

URBAN LIFE ACCOUNT

► TRENDS IN COPENHAGEN'S URBAN LIFE 2015

Copenhagen is a well-functioning city. The city has life between buildings, but this success did not come about by accident. It is the result of years of dedicated effort to develop and improve the city, driven by a clear focus on Copenhagensers and on all the people who use, visit, work with or run a business in Copenhagen.

In 2010, the City of Copenhagen released its first urban life account, which monitors the status of three key ambitions in the vision 'A Metropolis for People'. The 2015 Urban Life Account is the fifth in the series, and this time we compare the three objectives with the baseline measurement described in the 2010 Urban Life Account. In addition, we describe several general trends. Since the previous urban life account, 'A Metropolis for People' has been replaced by a new vision, 'Co-create Copenhagen, vision for 2025'. The new vision sets more ambitious technical and environmental goals aimed at ensuring that come 2025, Copenhagen will still be a great city for everyone, where everyday urban life is a top priority.

Urban Life Account 2015 shows that we achieved the goals we set in 'A Metropolis for People'. But even if the goals have been achieved, the Technical and Environmental Administration is going to continue to work to keep Copenhagen an attractive city – even as the city grows at the rate of some 10,000 residents a year.



**COPENHAGEN
TOGETHER**

CITY OF COPENHAGEN
The Technical and
Environmental Administration



METHOD

The Urban Life Account is based on data from a variety of sources, including pedestrian counts, observations of time spent in streets, squares and parks, two YouGov questionnaire surveys, a transportation habit study carried out by the Technical University of Denmark and data from the City of Copenhagen, the Technical and Environmental Administration.

We are aware that some of the figures carry a certain statistical uncertainty. Where the uncertainty is particularly pronounced, we draw attention to it in a note.

Some of the raw data is available at www.kk.dk/artikel/bylivsregnskab, where you will find information and data about urban life in Copenhagen as well as the Urban Life Account 2015, 2013, 2012, 2011 and 2010 in Danish and English.



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Vester Voldgade, Regnbuepladsen, Købmagergade, Kultorvet, Hauser Plads, Israels Plads, Torvehallerne, 'Vesterbro Passage', New Ny Nørreport, the extension of Nyhavn, 'Bølgen', Museumshaven, Tove Ditlevsens Plads, Istedgade, Valby Storbyhave, Skotlands Plads, Mozarts Plads, Guldbergs Plads, Bibliotekspladsen, Nørrebrogade, Den Røde Plads, Tåsinge Plads, Svanemøllestranden, Husum Bypark, Tårnlegepladsen	



PREFACE

OUR LIVING COPENHAGEN

The City of Copenhagen grows by about 10,000 new residents a year, and that makes a noticeable difference in the city. Every day, there are many different Copenhageners in the street space, and it is one of our most important tasks to make room for everyone as part of making Copenhagen an even more attractive, environmentally friendly, vibrant and accessible city.

Since the previous urban life account, 'A Metropolis for People' has been retired and is now incorporated into the new vision, 'Co-create Copenhagen'. This will change the format of future accounts slightly, but it does not change our dedication to making Copenhagen a city for all. A city with a rich and diverse urban life, where everyone can participate, regardless of age, social status, ethnicity, income level or disability. A city where everyday urban life is a top priority, and where we create opportunities for temporary and permanent, secret and shared, offbeat and mainstream activities all year round and around the clock.

A good city is a city where we spend time outdoors, and where the city's parks, squares and shopping streets are a natural extension of Copenhageners' homes. Spending time outdoors signals that we view the city as a safe place, and that we feel the pull of the possibilities and experiences that urban life has to offer. Briefly put: we feel at home in Copenhagen's urban life. And Copenhagen is at its best and most vibrant when we meet each other in urban life.

Some urban life is 'simply' a necessity. We go shopping, pick up the children, go to and from work and school. We do these things whatever the city is like. But the fun things – recreational urban life, street parties, calm reflection, engaging activities and creative experiences – only happen if the city is inviting. Therefore, we will continue to create squares, parks, streets and piers that invite more people to stay longer – in the centre, in the periphery, in the old built-up neighbourhoods and in the new developments. All the places where we all live and pass through on a daily basis.

Urban Life Account 2015 describes how Copenhageners use, spend time in and move through the city, and it offers a brief introduction to some of Copenhagen's new urban spaces that have been inviting urban life since 2010. Urban Life Account 2015 gives us a qualified basis for working with local residents, associations, businesses and professionals on creating the world's most liveable city.

Enjoy!

Morten Kabell
Mayor, Technical and Environmental Administration

1. MORE URBAN LIFE FOR ALL

BY 2015, 80% OF COPENHAGENERS SHOULD BE SATISFIED WITH THEIR OPPORTUNITIES FOR TAKING PART IN URBAN LIFE.

2015 STATUS

IN 2015, 87% OF COPENHAGENERS WERE SATISFIED OR VERY SATISFIED WITH THEIR OPPORTUNITIES FOR TAKING PART IN URBAN LIFE.

2015 GOAL

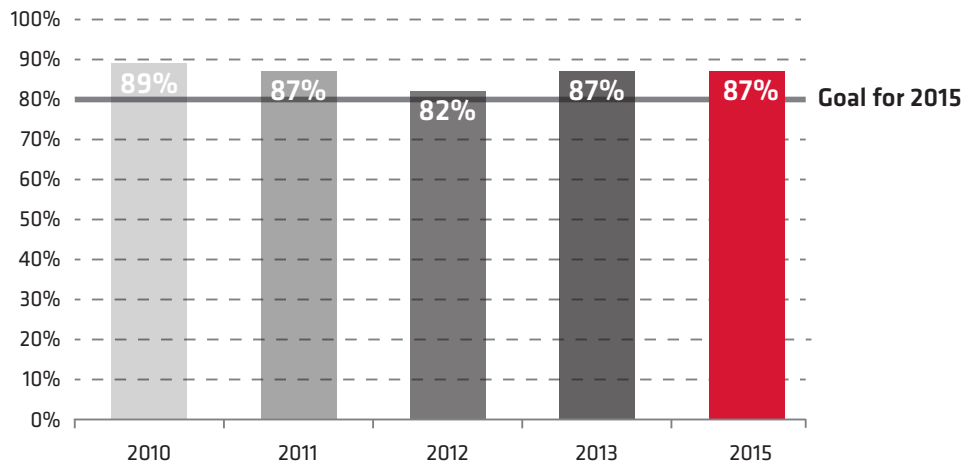
The City of Copenhagen has a goal of 80% user satisfaction with urban life by 2015.

Urban life is everything that unfolds when people pass through and spend time in the public space. Urban life unfolds in squares, streets and parks, in playgrounds or on a bicycle ride through town.

Efforts produce results, and the City of Copenhagen has accomplished the goal by a wide range of measures, including abolishing the fees for outdoor seating for cafes, bars and restaurants and for staging events in the urban space as well as simplifying the application process for event permits.

Even though the goal of 'More urban life for all' has been accomplished, the Technical and Environmental Administration continues its efforts to improve overall satisfaction with the conditions for taking part in urban life.

2015 STATUS



Source: YouGov

87%
of Copenhageners
are satisfied with their
opportunities for taking
part in urban life

URBAN LIFE IS AT ITS BEST, AND
COPENHAGEN AT ITS MOST VIBRANT,
WHEN COPENHAGENERS GO OUT AND
MEET EACH OTHER IN THE
URBAN SPACE.



COPENHAGENERS TAKE PART IN URBAN LIFE

In 2015, we asked Copenhageners how happy they are with their opportunities for taking part in urban life, and 87% said that they are quite satisfied. Compared with 2010, the trend is more or less unchanged, and the level is almost constant if the categories of 'very satisfied' and 'satisfied' are added up.

86%
of Copenhageners say
that they find Copen-
hagen's urban life
vibrant and varied

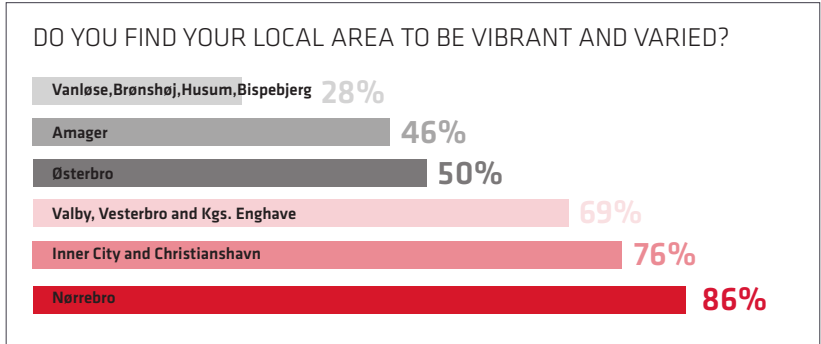


URBAN LIFE IS NOT JUST ABOUT CAFE VISITS AND TOURISTS
Urban life is everything that happens when people pass through and spend time in the public urban space. Urban life unfolds in squares, streets and parks, at playgrounds or on a bicycle ride through town. Living in the city and taking part in urban life is an active choice for most people today. We visit cafes, bike to work, go for a dip in the harbour or attend concerts in city squares. In the urban space, we meet other people. People we already know and people we simply pass by in the street. People with other values and lifestyles. That is why a rich and diverse urban life is an important part of a socially sustainable city.

A VIBRANT AND VARIED URBAN LIFE IS IMPORTANT

86% of Copenhageners say that they find urban life in Copenhagen vibrant and varied, and when we survey Copenhageners, 92% say that they find it important for Copenhagen to have a vibrant and varied urban life. Compared with 2010, the figures are unchanged.

59% of Copenhageners say that their local area has a vibrant and varied urban life. A more detailed look reveals that Copenhageners living in Nørrebro are generally more likely to agree that their local area has a more vibrant and varied urban life than Copenhageners living in other parts of the city. 76% say that they find the Inner City and Christianshavn to have a vibrant and varied urban life, 69% characterize urban life in Vesterbro and Kgs. Enghave as vibrant and varied, compared with 50% in Østerbro. The lowest ratings are found in Amager, Vanløse, Brønshøj-Husum and Bispebjerg, where the lowest share of residents regard their local area as vibrant and varied.

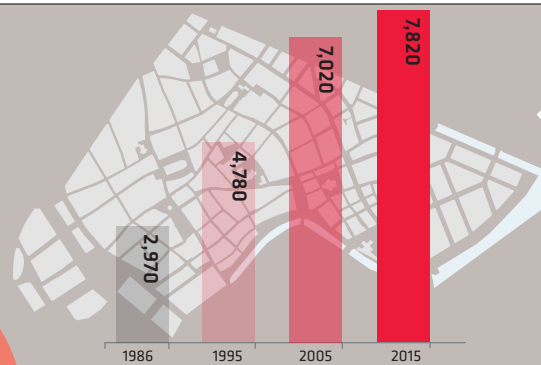


Source: YouGov

Given the significant increase in the number of Copenhageners, we need to create the conditions for urban life to flourish equally well as more people share the same amount of space. And flourish equally well in the areas outside the Inner City, Nørrebro, Vesterbro and Østerbro.



Since 2010, the number of permits for outdoor seating has increased by **126%**



A MEASUREMENT OF OUTDOOR CAFE ACTIVITY BASED ON THE NUMBER OF CAFE CHAIRS OR BENCHES IN THE URBAN SPACE IN THE INNER CITY, FOUND AN INCREASE OF 64% FROM 1995 TO 2015.
City of Copenhagen, Technical and Environmental Administration 2015

OUTDOOR SEATING HAS FLOURISHED

Taking a cup of coffee al fresco in a cafe is an integrated part of modern urban life in every part of the city and all year round. The total number of permits for outdoor seating in Copenhagen has increased by 126% since 2010, from 450 permits then to 1,015 permits in 2015.

When we survey Copenhagensers, 89% reply that they are satisfied with the availability of outdoor seating in cafes and restaurants in the city overall. This marks a minor fall of 3% in satisfaction since 2010.

When we ask Copenhagensers how often they sit outdoors in cafes and restaurants in the city, 37% say that they do so on a weekly basis in the summertime. The share is 14% in spring, 8% in autumn and 3% in winter. Only 2% of Copenhagensers say that they never sit outdoors in cafes or restaurants. The numbers have not changed much since we began surveying Copenhagensers in 2010

OUTDOOR SEATING IS PART OF URBAN LIFE

The cafe culture has spread far beyond the city centre to all parts of the city, but when we look at outdoor seating permits by district, most of the permits were issued for the Inner City and Christianshavn, as was the case in 2010.

