Healthy Urban Living for Everyone: Utrecht’s (continued) answer to the COVID-19 crisis

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Summary

- Utrecht: a short introduction
- Healthy Urban Living for Everyone
- Utrecht’s (mobility and urban planning) response on COVID-19
- Building Back Better from Utrecht’s perspective

Vice mayor Lot van Hooijdonk
“Never let a good crisis go to waste”
Where do we come from?
Health as shared Public Value

• After the financial crisis in 2008 Utrecht and partners started a strategic discussion on ‘What is, what defines Utrecht?’

• Utrecht region:
  • An attractive region and city for living, working, studying, recreating, with a rich culture and nature.
  • And a large health economy, which sums up to 23% of Utrecht’s total economy. And excellent knowledge institutes and health and life sciences, such as UMCU, Prinses Maxima Centre, RIVM, PBL, KNMI, UU, HU, ROCs etc.

• Health as shared public value, and translated into Healthy Urban Living for Everyone

• Utrecht is at the forefront of healthy urban living. We use the development of the city to ensure that everyone can participate.
What does Healthy Urban Living for Everyone mean?
Healthy Urban Living for All means that everyone can live and work in a healthy and pleasant way in the growing city.

- We use the growth of the city to ensure a healthy and pleasant living environment for everyone.
- Utrecht wants to be a city in which everyone feels at home, can participate and be themselves.
- We work together to create that healthy and pleasant city: Utrecht belongs to all of us.

- **Health** is the ability of people to deal with the physical, emotional and social challenges of life and to direct their own lives as much as possible.
(Health) Equity

• Utrecht is for everyone. That doesn't mean everyone has to be the same. Utrecht’s inhabitants appreciate differences, but we want to avoid social divides. This sometimes requires something extra or different for people for whom this is not self-evident. This is always tailor-made.
Healthy Urban Living for Everyone

From a mobility perspective:

- Cycling and walking primary transport modes (Health, Environment, Inclusive, Economical)
- Facilitate bicycle–train journeys.
- No more growth of car traffic.
- Strict parking policies.
- Shifting to mobility as a service.
Where are we now?
Utrecht figures and facts…

- 352,941 inhabitants
- 160,000 trees
- 169 nationalities
- 7 trainstations
- 689,000 nights at hotels
- 261,794 jobs
- 1,765 shops
- 1,526 concerts
- 800 bridges
- 13% roofs with solar panels

https://www.utrecht.nl/city-of-utrecht/this-is-utrecht/
Cycling as a daily routine, some facts…

• Number one cycling city according to World Economic Forum
• 22,000 public bikeparking places at the central train station,
• 34,000 cyclists average per 24 hours on busiest route (pré Corona)
• 49.3% of all trips in the city up to 7.5 kilometer is done by bike.
• 5% growth of bike use in 2018 and 2019
• 200 million euro investment 2015-2020
What do we see happening?
In general Utrecht is doing well. At the same time, a number of trends are affecting the way in which the Utrecht region is developing.
Utrecht is an attractive city and because of its central location it is growing even faster on average than other cities in the Netherlands. Space is scarce and demand continues to grow.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>2019</th>
<th>2040</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Inwoners</td>
<td>352,940</td>
<td>455,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Woningvoorraad</td>
<td>153,845</td>
<td>+ 60,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Banen</td>
<td>261,165</td>
<td>+ 70,000</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
There are more major differences between neighbourhoods including life expectancy, income, health and confidence in the future.
Some differences such as in income increase.

### 8.2.2 Ruimtelijke segregatie van huishoudens met een laag inkomen in gemeenten

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Gemeente</th>
<th>Aantal gemeenten per 1-1-2016</th>
<th>2015</th>
<th>2016*</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Amsterdam</td>
<td>390</td>
<td>27.4</td>
<td>28.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Den Haag</td>
<td>52.9</td>
<td></td>
<td>50.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rotterdam</td>
<td>28.1</td>
<td></td>
<td>26.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Utrecht</td>
<td>26.5</td>
<td></td>
<td>28.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Gemiddelde inmigratie-index van 1-1-2016

**Laag inkomen, 2016**
It’s getting more crowded
What are we, thus, doing?
Ten long term strategies for Healthy Urban Living for Everyone

Sustainable and healthy mobility for everyone

Green and healthy densification
As an illustration: Utrecht we all cycle!
Singel
from 8 lane highway to restored waterway
Mobility and public spaces in times of COVID-19
Utrecht: Assessment framework public space

1. Health, safety and accessibility should be guaranteed anytime

2. Pedestrians and bicyclists are prioritised

3. Moving through the city is prioritised above staying in the city (centre)

4. We facilitate where possible and regulate where needed

5. Scarce public space is redistributed and if needed redesigned

6. Monitoring as basis for measures to be taken

Source: photo M. Weber
Utrecht: pedestrian area in city centre

Source: photo M. Weber

Source: NOS
Utrecht: hospitality sector

Source: DUIC

Source: AD
Utrecht: distancing in parks

Source: AD

Source: DUIC
How is Utrecht ‘building back better’?
Begroting 2021  Utrecht sterk uit de crisis

Extra maatregelen met geld van gemeente, partners en rijksoverheid

1. We steunen sport, cultuur en evenementen in stad, wijk en buurt.
   € 13,5 mln

2. We helpen mensen die het nu (financieel) moeilijk hebben.
   € 18,7 mln

3. We zorgen voor geboortediensten en (cm)scholing van werkzakendenden.
   € 55,9 mln

4. We investeren (versneld) in projecten die de stad leefbaarder maken. Dat levert ook werkgelegenheid op.
   € 28,4 mln

Gezond stedelijk leven voor iedereen

De koers blijft; we werken aan een prettige, leefbare stad waarin iedereen zich thuis voelt en mee kan doen.

- meer betaalbare woningen
- een prettige, groene en veilige omgeving
- werk voor iedereen
- betere bereikbaarheid
- duurzame energie
- zorg dichtbij en op maat
- iedereen hoort erbij en kan meedoen

Inkomsten en uitgaven

De coronacrisis zorgt voor extra uitgaven. De begroting van Utrecht komt daarmee extra onder druk.

Totale inkomsten gemeente in 2021: € 1,849,221,000
Totale uitgaven gemeente in 2021: € 1,049,221,000

Top 3 inkomsten
1. Ondersteuning op maat (o.a. jeugd & gezin)
2. Geld van het Rijk voor bijstandsuitkeringen
3. Omroerende zaakbelasting

Top 3 uitgaven
1. Openbare ruimte en groen
2. Werk & Inkomsten
3. Gemeenterondes

De begroting is een overzicht van het college van burgemeester en wethouders en is pas definitief als de gemeenteraad er mee heeft ingestemd.
New urban development: Merwedekanaalzone

- 10,000 houses
- Mostly carfree
- Very good bicycle and pedestrian infrastructure, 5 new cycling bridges
- Bikesharing, cargobikesharing available nearby.
- Parking space only at underground parking facilities
- Hundreds of cars available in car-sharing scheme
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