



Press release
Hamburg / 18 May 2026

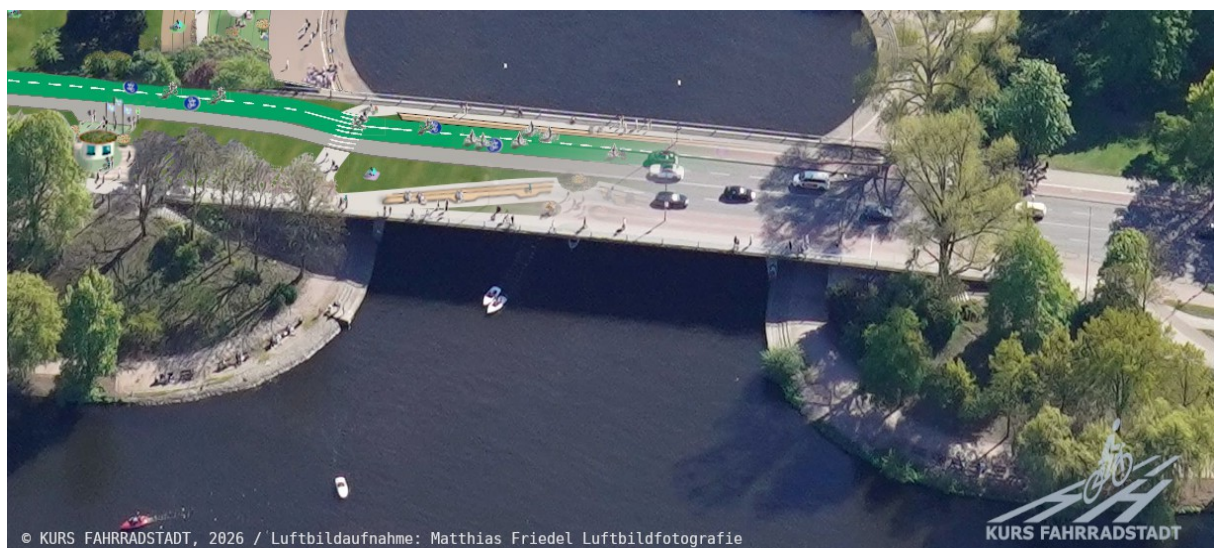
“New Hamburg ALSTERSIDE PARK” A car-free Kennedy Bridge offering significant development opportunities for Hamburg

Which project could put Hamburg on a par with Paris when it comes to the mobility transition and climate protection? In exploring this question, the **KURS FAHRRADSTADT initiative**, in collaboration with students from **HafenCity University (HCU)** and the **Technical University of Hamburg (TUHH)**, has developed concepts that take as their starting point the **closure of the Kennedy Bridge over the Outer Alster to private motorised traffic.**

Such a measure would not only create numerous potential new opportunities to use newly freed-up spaces in different and climate-neutral ways, but would also set out **concrete proposals on how Senate objectives – such as the Magistralen development or the achievement of Vision Zero and health protection – can be reached more quickly through consistent and swift action.**

Following the KURS FAHRRADSTADT 2021 initiative’s presentation of the superblock ‘**SUPERBÜTTEL**’ project, of which parts have recently been implemented in Eimsbüttel, the initiative is now once again thinking visionarily and with a long-term perspective: How can roughly two hectares of former roads in the heart of Hamburg be transformed into a ‘**New Hamburg ALSTERSIDE PARK**’ that is fit for the future and serves the common good for all? There are many ideas – ranging from **Vision Zero-compliant footpath and cycle path infrastructure**, potential **autonomous shuttle buses**, **new recreational spaces** between the Inner and Outer Alster, an **extension of the Hamburger Kunsthalle**, and **swimming in the Alster.**

The initiative has compiled **all the information, background details, visualisations and two student projects on the topic on its website kursfahrradstadt.de** and at <https://kursfahrradstadt.de/alsterside-park-kennedybruecke-hamburg-urban-transformation-start/> and invites the people of Hamburg to rediscover a completely forgotten urban space – which has hitherto served merely as an inhospitable, now oversized traffic corridor – and to put forward concrete ideas for action.



About the private initiative KURS FAHRRADSTADT:

The online petition by KURS FAHRRADSTADT was launched on 19 September 2016 by Kai Ammer, a young father. To date, over 9,000 people have signed it. The Hamburg Future Council and actor Peter Lohmeyer provide conceptual support for the non-partisan initiative. Signatures are collected continuously and exclusively online.

Back in 2014, Ammer launched the 'Osterstraße autofrei' initiative for a liveable and sustainable Eimsbüttel, collecting nearly 600 signatures, which were ignored by politicians and the administration. In April 2019, KURS FAHRRADSTADT organised a spectacular campaign in which the Elbchaussee was transformed into a cycle-friendly street. KURS FAHRRADSTADT is particularly committed to the safety of the most vulnerable road users on Hamburg's streets and calls on those responsible to immediately reverse car-centric transport policy. The initiative, made up of committed Hamburg residents, sees itself as a visionary think tank that demonstrates to the mayor, the Hamburg Senate and decision-makers at all levels that there is another way. A true cycling city also becomes a true pedestrian city. Positive examples from other major cities can be found on the campaign website.

Contact:

KURS FAHRRADSTADT:
ahoi@kursfahrradstadt.de