

## Seminar & Workshop

# RAIL TRANSPORT & BIKE – AN ALTERNATIVE FOR SUSTAINABLE MOBILITY IN SLOVENIA

Godec Inn, Borovnica, Slovenia

May 11 2016

Slovenia is at present facing from one side an **increasing challenges how to prevent traffic jams in largest urban centres** and during main tourist season, **reduce air pollution from traffic** while from the other it is facing **important decisions on investments in railway infrastructure, purchase of new passenger trains and implementation of an integrated public passenger transport**. We believe it is a decisive moment for the future of sustainable transport and mobility in Slovenia and the decisions will effect and have an impact on developments in other countries in the region.



When speaking on railway modernisation **the political and media discourse** is nowadays in Slovenia almost exclusively **focused on freight transport** whereas passenger's transport seems to be considered as disturbance in attempts of increasing and speeding of freight transport on rails. Most recently, it was proposed – in order to reduce the costs of high investment – that new rail track connecting the port of Koper with Divača railway junction should disregard transport of passengers. Passenger's railway transport in Slovenia is indeed declining as in recent decades comparatively few investments were made for shorten travel times and improve level of services and because Slovenia is lacking an implemented integrated public passenger transport policy.

**Demand for better bike carrying capacities of trains, more and better bike stands and bike parking facilities at railway stations and for an overall improvement of bike – train co-modality and inter-modality is not only increasing but is getting organised.** In Bohinj and Posočje regions, for example a wide social and political consensus on the issue has been already built. It is therefore time to start to **focus on railway transport and cycling in as an integrated solution** for the problems caused by a private car commuting and leisure travel.

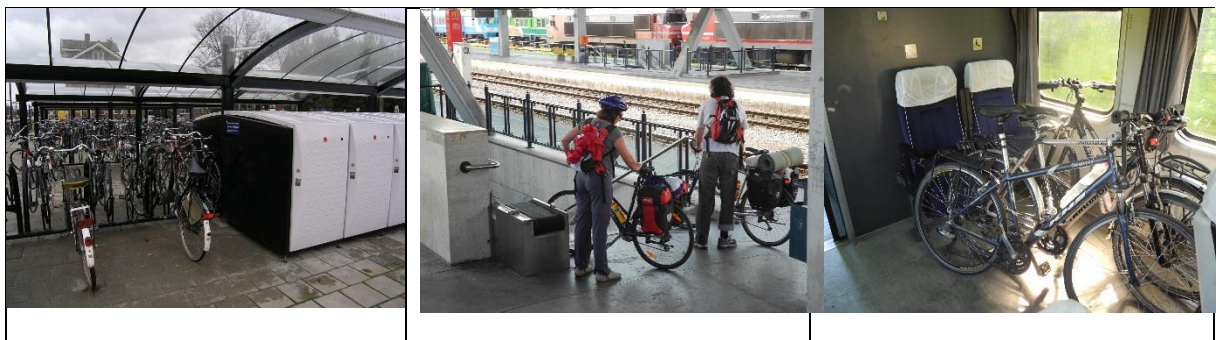
Only a **few places in Slovenia can offer fast and frequent passenger's train connections to large cities** that can compete with private cars for daily commuting to work. Small market town of **Borovnica** - situated 20 km SW from Ljubljana - **is one of such places where most people are commuting to work and school by train**. The municipality is striving for a **modernisation of railway station** and is planning to substantially **improve its at railway station based P +R and B+R** as well as to **develop tourism based on railway heritage, railway transport and co-modality of bike and train**. It is placed at the location of once upon a time largest railway viaduct in Europe.

## Goals and objectives of the seminar and workshop:

1. To recall the importance of modernisation of passenger's railway transport in Slovenia and integrated public transport in Slovenia as a backbone of sustainable transport in the country
2. To point out key measures and decisions for improved railway, integrated passenger's transport and bike- train co-modality.
3. To present the best practices in the field from neighbouring countries.
4. To point out and discuss key obstacles and challenges in the field at system and institutional level.
5. To alert on the need for appropriate actual decisions on investment in new railway infrastructure and vehicles.

