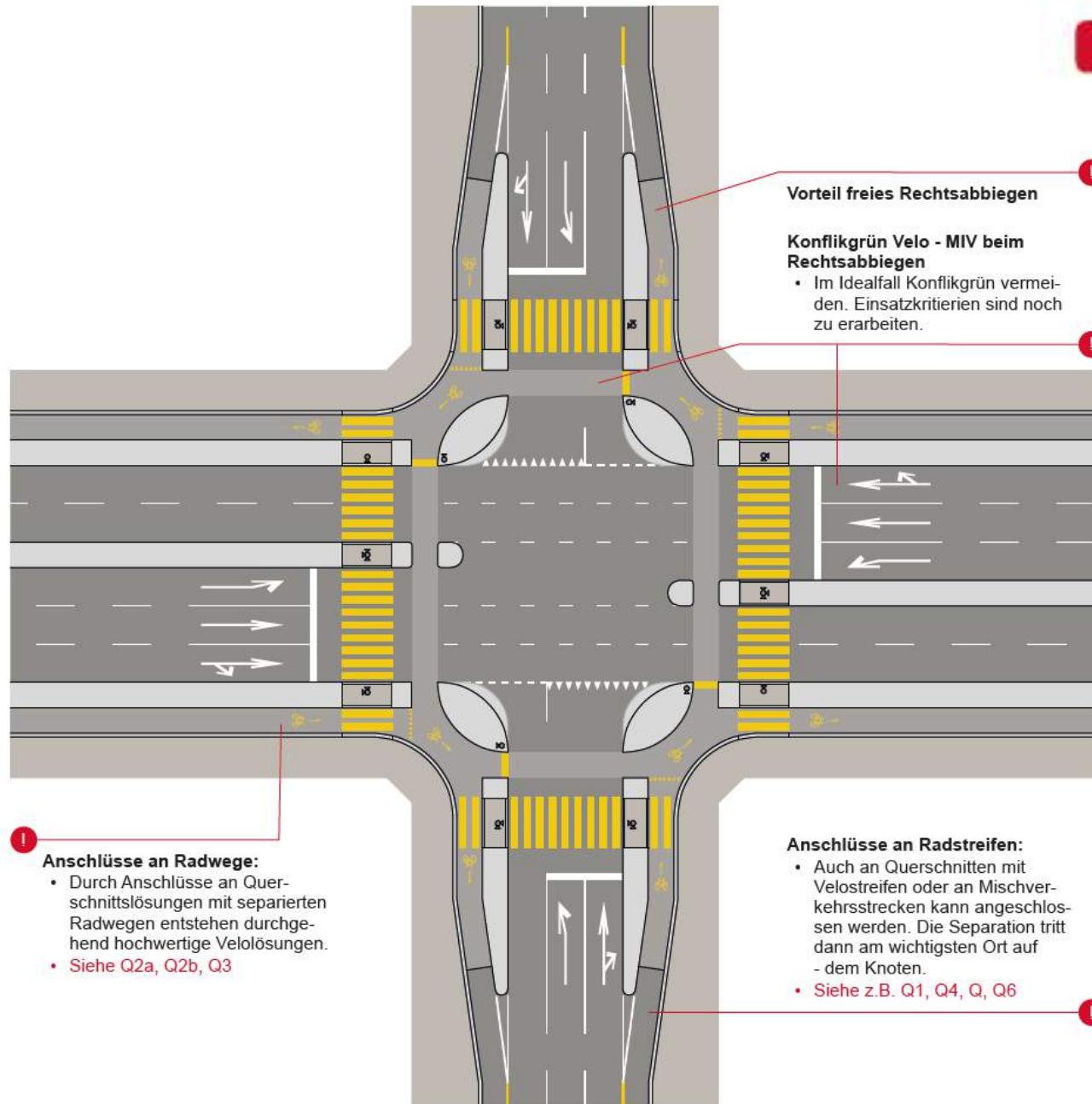
Cycle Tracks

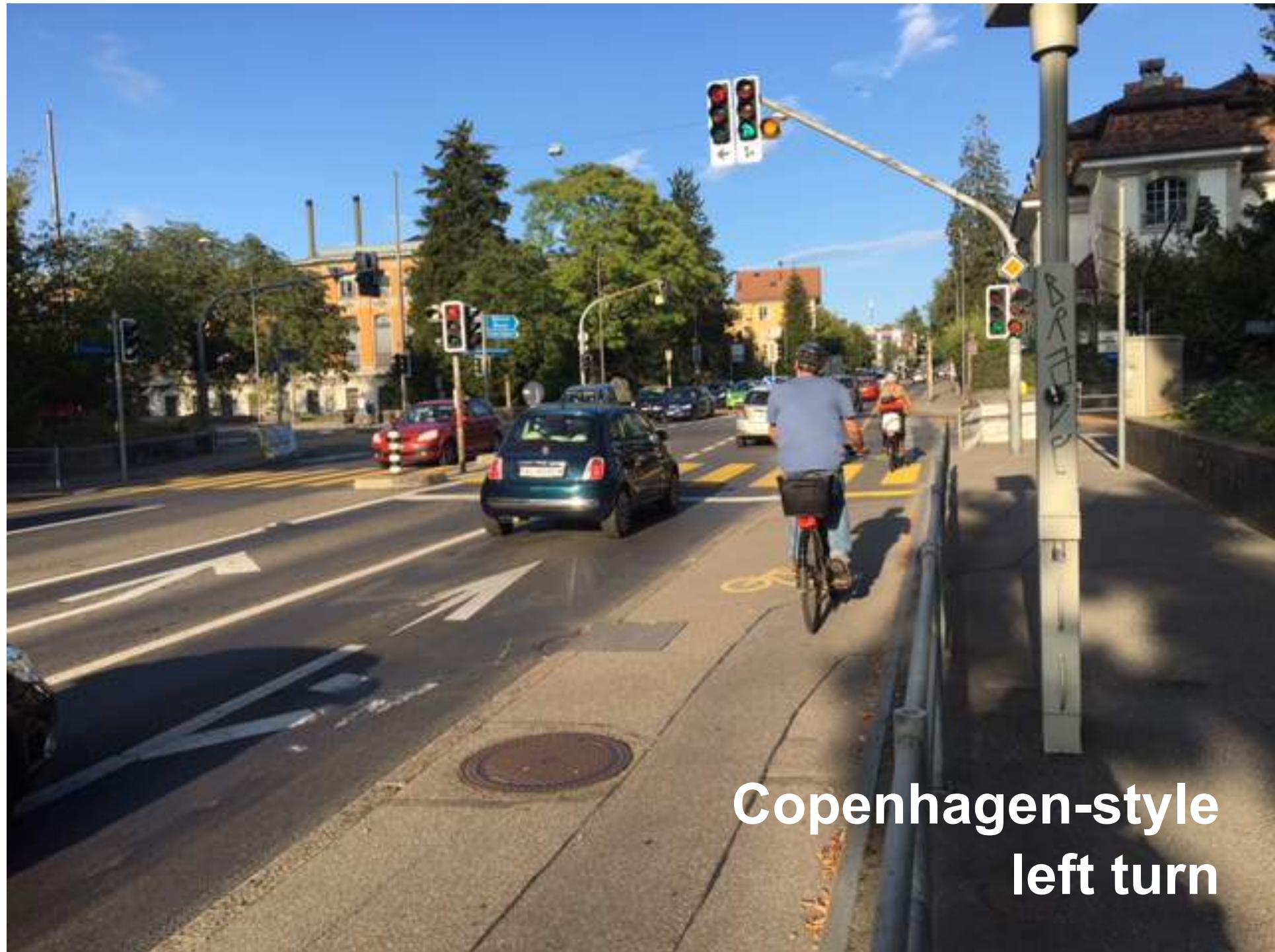
New Layouts





Neu

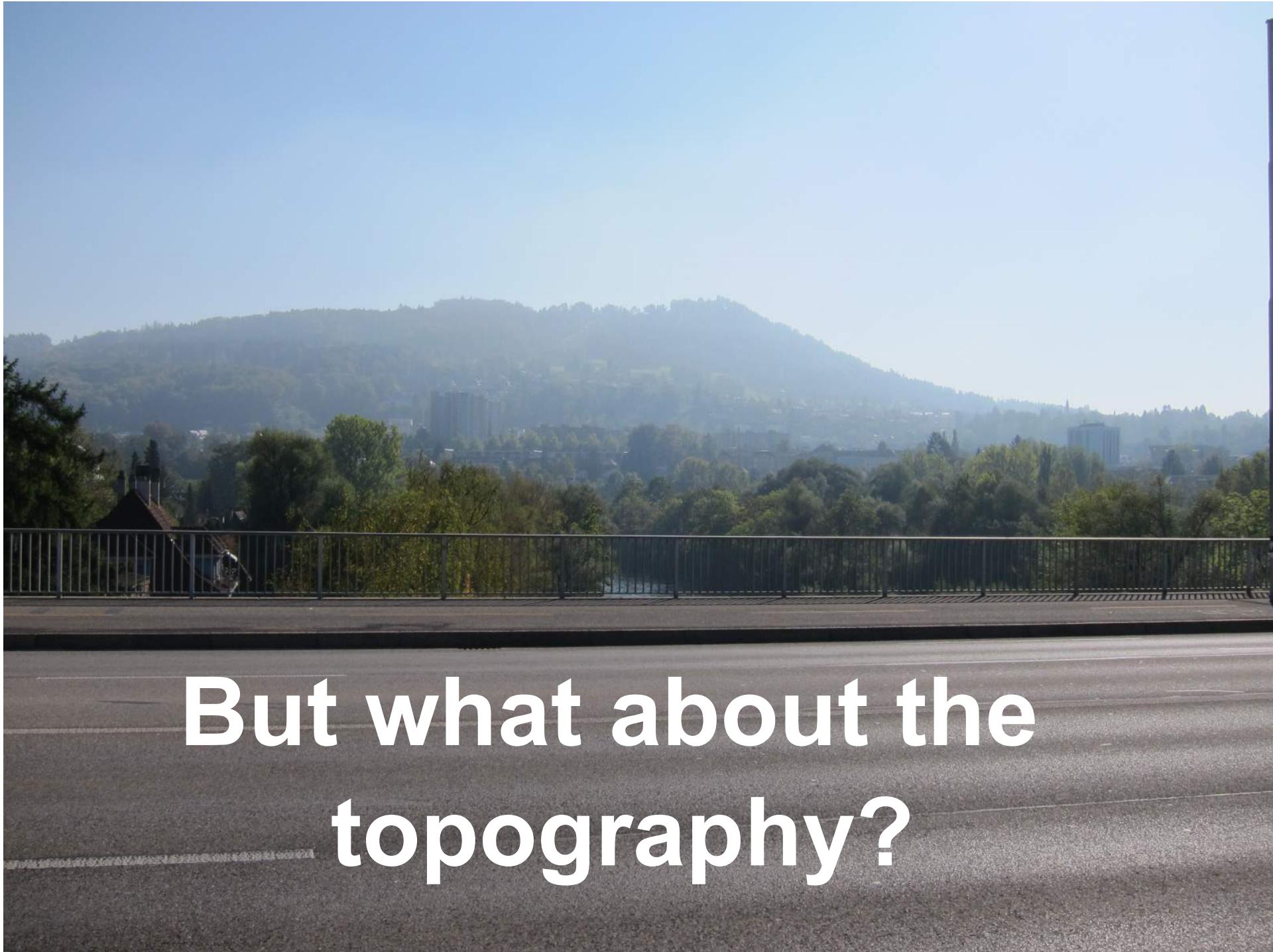




Copenhagen-style
left turn



Copenhagen-style
left turn

A scenic view of a mountain range with a city in the foreground. The image shows a large, forested mountain in the background under a clear blue sky. In the middle ground, there's a dense cluster of trees and some buildings, likely a city or town. The foreground is a paved surface, possibly a road or parking lot, with a metal fence running across it.

