



## European Mobility Week 2004 (16 to 22 September). “Safe Streets for Children.”

Road traffic, with its harmful emissions, its noise, its smells and its stress - not to mention the risks of serious injury or death, which are far too often ignored - is not just a problem for children. There are dozens of pieces of EU legislation that try to remedy the damaging effects on our health, our environment and our quality of life. Indeed, one of the major goals of the EU's sustainable development strategy is to encourage a shift away from the private car to other modes: rail, water and public passenger transport.

During Mobility Week hundreds of cities and towns all over Europe will be finding ways of promoting more sustainable transport and mobility. The focus will be on reducing the health and safety risks that traffic poses for children. Car emissions are one of the major health hazards to children's health, causing respiratory disease and asthma. And providing safe routes for children to get to school or the playground is vital for their general safety.

To launch this campaign, DG Environment will host a conference in Brussels called "Smart Moves for Sustainable Mobility" on 16 September. Experts and decision makers from all over the world will gather to try to answer uncomfortable questions and tackle the real problems of mobility in cities.

What hampers developments and progress and what can we do to get on the right course? The conference aims to deliver concrete suggestions for the future work on sustainable mobility resulting in a better environment and health for European citizens. >>

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>> Useful links:

Conference invitation, draft programme and reply form:

[http://www.mobilityweek-europe.org/admin/news/uploads/emw\\_conference.pdf](http://www.mobilityweek-europe.org/admin/news/uploads/emw_conference.pdf)

Mobility Week reference site:

<http://www.mobilityweek-europe.org/index.php>

(Please note that links to participating countries websites are available at the top of the home page. Take a look to see what exciting activities countries are organising!)

Contact/enquiries: [env-mobilityweek@cec.eu.int](mailto:env-mobilityweek@cec.eu.int)

The EECN is DG Environment's support structure for the European Environmental Communication Networks. Currently these include the Green Spiders Network, The Network of Urban Forums for Sustainable Development and the Good will Ambassadors for the Environment. The website can be accessed here:

[http://europa.eu.int/comm/environment/networks/index\\_en.htm](http://europa.eu.int/comm/environment/networks/index_en.htm)

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