Since 2010, the number of outdoor seating permits has gone up in most districts. In Nørrebro, the increase is 300%, in Østerbro it is 219%, in Vesterbro and Kgs. Eng-have, the increase is 165%, and in the Inner City and Christianshavn, the number of outdoor seating permits has gone up by 107% since 2010.

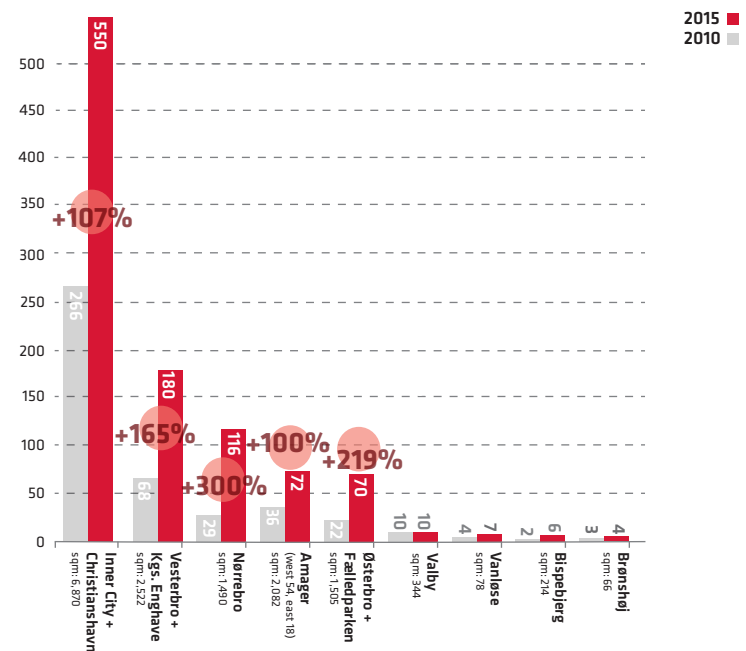
In Valby, Vanløse, Bispebjerg and Brønshøj the number of outdoor seating permits issued has hardly changed at all since 2010; these areas also have the highest share of respondents saying they are not satisfied with the availability of outdoor seating in cafes and restaurants.

HOW MUCH DO COPENHAGENERS USE OUTDOOR SEATING?



Source: YouGov

OUTDOOR SEATING PERMITS BY DISTRICT



City of Copenhagen, Technical and Environmental Administration



FOR COPENHAGENERS AND VISITORS TO THE CITY, MOBILE VENDORS ENRICH URBAN LIFE WITH NEW POP-UP OUTLETS

THE MOBILE STALLS CAN ADAPT TO THE FLOW OF TRAFFIC IN THE CITY, MOVE TO A PLACE WHEN THE NEED ARISES AND POP UP FOR SPECIAL EVENTS IN THE URBAN SPACE



MOBILE STALLS INCLUDE CARGO BIKES, COFFEE MOPEDS, FOOD TRUCKS AND OTHER REGISTERED MOTOR VEHICLES



27%
of Copenhageners buy from market stalls or street vendors every month

MOBILE VENDORS ARE PART OF URBAN LIFE

Commerce has always been a part of the urban space, and markets are as popular as ever. Copenhageners are becoming familiar with the presence of mobile vendors who have shown up in Copenhagen streets in recent years. Coffee bikes and motorized juice bars peddle drinks and snacks in the street, in parks and in city squares. Previously, stalls in fixed locations, including hot dog stands, were Copenhageners' main street kitchens, and in fact, the hot dog stands have remained popular.

The number of mobile vendors is growing rapidly, however, and in just a few years their presence has greatly expanded Copenhageners' access to quick refreshments. The total number of permits for mobile vendors in Copenhagen has increased by 300% since 2010, from 130 to 520 permits in 2015.

Since 2010, the number of mobile vendors has gone up by

300%

NUMBER OF PERMITS FOR STREET VENDORS



City of Copenhagen, Technical and Environmental Administration

In 2015, we asked Copenhageners how often they frequent market stalls and street vendors, and 27% say that they do so every month, while almost one in ten (8%) does so on a weekly basis. We also asked Copenhageners how satisfied they are with the number of street vendors in the city, and 35% are satisfied. When asked about their satisfaction with the number of street vendors in their local area, 27% of those surveyed say that they are satisfied.

PERMANENT AND RECURRING MARKETS

Today, there is a growing number of permanent and temporary markets in the urban space. For example, Kødbyens Mad & Marked in Vesterbro, Copenhagen Street Food on Papirøen, Bondes Marked in Østerbro, the organic market at Valby Tingsted, the Wednesday market at Torvehallerne and several regularly recurring local flea markets enrich the city's urban life. The markets attract a large audience, and many of them invite visitors to settle down in the open-air setting.



A VIBRANT AND VARIED URBAN LIFE REQUIRES A WIDE AND DIVERSE RANGE OF EXCITING EVENTS

Since 2010, the number of event permits has increased by **216%**

AN AVERAGE DAY FEATURES JUST OVER EIGHT EVENTS

City of Copenhagen, Technical and Environmental Administration 2015



EVENTS ARE PART OF URBAN LIFE

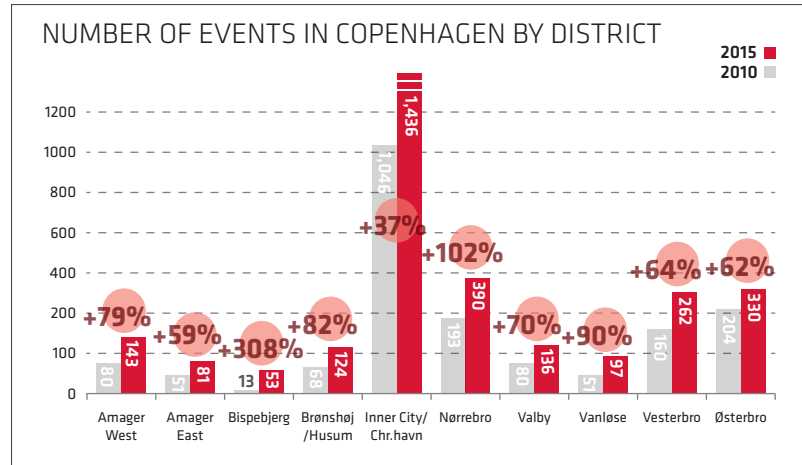
Every year, Copenhagen hosts countless big and small open-air events. In addition to the regular and recurring events, there are many special events around the city. The total number of event permits in Copenhagen has increased by 216% since 2010, from 1,009 to 3,192 permits in 2015.

By far the largest share of events takes place in the Inner City and Christianshavn. In 2015, there were a total of 1,436 events in this combined area, which accounts for almost half the event permits in Copenhagen. That marks an increase of 37%, from 1,046 in 2010 to 1,436 permits in 2015. Many of the events are seasonal in nature, which explains the large concentration of events in summer. The winter season accounts for about one third of all events, and in winter, the urban space provides a venue for new communities and meeting places that offers very different qualities than it does in summer.

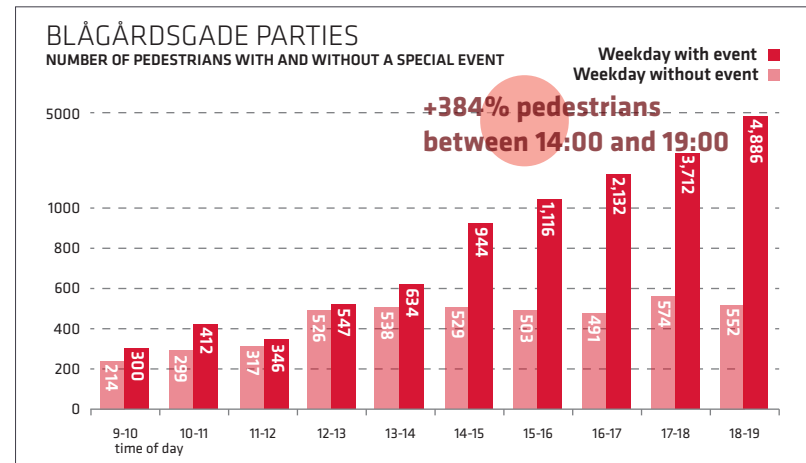
When we ask Copenhageners how often they take part in or attend events in the urban space, 21% of those surveyed say that they do so on a monthly basis. Compared with the average Copenhageners, young people (15-29 years) are more likely to take part in or attend events in the urban space at least once a month.

THE CITY PARTIES

Events in the urban space attract big audiences and lead to a rich and diverse urban life. Again in 2015, the City of Copenhagen went into the street to count pedestrians in selected urban spaces with many pedestrians. We counted pedestrians in Blågårdsgade in Nørrebro on a normal weekday and on a weekday during the Distortion event. This type of event attracts very big crowds, and between 14:00 and 19:00, foot traffic increased by 384%, compared with a normal weekday.



City of Copenhagen, Technical and Environmental Administration



City of Copenhagen, Technical and Environmental Administration

The recorded difference in the number of pedestrians in Blågårdsgade on days with and without a special event. Outcome: between 14:00 and 19:00 the pedestrian count increased by 384% compared with a normal weekday.

43%
of surveyed Copenhagens find their local area to be noisy

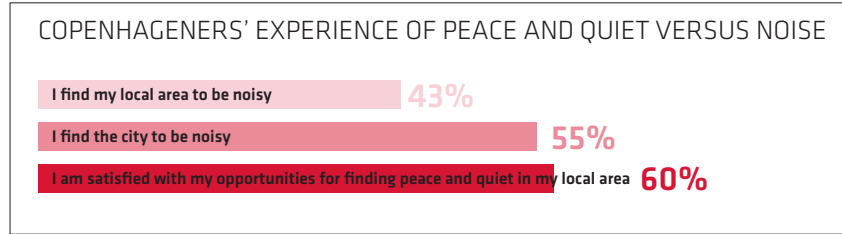


URBAN LIFE CAN BE NOISY

With its vibrant and varied urban life, for better and worse, the city is a constant bombardment of impressions and sensory stimuli. The backdrop of noise that people live with on a daily basis is part of the atmosphere for Copenhagens. The diverse and pulsating urban life is stimulating and enriching for the city, but it is also a source of crowding and noise.

55% of Copenhagens say that they find the city noisy, and slightly fewer, 43%, say that they find their local area noisy. Residents in Nørrebro and in the Inner City and Christianshavn are slightly more likely than residents in other parts of the city to describe the city as noisy. The ratings have changed little since we began the surveys in 2010.

Copenhagens also view noise as a natural part of urban life, and they do not describe the noise as a problem; at least not a major problem. The level of noise should be seen in relation to the residents' expectations of a place; in other words, the predictability of the urban space. If the noise is unpredictable, it is typically perceived as negative, while predictable noise is often perceived positively.



City of Copenhagen, Technical and Environmental Administration

FINDING PEACE AND QUIET IN THE URBAN SPACE

Most Copenhagens express a strong need to use the city to relax, and they mention peace and quiet as important; however, that does not necessarily mean the absence of noise measured in decibel. Noise is not incompatible with contemplation, provided it is perceived as positive noise, such as human voices and the rush of cars. Thus, 'peace and quiet' does not necessarily mean silence. Copenhagens find room for contemplation and reflection even in crowded spaces. The presence of other people brings a sense of safety. Young people in particular enjoy finding their quiet moments in the company of others.

60% of surveyed Copenhagens are generally satisfied with their ability to find peace and quiet in their local area. A more detailed look at the findings reveals that Copenhagens living in Nørrebro are less satisfied. 48% of those surveyed in Nørrebro reply that they are satisfied with their ability to find peace and quiet, which is the lowest rating compared to residents in other districts (Inner City and Christianshavn 72%, Østerbro 70%, Amager 61%, Vanløse/Brønshøj-Husum/Bispebjerg 58%, Vesterbro and Kgs. Enghave/Valby 57%). The ratings have changed little since we began the surveys in 2010.

So where do people go when they want to withdraw from the pulsating urban life? The Lakes are mentioned as an oasis in a bustling city. 49% of those surveyed replied that they use the Lakes when they seek relaxation, calm and contemplation*. Another place that is mentioned as an urban oasis is the green bicycle route – the Nørrebro route. Those surveyed rate this as an urban space that invites relaxation whenever one has the time and the inclination.**



*Idekatalog de indre søer i København' (Ideas catalogue for the inner lakes in Copenhagen), City of Copenhagen, Technical and Environmental Administration

**'Velkommen til Københavns grønne cykelruter' (Welcome to Copenhagen's green bicycle routes), City of Copenhagen, Technical and Environmental Administration

2. MORE PEOPLE TO WALK MORE

2015 SHOWED A 20% INCREASE IN PEDESTRIAN TRAFFIC COMPARED WITH 2010.

2015 GOAL

The City of Copenhagen has a goal of achieving a 20% increase in pedestrian traffic from 2010 to 2015, reaching an average of 12 minutes a day.