**But what about the
topography?**



velo HAUPT
STADT

Nr 1: 2.50m



velo HAUPT
STADT

Nr 2: bicycles and PT



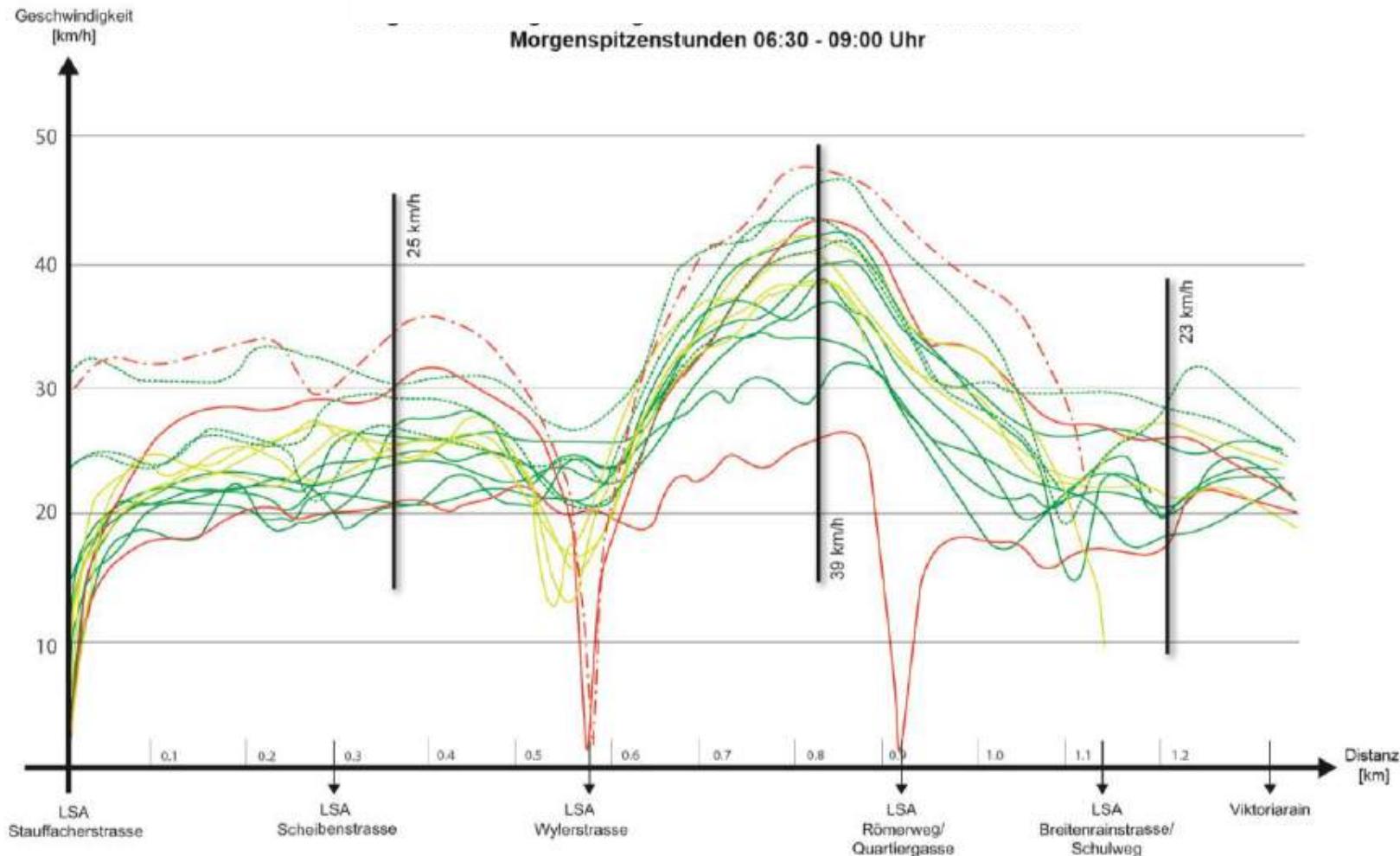
Nr 3: bike boxes

„Green wave“ for cyclists



speed depending on topography

median speed (flat): 22km/h (without e-bikes)





Nr 5: e-bikes



**45km/h in
a city?**



VELO HAUPT
STADT



Bike-Sharing System Bern:

50% E-Bikes



Nr 6: alternatives

Education, Culture and Campaigning





E-Cargobike-programme for local shopkeepers

Free use during six month



Private initiative: Cargobike-Sharing-System Carvelo2go



Successes: +35% increase in bicycle traffic in 4 years



Challenges



What is all about?

