

## 6. internationale Walk21-Konferenz 2005 in Zürich Call for Papers

Walk21 ist eine internationale Konferenz, die sich speziell mit dem Fussverkehr und der damit verbundenen Attraktivität von Lebensräumen befasst. Für das Jahr 2005 hat das internationale Walk21-Komitee Zürich als Gastgeberstadt ausgewählt. Die 6. Walk21-Konferenz, die ganz im Zeichen des alltäglichen Zufussgehens steht, wird unter dem Titel „EVERYDAY WALKING CULTURE“ lanciert und findet vom **21. bis 24. September 2005** statt. Der **Call for Papers** mit Detailinformationen zu den einzelnen Themen kann unter <http://www.walk21.ch> heruntergeladen werden. Termin für die Einreichung von Abstracts ist der 15. Januar 2004.

Weitere Informationen:

Walk21 Zürich 2005

<http://www.walk21.ch>

## 6<sup>e</sup> conférence internationale Walk21 organisée à Zurich en 2005 L'appel de textes

Walk21 est une série de conférences internationales consacrées au trafic piétonnier et à l'attrait qu'il confère aux espaces parcourus. Après Londres, Perth, San Sebastián, Portland et Copenhague, c'est à Zurich qu'aura lieu l'édition 2005. « EVERYDAY WALKING CULTURE »: c'est sous ce titre que se réuniront spécialistes, chercheurs, personnalités politiques, représentants d'ONG, etc. pour discuter, du 21 au 24 septembre 2005. Les personnes intéressées peuvent télécharger le document pdf **Call for Papers** sous <http://www.walk21.ch>. Les résumés devront être envoyés d'ici au 15 janvier 2005.

Plus d'information (en anglais et en allemand):

Walk21 Zurich 2005

<http://www.walk21.ch>

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## WALK21 - VI

# EVERYDAY WALKING CULTURE

THE 6TH INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON WALKING  
IN THE 21ST CENTURY

ZURICH, SWITZERLAND • 22 – 23 SEPTEMBER 2005

With Pre-Conference Workshops on September 21  
Theme-Related Excursions on September 24  
and the Multi-Mobile Festival Day on September 25

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### CALL FOR PAPERS

The Steering and the Organizing Committee of the 6<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Walking in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century in Zurich 2005 are inviting all those who wish to contribute to the conference programme to submit their abstract from now until **Saturday, January 15<sup>th</sup>, 2005**. Please send your abstract to [abstracts@walk21.ch](mailto:abstracts@walk21.ch)

We welcome submissions in English for a presentation in a plenary, panel, breakout or meet-the-expert session on the following conference themes (for details see page 3 ff.):

1. Culture and politics – creating a walking culture
2. Physical activity, health and lessons from leisure – creating benefits for all
3. Forgotten territories – creating a walkable suburbia
4. Intermodality – creating the right conditions to “Walk & Ride”

The conference will take place at the Lake-Side Conference Centre and at the University of Art and Design Zurich. The main part of the conference will be held on September 22 and 23, 2005 with pre-conference workshops starting on Wednesday, September 21 and ending with a day of theme-related excursions on Saturday, September 24, and the multi-mobile festival day on September 25. Please visit the website [www.walk21.ch](http://www.walk21.ch) for details.

We look forward to your proposal and hope to see you in Zurich 2005!

*Steering and Organizing Committee of WALK21 Zurich*

## INTRODUCTION AND CONFERENCE OBJECTIVES

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The conference EVERYDAY WALKING CULTURE aims to highlight the importance of good public spaces and of walking as an everyday activity in the opinion of experts, policy-makers and the public. We will discuss how we can create positive, trend-setting images of walking, establishing a culture of walking and creating liveable cities with high urban qualities for pedestrians. We want to encourage positive trends, analyse existing obstacles, share visions and debate ways to achieve them.

Walking has always been part of the urban culture. The original design of cities was made with pedestrians in mind. Street cafés, markets and children playing in neighbourhood squares are signs of vibrant towns and cities where people like to live. Walking is part of our social tradition and cultural heritage. Walking to school, for example, has always been part of this everyday walking culture.

Walking is more than just a healthy, environmentally friendly way to move around. Walking involves all senses. It allows experiences no other means can provide: meeting people, discovering architectural details, watching street life, smelling the seasons and observing nature. Artists from every era wrote, painted and sculpted inspired by street scenes and by walking in general, illustrating how important walking is in our societies, for public life and culture. The Zurich conference will address this cultural aspect through inspiring debates and by holding a small photo exhibition. Every participant will be asked to bring with him or her a photograph illustrating the richness and diversity of EVERYDAY WALKING CULTURE in his/her own country.

