

Let's Take Bicycles Seriously



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Presented at 'Tampines Town Hall Forum: Cycling the Way Forward?'
8 June 2008 at the Tampines East Community Centre

Have bicycles been taken seriously?



Failing to plan for bicycles in Singapore has turned them into a nuisance



Bicycles missing from road design priorities



Some good efforts: but half-hearted, poor coordination, no clear guidelines or goals



**But what do bicycle users
need anyway?**

It is not obvious

Fast and slow bicycle users have different needs

■ Fast (20-40 km/h)

- Middle-distance transport or commuting
- Recreation/fun
- Sport

■ Slow (~8-20 km/h)

- Short distance transport or commuting
- Recreation/fun

Fast cycling

Practical for trips of 4 km to 25 km

Arterial roads cannot be avoided

Requires skill and confidence in traffic

This deters most people



Slow cycling

Suits 1 to 5 km trips

Bicycle very attractive for such trips
if the environment is made conducive



Slow cycling (1 to 5 km trips)



Slow cycling

(10 km or more OK for leisurely recreational rides)



Bicycle policy controversy:

One side focuses on making FAST cycling safer
(via education, wide kerbside lanes, etc)



The other side (dominant in Europe) focuses on protecting slow/timid bicycle users



and



Which is most important for Singapore?

SLOW CYCLING!

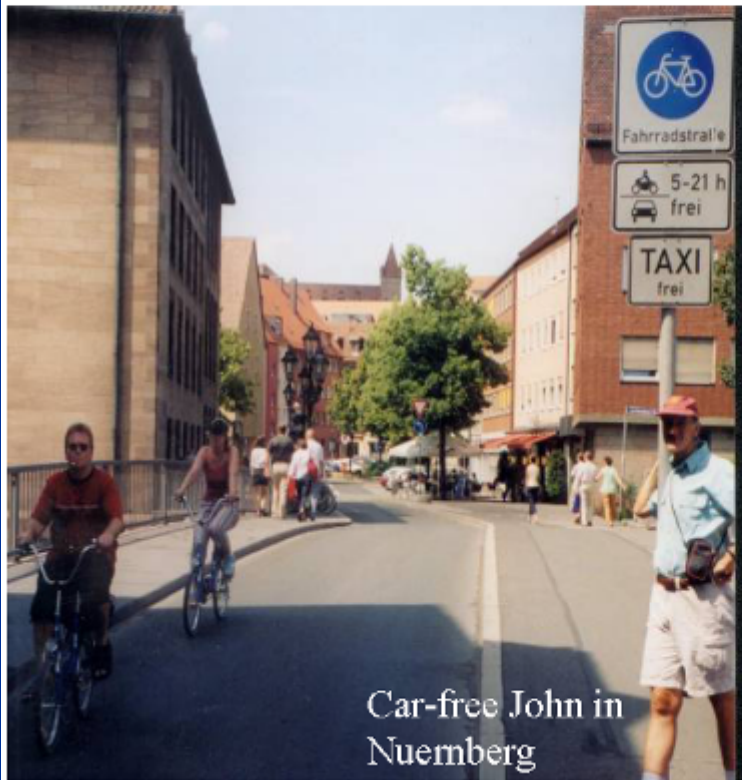
**An opportunity to fill a “gap” in the
mobility options for many people**

At a very gentle 10 km/h:
2 km in 12 minutes



Examples: Germany

Fahrradstrassen in Germany, bicycle streets where cyclists have absolute priority over cars for entire width of roadway



Pucher: Cycling for Everyone

Source: John Pucher, "Cycling for Everyone: Key to Public and Political Support," keynote address at the 2007 National Bike Summit, League of American Bicyclists, Washington, DC, March 16, 2007" (<http://policy.rutgers.edu/faculty/pucher/>)

Examples: Germany



Muenster offers 280 km of separate bike lanes and paths, and shared bus-bike lanes



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Examples: Japan



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**Of course, we will need
Singapore-relevant solutions**

**We won't find them until we
start taking bicycles seriously**

Bicycle policy in Singapore needs coordination

I believe that the LTA would be the best entity to take up that responsibility