A metropolis for people is a city that is pleasant for walking. Walking is our most basic form of transportation. Walking is easy, free and healthy and more sustainable than driving. It lets us use our senses, explore and meet other people. Walking is part of urban life. Therefore, Copenhagen aims to make the city more comfortable, safe and accessible for pedestrians.

The City of Copenhagen pursues a wide range of initiatives aimed at improving the opportunities for walking in the city. This includes measures such as establishing footpaths in new and existing urban areas, safe school routes, interesting building facades, renovation of shopping streets and traffic safety projects to make walking in Copenhagen safer and more interesting.

The weather, however, remains unpredictable. And that may offer one explanation for the drop in the latest count in 2015, as the summer season was unusually wet and had fewer hours of sunshine than normal.

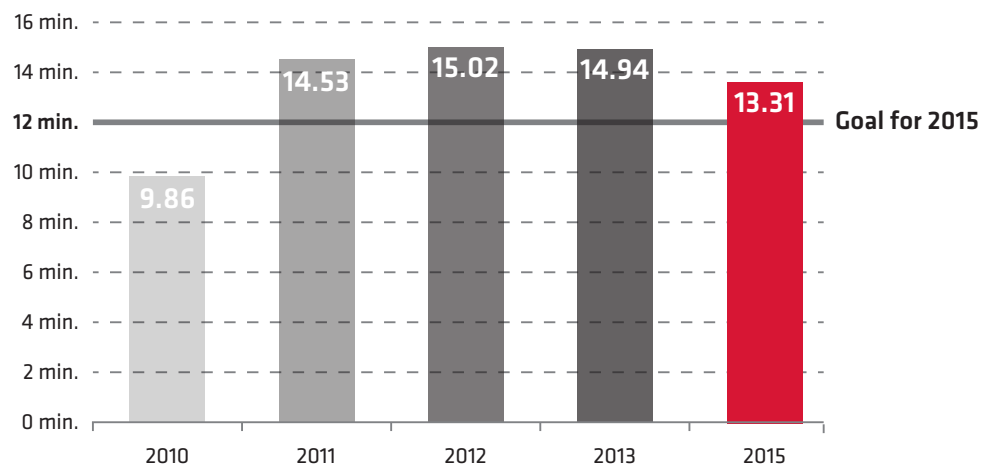
2015 STATUS

IN 2015, COPENHAGENERS WALKED FOR 13.31 MINUTES A DAY (CORRESPONDING TO 1.31 KM A DAY).

TRIPS THAT INCLUDE OTHER MEANS OF TRANSPORTATION ARE NOT INCLUDED IN THIS FIGURE.

ALTHOUGH THE GOAL HAS BEEN ACHIEVED, THE CITY CONTINUES TO STRIVE TO IMPROVE ACCESSIBILITY FOR PEDESTRIANS.

2015 STATUS



Source: Transportation habit study, Technical University of Denmark

A 'walk' is defined as walking to or from a parked car, bicycle etc., walking to and from end-destinations or walking for recreational purposes. We are aware that some of the figures carry a certain statistical uncertainty.

THAT IS 4.5 MINUTES AND HALF A KM MORE THAN THE AVERAGE DANE, WHO ONLY WALKS 8.71 MINUTES A DAY, CORRESPONDING TO 0.81 KM

Source: Transportation habit study, Technical University of Denmark

Copenhageners walk for
13,31 min.
minutes a day, corresponding to 1.31 km



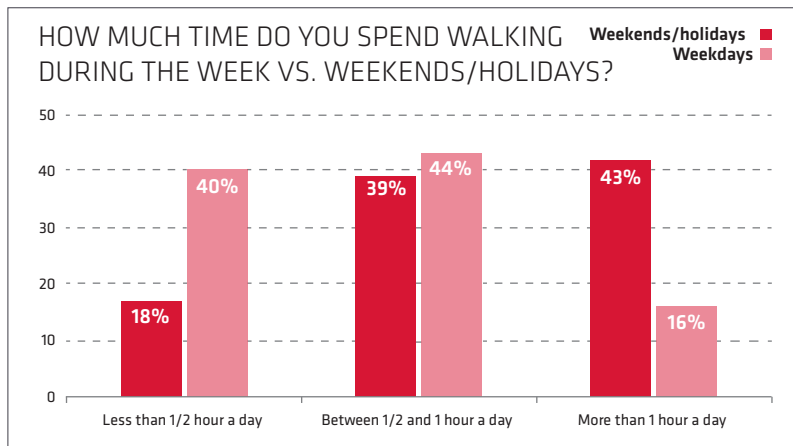
2015 STATUS

Copenhageners walk for 13.31 minutes a day, corresponding to 1.31 km. That is 4.5 minutes and 500 metres more than the average Dane, who only walks for 8.71 minutes a day, corresponding to 0.81 km. This applies to trips that are made entirely on foot. The 2015 goal has been achieved: already by 2011, Copenhageners walked an average of almost 15 minutes a day.

	minutes a day	km a day
Copenhageners walk	13.31 minutes a day	1.31 km a day
The average Dane walks	8.71 minutes a day	0.81 km a day

Source: Transportation habit study, Technical University of Denmark

Copenhageners still go for longer walks on the weekends than on weekdays. For example, 43% of Copenhageners walk for more than an hour on a typical day during weekends and holidays; on a typical weekday, the same is true of only 16% of Copenhageners.



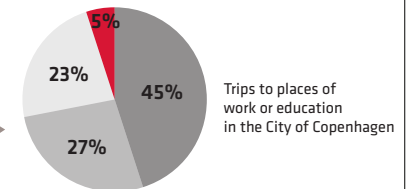
City of Copenhagen, Technical and Environmental Administration

DISTRIBUTION OF WALKS IN 2015

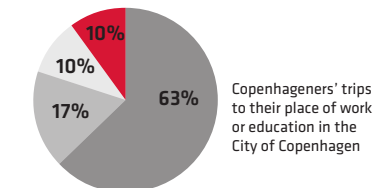
With regard to the distribution of walks, 5% of everyone who works or studies in Copenhagen walk to their place of work or education on foot. This figure includes both Copenhageners and people from other municipalities who work or study in Copenhagen. In 2010, the share was 7%. The bicycle is Copenhageners' preferred means of transportation and used for 45% of all commutes, while 23% of trips are by car, and 27% by public transportation.

If we look exclusively at people who live and work or study in the City of Copenhagen, walking has a market share of 10%. In 2010, that was 13%.

5% OF EVERYONE WHO WORKS OR STUDIES IN COPENHAGEN WALK TO THEIR PLACE OF WORK OR EDUCATION. THE FIGURE INCLUDES BOTH COPENHAGENERS AND PEOPLE FROM OTHER MUNICIPALITIES WHO WORK OR STUDY IN COPENHAGEN. IN 2010, THE SHARE WAS 7%.



IF WE LOOK EXCLUSIVELY AT PEOPLE WHO LIVE AND WORK/STUDY IN THE CITY OF COPENHAGEN, WALKING HAS A MARKET SHARE OF 10%. IN 2010, THAT WAS 13%.

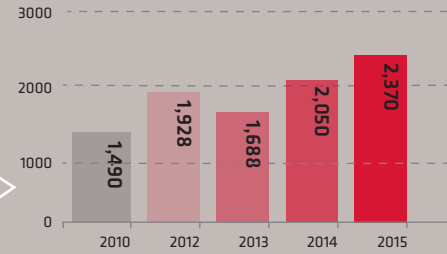


■ Walking ■ Bicycle ■ Bus, train or metro ■ Car

Source: Transportation habit study, Technical University of Denmark



THE AVERAGE NUMBER OF PEDESTRIANS IN FREDERIKSBORGGADE PER HOUR BETWEEN 10:00 AND 18:00 IN 2010-2015
City of Copenhagen, Technical and Environmental Administration 2015



The number of pedestrians in Frederiksborggade has increased by

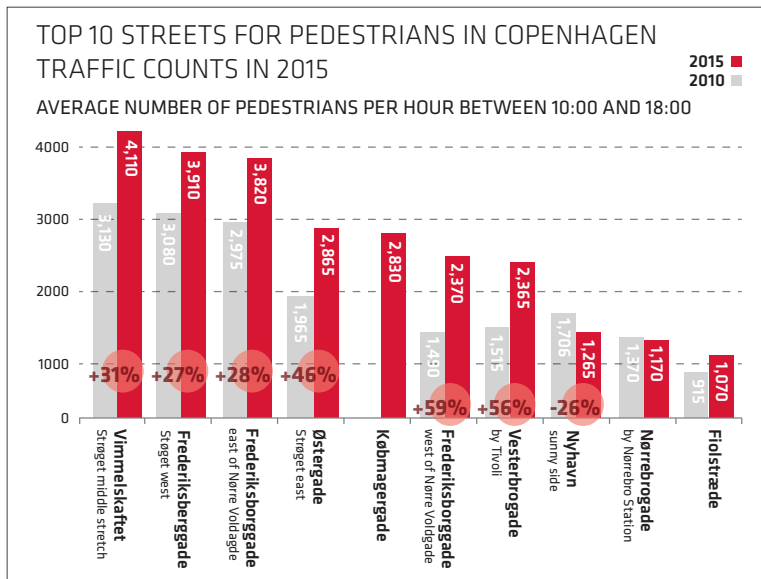
59%

since 2010
 (between Nørre Voldgade and Nørre Farimagsgade)

WHERE DO COPENHAGENERS WALK?

Again in 2015, the City of Copenhagen went into the street to count pedestrians in selected urban spaces with many pedestrians. The findings show that the streets with the most pedestrian traffic are the Inner City pedestrian streets. Of the ten streets with the most pedestrian traffic included in the count, only three are found outside the old mediaeval part of Copenhagen.

There have been no major changes since 2010 in the top ten streets with regard to pedestrian traffic. There has, however, been a change in the number of pedestrians overall; in most streets it has increased substantially.



*City of Copenhagen, Technical and Environmental Administration
 Top 10 streets with regard to pedestrian traffic included in the traffic count.*

URBAN LIFE IN FREDERIKSBORGGADE AND 'VESTERBRO PASSAGE'

The biggest increase in pedestrian traffic occurred in Frederiksborggade between Nørre Voldgade and Nørre Farimagsgade. Here, the number of pedestrians has grown by 59% since 2010. The pedestrian count has increased steadily since the renovation of Israels Plads, with the opening of Torvehallerne, the Copenhagen market halls, in September 2011 and the completion of the southern section of Israels Plads in 2014. Israels Plads attracts many people and invites street vendors, recreational use and play.

Another location with a substantial increase in pedestrian traffic is 'Vesterbro Passage' (Vesterbrogade between Bernstorffsgade and City Hall Square), where the number of pedestrians has increased by 56% since 2010. The number of pedestrians increased after a renovation that led to significant improvements in traffic conditions for all groups and enhanced the urban space, inviting people to spend time on benches and adding outdoor cafe seating.

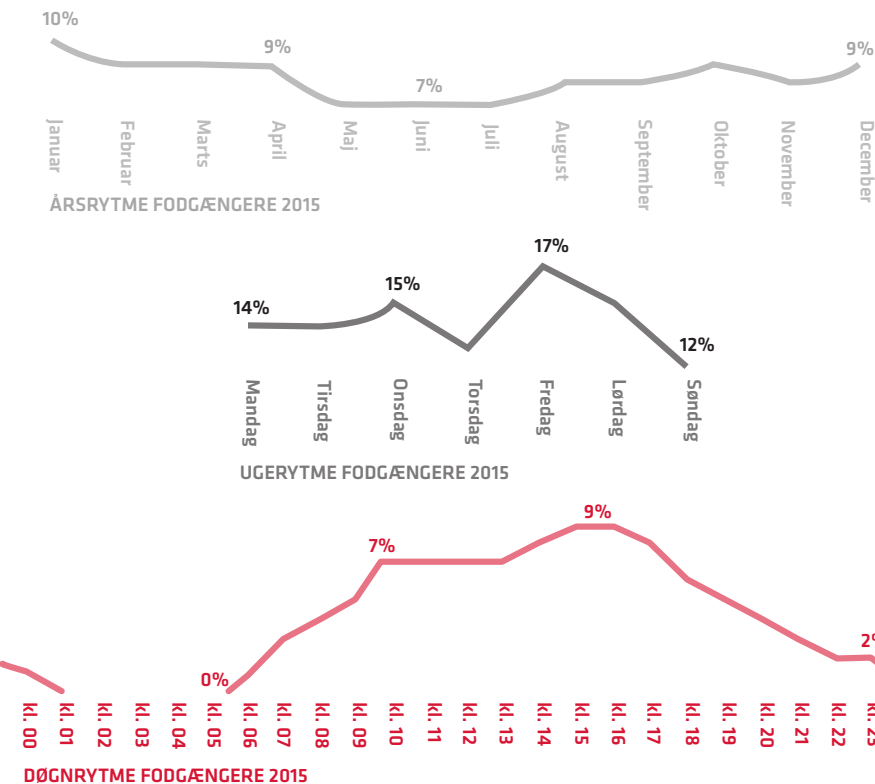


THE NUMBER OF PEDESTRIANS IN NØRREBROGADEN BY NØRREBRO STATION HAS DECREASED BY 15%. A BUSY URBAN SPACE WITH NARROW PAVEMENTS, WHICH IN RECENT YEARS HAS SUFFERED UNDER THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE CITY RING SECTION OF THE COPENHAGEN METRO.

