

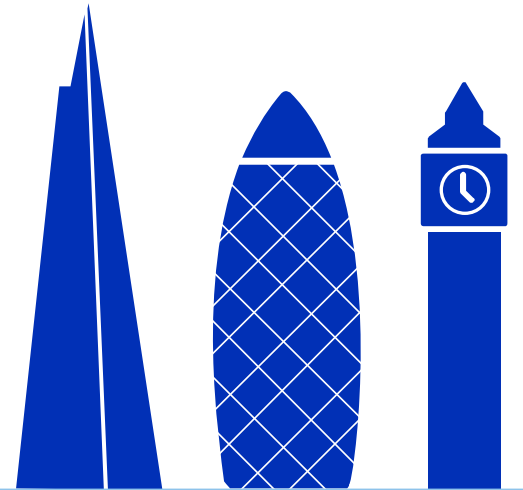
Walkable cities: the study cases of London and Ghent

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Walkable cities:

Case study 1: Healthy streets in London



Healthy Streets for London

The plan

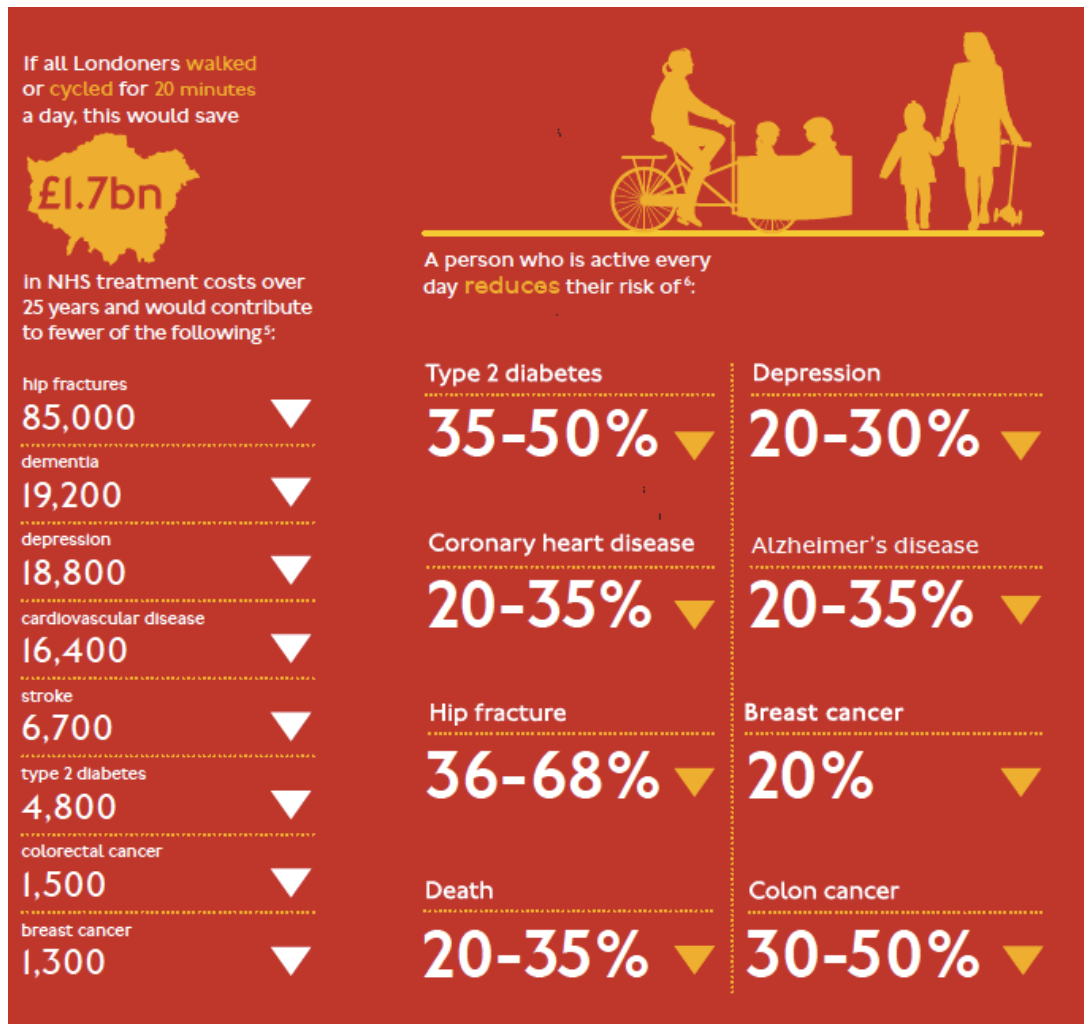
London adopted the [Healthy Streets Approach](#) to improve air quality, reduce congestion and help make London's diverse communities greener, healthier and more attractive places to live, work, play and do business.

