

**ITDP**Institute for Transportation  
& Development Policy**SUSTAINABLE  
TRANSPORT  
AWARD**

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## Bogotá, Colombia to Receive the 2022 Sustainable Transport Award

- *The first-ever Sustainable Transport Award winner Bogota, Colombia accepts its second award for 2022 STA*
- *Peshawar, Pakistan, and Tartu, Estonia join the acknowledgment and receive honorable mentions*
- *As part of the Award Ceremony, Bogota announces new plans and initiatives that solidify their urban sustainable strategy*

**New York (February 9, 2022)** — This Wednesday at 2 pm EST representatives from Tartu, Peshawar, and Bogotá receive recognition for their city’s progress and leadership in sustainable transportation during the STA 2022 Ceremony. With the participation of speakers from our STA Committee members, Chilean Minister of Transport and Telecommunications Gloria Hutt, ITDP Chief Executive Officer Heather Thompson, these cities join past winners in leadership and commitment to urban sustainability.

According to Heather Thompson: “COVID infrastructure has laid the ground for long term systemic change. With programs like the Sustainable Transport Award, ITDP aims to illuminate transport solutions. By doing so, all kinds of cities can learn from each other and adapt programs for their own unique circumstances.”

### **What makes Bogotá the winning city in 2022?**

Soon after the COVID-19 pandemic began, Bogota became one of the first cities in the world to create emergency bike lanes. 84 km were built, with 28 km becoming permanent and 46 km still in use today. The new bike lanes encouraged bike use to quadruple on some main roads. The COVID-19 changes were cemented with official policies, such as Acuerdo 804, which established biking as the priority means of transport in the city in future planning efforts. These built on previous goals formalized in the City’s 2020-24 Strategic Plan, including growing the number of cycle trips by 50% by 2024. The City also reconfigured street space to allow for better social distancing and pedestrianized streets once only served by cars. Over the course of one project, 17,000 square miles of street space were repurposed for pedestrian use.

“We’re very happy to receive the STA 2022 as a way to acknowledge the work we’ve done during the pandemic. All our efforts aim to increase the quality of the service as well as the air quality. That’s the vision we will foster in the years to come, towards more sustainable mobility,”: said Felipe Ramírez Buitrago, Secretary of Mobility, City of Bogotá.



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To improve public and environmental health, the City of Bogota has assembled a fleet of 1,485 electric buses for its public transportation system--placing the city among the three largest e-bus fleets outside of China. 350 buses have been deployed so far, and the switch will benefit low-income residents the most, whose neighborhoods have the most bus lines and highest air pollution levels in the city. Additionally, Bogota has begun a new program that provides exemptions to HOVs, vehicles with more than 2 passengers, from the city's odd-even license restriction program. This program prevents half of the city's cars from driving in peak times, but by allowing HOV exemptions, the city aims to encourage carpooling and expects to reduce car travel by 2 million kilometers weekly.

The City also worked to improve road safety with speed management programs that reduced speed limits and deployed traffic calming measures. The speed reduction on major roads brought a 21 percent decrease in traffic deaths in 2019 compared to 2015-2018 average, and a 28 percent decrease in 2020.

Travel safety efforts focused on some of Bogota's most vulnerable residents, schoolchildren. The City found that 58 percent of student trips are taken on foot, mostly by low-income children. At the same time, pedestrians younger than 15 years old were twice as likely to die in a traffic incident than adults. To change this, Bogota began a Kids First program that targets students who commute on foot, but also, focuses on providing transportation solutions to students who commute in the different transportation modes. Among other initiatives, the program created caravans escorted by adults, for the young travelers who commute to school, both on foot and by bike, which have so far helped more than 6,000 students in 2021 to get to class safely.

## **The current administration in Bogotá shares their urban mobility plans for the future**

### **BiciCarga - Last mile distribution with cargo bikes pilot**

Bogota launched a pilot program to promote alternative solutions to the current demand for the final distribution of goods in the city. The project involves the use of e-cargo bikes to boost the efficiency of the distribution process, reduce emissions and improve mobility conditions. So far, the project has achieved the design of a last-mile distribution model based on cycle logistics, the formation of a value network in cycle logistics, and the implementation of the first collaborative platform for last-mile delivery with e-cargo bikes, while reducing the cost of deliveries by 31%. The next phase of the project focuses on the implementation of a last-mile distribution operation using zero-emission e-cargo bikes or trikes that use solar panels as a source of energy.



### **ZUMAs - Clean Air Urban Areas**

ZUMAs, also known as Clean Air Urban Areas, is a project that aims to improve air quality by reducing particulate matter emissions and exposure. ZUMAs is set to be established not only in areas highly affected by poor air quality but where vulnerable communities reside too. In order to achieve its goal, multiple actions will converge to reduce emissions and improve air quality, for example, community participation and education, promotion of sustainable transport modes, paving and road repair, improvement in vegetation, and control over polluting vehicles and industries, among other initiatives.

### **Bike Sharing System**

The Bikesharing System of Bogota will be a sui-generis system with a unique inclusiveness vision due to the diversity of bicycles and services offered to its citizens. It will deploy 1.500 mechanical bicycles, 1.500 electric ones, 150 handbikes (as an accessory for any wheel-share giving independence to the final user), 150 cargo bikes and 150 will have child seats. In addition, the system will provide a 20% discount to low-income citizens and provide 300 public bike repair stands available for free for all citizens. Hence, besides being one of the largest systems in Latin America, it will provide a sustainable mobility alternative to all the citizens regardless of its gender, disability nor its economic condition. The city already signed a contract with the Brazilian company Tembici and will start operations in the second semester of 2022.

### **Honorable mentions Peshwar, Pakistan, and Tartu, Estonia.**

Along with Bogotá, two honorable mention cities--Peshawar, Pakistan, and Tartu, Estonia joined the acknowledgement.

Juliet Adu, a member of the STA Committee mentioned: "Over the past few years, Tartu has achieved a carbon-neutral public bus system, complemented by an electric bikeshare system which is accessible all over the city. At the same time, Tartu has pedestrianized and revitalized its streets, making them greener and safer, and becoming a role model city in the region."

Over time cities, STA winners, and honorable mentions become vivid examples for the world, which has to move to more sustainable and human urban models

In the words of Taimur Khar Jhagra, Provincial Minister of Health and Finance from the Government of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Pakistan: "I'm very proud of what we've achieved with the BRT system. This is a project that provides shows our government's will to be part of the 21st century in the context of climate change and a world that needs to reduce its carbon footprint. Cities like ours in the Global South can make a lot about improving urban mobility,

reducing the environmental impact, increasing access and connectivity, and having a positive effect on the economy. This is only the beginning.”

ITDP and the STA Committee celebrate these amazing cities, learn from them, and work with them for MOBILIZE programming throughout the coming year.

We’d also like to thank the STA committee and the participation of all who nominated their city.

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**The Sustainable Transport Award Program** is the annual celebration of select cities implementing innovative sustainable transportation projects in the preceding year.

**The Institute for Transportation and Development Policy** is a global nonprofit that works with cities around the world to design and implement high-quality transport systems and policy solutions that make cities more livable, equitable, and sustainable.

**The STA committee members**

The Asian Development Bank, AMEND, the BRT Centre of Excellence, CAF the Development Bank of Latin America, Clean Air Asia, Despacio, GIZ, ICLEI Local Governments for Sustainability, ITDP, the World Bank, and the World Resource Institute.

Find images of the winner and honorable mentions and event fliers [here](#).

Find the event’s video and acceptance speeches [here](#).

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