

Public Transport Plan for the Town of Gabrovo



The public transport plan of the town of Gabrovo (60 000 inhabitants) was commissioned to the Transport Research Institute by the Municipality of Gabrovo.

The goal of study was to improve the quality and efficiency of public transport services.

A traffic model was developed for the area of the town in order to optimize the bus routes and to estimate the number of passenger that would use one or another route. The town was divided into 48 transport zones and an area of 16 km² and street network of 136 km total length were modeled.

To complete the picture of public transport demand, the model was complemented by extensive passenger counts on the main public transport lines.

Due to the specific characteristics of the town (many residential areas are quite distant from the town centre) the existing public transport lines were very long (10 - 15 km) and the vehicles were unevenly used by passengers along their routes. The demand for public transport was analyzed and optimal routes of the public transport were proposed.

The model and the analysis resulted in the following measures being proposed:

- shortening of the public transport lines so that they are used more efficiently;
- optimizing the fleet so that areas that generate/attract less passengers are served by smaller vehicles;
- optimization of the time tables following the daily variance of the demand.

Based on the study and the above principles, new public transport lines were proposed together with estimates of the number of passengers that would be using them.

April - September 2009