



Walking the walk

Ongoing research

Lucas Delafosse and Stéphane Malek imagine and test devices to encourage walking, in combination with public transportation, in Greater Bordeaux.

Research participants

LUCAS DELAFOSSE

STÉPHANE MALEK

An experiment in metropolitan Bordeaux in connection with public transportation

Project launched in June 2013.

First results in autumn 2013.

> *Marche à suivre's* research project blog

Lucas Delafosse and Stéphane Malek, together with Keolis and the Agence d'urbanisme de Bordeaux, are launching an experiment designed to promote walking, in combination with public transportation, in Greater Bordeaux. The project explores the hypothesis that walking - often overlooked as a means of locomotion - could, in combination with public transportation, provide pertinent solutions to the issues faced by transportation operators and communities in terms of traffic, pollution, the saturation of public transportation networks in urban centers and the under-use of ends of lines.

The two researchers envision walking as a means of transportation, but more as a physical experience in a delicate relationship with their environment and with the city. Influencing the way we perceive given space and its potential in terms of travel will be at the heart of the experimental apparatus to encourage a shift in practices towards walking.

The experiment will be carried out at two different field sites:

In central areas, the goal is to encourage those who use public transportation for short trips to walk instead. This would improve the comfort of other users, especially during peak hours. Like detectives, the researchers will study the Saint-Michel neighborhood to understand its characteristics and test actions likely to provoke the desire to walk.

In outlying areas, the goal is to reduce car usage in favor of trips that combine walking and public transportation. In the manner of writers, the researchers will discover the potential of these areas, shaped by the car, by creating stories and links between places.

Maps, interviews, tails, thematic itineraries, group walks and web/paper publications will punctuate the life of the project over two years. In each neighborhood studied, approximately thirty people traveling by car or public transportation will be followed daily for nearly a year, to measure the impact of the proposals made by the research team on their **mobility** practices. The results of the experiment will allow the Mobile Lives Forum to make recommendations that will encourage walking in urban and peri-urban environments, in close conjunction with other modes, especially public transportation.

A blog will track the progress of the project.

Partners

A'urba (agence d'urbanisme Bordeaux métropole Aquitaine): this public agency is the strategic regional development tool of metropolitan Bordeaux. It is responsible for doing urban studies and helping local communities carry out their development projects.

Keolis: this subsidiary of the SNCF group provides urban and interurban transportation solutions (trams, buses, subways, shuttles, etc.) both in France and around the world

Mobility

For the Mobile Lives Forum, mobility is understood as the process of how individuals travel across distances in order to deploy through time and space the activities that make up their lifestyles. These travel practices are embedded in socio-technical systems, produced by transport and communication industries and techniques, and by normative discourses on these practices, with considerable social, environmental

and spatial impacts.

More

Keywords : **Non motorized, Collective transport, Lifestyles, Collective representations, Peri-urban**

¹ <http://monono.fr/>

² <http://monono.fr/>

³ <http://marcheasuiivre.forumviesmobiles.org/>

⁴ <https://en.forumviesmobiles.org/marks/mobility-450>

⁵ <https://en.forumviesmobiles.org/mots-cles/transports-doux>

⁶ <https://en.forumviesmobiles.org/mots-cles/transports-collectifs>

⁷ <https://en.forumviesmobiles.org/mots-cles/modes-vie>

⁸ <https://en.forumviesmobiles.org/mots-cles/representations>

⁹ <https://en.forumviesmobiles.org/mots-cles/periurbain>