## Target groups:

- a) Planners, policy makers, decision makers, regulatory bodies, railway infrastructure management and development organisations in Slovenia.
- b) Railway passenger's transport operators in Slovenia and neighbouring countries
- c) Mayors and municipal officials in the field of transport, environment and tourism
- d) Tourist associations and businesses
- e) Transport, mobility, environment, consumers and people with disabilities representing NGOs



## The organizers:

- CIVINET Slovenia-Croatia-South Eastern Europe
- Coalition for Sustainable Transport
- Slovenian Cyclists Network
- Municipality of Borovnica

## Draft Agenda

**8:00 Meeting point at Ljubljana main railway station**

**8:10: Travel with regular train LPV 1748 Ljubljana – Opčine/Villa Opicina to Borovnica**  
(arrival at 8.21) with presentation of good and bad practices of bike – train co-modality and inter-modality on the route.

**8:30 – 9:00 Registration of the participants at Godec Inn, Paplerjeva 12, 1353 Borovnica**

**9:00 – 11:00 Part I**

### MODERNISATION OF RAILWAY AND SUSTAINABLE MOBILITY IN SLOVENIA

- **The role of Railway in the Past, the Present and the Future of Borovnica**  
Mr. Bojan Čebela, the Mayor of Borovnica
- **Policies and Measures in Support of Increased Share of Railway in Modal Split Of Slovenia**  
mag. Klemen Grebenšek, State Secretary, Ministry of Infrastructure
- **State of The Art and the Prospects of Passenger's Railway Transport in Slovenia and Transport of Bicycles on *Slovenian Railways's* Trains**  
mag. Boštjan Koren, the director, SŽ – Potniški promet d.o.o. or Gorazd Hartner, head of sales and marketing department, SŽ – Potniški promet d.o.o
- **Key Investment for Modernisation of Railway Transport In Slovenia**  
Mr. Damir Topolko, Director of the Directorate for Infrastructure
- **Planning the Development of Suburban Railways as Spinal Multimodal Transport Chain**  
Mr. Tadej Brezina, Technical University of Vienna and president of PlatMobil
- **Recent Development of Railway Passenger's Transport in Styria**  
Representative of the Provincial Transport Association of Styria, Austria
- **Discussion** - Key activities and measures to increase the share of rail transport in modal split in Slovenia from perspective of the participants

**11:00 – 11:30 Coffee Break**

## 11:30 – 13:00 Part II

### BIKE & TRAIN – A REAL ALTERNATIVE TO A PRIVATE CAR

- **Co-modality and Inter-modality of Bike - Train in Styria**  
*Mr. Guenther Illek, FMG AMOR, Graz, Austria or*
- **ISR Project – Shining Example of Multi-Stakeholder Cooperation in Development of Bike-Train Co-modality and Inter-modality**  
*Mr. Mag. Rudolf Sebastnik, Schieneninfrastruktur-Dienstleistungsgesellschaft mbH, Austria*
- **The »Miracle« of Revitalised Vinschgaubahn**  
*Representative of the Region of Alto Adige/Sudtirolo, Italy*
- **B&R at Maribor Main Railway Station as a Good Practice**  
*Mr. Josip Rotar, Agency of RS for Railway Transport and Maribor Cyclists Network*
- **Bike & Train Co-modality and Development of Tourism Lake Bohinj and Upper Soča Valley Regions**  
*Representative of Bohinj Railway Initiative*
- **USER EXPERIENCE OF BIKE – TRAIN COMMODALITY AND INTERMODALITY BY**
  - **Slovenian Cyclists Network, Slovenia**
  - **Cyclists Trade Union, Croatia**
  - **Radlobby, Austria**
  - **Amici della Bicicletta, Italy**

## 13:00 – 14:00 Lunch

## 14:00 – 15:00 Part III

### Parallel Workshops

### HOW TO IMPROVE BIKE-TRAIN CO-MODALITY AND INTER-MODALITY?

#### Workshop A:

#### BIKE & TRAIN IN COMMUTING TO WORK/SCHOOL

#### Workshop B:

#### BIKE ON TRAIN AND DEVELOPMENT OF SUSTAINABLE TOURIST PRODUCTS

Workshops will follow the model of »Word Café« in order to define in an inter-active way key obstacles, challenges and opportunities for improvement of bike-train co-modality and inter-modality.

## 15:00 – 15:30 PART IV

### FINAL PLENNARY MEETING

- Reporting from workshops
- Defining key findings, statements and recommendations from the seminar

**Departure of train LPV 2653 from Borovnica to Ljubljana at 16:03 (arrival at Ljubljana at 16:24)**