THE GREEN BICYCLE ROUTES ALSO ATTRACT PEDESTRIANS. THE TYPICAL SHARE OF PEDESTRIANS USING THE GREEN BICYCLE ROUTES CORRESPONDS TO 20% OF THE BICYCLE TRAFFIC.



ÅRS- UGE- OG DØGNRYTME FOR FODGÆNGERE

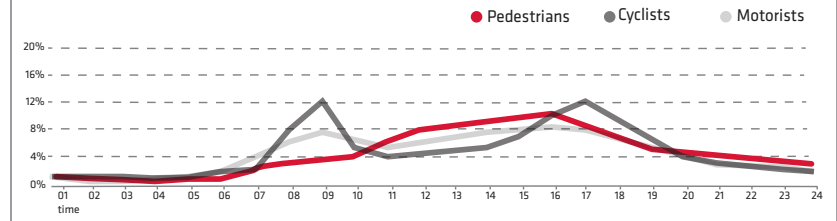


WHEN DO COPENHAGENERS WALK?

If we look at traffic patterns, it is striking that pedestrian traffic is more evenly distributed throughout the day than bicycle and car traffic. An example from Amagerbrogade, where we counted pedestrians throughout 2015, highlights the differences.

The difference in distribution throughout the day between pedestrians and other groups reveals that pedestrian traffic is unrelated to rush hour patterns. By far the largest number of cars and bicycles is found around 9:00 and again around 17:00; in contrast, the intensity of pedestrian traffic grows steadily throughout the morning and again in the afternoon. This pattern matches the findings in a questionnaire survey, which showed that many Copenhageners walk with the purpose of window shopping or just to take a walk, not only to get to and from work. Unlike cycling and driving, walks are primarily recreational and have a leisurely feel.

DISTRIBUTION OF PEDESTRIANS, CYCLISTS AND MOTORISTS THROUGHOUT THE DAY



City of Copenhagen, Technical and Environmental Administration

We also looked at how pedestrian traffic is distributed throughout the year, the week and the day. Pedestrian traffic is highest in winter and lower in May, June and July. Fridays have the largest share of pedestrians, while Thursdays and Sundays have the lowest pedestrian counts. The intensity also varies throughout the day, with a steady increase throughout the morning and again in the afternoon.

City of Copenhagen, Technical and Environmental Administration
 Example from Amagerbrogade with automatic pedestrian counter, distribution of pedestrian traffic over the year, week and day. A January count of 10% means that 10% of the pedestrian traffic occurs in January; 17% on Fridays means that 17% of the weekly pedestrian traffic occurs on Fridays; 9% at 15-16 means that 9% of the pedestrian traffic during a 24-hour cycle occurs between 15:00 and 16:00.



When we walk, we move at an average pace of **5 km/h**

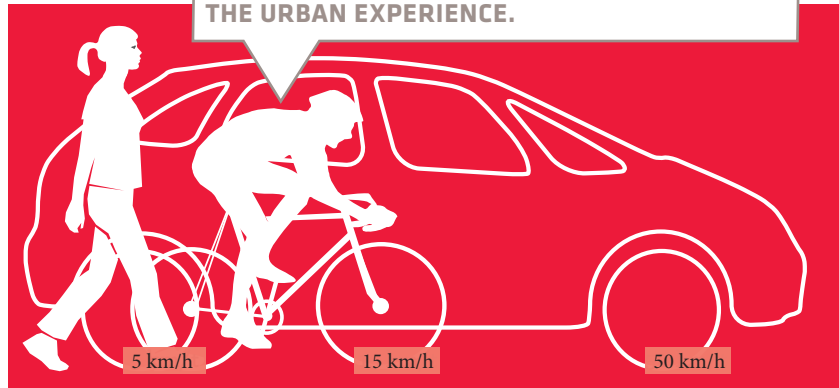
75% of all the sensory stimuli we receive is visual. The brain needs constant stimulation to remain interested and engaged.

EXPERIENCING THE CITY ON A HUMAN SCALE

Copenhagen has developed to accommodate the pace of slower traffic. In the early 1900s, most people biked or walked, and the city has managed to retain that quality, so that we now have a city that invites urbane behaviour and speeds. When we walk, we move at an average speed of 5km/h, while a bicyclist moves at an average speed of 15 km/h, and a car at 50km/h. This produces three different types of experiences in the urban space. We register and notice far more details, the slower our pace is.

Unlike motorists, pedestrians and cyclists are able to experience their environment and each other more intensely due to the low pace and the mutual proximity, and they can bring all their senses into play. Sunshine, scents and other sensory impressions intermingle when the pedestrian or the cyclist moves through the cityscape. The success of our public spaces is closely related to the capacity of the space to respond to our physical dimensions and its influence on our pace and our need for stimuli.

PEDESTRIANS ARE SENSORY BEINGS, AND THAT MAKES IT RELEVANT TO FOCUS ON SENSORY EXPERIENCES THAT MIGHT ENHANCE THE URBAN EXPERIENCE.



City of Copenhagen, Technical and Environmental Administration. Illustrations by Schulze & Grassov.

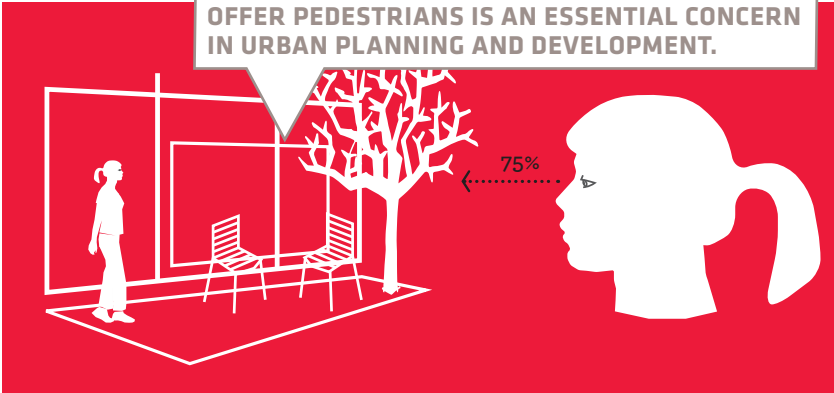
THE CITY STIMULATES OUR SENSES

We experience the city with all our senses and emotions – especially vision. On a trip through Copenhagen, the city’s buildings and urban spaces make us wonder and pause, and that in turn generates rhythm, dynamic and variation.

A good human scale is one that matches our pace and physical dimensions, and that is a major challenge when we add new architecture. The human body, our height and our walking pace have not changed in thousands of years. But the way we build has changed drastically in the course of the past 100 years, and so has our notion of what constitutes a human scale.

Copenhagen is rich on stimuli in the public space, which in part is due to variations in the building stock and the presence of active and attractive ground floor designs. The success of our public spaces is closely related to the stimulation that reaches our vision, hearing and somatic senses – do we experience pleasure, excitement or discomfort?

WALKING ALLOWS US TO USE OUR SENSES, EXPLORE OUR ENVIRONMENT AND MEET OTHERS. THAT IS WHY THE CONDITIONS WE OFFER PEDESTRIANS IS AN ESSENTIAL CONCERN IN URBAN PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT.



THE MAIN REASONS FOR COPENHAGENERS TO WALK IS TO BE OUTDOORS, TO LOOK AROUND AND ENJOY THE ENVIRONMENT AND TO EXERCISE.

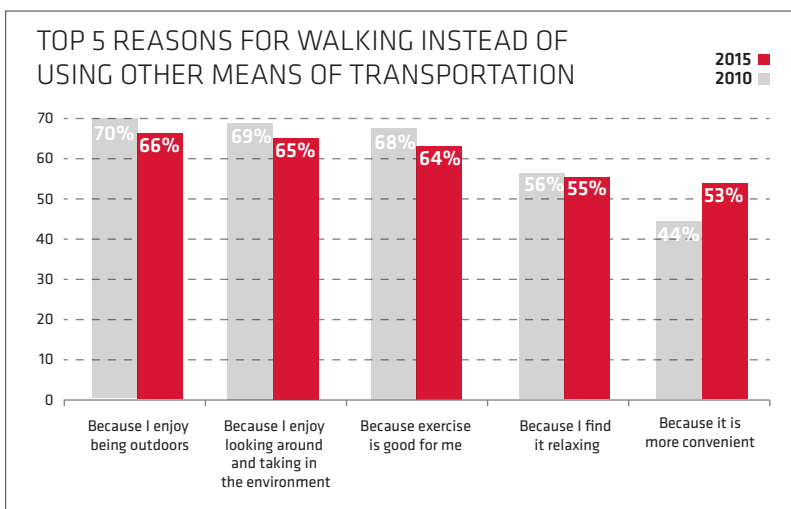


FOR ANYONE WHO IS ABLE TO WALK, ALL TRIPS BEGIN ON FOOT. TYPICALLY, WE WALK TO GET TO A BICYCLE, A CAR, A BUS STOP OR A TRAIN STATION - OR WE WALK ALL THE WAY. IT IS OUR MOST BASIC FORM OF TRANSPORTATION, IT IS SIMPLE AND HEALTHY, AND IT IS MORE SUSTAINABLE THAN DRIVING.

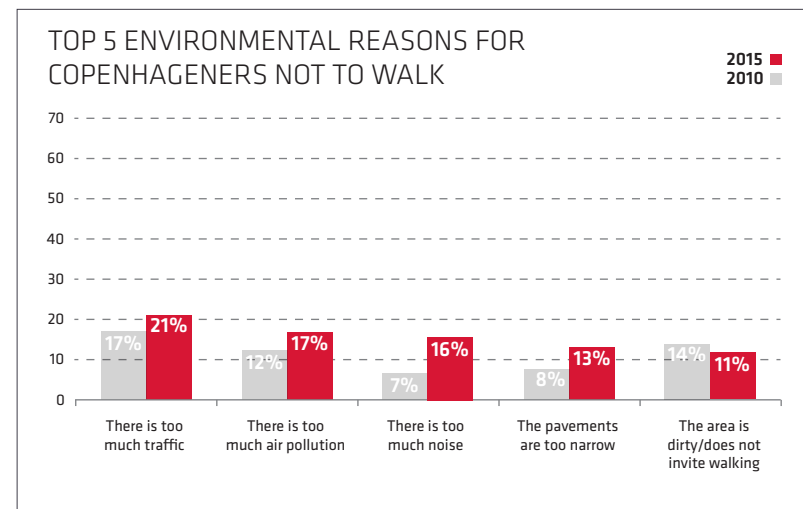
WHY DO COPENHAGENERS WALK?

As in previous years, Copenhageners' primary reason for walking instead of using other means of transportation is that they enjoy being outdoors. People's main motivations for walking are to enjoy nature and the environment and because they find it relaxing. Exercise also remains an important reason for Copenhageners to walk. The replies have changed little since we began the surveys in 2010.

The main environmental reasons not to walk are traffic and air pollution. In 2015, Copenhageners also mention noise and narrow pavements as key environmental reasons not to walk.



Source: YouGov. Top 5 selected replies, therefore the numbers do not add up to 100.



Source: YouGov. Top 5 selected replies, therefore the numbers do not add up to 100.



HOMES AND PUBLIC FUNCTIONS, ESPECIALLY ACTIVE GROUND FLOORS WITH VISIBLE SIGNS OF LIFE AND THE PRESENCE OF OTHER PEOPLE – ALSO AT NIGHT AND ON THE WEEKENDS – CAN MAKE THE URBAN SPACE FEEL SAFE



ACCESSIBLE CITY FOR ALL

Pedestrian traffic is an aspect of urban life that contributes to a vibrant and dynamic city. The more people walk, the more life there is between buildings, and that makes the city attractive. When we ask Copenhageners whether they are satisfied with conditions for walking in their local area, overall satisfaction has increased by 6% since 2010 – from 78% to 83% in 2015.