In our fast paced societies, the wish to slow down becomes increasingly apparent. Walking is often the fastest mode for short distances but walking is also a way of deceleration, increasing the quality of life. Promoting the enjoyment of walking and creating the right conditions is an important goal of the conference. We will be joining together with Slow Food Switzerland enabling us to experience a unique combination of the qualities of slow culture. Come to Zurich and enjoy interesting walks, inspiring speeches and good, local, healthy food! Cultivate all your senses!

The conference will be an excellent forum for planners, policy-makers, advocates, engineers, social scientists, practitioners, NGO activists, consultants, developers/investors, marketing specialists and researchers. We will bring together experts from many fields: physical activity and health promotion, public space design and inclusive mobility, urban planning and public transport; leisure and tourism, road safety and sustainable development. The conference will provide a prime opportunity to explore the key issues, current projects and future prospects for walking in towns and cities.

## CONFERENCE THEMES

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There are four conference themes. Authors should indicate under which theme and sub theme they prefer their paper to be considered. However, please note that the Programme Committee may rearrange papers in order to achieve a proper balance in the various sessions.

### 1. Culture and politics – creating a culture for walking and public spaces

Walking and enjoyment of public spaces has always been part of the urban culture. Over the past few decades the many social and cultural walking traditions have been buried by the predominance of the automobile. Initiatives for walking to school, to work and to leisure show the time has come for a new walking culture. A culture which includes the creation of high-quality urban spaces, a new image for walking and a political vision for liveable cities. A culture which may redefine our relationships with time and space. At the conference we will debate how we could encourage the positive trends and remove the obstacles to achieve the vision. In particular we will discuss the following questions:

- A) How can we implement a walking culture and create quality public spaces?  
What are the ingredients of a new walking culture? How can we use the cultural approach to increase walking and to get the conditions right? What are best practices and examples for an everyday walking culture? How is the new walking culture linked to good public spaces? How does walking to school, to work, to leisure fit into this concept? Which historical and current images could be useful for a new culture of walking? What could we learn from other fields, e.g. the slow food movement?
- B) How can we create a positive image of walking?  
What are the current perceptions, prejudices and ideologies of walking and how do they affect individual and political decisions? How do we “read” a city and how do we perceive public space? How can we communicate and promote the positive qualities of walking, creating a “walking-e-motion”? What could marketing measures and campaigns contribute? How can promotional and cultural changes inspire structural changes and vice-versa? How can we influence public opinion?
- C) How to turn visions of a new walking culture into political practice?  
What instruments are needed to successfully implement strategies and policies (on the local, national and international level)? Which policies, planning and decision processes are crucial to develop liveable cities? How can we bring about change faster? How can citizens be involved in the decisions? How can it be made easier for administrations to create better conditions? Which allies do we need to tackle the problems?

### 2. Physical activity, health and lessons from leisure – creating benefits for all

Inactivity is becoming an increasing health problem throughout the world. Walking is a key element in promoting physical activity and health. Vice-versa, health and physical activity are key arguments to promote walking. While hiking and other leisure walking activities are quite successful we want to know how we could transfer this success to everyday walking. The conference will bring together professionals from the health and physical activity field with experts from the fields of urban- and traffic-planning and from leisure walking. Together we will debate how to connect the fields to increase walking in everyday life. In particular we will discuss the following questions:

- A) How can health arguments be used to encourage walking?  
What are the effects of walking on our physical and mental well-being? How can physically inactive groups and individuals be reached by walking interventions? What are the health issues in walking and how do they enhance the quality of life? What are successful strategies, policies and experiences in this field?
- B) What are effective transport interventions to increase physical activity?  
How can policy and infrastructure interventions promote walking? How do we envision and organise towns, cities and public spaces so that more activities are done on foot? What is the potential to change mobility patterns? What can urban and traffic planners learn from health and physical activity specialists - and vice-versa - and how could they cooperate?
- C) How can we increase the number of everyday leisure trips taken on foot?  
How can we promote leisure walks in and near the city? How can we combine utilitarian and recreational walking in urban areas and what successful examples are there? How do we best organise the interfaces of utilitarian and recreational walking and of urban and rural walking? What can we learn from the hiking and other leisure movements? How can all the partners cooperate?

