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Challenging the need for new car infrastructures in the Netherlands : Considering scale and place



Qu'est-ce qui fait courir l'action publique en matière de mobilité?

Table Ronde sur les Dépendances, Conférence de l'Institut pour la Ville en Mouvement

27 mars 2012

Historical trends and the different scales of public action

- **At the national scale** : for decades, a half-hearted compromise of both promoting car and public transit (van der Vinne, Mom and Filaski), which at the end favoured the expansion of the highway network
- **At the local (municipal and neighbourhood) scale**: constraints put on cars; related to social movement against the « modernization of cities » and for the safety for cyclists

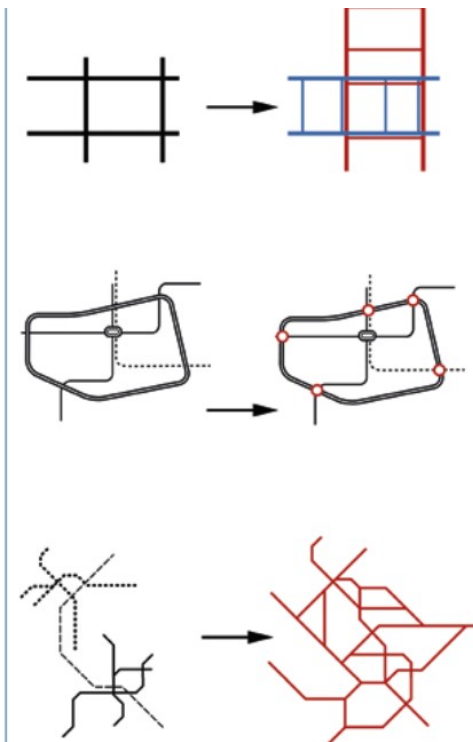
And now :

- What are the challenges of contesting public policy favouring car mobility? What is the importance of scale and place for public policy and social movements on mobility?
- 1 case study in Rotterdam-The Hague Area

The power and biases of policy discourses :

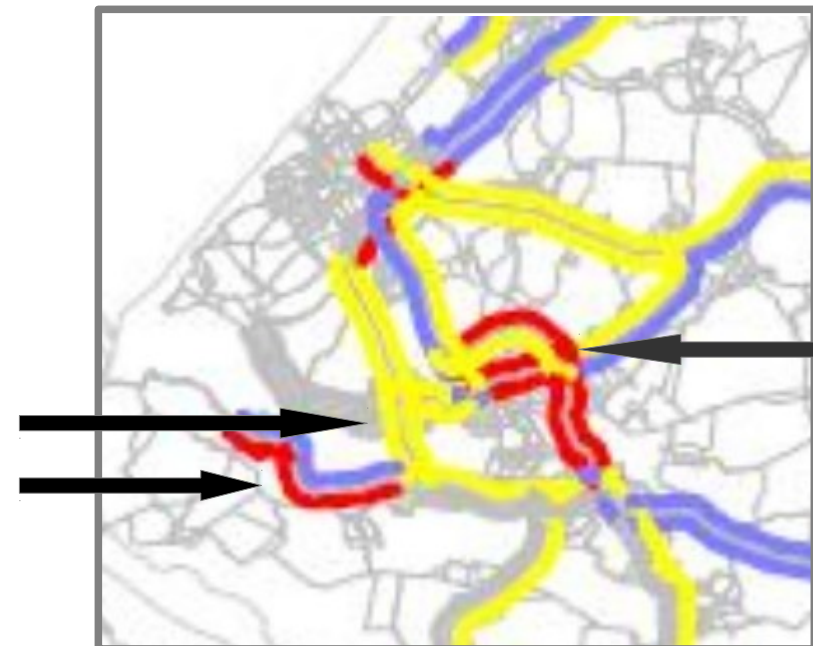
Justifying the need for new highway segments in the Rotterdam-The Hague area

ROBUSTNESS



ACCESSIBILITY

**NWO : new
highway to
cross the
river**



**A13-A16 :
new
junction**

NMCA weganalyse
(MIM 2011)
GE scenario

Figure 1. The 3 principles of robustness illustrated. Masterplan Rotterdam Vooruit (2009)

The power and biases of policy discourses :

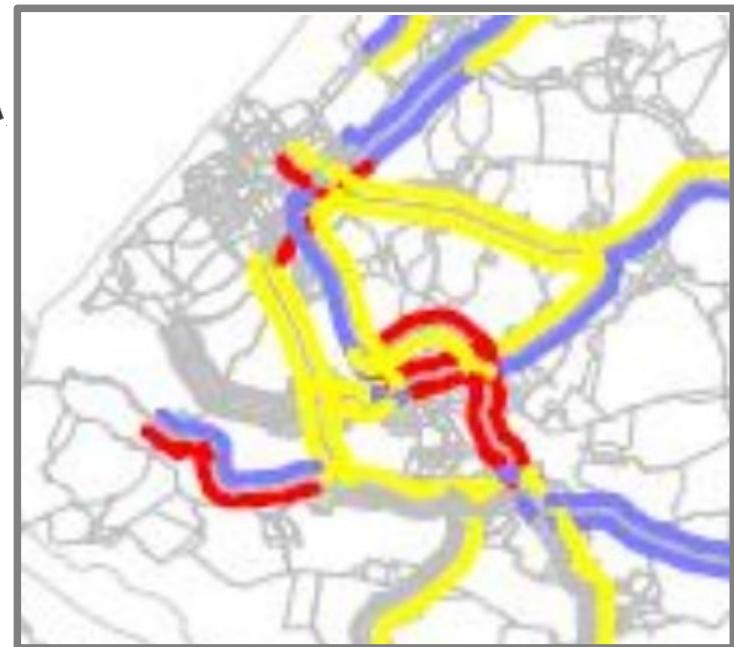
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ROBUSTNESS



Afbeelding 12: Parallele structuren oost-west en noord-zuid op lange termijn

ACCESSIBILITY



NMCA weganalyse
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Civic actors : the integrative potential of a new « scalar frame »?



- A Green Metropolis : no new highway, but a « metropolitan package of alternatives »
- At the scale of Rotterdam & The Hague (South Randstad)
- From the environmental organization Milieudefensie
- Little formal support from actors of the field of mobility; rather, many nature-groups and resident associations are partners of the campaign

Civic actors : the integrative potential of a new « scalar frame »?



Much more loyalties for place (and not *per se* for a change in mobility)

- Loyalties to protect specific local places make joint action more difficult



- Feeling of necessity that 1 road will come (for robustness & port accessibility): the question is where



Groene Metropool, Milieu-defensie 2011