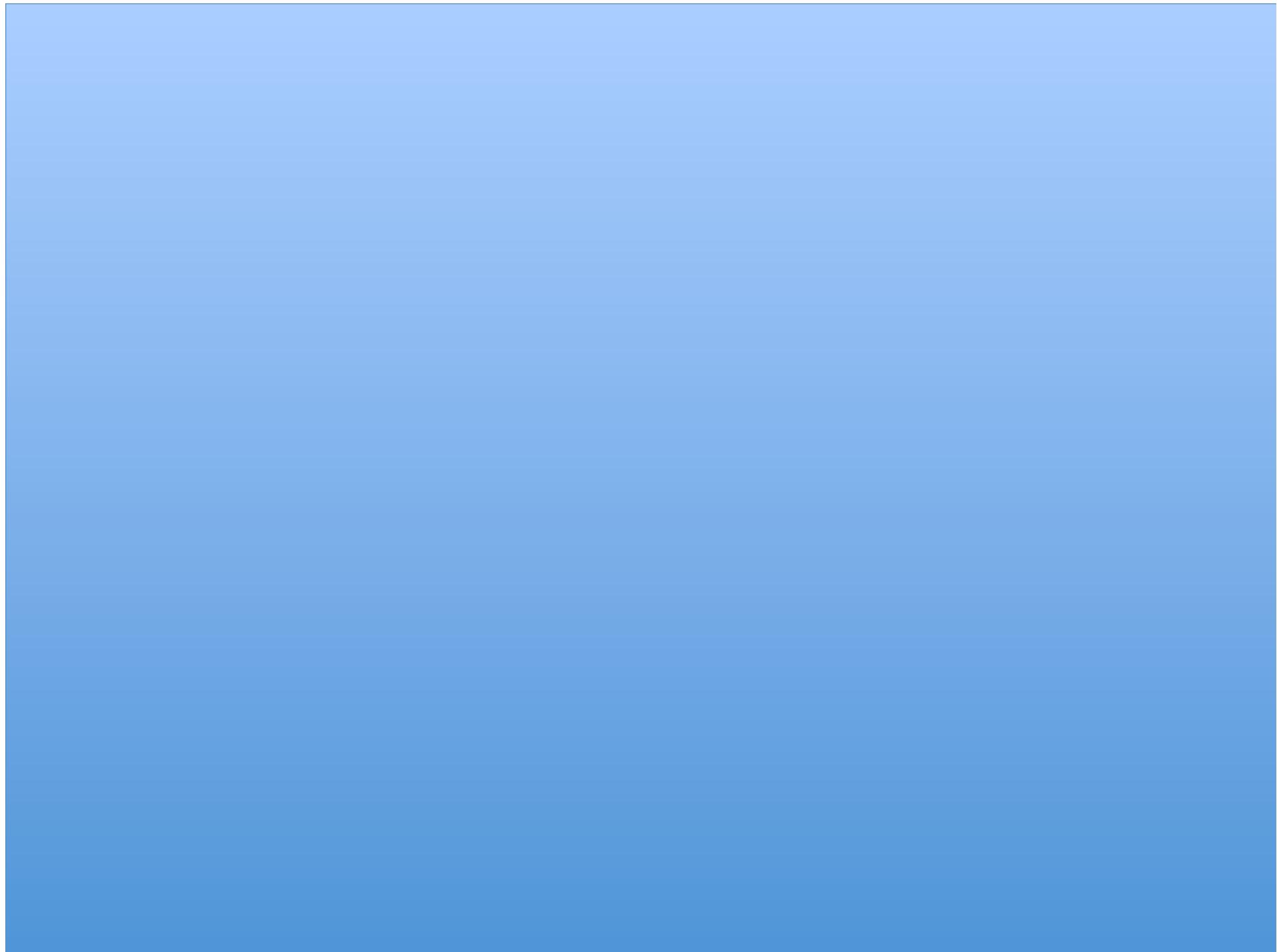


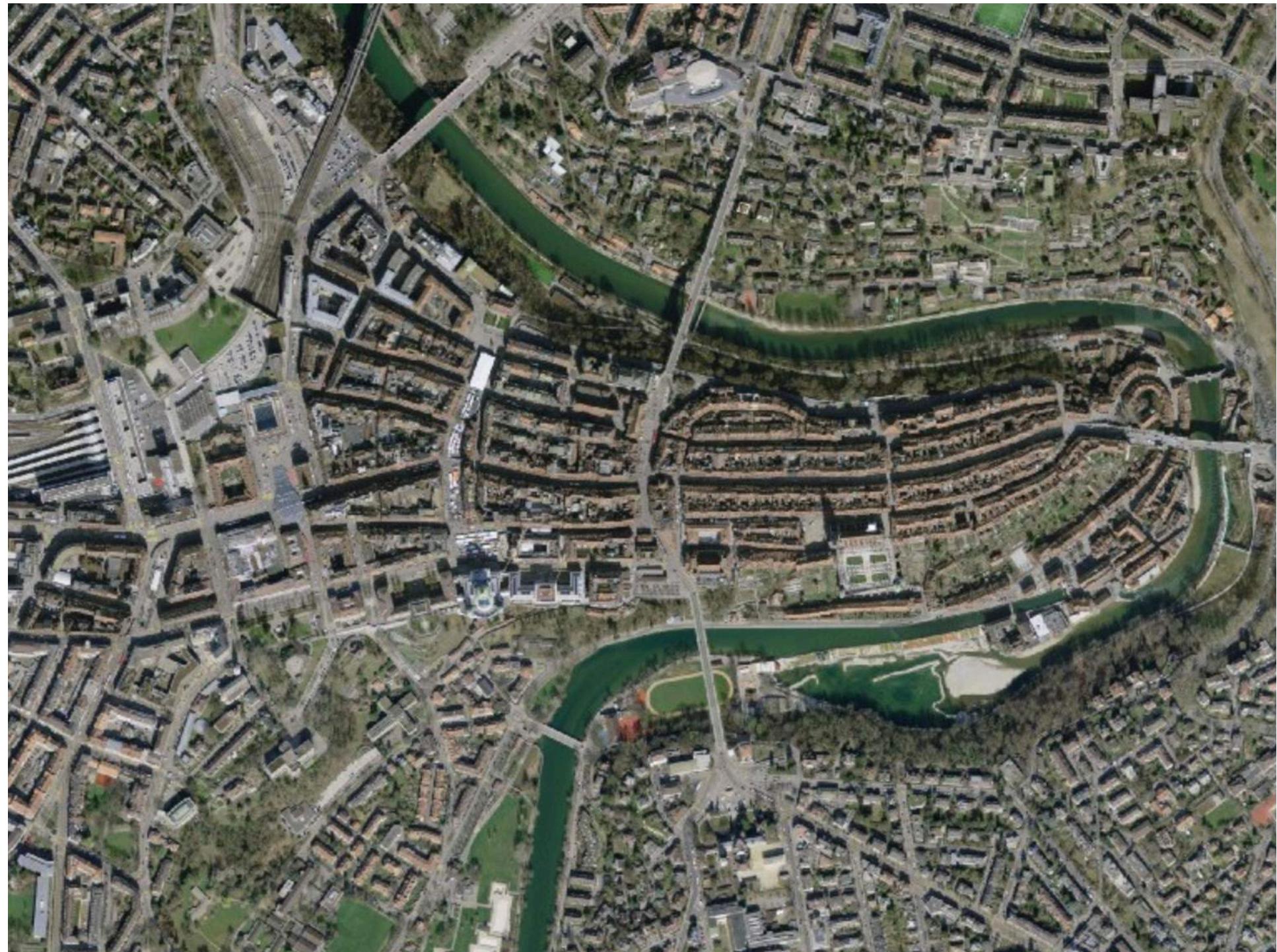
Lifeable Cities

Quelle: www.visitdenmark.com