### **3. Forgotten territories – creating a walkable suburbia**

The environment for pedestrians in many new urban and suburban areas is a problem: large distances to amenities, missing links and provisions for pedestrians, major roads causing safety and emission problems, unattractive buildings and deserted streets at night. While the city centres and particularly the old parts of town have seen many improvements over the last few decades the situation in the suburban areas is still desolate. We will be asking how we can connect the “forgotten territories”. How do we plan differently in the future and how do we repair and improve the current situation? The conference aims at discussing these problems and issues in detail, particularly the following questions:

- A) How can attractive, safe and secure public spaces be created in suburban areas?  
How should suburban spaces, streets and squares be designed so that pedestrians can walk safely and securely in an attractive and comfortable environment? How can the walkability of these areas be assessed and improved? How can the streets be re-worked with people in mind? How can security and crime prevention be improved and public space be regained for the use of people? Which measures (planning, political, financial) are needed to avoid deserted ground floors and to put eyes and ears onto the street?
- B) How can social inclusion and the accessibility for pedestrians in suburban areas be improved?  
What measures need to be taken to close the missing links and create a network of attractive walking routes? How can land-use- and urban-planning contribute to shorter distances to leisure facilities, shops, supermarkets and office buildings so people can reach them easily on foot? How can a “design for all” be implemented, allowing independent mobility and inclusion of all members of society, particularly children, elderly and people with handicaps? How can public transport better be developed and connected in the suburban areas?
- C) What kind of political and institutional measures are necessary?  
What are the current institutional and political obstacles in suburban areas preventing better public spaces and better situations for pedestrians? How can we overcome the barriers? How can architects, planners, investors, politicians and citizens work together to create better walking conditions? What can public-private partnerships contribute? What are the economic benefits of improvements – for the commercial sector and the public? What changes do we need regarding political and institutional structures?

#### 4. Intermodality – creating the right conditions to “Walk & Ride”

Walking is the glue of the transport system. Almost every trip involves at least one stage on foot. Yet, the links between the modes are often deficient. While large investments are made to improve public transport, the immediate vicinity of stops and stations often gets forgotten, weakening the transport chain. At the conference we will discuss how the links between walking and other ecologically-desirable modes of transport can be improved. In particular we will debate the following questions:

- A) What are the problems and obstacles regarding intermodality today?  
What are the perspectives of the customer and the public transport providers? Which political, institutional and operational changes are necessary to improve the co-operation to better integrate walking with public transport? How can users be integrated in the planning process (as pedestrians/passengers)? What are innovative ideas and solutions to improve access to stops and stations of public transport?
- B) What services are needed at interchanges?  
What role can Information and Service Centres at train stations play? Which services should they offer? How can training and education of personnel (staff) and customers help to overcome obstacles? What information and equipment should be provided to better link walking with public transport, improving orientation and certainty (finding the way)?
- C) How can walking be integrated with other modes of transport, e.g. car-sharing and cycling?  
How can car-sharing systems contribute to the promotion of walking? What effects do they have on the number of trips, share of walking and the image/perception of pedestrians? What role does car-sharing play in promoting car-free living? How can walking and cycling be better integrated?

Particularly welcome are papers in each field regarding

- good examples and best practice, innovative tools and successful approaches
- critical analysis of problems, perceptions and ideologies
- experiences, successes and failures of implementation; promising paths for the future

We encourage papers which contribute to the debate between different professional fields, for example, between health professionals and traffic planners, between recreational and utilitarian walking experts, between public transport and walking representatives.

If you have any questions regarding themes or papers, please contact either Rodney Tolley [rodney.tolley@walk21.com](mailto:rodney.tolley@walk21.com) or Daniel Sauter [sauter@walk21.ch](mailto:sauter@walk21.ch)

## SESSION FORMATS

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The conference embodies various forms of sessions: plenary, breakout and 'meet the experts' sessions as well as workshops.

**Keynote and Plenary:** Keynote and plenary sessions address the entire assembly. They consist of individual speakers and of plenary panels debating the main themes of the conference.

**Breakout:** The breakout sessions will be smaller assemblies held in various meeting rooms. The sessions will give presenters a chance to debate their papers in the context of other papers on a similar topic.

**Meet the Experts:** The meet the experts' sessions are where authors will be available to discuss their exhibited displays. The displays themselves will be on view throughout the entire course of the conference.

