

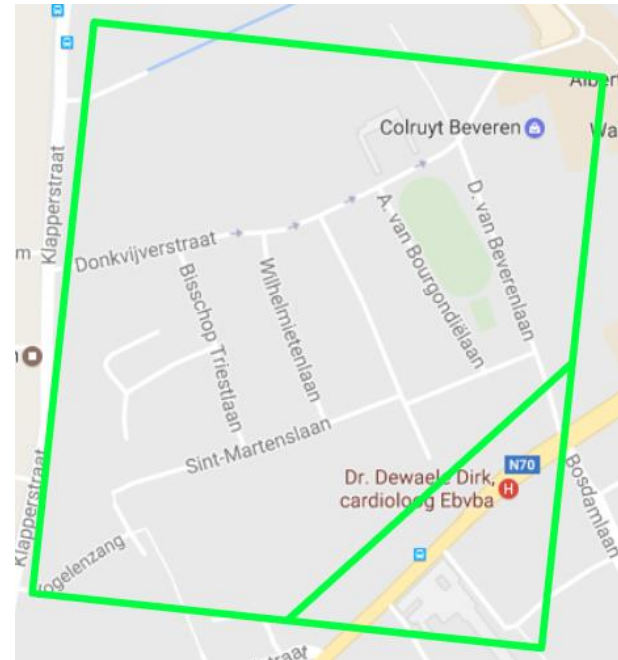


*In 2016 Autodelen.net and Taxistop started with the project **Quality Neighbourhoods**. The purpose of this project was to get residents of a district on board for the 1-month-without-car campaign and testing out a wide range of sustainable alternatives.*

Share-North Living Lab Quality neighbourhood: Molenbergwijk (Beveren-Waas)

The municipality **Beveren** is dealing with great pressure from parked cars in the Molenbergwijk district: people shopping in the weekend, supporters coming to cheer for the football matches, or senior school kids from the secondary school KA Beveren, ... everyone trying to find a parking spot.

The carsharing organisation Stapp.in and the municipality of Beveren wanted to improve this situation. So together with the residents of the district we questioned how we could create more open space and room for meeting each other in the Molenbergwijk.



Why could this be successful?

- ☐ Besides an enthusiastic Stapp.in and municipality, there seemed to be a district committee active which made us think there was a good community feeling in place and willingness for putting things into motion.
- ☐ There were possibilities to experiment with alternative mobility: busstops at the D. Van Beverenlaan and the N70; possibility for distance parking in Klapperstraat, or promote more sustainable mobility at KA Beveren.

Through a participation process we found sustainable solutions tailored to the needs of this district...

- We've created a meeting – and share point on a central green place to share all sort of things: not just information on shared mobility, but also to share goods by using the concept of a sharing closet. To create the feeling of a meeting place we've also installed a cosy sitting corner.



➤ Giving the streets a make-over:

- Remove the concrete boardstumps to create more space on the too narrow sidewalk (Wilhelmietenlaan) & make them more visible by decorating or colouring them (Sint-Martenslaan)
- Colour a crossroad with a template drawing to slow down traffic (Hertog Van Arenberglaan & Sint-Martenslaan)
- Residents giving up their parking spots could fill in the freed space to their own likings: create a sitting corner, a park garden, a petanque field. (Bisschop Triestlaan)



Results

In Beveren the project started off rather slow.

- Residents did not feel the need to put their car 1 month away. We believed the parking pressure was more troublesome. This led to less participants willing to try out alternatives, yet the ones who did, were happy to further change their mobility behaviour: buy an electrical bike, use the bus more, start sharing the car.
- The municipality believed there was a better community feeling in place already. Since the committee was less active and not so known and since community feeling was not that strong yet, there first was a need to better establish the community feeling. Next summer it will prove important to keep the good vibe going and start to work on a sharing mentality among neighbours.