Lifeable Cities





Safety by numbers

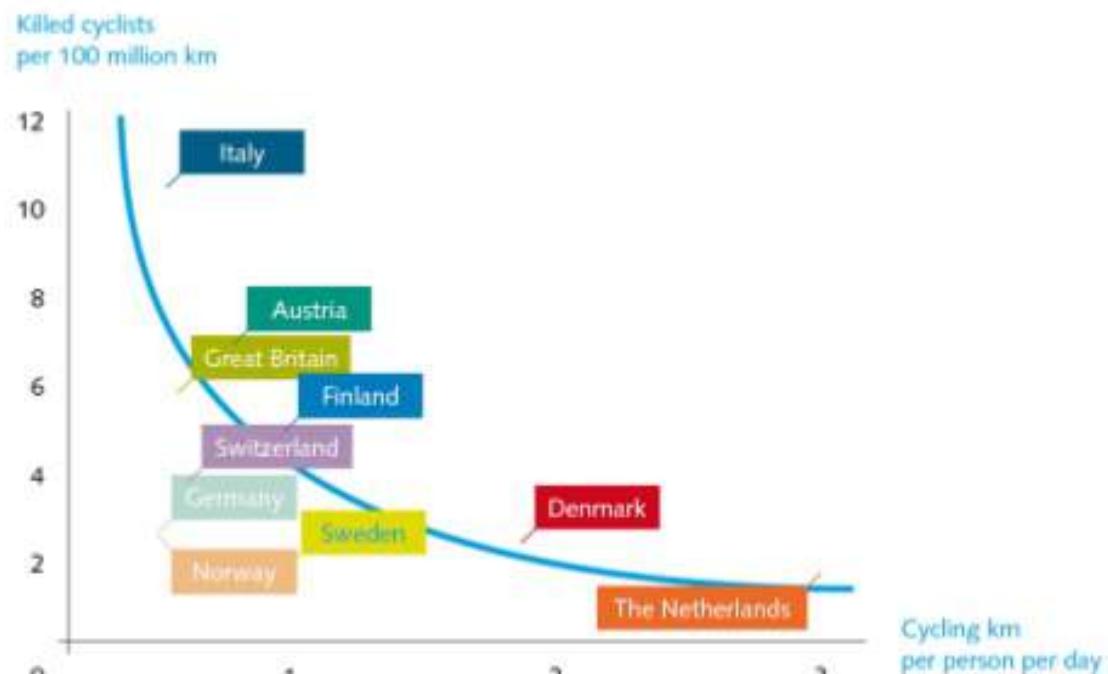


Figure 8: Relation between accidents and bicycle usage

Dutch Cycling Embassy

Narratives

Facts & Figures

Mobility policies since the 1980`s

Current Cycling Strategy

Looking forward...