**Workshops:** Workshops are mobile workshops to selected places in Zurich where you get a hands-on experience of the conference themes. This adds a unique opportunity to see ideas implemented and assess achievements critically.

PLEASE NOTE: The keynote and plenary sessions will be simultaneously translated into English and German. For all other sessions, English will be the conference language. All submissions of abstracts and papers have to be in English.

## PROGRAMME COMMITTEE

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An international Programme Committee with people from various professions and backgrounds will be responsible for the selection of the contributions and the overall conference programme. Chair of the Programme Committee is Rodney Tolley, Director WALK21; coordinator is Daniel Sauter, Urban Mobility Research, Zurich. The other members of the Committee will be appointed shortly. Please check the website for further information.

## DEADLINES

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<b>Receipt of abstracts</b>	<b>January 15, 2005</b>
<b>Notification of acceptance of abstracts</b>	<b>March 31, 2005</b>
<b>Receipt of final paper</b>	<b>June 15, 2005</b>

## GUIDELINES FOR SUBMISSION OF ABSTRACTS

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Those who wish to present a paper at the conference are invited to send an abstract providing the following information, in English:

### **Description of presentation (500 words maximum)**

- Proposed title
- Name, affiliation and contact information including your e-mail address
- Indicate under which theme you wish your proposal to be considered
- Context, aim, methodology, results and main conclusions of the work to be reported
- Type of presentation (e.g. plenary, panel discussion, breakout or meet-the-expert session)
- Form of presentation (lecture, PowerPoint presentation, film etc.)

### **Qualifications of author(s) (100 words maximum)**

- A biography of the author(s)

### **Format**

- Proposals will be accepted in electronic format only
- Please use the abstract submission form (in WORD-format) provided on the website
- Mail your abstract to [abstracts@walk21.ch](mailto:abstracts@walk21.ch)
- You may propose several abstracts. Please submit each proposal individually

**Submitted abstracts that do not conform to the above mentioned guidelines or that are not on time will not be considered.**

**Abstracts must reach the organizers no later than  
Saturday, January 15, 2005**

The homepage [www.walk21.ch](http://www.walk21.ch) will keep you up to date about the conference.



## **ANNOUNCEMENT I: PHOTOGRAPHS OF EVERYDAY WALKING CULTURE**

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All participants at the conference will be asked to send in advance a photograph which illustrates the EVERYDAY WALKING CULTURE in their country. The choice of the scene is free/yours. The pictures will be exhibited during the conference and placed on the CD or web afterwards. In order not to run into any copyright problems we prefer pictures taken by the participant him- or herself.

The photos have to be sent to the organizers in digital format by August 20<sup>th</sup>, 2005 at the latest. They should have a minimal resolution of 1536x1024 pixels (desirable: 3072x2048) in order to be printed to acceptable size and quality. This equals a picture taken with a camera of at least 2.2 megapixels. You will be informed about the submission details after registration.

## **ANNOUNCEMENT II: SATELLITE SYMPOSIUM ON TRANSPORT-RELATED PHYSICAL ACTIVITY AND HEALTH**

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The Swiss Federal Office of Sports is organizing a scientific satellite symposium on TRANSPORT-RELATED PHYSICAL ACTIVITY AND HEALTH prior to the Zurich conference – from September 18-20, 2005.

The themes will be

- Health effects of transport-related physical activity
- Understanding the determinants of transport-related physical activity
- Assessment of transport-related physical activity and evaluation of interventions
- Effectiveness of transport interventions promoting walking and cycling
- Policies and strategies to increase walking and cycling

The symposium will take place at the Swiss Federal Office of Sports in Magglingen, above the city of Biel/Bienne on the plateau of the Jura Mountains.

You may submit abstracts to both conferences. Please use the respective submission process and formats. The papers will be coordinated between the two conferences.

For further information please visit the satellite symposium's website: [www.walk21satellite.ch](http://www.walk21satellite.ch) or contact the Network Physical Activity and Health Switzerland at [hepa@baspo.admin.ch](mailto:hepa@baspo.admin.ch), phone: +41 32 327 61 23.

## **ORGANIZERS AND PARTNERS**

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WALK21-VI EVERYDAY WALKING CULTURE is kindly supported by:



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Roads Authority



Swiss Federal Office  
of Public Health



Federal Office of Sports, Magglingen



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the Canton of Zurich



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Swiss Pedestrian Association