What is the plan?

- improving local environments by providing more space for walking and cycling, and better public spaces where people can interact
- prioritising better and more affordable public transport and safer and more appealing routes for walking and cycling
- planning new developments so people can walk or cycle to local shops, schools and workplaces, and have good public transport links for longer journeys

Healthy Streets for London

The benefit: an healthy city



Healthy Streets for London

The approach

Re-examining London streets

The transport system has a huge influence on the character of our city, and the experience of living, working and spending time here.

London's streets account for 80 per cent of the city's public space, yet too often they are dominated by traffic. The nature of these places – **public places that belong to us all** – defines what London is like as a city.



Healthy Streets for London

Prioritising walking, cycling and public transport
to create a healthy city

Healthy Streets for London

The approach

The Healthy Streets Approach is a long-term plan for improving Londoners' and visitors' experiences of our streets,

- i) Street level
- ii) Network level: planning and managing London's transport networks
- iii) Strategic level: policy and planning



Healthy Streets for London

10 Healthy Streets Indicators

Source:
Lucy Saunders



Healthy Streets for London

10 Healthy Streets Indicators

1. **Pedestrians from all walks of life** London's streets should be welcoming places for everyone to walk, spend time in and engage in community life.
2. **People choose to walk, cycle and use public transport** A successful transport system enables more people to walk and cycle more often.
3. **Clean air** Improving air quality delivers benefits for everyone and reduces unfair health inequalities.
4. **People feel safe** The whole community should feel comfortable and safe on our streets at all times. People should not feel worried about road danger.
5. **Not too noisy** Reducing the noise impacts of traffic will directly benefit health and improve the ambience of our streets.



Healthy Streets for London

10 Healthy Streets Indicators

6. **Easy to cross** Making streets easier to cross is important to encourage more walking and to connect communities.
7. **Places to stop and rest** A lack of resting places can limit mobility for certain groups of people.
8. **Shade and shelter** Providing shade and shelter enables everybody to use our streets, whatever the weather.
9. **People feel relaxed** More people will walk or cycle if our streets are not dominated by motor traffic, and if pavements and cycle paths are not overcrowded, dirty or in disrepair.
10. **Things to see and do** People are more likely to use our streets when their journey is interesting and stimulating, with attractive views, buildings, planting and street art.

