

The situation of the bicycle in Europe

Dr Bernhard Ensink

Secretary General & Velo-city Series Director

Barcelona, 28th of May 2009

2nd Catalan Bicycle Conference

The bicycle / cycling

- Not an (independent) issue on European political level (yet)

But

- more and more linked to issues like
 - climate change
 - health (a.o. obesity)
 - **urban transport (Green Paper)**
 - ...



Health and cycling

Documents of the European Commission called for:

- “How to change the living area’s in favour of more fysical activity?”
- European Commission will fund (via DG SANCO) the project Life-Cycle
- Nothing more to add to the presentation of Mr Cavill (yesterday)



Urban transport and cycling

Green Paper: Towards a new culture for urban mobility (EC 2007):

“Rethinking urban mobility involves optimising the use of **all** the various modes of transport and organising "**co-modality**" between the different modes of **collective transport** (train, tram, metro, bus, taxi) and the different modes of individual transport (**car, motorcycle, cycle, walking**).”

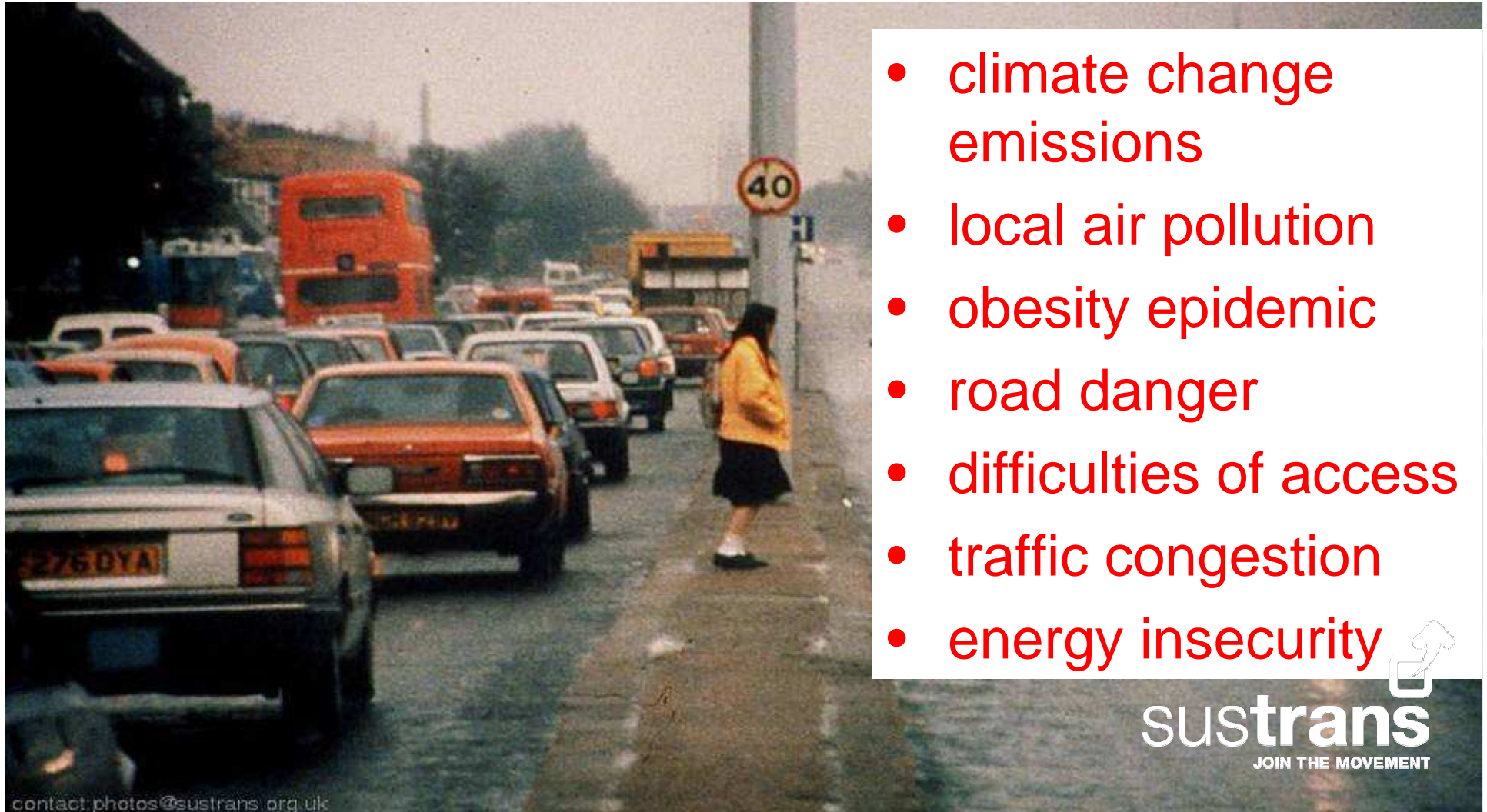


This means: The European Commission is
NOT making a real choice !!



But this is reality:

Urban transport policy has failed



- climate change emissions
- local air pollution
- obesity epidemic
- road danger
- difficulties of access
- traffic congestion
- energy insecurity

Constants in travel behaviour

Daily mobility	On average, people make three trips per day, spending one hour travelling
Activities	Only one in five trips is work-related
Spatial orientation	Five out of six trips begin or end at home
Car trips	10% are not further than 1km, 30% are not further than 3km and 50% are not further than 5km



There is a huge potential for the bicycle !!

Source: Sustrans



Urban transport problems in Europe ? Cycling is part of the solution ...

ECF calls for ...

Setting clear objectives for the modal share of cycling and for cyclists' safety

Setting up a project on thorough research, data and statistics for cycling policy in Europe

Appointing an European Bicycle Officer

Allocation of European resources with a view to improving and increasing cycling in Europe



On the special subject: 'Police & bicycle'



Photo: www.ipmba.org

Police on bikes -
they help to humanize the streets !



'Police & bicycle'

What ECF members reported ... (1)

- good co-operation of stakeholders (incl. police) in fighting bicycle theft (NL)
- Police on bikes (GB, D, NL, Lithuania ...)
- good brochure for police officers on bikes (B)



'Police & bicycle'

What ECF members reported ... (2)

- police involved in cycling courses and trainings (NL; D)
- co-operation of police and bicycle user groups in campaigns for lights on bicycles
- “look at www.ipmba.org = InternationalPoliceMountainBikeAssociation” (GB)



Police on Bicycles: 'They help humanizing the streets'



Police officers co-operating with a school educating kids and checking their bicycles (Emlichheim/Germany)



A police officer helps creating more space for cyclists during an event in Brussels (a blue carpet changes the street temporarily more in favour of cyclists)



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