In many regards, the fact that Copenhageners walk on a daily basis is taken for granted as something we do but give little thought. We are all pedestrians, every day. Sometimes because we go for a walk, sometimes as a way of getting somewhere. Even when we bike or take the bus, train or car, we usually begin and end our trip on foot.

Most of us have no problem walking through the city. But some of us need a little assistance. People who use a cane, a walking frame, a wheelchair or another mobility aid are particularly dependent on the accessibility of pavements, streets etc. But that does not change the fact that we are all pedestrians.

Accessibility is crucial for enabling people with disabilities to use urban spaces and parks. However, 'accessibility' should be understood in a broader perspective. An accessible urban space is a space that can be accessed physically, but accessibility also has a social dimension and a safety dimension. People should feel safe in the space, and they should feel invited to enter the space. Accessibility is a key parameter when the city builds, establishes new facilities or renovates.

AT SOME POINT IN OUR LIFE, WE ALL DEPEND ON AN URBAN DESIGN THAT MAKES IT EASY TO GET AROUND. USING A WHEELCHAIR OR WALKING WITH A PRAM, A WALKING FRAME, CRUTCHES OR A WHITE CANE PLACES CERTAIN DEMANDS ON THE DESIGN OF THE URBAN SPACE.



SAFETY FOR ALL PEDESTRIANS

When we ask Copenhageners how they feel about walking in their local area, those surveyed largely feel safe when they travel in their local area and in the city as a whole.

When asked how they feel about walking outdoors at night, some said that there is too much traffic in their local area. However, most people feel safe crossing the streets in their local area on foot.

Since 2010, there has been a positive development in the Copenhageners' satisfaction with street lighting in their local area, and fewer Copenhageners now feel unsafe being outdoors at night.

SAFETY IN COPENHAGEN

Generally, Copenhagen is a safe city. The City of Copenhagen's recent safety survey (Tryghedsundersøgelse 2015) found that crime rates for the city are going down, and fewer Copenhageners worry about being victimized when they travel on foot in their local area during the day.

STREET LIGHTING IN COPENHAGEN

Since 2014, the City of Copenhagen has been undertaking the biggest replacement of street lighting in the city's history. Of the 44,000 street lights in the city, 20,000 are being replaced with modern LED lighting, which cuts power consumption and CO2 emissions by more than half compared with 2010 and also enhances Copenhageners' personal and traffic safety.

MORE LIFE, EXCITING SHOPS, ACTIVITY OPTIONS AND LESS TRAFFIC ARE FACTORS THAT WOULD MOTIVATE COPENHAGENERS TO WALK MORE – BOTH AT NIGHT AND DURING THE DAY.



The main 'competition' to walking is still biking. More than 4 in 10 Copenhageners say that they prefer biking to walking.

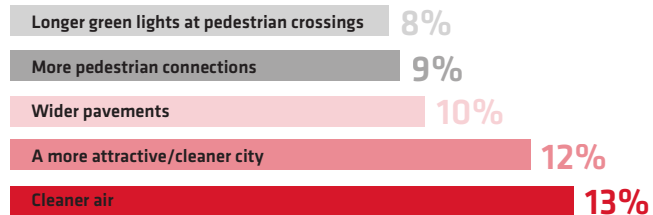
ENCOURAGING MORE PEOPLE TO WALK MORE

When Copenhageners are asked what might make them walk even more, most say that a green and clean urban environment and fewer cars are the most important motivating factors. This supports the impression that walking is predominantly a recreational activity.

The main 'competition' to walking is still biking. More than 4 in 10 Copenhageners say that they prefer biking over walking. A good bicycle infrastructure, short travel times and increased safety are key reasons why so many choose to bike in Copenhagen.

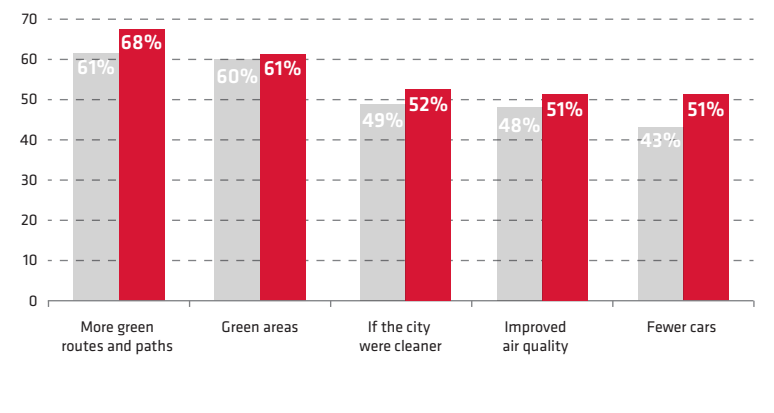
When we ask Copenhageners why they sometimes choose to bike or drive instead of walking, some of the most common answers are that it is difficult to transport groceries or that walking takes too long. As in 2010, 'a more attractive/cleaner city' and 'cleaner air' are the main incentives that would make Copenhageners choose to walk instead of driving

WHAT FACTORS WOULD MAKE COPENHAGENERS WALK INSTEAD OF TAKING THE CAR FOR TRIPS UNDER 3 KM?



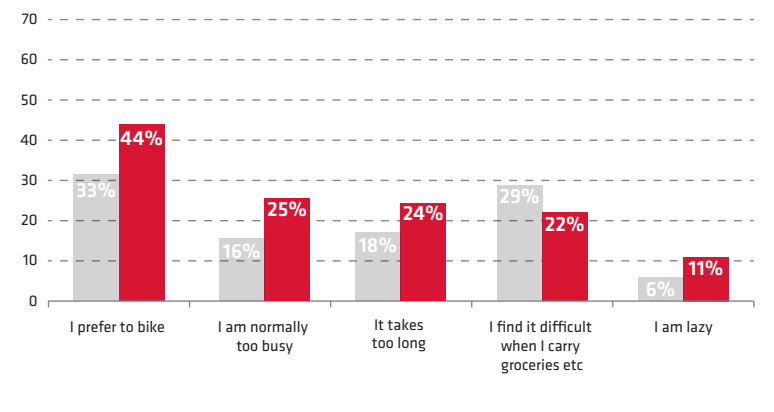
City of Copenhagen, Technical and Environmental Administration

COPENHAGENERS' TOP 5 LIST OF FACTORS THAT WOULD MAKE THEM WALK MORE



Source: YouGov. Top 5 selected replies, therefore the numbers do not add up to 100.

COPENHAGENERS' TOP 5 PERSONAL REASONS NOT TO WALK



Source: YouGov. Top 5 selected replies, therefore the numbers do not add up to 100.

3. MORE PEOPLE TO STAY LONGER

BY 2015, COPENHAGENERNE SHOULD SPEND 20% MORE TIME IN THE URBAN SPACE THAN THEY DID IN 2010

2015 STATUS

IN 2015, COPENHAGENERS SPENT 1 HOUR AND 22 MINUTES A WEEK IN SQUARES AND SHOPPING STREETS.

THE GOAL OF INCREASING THE DURATION TO 1 HOUR AND 45 MINUTES BY 2015 WAS ACHIEVED BY 2013. HOWEVER, THE FIGURE FOR 2015 IS LOWER THAN THE FIGURE FOR 2010 - ONE EXPLANATION MAY BE THAT THE SUMMER OF 2015 WAS UNUSUALLY GREY AND WET.

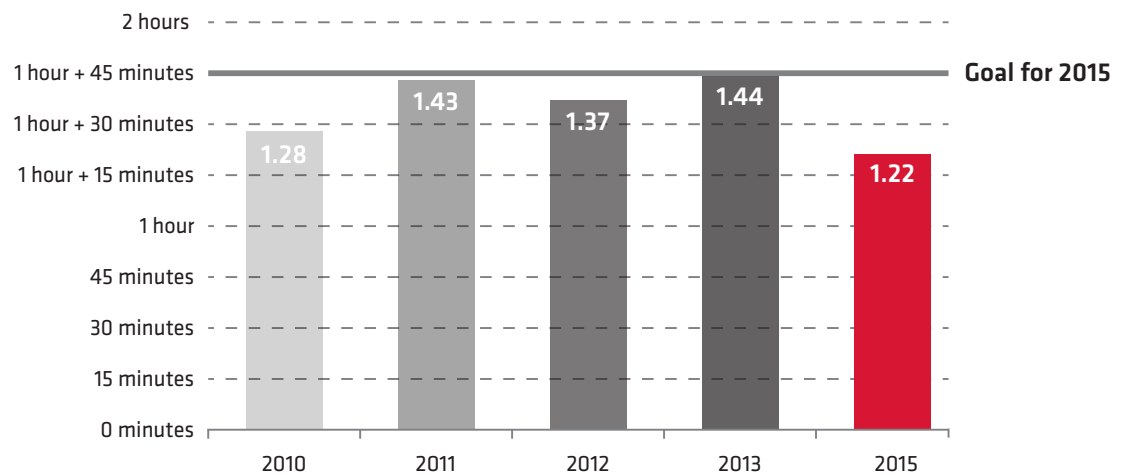
2015 GOAL

The City of Copenhagen has a goal of encouraging more people to stay longer in the urban space. The goal of increasing the duration to 1 hour and 45 minutes by 2015 was achieved by 2013.

A good city is a city where many people spend time outdoors, and where the city's parks, squares and shopping streets are a natural extension of the home. When many people spend time in the urban space, this reflects that the city feels safe, and that many feel attracted to the possibilities and experiences that the urban space has to offer.

The City of Copenhagen pursues many initiatives aimed at reaching this goal. This includes cleaning and maintenance, which have a quick impact on people's inclination to spend time in the urban space. Efforts such as constructing streets and squares to include recreational features take longer to complete and to be embraced and put to use.

2015 STATUS



Source: YouGov

The figure is an average of the replies to questionnaires about frequency and duration. We are aware that the survey carries a certain statistical uncertainty.

53%
of Copenhageners estimate that they spend more than an hour per visit in squares or shopping streets in the summer

2015 HAD FEWER HOURS OF SUNSHINE THAN PREVIOUS YEARS, AND IT WAS THE SECOND-WETTEST YEAR SINCE THE NATIONAL PRECIPITATION MEASUREMENTS BEGAN IN 1874.

Source: Danish Meteorological Institute 2015



VISITS TO CITY SQUARES AND SHOPPING STREETS

In 2015, Copenhageners were surveyed about how often they visited city squares and shopping streets, and how long they stayed. Here, a visit is defined as 'settling in for a while'. The answers vary with the season, and unsurprisingly, people still spend much more time outdoors in spring and summer than they do in winter.

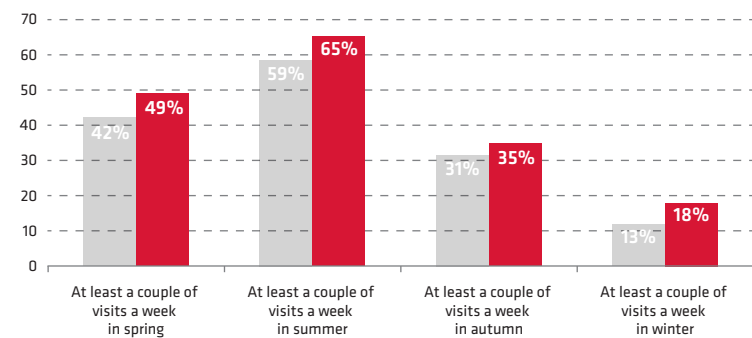
Copenhageners enjoy spending time outdoors in the city, and in 2015 they spent an average of 1 hour and 22 minutes a week in city squares and shopping streets. Compared with the 2010 survey, this represents a minor decrease of 6 minutes. The fluctuations since 2010 illustrate a high degree of uncertainty in the statistical method. Outside factors that vary from year to year, including the weather, play a major role and influence Copenhageners' use of the urban space.

Copenhageners were also asked how much time they spend in city squares and shopping streets over the year. The answers show considerable seasonal variation. In the 2015 survey, 65% of Copenhageners estimate that they spend time in squares and shopping streets several times a week in summer. 53% of Copenhageners estimate that they spend more than 1 hour per visit to city squares and shopping streets in summer.

