



# Carfree Actions as Catalyst for Carfree Development

Demonstrate Benefits of Carfree Development

Towards Carfree Cities Conference IX 28.06.2010





# Examples of Carfree Day actions

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Rasen am Ring Park(ing) Day

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### Steps from Carfree Day to Carfree Cities

#### **Carfree Parking Space**

PARK(ing) Day

**Example Munich** 

**Temporary Carfree Street** 

on Carfree Day

**Example Vienna** 

Local action

Example Salzburg





is an annual, one-day, global event

artists, activists and citizens independently but simultaneously

temporarily transform metered parking spots into temporary public parks.

The name "PARK(ing) Day" is a Registered Servicemark of REBAR Group, Inc.

(REBAR is an interdisciplinary studio operating at the intersection of art, design and activism)





### History

#### PARK(ing) Day began in 2005

Rebar converted a single metered parking space into a temporary public park in an area of San Francisco that is underserved by public open space.

#### PARK(ing) Day 2009:

700 parks. 140 cities. 21 countries. 6 continents.

PARK(ing) Day 2010 is Friday, September 17th!

http://www.parkingday.org/



# PARK(ing) DAY in Munich

Silvia Gonzalez Green City



#### 2007

1 Park

Where: Sendlinger Straße:

- Beautiful street in the city center with many small shops and nice buildings.
- Very much liked by tourists and natives.
- Unfortunately heavy loaded with cars and very little space for pedestrians and bikers.







- For years there is a debate in the town hall, wether to make it pedestrian street (or shared space) or not.
- Green City wanted to give it publicity and impulse the pedestrian process.
- We were in the papers, competing with Oktoberfest opening day :-)







#### The concept:

- donated rolling lawns
- our own plants, chairs, hammocks and sunshade
- games: cards, twister
- guitar, wine
- and 20 volunteers!





### 2008

4 Parks: Green City & Friends

Where:

1.- Sendlinger Straße – again.We don ´t give up!

Organised together with the green youth party.

With couch, armchairs and bambus we made the street more livable for one day.





2.- Talstraße: also nice central street with small shops and old buildings.

Also unfortunately heavy loaded with cars and very little space for pedestrians and bikers.





3.- In front of an ugly big comercial center, where there is just place for grey concrete.

One member from Green City and his family organised a chess tournament.



#### 4.- Together with a primary school

The parents' association contacted Green City to organise the PARK(ing) DAY in front of the school. Many parents bring their children with the car to school and make the entrance very dangerous for the other children.

On the other side, wanted the school some benches for waiting parents.

The children did handicraft work: paperflowers with a message for driving parents and drew with chalk nice pictures on the street. Furthermore they hanged pictures on the wall of their request for a carfree school.







### 2009

16 Parks in the whole city.

Green City & friends, neighbours, other organisations, cafés, artists...

...and more than 30 vounteers!



































How to do a PARK(ing) DAY in Munich, Bavaria, capital of prohibition and police control?

- inform the district council
- never occupy, allways ask for permition: PARK(ing) DAY as a legal demonstration
- then you get the parking spaces even reserved:-)

How to do a PARK(ing) DAY in Munich, Bavaria, capital of beer?

- you allways have to have beer in your park :-)





#### Thanks to Silvia Gonzales



Green City: Munich based non-profit



organization



Active since 1990



About 350 members



Team of 12 full/part time employees and about 400 active volunteers and interns



15 active projects

Focus:

- Sustainable Mobility
- Urban Design
- Renewable Energies







# **Temporary Carfree Street**

Chances to rise awareness and to introduce policy instruments to a wider public



Alec Hager

Interessengemeinschaft Fahrrad – IGF Wien / Vienna



What does this german wordplay mean??

Rasen = Lawn

rasen = to drive with high speed by car

Ring = circle

Ring = very busy 3-laned road around

Viennas Inner City district



What does this look like??





**IDEA 2007:** It's Carfree Day – what could a carfree city look like? Let's make it visible!

LOCATION: Ring Road, busy road and traditional place for demonstrations

ORGANISERS: IG Fahrrad,

bikelobby-group in Vienna and member of World Carfree Network, invited

local and international environmental organisations (Greenpeace, Friends of the Earth).

