

Shopping centres, cycling accessibility and planning – The case of Nova Lund in Sweden

Till Koglin and Lucas Glasare

Keywords: Cycling Accessibility, Cycling infrastructure, Planning, Cycling Mobility

This paper evaluates the cycling accessibility and history of Nova, a shopping mall that was established in Lund, Sweden in 2002. The current situation based on observations and literature studies is analysed. Moreover, the study contains a deeper analysis of the history and role of the municipality based on further literature studies and interviews with officials. The conclusion shows poor and unsafe cycling facilities, caused by conflicts of interest between politicians, officials, landowners and public opinion. Additionally, it shows a situation where the master plan of the municipality has been consequently ignored and, in contrast to the local goals, the cycling accessibility at Nova has not been significantly improved during the years since the first establishment. The reasons for this, it is argued, are a relatively low budget for improving cycling facilities in the municipality, but also a situation where decision-makers have developed a fear of touching the subject as a result of the long and often loud conflict the subject has caused. Lastly, it must be noted that the whole process of Nova, from establishment to the current situation is easy to find as symptomatic for the power structures between cars and cyclists that still affects decision-makers on all levels.