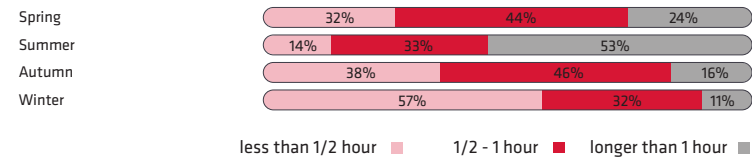
Compared to the 2010 survey, the replies show a minor drop in the frequency of visits, especially in summer. As mentioned earlier, the findings are highly susceptible to external factors that vary from year to year, including the weather.

Copenhageners were asked about their satisfaction with various aspects of the city in relation to distance and visits to urban spaces. 73% say that they are satisfied with their distance to local urban spaces with recreational qualities. A more detailed look reveals that Copenhageners living in the Inner City and Christianshavn, followed by Nørrebro, are generally more satisfied with their distance to local urban spaces with recreational qualities than Copenhageners living in other parts of the city.

FREQUENCY OF VISITS TO CITY SQUARES AND SHOPPING STREETS



AVERAGE DURATION OF VISITS IN CITY SQUARES AND SHOPPING STREETS



COPENHAGENERS' SATISFACTION WITH THEIR LOCAL AREA





77%

of Copenhageners say that their primary reason for visiting city squares and shopping streets is 'going for a walk'



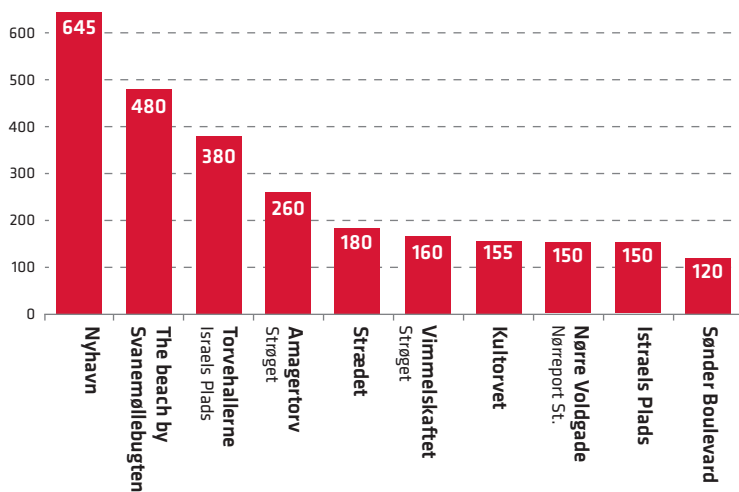
WHERE DO COPENHAGENERS SPEND TIME?

Again in summer 2015, traffic counts were carried out in many of the squares and shopping streets in Copenhagen where people enjoy spending time.

In the top 10 most popular urban spaces, Nyhavn is still the place where most Copenhageners spend time, as it was in 2010. On an average summer day between 10:00 and 18:00, Nyhavn has 645 visitors an hour settling in for a while. The second-most-popular place was the beach by Svanemøllebugten (an average of 480 persons an hour between 10:00 and 18:00), followed by Torvehallerne on Israels Plads (an average of 380 persons an hour between 10:00 and 18:00).

TOP 10 URBAN SPACES FOR PEOPLE TO SPEND TIME

Average number of visits per hour between 10:00 and 18:00



City of Copenhagen, Technical and Environmental Administration
Top 10 urban spaces among the selected places included in the traffic count.

WHAT DO WE DO WHEN WE ARE OUTDOORS?

Copenhageners engage in many different activities when they spend time outdoors in city squares and shopping streets. A comparison of registered activities across the urban spaces shows considerable variation in what Copenhageners do in the urban space. The most common activities are sitting on public benches (11.2%), sitting in a cafe (43%) and standing (25.5%).

When we ask Copenhageners about their primary reason to spend time in city squares and shopping streets, the most popular answer is 'going for a walk'. The same was the case in 2010. It is followed by 'going to a cafe', which 68% of Copenhageners stated as their primary purpose. 66% say that they go outside 'to get some fresh air'.

COPENHAGENERS' PRIMARY REASON TO SPEND TIME IN CITY SQUARES AND SHOPPING STREETS



City of Copenhagen, Technical and Environmental Administration

REGISTERED ACTIVITIES SHOW A SNAPSHOT OF LIFE IN THE SELECTED URBAN SPACES. IT ILLUSTRATES THE SCOPE OF ACTIVITIES AT A GIVEN TIME ON A SUMMER DAY. THUS, IT DOES NOT REFLECT HOW MANY PEOPLE VISIT DURING A DAY BUT ILLUSTRATES WHETHER THE URBAN SPACES INVITE PEOPLE TO SETTLE IN.

38%

of Copenhageners say that they would spend more time outdoors if there were more benches

URBAN SPACES SHOULD BE MEETING PLACES THAT INVITE PEOPLE TO ENJOY THE SOCIAL DYNAMIC OF THE CITY. GOOD, COMFORTABLE BENCHES IN THE RIGHT LOCATIONS INVITE PEOPLE TO SETTLE IN, OFFERING AN OPPORTUNITY TO TAKE A BREAK AND TO STAY LONGER.



51%

of Copenhageners think that they would spend more time outdoors if there were more trees, shrubs and flowers

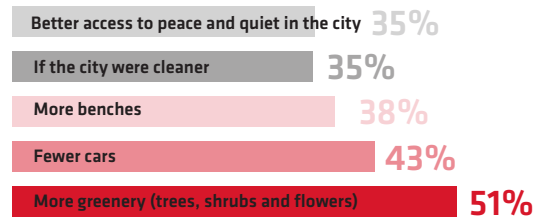
SPENDING MORE TIME IN THE URBAN SPACE

What would it take for Copenhageners to spend more time outdoors? On average, 51% of those surveyed say that they would spend more time outdoors if there were more trees, shrubs and flowers. Compared to Copenhageners' replies to the same question in 2010, there is little change. In 2010, 54% replied that would spend more time outdoors if there were more trees, shrubs and flowers.

43% say that they would spend more time outdoors if there were fewer cars, and 38% say they would spend more time outdoors if there were more benches. However, behind these averages, there is significant variation in what would make different age groups spend more time in the urban spaces than they already do.

Young people (15-29 years) would use the city more if it were 'greener', if there were more information about opportunities for activities and beautiful spots in the city and if they had 'access to or opportunities for free Wi-Fi/ways to charge electronic devices'. Young families and 30-49-year-olds place more emphasis than other groups on 'better opportunities for physical activities (running trails, playgrounds, places for ballgames etc.)', while 'a cleaner city' and 'more benches' would be the main motivating factors to make people over 65 to use the city's urban spaces.

TOP 5 FACTORS THAT COPENHAGENERS SAY WOULD MAKE THEM SPEND MORE TIME IN CITY SQUARES AND SHOPPING STREETS



City of Copenhagen, Technical and Environmental Administration

This top 5 list does not imply that if we simply added trees and benches all over the place, all Copenhageners would spend more time outdoors. Some groups prefer a different aesthetic and look for other urban qualities.

To be a truly diverse city Copenhagen should not only offer urban spaces that appeal to the majority but also include secret, unconventional and unpredictable spaces.

URBAN SPACES SHOULD INVITE PEOPLE TO 'SETTLE IN'

Why are some urban spaces more appealing than others, and why do we keep returning to the same urban spaces over and over again? Opportunities for spending time in the urban space are key to urban life, and the main appeal for people is other people.

Urban spaces where we can spend time together, choosing whom to relate to and whom to ignore and avoid interacting with, are often the most popular and the ones that attract the most diverse user groups.





21%

of Copenhageners use parks, nature areas, harbour baths and beaches on a daily basis in summer

KAYAK POLO, STREET BASKET, MARATHONS AND TAI CHI. THERE ARE MANY WAYS TO USE THE CITY FOR PHYSICAL ACTIVITIES AND PLAY. THAT IS ALL PART OF URBAN LIFE AND CONTRIBUTES TO COPENHAGENERS' EVERYDAY HEALTH AND WELL-BEING, BRINGS NEW EXPERIENCES AND OFFERS A CHANCE TO MEET OTHER PEOPLE

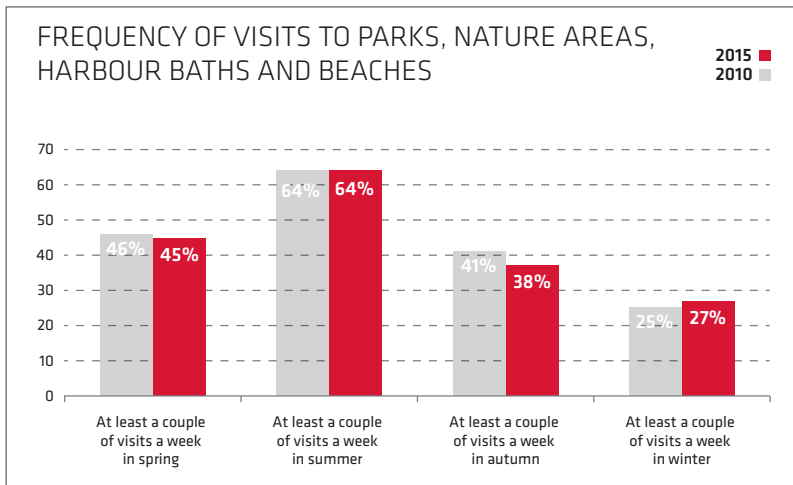


VISITS TO CITY PARKS, BEACHES AND NATURE AREAS

Green spaces are important for Copenhageners' health and quality of life and are used as shared oases in the city. They are some of the most important recreational spaces in the city. Especially in the spring and summer months, the weather invites people to bring a book, a newspaper or some music and enjoy the green space.

When we ask how often Copenhageners visit the city's parks, beaches and nature areas, 64% of those surveyed say that they do so at least a couple of times a week in summer. 45% say they do so at least a couple of times a week in spring. 38% go at least a couple of times a week in autumn, and 27% go at least a couple of times a week in winter. The replies were largely the same in 2010.

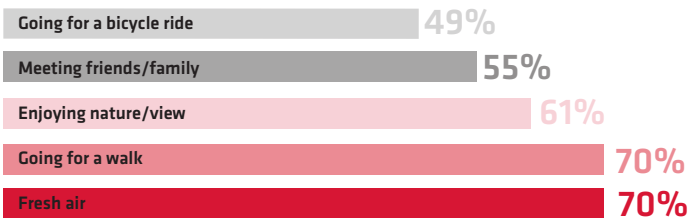
When we ask Copenhageners how long their visits last, 42% say that they typically spend one to three hours per visit in a park in summer, while 38% of the Copenhageners typically spend one to three hours per visit at the beach or a harbour bath in summer.



Source: YouGov

As in previous years, Copenhageners' primary reason to visit parks, nature areas, harbour baths and beaches is to enjoy the outdoors, and many use the green spaces as a passage and a way to get through the city. We go for walks, and we enjoy nature and the fresh air. There is little change in the top 5 of Copenhageners' reasons to spend time in parks, nature areas, harbour baths and beaches since 2010.

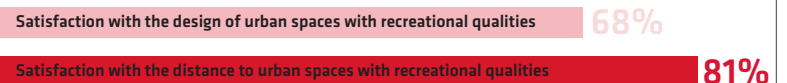
COPENHAGENERS' TOP 5 REASONS FOR VISITING PARKS, NATURE AREAS, HARBOUR BATHS AND BEACHES



Source: YouGov

Copenhageners were asked about their satisfaction with various aspects of the city with regard to green and blue spaces. 81% say that they are satisfied with the distance to green and blue spaces where they live. A more detailed look at the findings shows that Copenhageners living in the Inner City and Christianshavn, followed by Amager, are generally more satisfied with the distance to green and blue spaces in their local area than Copenhageners living in other parts of the city

COPENHAGENERS' SATISFACTION WITH THEIR LOCAL AREA



Source: YouGov



WE SHARE THE CITY AND THE URBAN SPACE. LIVING IN THE CITY MEANS DAILY INTERACTIONS WITH MANY PEOPLE. THAT REQUIRES CONSIDERATION AND NEGOTIATION – WHAT WE CALL URBANE BEHAVIOUR.



THE CITY AS A MEETING PLACE – FOR EVERYONE

Copenhagen’s urban spaces should reflect the makeup of its population. Urban spaces should not only be constantly pulsating and bustling with activity. In Israel’s Plads, Vester Voldgade, Kalvebod Wave and many small urban spaces around the city, skater ramps and places for ballgames are being put in, and in several neighbourhoods the bicycle paths have been made wider and more accessible, to the benefit of young, able-bodied and active Copenhageners. But we also need to provide urban spaces that consider elderly Copenhageners. The city has to be for everyone.