LEGAL FORM: Demonstration



### PREMIERE 2007: Carfree Day, Sep 22nd

- Weekend!
- 200 sqm of natural lawn
- Sunshine, happiness, traffic jam
- bike trials, picnic, live music
- thousands of participants



- >very friendly nationwide press reviews
- >slightly upset city council and cardrivers organisations

REPRISE 2008: Carfree Day on weekend again...













### ENCORE 2009: Carfree Day during the week!

- very upset city council!
- raging cardrivers organisations and media!

# "Demonstrators are to blame for negative consequences! Right to demonstrate only used to block traffic artificially!"

(City Councillor for Traffic, R.Schicker)



## ENCORE 2009: Carfree Day during the week!

- very upset city council!
- raging cardrivers organisations and media!

# "Does the right to demonstrate justify the blockade of an important road?"

(ÖAMTC, powerful car-lobby-group in Austria)
"NO!"

(65% of online voters at oeamtc.at)



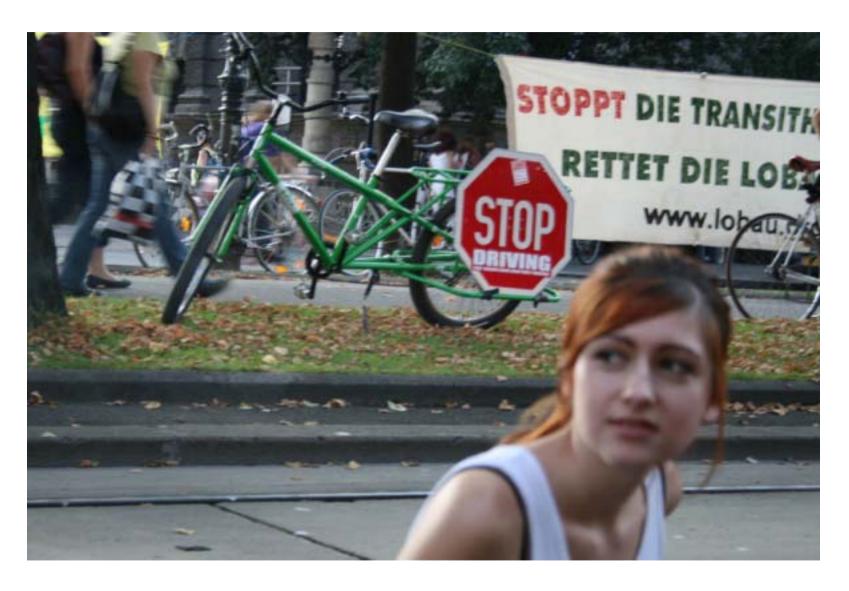
## ENCORE 2009: Carfree Day during the week!

- very upset city council!
- > raging cardrivers organisations and media!
- >the right to demonstrate wins...
- 400 sqm of natural lawn
- more organsiations
- more media presence
- even more people attending

#### **MASSIVE SUCCESS!**













### Will

Rasen Am Ring

**continue 2010??** 



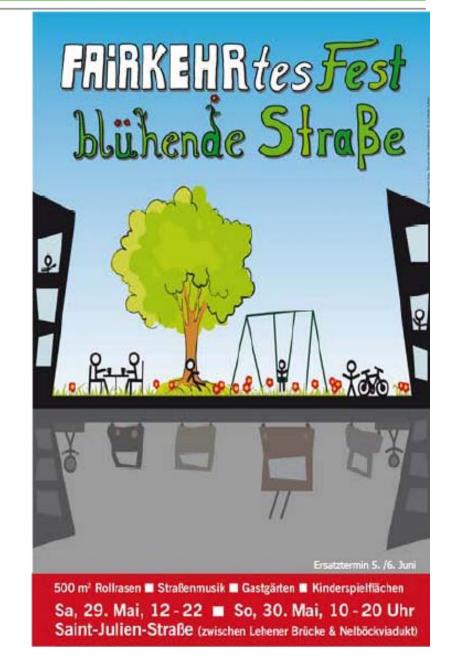
# YES! September 2010







fairkehrtes Fest Salzburg
May 2010
Organised by
www.fairkehr.net







# Part of a major road in Salzburg (Austria) was closed down for car traffic and used as a picnic area







# fairkehrtes Fest Salzburg



Freitag 16h52 Samstag 09h24 Samstag 13h36