Source: Transport for London, 2017

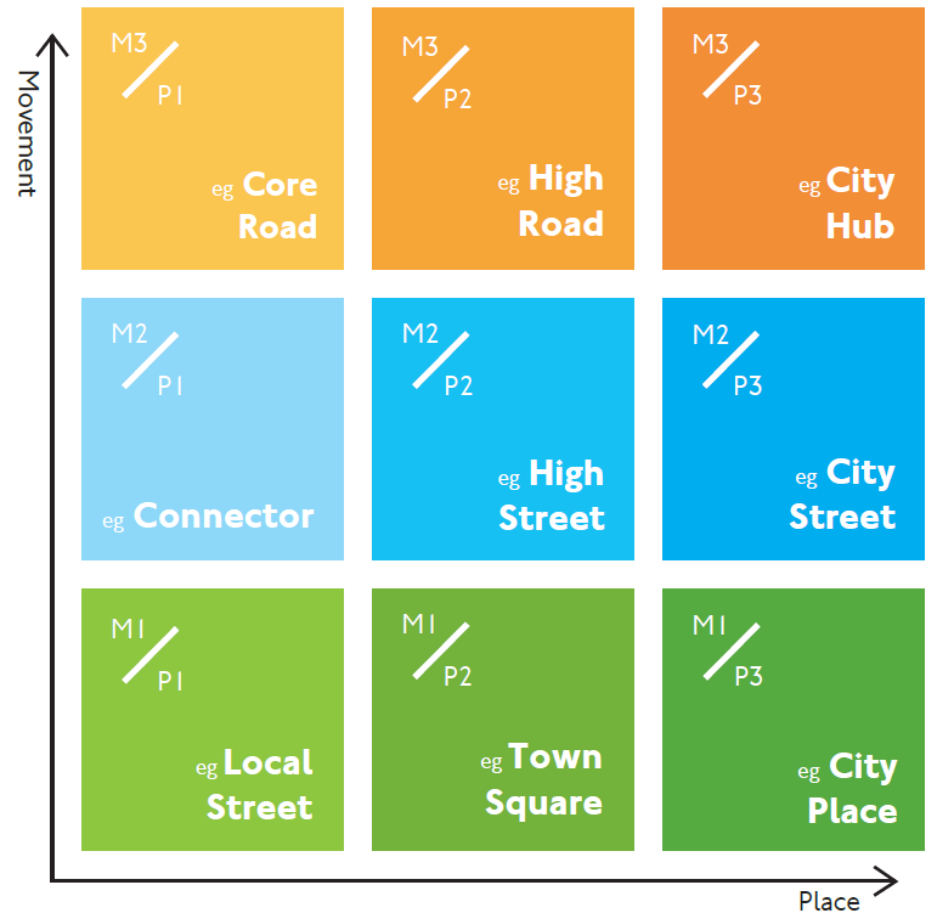


Healthy Streets for London

9 street types

- **Link-place framework** for allocating all our streets into different 'types' based on their 'movement' function and their 'place' function.

Source: Transport for London, 2017



Healthy Streets for London

Healthy Streets Toolkit

<https://tfl.gov.uk/cdn/static/cms/documents/guide-to-the-healthy-streets-indicators.pdf>

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Guide to the Healthy Streets Indicators

Delivering the Healthy Streets Approach

MAYOR OF LONDON



Incontro nazionale sulla camminabilità urbana,
Cagliari 18-19 gennaio 2018

Healthy Streets for London

Healthy Streets Check for Designers

- The Healthy Streets Check for Designers is a spreadsheet tool to support designers.
- It helps you to make sure any proposed changes to the way streets are laid out or used result in improvements. You check the scheme against the 10 Healthy Streets Indicators (comparing it with the existing conditions on that street).
- You can use results from the Healthy Streets Check to show the public how changes to the way streets are laid out and used will result in improvements. The check holds no formal status in guidance and decision making, but advises designers and decision makers on how a project fits with Healthy Streets policy.

<https://tfl.gov.uk/cdn/static/cms/documents/healthy-streets-check-for-designers.xlsx>

Healthy Streets for London

Small changes, Big impacts

<https://tfl.gov.uk/cdn/static/cms/documents/small-change-big-impact.pdf>

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Small Change, Big Impact

A practical guide to changing London's public spaces

Delivering the Healthy Streets Approach

MAYOR OF LONDON



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Walkable cities:

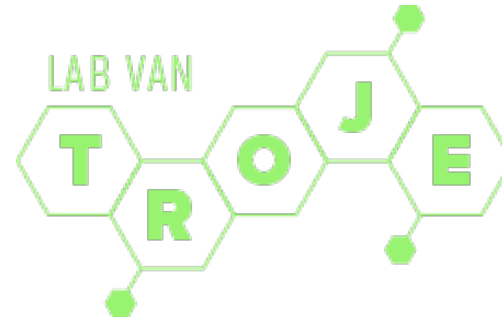
Case study 2: Living streets in Ghent



Living streets in Ghent

Dreaming of a sustainable and social future

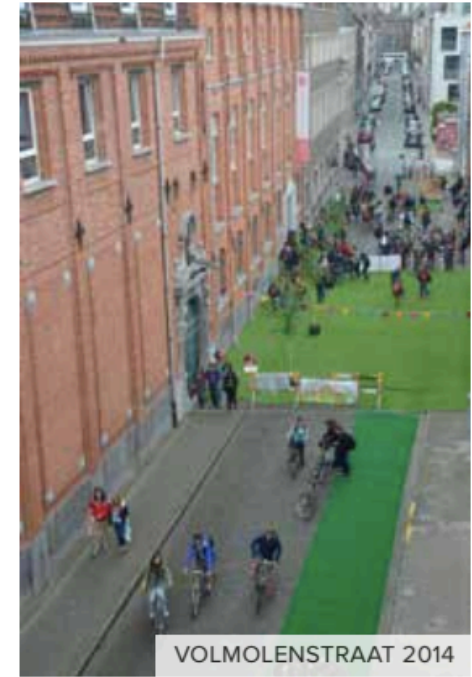
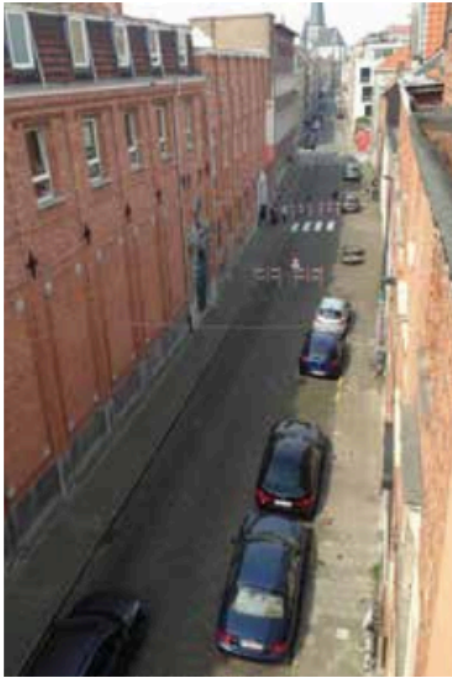
- Thanks to Living Street, hundreds of Ghent citizens could work together to create a street of their own.
- After dreaming and coming up with ideas, the residents rolled up their sleeves, unrolled the turf, setted up barbecues, created meeting places and so much more.
- By creating their own Living Street, these citizens were experimenting with the sustainable mobility of the future, creating a new approach to urban space and reinforcing social links by multiplying interactions among citizens



Living streets in Ghent

New ways of co-creation

The Living Streets explored and developed new ways of collaboration among the Ghent citizens, municipal services, companies and many more city stakeholders. They were doing this by challenging each other in a smart way in terms of thinking, acting, understanding one another and learning.



Living streets in Ghent

- For the citizens, a Living Street functions as a common project and as such an impulse for dialogue and dynamics with their neighbours, other street users and the city.
- Knowledge, experience and concepts are tested in a **learning-by-doing approach** that will make life easier in the unfolding sustainable and sociable city.