The ability of elderly residents to take part in urban life and spend time in the urban space is important not only for the elderly but also for the development of the community at large. It is important to encourage elderly Copenhageners to spend time in and take ownership of the development of the urban space and urban life to ensure that the city reflects and includes senior life as a diverse resource. Not least considering that elderly people make up the fastest growing population segment in Denmark.

Most elderly Copenhageners would like to use the city and be part of urban life, but that requires safe, navigable and open areas that offer a place to spend time and something to look at. It is important to be able to take part in and observe urban life, for example shoppers, traffic and children at play.

The number of Copenhageners increases every month, as does the number of single households. Thus, for many people, daily contact with other people takes place in the public space.

THE SUCCESS OF OUR PUBLIC SPACES IS CLOSELY RELATED TO OUR ABILITY TO CHOOSE WHETHER TO ENGAGE IN SOCIAL INTERACTIONS, TAKE RESPONSIBILITY AND FEEL OWNERSHIP.



A CITY FOR EVERY AGE GROUP

When the City of Copenhagen has counted how many elderly people spend time in the city in selected urban spaces, we have observed that the biggest number of elderly Copenhageners are out between 11:00 and 14:00. The biggest number of elderly citizens have been observed sitting on a bench or in a cafe at Magasin Torv, Nyhavn, Vester Voldgade and Brønshøj Torv & Vanløse Torv. 10.3% of Copenhageners are over 65 years of age. Across the local districts, the biggest share of Copenhageners over 65 is found in Østerbro, while Vesterbro and Kgs. Enghave are the districts with the lowest shares of Copenhageners over 65.

When we speak of Copenhageners over 65, we need to remember that there are different senior lifestyles and different ways of being old. Elderly Copenhageners are just as diverse as other population groups. When we ask, safety is very important for ‘older’ elderly citizens, because they often feel more vulnerable. On the other hand, in terms of health and possibilities, ‘younger’ elderly citizens do not differ from other adults – the only difference is that they have more time. They can still run a marathon and engage in other types of more or less physical activities. For them, therefore, an urban space appeals to play and exercise if it offers something that falls within their area of interest.

When we ask ‘older’ elderly Copenhageners what might make them use the urban space more, they say that having a place to take a break on their daily shopping tour before they get on with the chores of the day can make a big difference. Elderly citizens call for more comfortable seating, such as benches with backrests. Another important factor for elderly people to spend time in city squares and parks is access to public toilets.*

* ‘Eldre som aktive deltagere i lokalsamfundet’ (Elderly citizens as active participants in the local community) The City of Copenhagen, Technical and Environmental Administration and the Danish Ministry of Housing, Urban and Rural Affairs, 2014

4. NEW URBAN SPACES THAT INVITE URBAN LIFE

TODAY, VESTER VOLDGADE HAS PROMENADES THAT INVITE PEOPLE TO SETTLE IN, AND WHICH GIVE PEDESTRIANS RIGHT OF WAY IN A STRETCH THAT PREVIOUSLY HAD HEAVY TRAFFIC.

VESTER VOLDGADE, THE INNER CITY

The renovation of Vester Voldgade was completed in 2013. Vester Voldgade has become an inviting urban space with restricted access for cars and a welcoming boulevard feel with rows of trees and broad promenades with public benches and outdoor cafe seating.

After the transformation, the recreational use of the urban space has gone up by 93%, and on weekdays in summer between 10:00 and 18:00, an average of 27 persons an hour settle in to enjoy this urban space. The recreational use increases throughout the afternoon, and the main recorded activities are 'sitting in a cafe' and 'sitting on a bench'. The section between Farvergade and Stormgade has more recreational visits than the rest of the stretch.

Since 2013, the recreational use of Vester Voldgade has gone up by

93%



REGNBUEPLADSEN, THE INNER CITY

Regnbuepladsen is located along Vester Voldgade just across from City Hall Square. The square was completed in 2014. Here, a number of parking spaces have been transformed into a green promenade with pavement cafes, a cherry grove and room for markets and recreational use.

Urban life has flourished, and recreational use of the renovated square has increased – from an average of 17 persons an hour in 2013 to 45 persons an hour between 10:00 and 18:00 on a weekday in summer. Recreational visits to the square increase in the afternoon, as people get off work and come here to enjoy an afternoon in the sun. The predominant recreational activity is 'sitting in a cafe'.

Since 2013, the recreational use of Regnbuepladsen has gone up by

165%



NEW URBAN SPACES SINCE 2010

Since 2010, Copenhagen has added several new and unique urban spaces and meeting places that invite Copenhageners and visitors to engage more in social, cultural and recreational activities. The new urban spaces serve a variety of purposes: recreation, exercise, transportation etc. at different times of the year and throughout the day.

Since 2010, traffic counts have been carried out over the summer in many of Copenhagen's squares and shopping streets where people pass through and settle in.

The recorded recreational activities show a snapshot of life in the selected urban spaces: the scope of activities and the distribution of different types of activities at a given time of on a summer day. Thus, the counts do not reflect how many people frequent a given urban space in the course of a day but illustrates whether it invites people to settle in.



Since 2010, the number of pedestrians in Købmagergade has increased by **26%**

KØBMAGERGADE, THE INNER CITY

In 2013, Købmagergade was reopened after a renovation of the urban space that extends from Nørreport Station all the way to Amagertorv. Købmagergade is a place where traffic counts have always found many pedestrians. After the renovation of the urban space, 43,000 persons pass through Købmagergade on an average weekday in summer. That marks a 26% increase in the number of pedestrians since 2010.

KULTORVET, THE INNER CITY

Kultorvet was renovated in connection with the renovation of Købmagergade. A large pool and fountain now form the central attraction of the square.

Kultorvet has always been a popular place to spend time, also before the renovation, and on a weekday, an average of 154 persons an hour settle into this urban space between 10:00 and 18:00.

That marks a 5% increase since 2010. The main recreational activities in the square are 'sitting in a cafe' and 'sitting on the edge of the fountain'

HAUSER PLADS, THE INNER CITY

Hauser Plads too was renovated in connection with the renovation of Købmagergade. The square has new granite paving and now forms a coherent urban space with Kultorvet and Købmagergade.

The square invites people to spend time on benches and in outdoor seating in cafes and restaurants, and in the middle of the square, a worn-out playground has been transformed with conifers, grass and concrete sculptures inviting play as well as other playground elements.

On a pleasant weekday in summer, an average of 32 persons an hour settle in to enjoy this urban space between 10:00 and 18:00.



Since 2010, recreational visits to Kultorvet have increased by **5%**

An average of **149** persons an hour settle in to spend time here between 10:00 and 18:00



THE AVERAGE NUMBER OF VISITORS TO ISRAELS PLADS IS HIGHER THAN THE NUMBER OF VISITORS RECORDED ON SØNDER BOULEVARD AND IN HAVNEPARKEN

An average of 122 persons an hour settle in to spend time on Sønder Boulevard between 10:00 and 18:00. An average of 108 persons an hour settle in to spend time in Havneparken between 10:00 and 18:00.

ISRAELS PLADS, THE INNER CITY

The renovated Israels Plads was completed in 2014, transformed into an open square with big new stairs, resembling grand stands, overlooking the area. The renovation of Israels Plads has tied the square, Torvehallerne and Ørstedsparken together and invites people of all ages to play and visit.

An average of 149 persons an hour spend time here between 10:00 and 18:00 on a weekday in summer.

Sitting on benches is a recurring activity that occurs throughout the day, although it increases at 16:00. Many people are recorded 'sitting in other places', such as stairs, jutting ledges etc. This activity increases at 16:00, as people get off work and settle in to enjoy an afternoon in the sun. It is worth noting that many 'children at play' and 'adults at play' have been recorded, but perhaps this is not surprising, since this urban space offers a wide variety of opportunities for play.

TORVEHALLERNE, THE INNER CITY

Torvehallerne in Israels Plads opened in September 2011 with two market halls supported by columns. Many people visit and spend time indoors, but the space outside the halls are also inviting and serves as a popular meeting place and a key tourist attraction.



With the opening of Torvehallerne, even more pedestrians choose to walk in Frederiksborggade and on the pavement adjacent to the open square. Since 2010, the number of pedestrians here has increased by as much as 97%. The number of pedestrians increases throughout the day and peaks at 15:00

Since 2010, the number of pedestrians in Frederiksborggade has increased by **97%**

Since 2013, the number of people spending time by Torvehallerne has increased by **55%**

THE BROAD NEW CONCRETE FLOOR BETWEEN THE BICYCLE PATH AND THE PAVEMENT ON THE SUNNY SIDE OF VESTERBRO PASSAGE MAKES ROOM FOR OTHER FUNCTIONS BESIDES TRAFFIC.



Since 2010, the number of pedestrians in 'Vesterbro Passage' has increased by **56%**

'VESTERBRO PASSAGE', THE INNER CITY

The part of Vesterbrogade that extends from City Hall Square to Bernstorffsgade, known as 'Vesterbro Passage', was renovated in 2013. The street has been narrowed to a single car lane and a single bus lane in each direction, which has improved conditions considerably for the daily flow of about 10,000 cyclists and just over 24,000 pedestrians (7:00 to 19:00). Since 2010, the number of pedestrians has increased by 56%. The renovation has improved the traffic conditions for all groups and has also improved the urban space by making room for benches and outdoor cafe seating for people to settle in.

NEW NØRREPORT STATION, THE INNER CITY

The renovation of Nørreport Station in 2014 made room for people to settle in as well as better conditions for the many people passing through. With a clear focus on pedestrians and cyclists, accessibility has been improved, and the risk of traffic conflicts has diminished. Bicycle parking is clustered in islands that are recessed 20-30 cm in relation to the surface, which makes it easier to get an overview of the space. This is an urban space and a key traffic hub that links the urban spaces in the Inner City together in a strong and coherent network of squares, pedestrian streets and connections.

EXTENSION OF NYHAVN, THE INNER CITY

A cobblestone street, restaurants and a scene bustling with life in summer is many people's image of Nyhavn. Now, the far end of Nyhavn, the stretch from Toldbodgade to the harbour, lives up to this image too. In 2014, asphalt paving was replaced with granite cobblestones, and there is more room for urban life. On a weekday in summer, there are an average of 50 persons spending time in this part of Nyhavn per hour between 10:00 and 18:00, and since 2013, the number has increased by 79%.

Since 2013, the number of recreational visits to the extension of Nyhavn has increased by **79%**

'THE WAVE', THE INNER CITY

'The Wave' by Kalvebod Brygge opened in 2013 as an extension of the harbour front by Kalvebod Brygge. The Wave is a wave-shaped promenade with varying levels that extends into the harbour and offers a space for recreational activities on the water. The Wave draws the promenade into the sun and ensures that Kalvebod Brygge, which is generally in the shade from noon, has as many added hours of sunshine as possible.

On a weekday in summer, an average of 41 persons an hour settle in to spend time in this urban space between 10:00 and 18:00. Before the Wave was established, the most frequent recorded activity was 'sitting in a cafe'. Now, the most common categories are 'lying down', 'sitting elsewhere' and children and adults at play. Recreational use increases during the day, with a peak around 16:00, as people get off work and come here to enjoy an afternoon on the waterfront.

'THE WAVE' HAS ELEVATED KALVEBOD BRYGGE FROM AN AREA FOR CORPORATE DOMICILES TO A LIVELY HARBOUR PIER WITH TWO NEW SQUARES AND A WAVE-SHAPED PROMENADE ON THE WATER.



Since 2011, the number of people who spend time at Kalvebod Brygge has increased by **173%**

THE MUSEUM GARDEN, THE INNER CITY

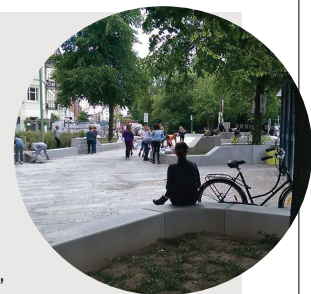
In September 2014, the new Museum garden and the entrance area by the National Gallery of Denmark opened. Now, the Museum Garden is completely open towards Øster Voldgade and Sølvgade, and a large ornamental pool and lawn chairs invite Copenhageners to use the recreational green space. The steps by the entrance section are intended as an integrated part of the Museum Garden where visitors can settle in to enjoy the sun and the view of the garden.



TOVE DITLEVSENS PLADS, VESTERBRO

The renovation of Tove Ditlevsens Plads was completed in December 2015. The renovated square is a multi-purpose urban space that stretches all the way around Tove Ditlevsens Skole, down Frederiksstadsgade, through the garden by Sct. Matthæus Kirken and back up to Enghavevej along Matthæusgade.

The urban space features playground equipment, trampolines, green hammocks and skater challenges, and a low, raw concrete wall towards Enghavevej offers seating and bicycle parking.



ISTEDGADE IS A SHOPPING STREET. A LIVELY EVERYDAY STREET WITH AN EMPHASIS ON URBAN LIFE AND COMMERCE.



ISTEDGADE, VESTERBRO

Istedgade reopened in 2015 after a major renovation that improved traffic conditions for all groups. Pavements are wider now, which has led to improved accessibility, comfort and places to settle in. This in turns improves conditions for businesses in the street, with room for benches and outdoor cafe seating.

In 2010, an average of 455 pedestrians an hour were recorded between 10:00 and 18:00 on a good weekday in summer; about the same figure was recorded in Blågårdsgade, Nørrebro.

VALBY STORBYHAVE, VALBY

Valby Storbyhave opened in 2013, transformed from a car park to a recreational space offering lush green hills, flower beds, playful elements and a new meeting place for local residents of all ages. The new space offers varied seating besides benches, for example on the green grass or on the new wooden bench that extends from the street to the green hills.

The number of recreational visits has gone up since 2010, when only a single person an hour was recorded between 10:00 and 18:00, while an average of 15 persons an hour were recorded during the same timespan in 2014.

Our observations found that both children and adults play in the garden throughout the day. The number of people spending time in the square goes up in the afternoon as people get off work, pick up their children from day care and come here to enjoy an afternoon in the sun. 'Sitting on a bench' is a common activity, which increases at 16:00.



Since 2010, the number of people spending time at Skotlands Plads has increased by

13%

SKOTLANDS PLADS, AMAGER

Skotlands Plads is part of the urban renewal of the Sundholm neighbourhood on the island of Amager. The square was completed in 2012-2013; overall, it now appears more open, with larger, coherent areas with grass and plants, and the entire square now invites people to spend time, play and exercise.

An average of 13 persons an hour spend time in this urban space between 12:00 and 16:00 on an average weekday in summer; this marks a 13% increase since 2010.

The most common activity is 'sitting on a bench', followed by 'standing' and 'children at play'. It is worth noting that quite a few 'adults at play' have been recorded – a six-fold increase since 2010. This is, perhaps, not surprising, since the space now features equipment that both children and adults can use for physical activity and play.

MOZARTS PLADS, KGS. ENGHAVE

Mozarts Plads officially opened in 2014, and after the renovation it now features raised grass-covered areas, a terrace and a playground with musical instruments. The renewal of Mozarts Plads strengthened its role as a local meeting place that invites a variety of recreational activities.

On a weekday in summer, an average of 34 persons an hour spend time in this urban space between 10:00 and 18:00. The most common recreational activities are 'sitting on a bench' and 'sitting elsewhere'. By comparison, Mozarts Plads has the same number of recorded visits on a summer day in 2015 as the popular cemetery Assistens Kirkegård in Nørrebro.





...I'M ALSO REALLY PLEASED TO SEE ALL THE PEOPLE OF ALL AGES WHO USE THE SQUARE NOW ...

Jørgen, speaking about Guldbergs Plads

Since 2010, the number of visits to Guldbergs Plads has increased by

400%

GULDBERGS PLADS, NØRREBRO

In 2014, Guldbergs Plads was transformed into a green activity park intended to motivate people to get more exercise on a daily basis, and with few and simple means, a new urban space has been created in Copenhagen. Together, green hills, larches and pale blue 'activity' poles form an urban grove, a dynamic urban space for activity and relaxation. The urban space was developed in cooperation with local residents.

After the renovation, the square sees both more visits and more varied use. Since 2010, the number of visits has gone up by 400%; almost five times as many people in 2015 as before the transformation.

On a weekday in summer, an average of 20 people an hour settle in to spend time in this urban space between 10:00 and 18:00. The number peaks at 10 in the morning, with the dominant activity being 'children at play' who come during school recess. Naturally, many 'children at play' are recorded, but at 9:00 and 16:00 there are also many 'adults at play'.

BIBLIOTEKSPLADSEN, NØRREBRO

The new urban space Bibliotekspladsen (Library Square) in the North-West district, was completed in 2014. From the street level, the space slopes up towards the library with terraces and steps, and from round holes and green patches in the concrete, plants of varying heights spring forth. The landscape elements shield the square from traffic and bring a lush green feel and multi-purpose functionality to the urban space.



THE DESIGN OF THE SQUARE IS THE RESULT OF A PARTICIPATORY PROCESS, WHERE LOCAL USERS AND ASSOCIATIONS VOICED THEIR REQUESTS FOR THIS FUTURE OUTDOOR SPACE IN A SERIES OF DIALOGUE MEETINGS. FROM PETROL STATION TO CULTURAL MEETING PLACE.

NØRREBROGADE, NØRREBRO

In Nørrebrogade, the city has prioritized conditions for cyclists, pedestrians and buses. Thus, the bicycle path and pavements have been made wider, and bus streets and small recreational spaces have been established. These measures have led to improved accessibility, comfort and recreational opportunities.

On the stretch from Søtorvet to Runddelen, the improved conditions have led to the presence of more pedestrians and more people spending time in the urban space. Visits to the bridge Dr. Louises Bro have gone up by 325% from 2008 to 2015. There are also 41% more cyclists on a weekday (24 hours) in 2015 compared with 2008, and the cyclists feel safer and experience a better traffic flow on the bicycle paths. At the same time, car traffic has dropped by 57% on a weekday (24 hours).

NØRREBROGADE IS A SHOPPING STREET. A LIVELY EVERYDAY STREET WITH AN EMPHASIS ON URBAN LIFE AND COMMERCE.

Since 2008, the number of people spending time on Dr. Louises Bro has increased by

325%

Since 2008, the number of pedestrians walking along the cemetery Assistens Kirkegård has increased by

26%

Since 2008, the number of pedestrians on the bridge Dr. Louises Bro has increased by

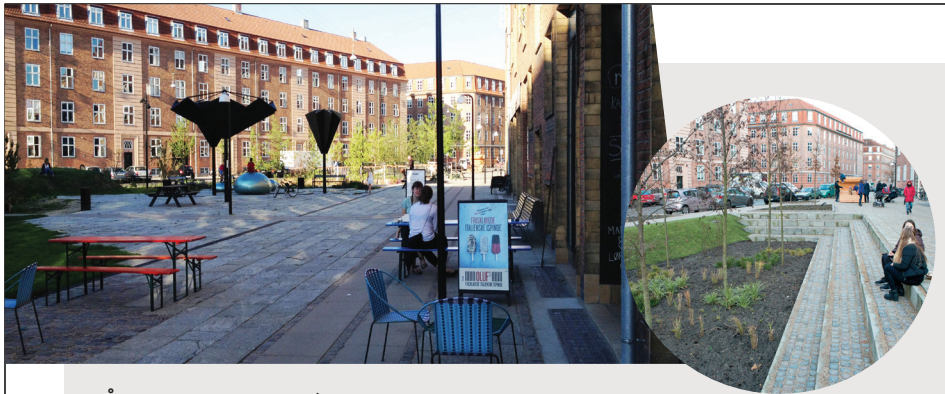
53%

THE SQUARE IS USED FOR OUTDOOR FITNESS, RECREATION, FLEA MARKETS AND MUSIC EVENTS.

DEN RØDE PLADS, NØRREBRO

Den Røde Plads (Red Square) by the multi-purpose hall Nørrebrohallen was completed in 2012 and is painted in shades of bright red, orange and purple. The square is part of the Superkilen urban space that runs from Nørrebrogade to Tagensvej. Den Røde Plads has room for physical activities; it can be modified into a space for team sports and used for outdoor fitness, recreation, flea markets and music events. On a normal weekday in summer, an average of 33 persons an hour settle in to spend time in this urban space between 10:00 and 18:00. That matches the number of people settling in on Dr. Louises Bro by the Lakes. The most common recreational category is 'sitting on a bench', followed by 'sitting in a cafe' and 'standing'.





TÅSINGE PLADS, ØSTERBRO

Tåsinge Plads is Copenhagen's first climate-adapted urban space. The square opened in 2014 and serves as a green oasis capable of handling large downpours and as a local meeting place. The square also invites spontaneous play, physical activity and recreational use, including relaxing on steps and bridges.

On a normal weekday in summer, an average of 11 persons an hour settle in to spend time in this urban space between 10:00 and 18:00. Recreational visits to the square increase in the afternoon, as people get off work, pick up their children from day care and enjoy an afternoon in the sun. 'Sitting on a bench' is a common activity, with a peak between 12:00 and 13:00. In the afternoon, many people are recorded as sitting in other places, including the grass, steps, jutting ledges etc. It is worth noting that many 'children at play' and 'adults at play' have also been recorded in the afternoon. The square exemplifies how urban renewal projects are developed in cooperation with local residents.

SVANEMØLLESTRANDEN, ØSTERBRO

In 2010, Svanemøllestranden opened, a man-made beach by Svanemøllebugten in Østerbro.

The beach extends from the white housing blocks by Tuborg and the power plant Svanemølleværket. The beach is about 4,000 square metres and features a 130-metre-long pier that is used as a bathing jetty. On a weekday in summer, an average of 479 persons an hour spend time between 10:00 and 18:00.



THE BEACH SVANEMØLLESTRANDEN IS NUMBER TWO ON THE TOP 10 LIST OF POPULAR URBAN SPACES BASED ON THE NUMBER OF VISITORS.

FROM A DOG TOILET AND A TRANSIT ZONE WHERE NO ONE SPENT ANY TIME ...

... TO AN ATTRACTIVE PLACE TO SETTLE IN, BOTH THE PARK AND THE SQUARE

Områdeformyelsen



Since 2013, visits to Husum Bypark have increased by

75 %

HUSUM BYPARK, HUSUM

Husum Bypark (Urban Park) was established in autumn 2013 and forms the new centre of the area. The urban space has become a natural part of life around Frederikssundsvej. The purpose was to create a central meeting place with good recreational qualities to tie together the northern and southern parts of Husum.

The renovation has encouraged people of all ages to spend time in the park and on the square. Nearly twice as many recreational activities were recorded after the renovation.

On a weekday in summer, an average of 7 persons an hour settle in to spend time in this urban space between 10:00 and 18:00, and since 2013, the number of visits has gone up by 75%. Byparken exemplifies how urban renewal projects are developed in cooperation with the local residents.

TÅRNLEGEPLADSEN, ØSTERBRO

Tårnlegepladsen, which was completed in 2011, is based on the five best-known towers in Copenhagen: the Round Tower, City Hall Tower, the spire on the old Stock Exchange, the Marble Church and the Church of Our Saviour have been reduced to a child's scale

and tied together with catwalks and slides.

On a weekday in summer, an average of 58 persons an hour settle in to spend time in the playground between 10:00 and 18:00. Since the opening, the number of visits has gone up by 427%. This means that there are almost five times as many people here now as before the renovation. Naturally, the counts show many 'children at play', and the number of visitors surges in the morning and again in the afternoon, when there are also many 'adults at play'.



Since 2010, visits to Tower Playground have increased by

427%

THERE ARE LITTLE THINGS HERE WHERE THE GROWN-UPS CAN'T GET IN. THE SCALE IS FOR KIDS, THAT'S A GOOD FEATURE.

Grandmother and Andrea 3 1/2 years old, Tårnlegepladsen

URBAN LIFE ACCOUNT

- Trends in Copenhagen's urban life 2015

The Urban Life Account measures and evaluates the quality of and satisfaction with urban life in the City of Copenhagen. The Urban Life Account therefore includes both the City's strategies and initiatives to improve urban life, the way Copenhageners experience urban life in Copenhagen and other factors that influence developments in the area.

Urban Life Account 2015 is the fifth urban life account and is based mainly on data from 2015. Urban Life Account 2015 shows that we have achieved the goals we set in the vision 'A Metropolis for People'. But even though the goals have been achieved, the City's Technical and Environmental Administration continues its efforts to keep Copenhagen an attractive city – even as the city grows by some 10,000 residents a year. Since the latest urban life account, 'A Metropolis for People' has been replaced by a new vision: 'Co-create Copenhagen'. The new vision contains more ambitious goals for the technical and environmental area to ensure that by 2025 we will still have an amazing city for all, where everyday urban life is a top priority.

The Urban Life Account was prepared by the Technical and Environmental Administration, the City of Copenhagen.

Text and editing: Technical and Environmental Administration
Translation: Dorte H. Silver
Design: TMF Grafisk Design
Illustrations: Schulze & Grasso and The City of Copenhagen
Photo: Colourbox, Lars Gemzøe, Laura Stamer, Jeanette Frisk, Ursula Bach and the City of Copenhagen

Copenhagen 2015
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Environmental Administration