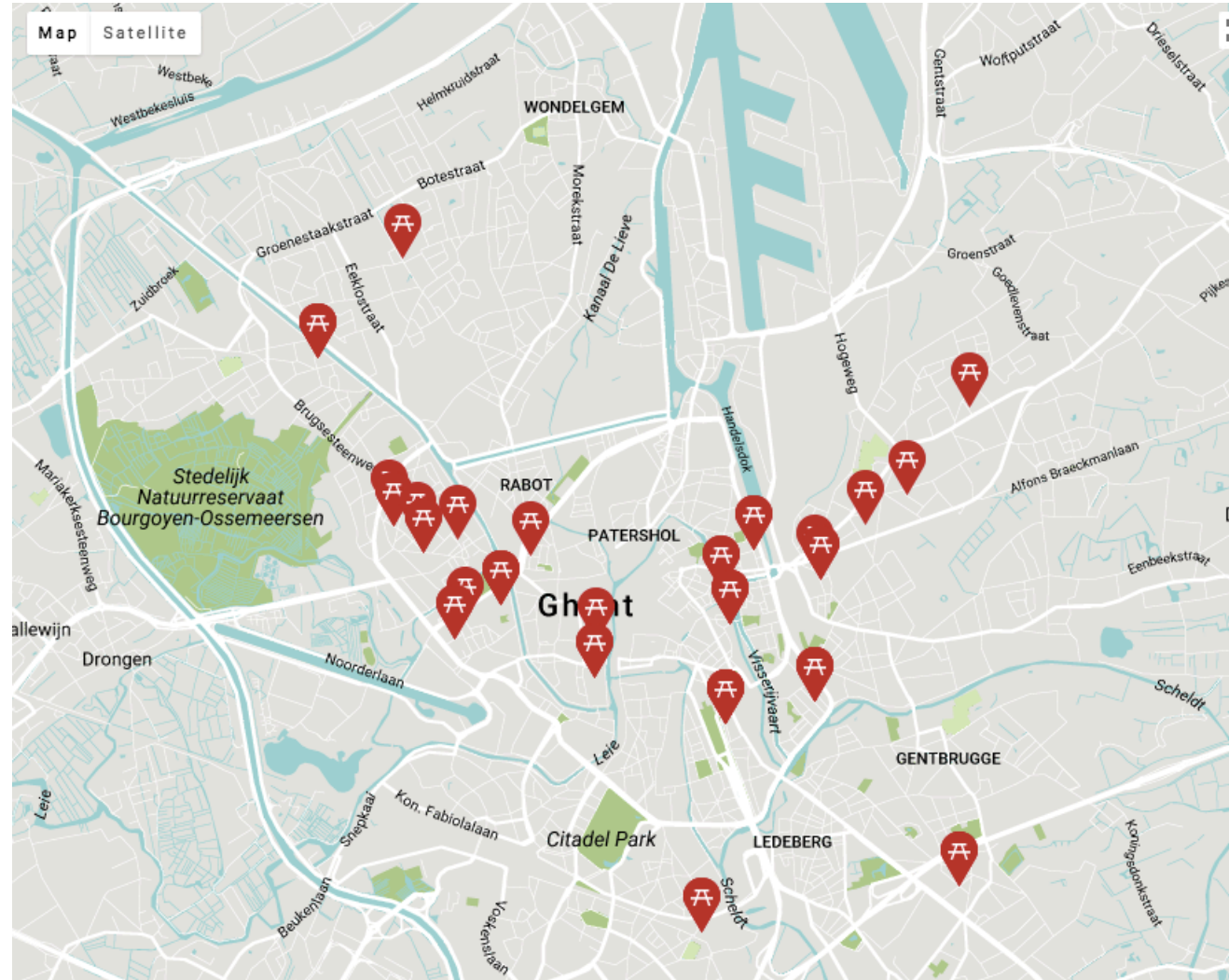


Living streets in Ghent

The living streets experiments

Started as an experiment with two streets in 2013, in 2014 already ten blocks have been joining; This year there are 35 Living Streets.

<https://www.leefstraat.be/leefstraten/>



Living streets in Ghent

Diversity of outputs

2 months car-free (as a start...)

The idea is simple: create a car-free street for two months and let the people decide what to do with the space. Each Live Street looks different.



Living streets in Ghent



Some concluding reflections

Comparing the two study cases

- Top-down **vs** bottom-up planning
- Guidelines **vs** transition knowledge
- Applying toolkits **vs** experimenting
- Assessment for major investment **vs** almost no budget, no investment assessment
- Technical approach **vs** transition study approach
- Designers and planners at TfL **vs** multi stakeholders arena
- Integrated multimodal plans **vs** multiscale future vision

Walkability and health: two international examples

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