

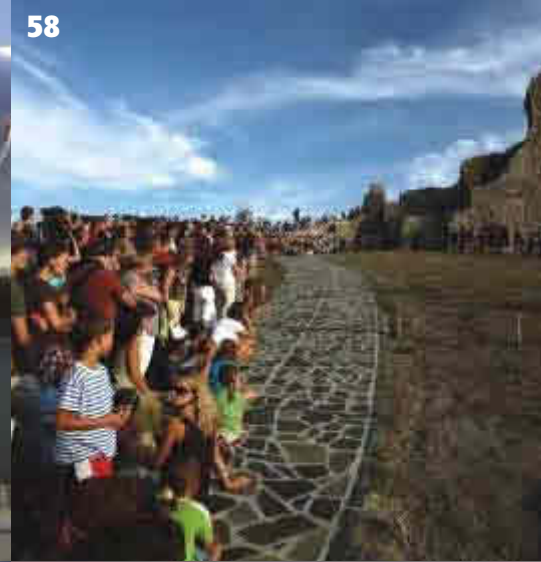
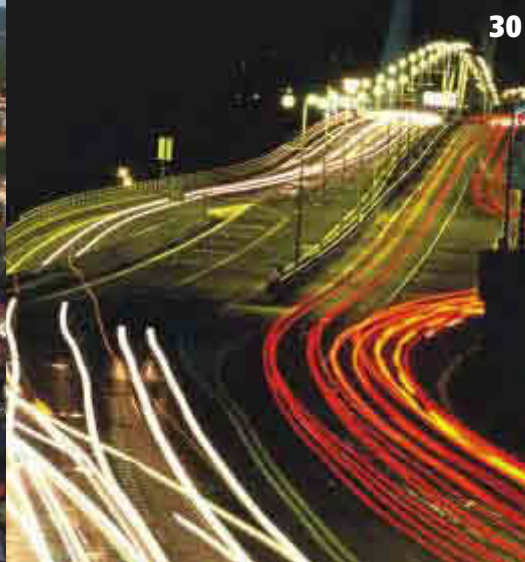
CITY OF BRATISLAVA

Annual report 2007



CITY OF BRATISLAVA

Annual Report 2007



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Foreword from the Mayor

Taking stock of the first year of the elected term of office of Bratislava local government, we can see that many positive decisions were made, while creating scope at the same time for resolving demanding projects that the city does not resolve on an annual basis. In this respect, the year 2007 was extremely interesting. In the course of the year a new Land Use Plan was finally adopted for Bratislava, for example, which is the first updated plan in 30 years. The City Council approved an ambitious programme of investment projects for a four-year period. Other issues were opened up concerning the future appearance of the area of Vydrické Podhradie and the siting of a multi-purpose arena for the 2011 World Ice-Hockey Championships, for example. In co-operation with the state, we finally managed to create an organisational and institutional base for establishing rail transport on the south bank of the Danube and its connection to the main European railway network.



A common denominator of our decisions was also the endeavour to make Bratislava a real home for its residents and also a hospitable and attractive place for all the city's visitors. My personal ambition is for Bratislava to become a city about which its residents are truly proud. Sometimes large cities are referred to as "human anthills", but even so, I am convinced that a city should be more than just a nervous teeming mass of people. Bratislava has all the requisites for this; its official slogan "Little Big City" reflects its undeniable virtues. In

spite of the huge construction and investment boom, Bratislava still preserves its human scale. Even a large city is a community in a certain sense of the word, or to be more exact, a community of communities. This word has the same root as the word communication. It is our common goal to make sure Bratislava is not some kind of jungle where the individual feels lost in cold anonymity, but that instead it creates a broad spectrum of platforms for interactive human communication.

I am confident that in addition to common values, people are enriched also by education, as people bestowed with intellect are entitled to look into the macrocosm and microcosm, to expose unknown connections, and to work scientifically for the good of mankind. The local government is putting its effort into making Bratislava a "white city", meaning a city of education, science and research in the context of active co-operation with universities and science and research institutions. This will undoubtedly help Bratislava integrate even deeper into Europe, which is becoming ever more interested in utilising the potential of our city to the benefit of the whole Central European region.

Some new challenges will face Bratislava in the near future. I personally perceive this fact as a blessing and a good chance at the same time. For us 'Bratislavians' it is also an opportunity to discover and express our personal and relationship identity to the city through work in the areas in which we are active. We can all contribute, whether it is with the simplest of actions or some across-the-board structural decision. If we carry them out with appropriate responsibility, everything will be a valuable contribution to the people of our city.

I am very glad to have this opportunity to be able to thank all the people of Bratislava who, by their work, participate in the successes of our city, and I sincerely hope that they really do feel at home in our metropolis, because it is at home that one feels safe, in a clean environment and in an atmosphere of hospitality and solidarity.

Andrej Ďurkovský,
Mayor of the City of Bratislava

Mission

The quality of life that our residents have in this modern flourishing European capital is important to us, as is the corresponding ecological parameters. We want every visitor to Bratislava to leave the city content and with the feeling that they would like to come back again some time. We also want to create the conditions for Bratislava to be a balanced centre of education, work and business opportunities, sport, leisure and entertainment.

Vision

Bratislava is a modern European metropolis, the proud centre of Slovakia and the capital city of everyone in the Slovak Republic. We try to ensure that everyone living, working, studying and doing business in Bratislava or who are welcomed to the city as a visitor, feel that Bratislava is a city with a high quality of life. The atmosphere of our city, which still has reflections of European history, and which now blossoms thanks to knowledge, science and modern technology, caters for people with different needs, ambitions, desires and social standing, and produces the conditions for their personal development in a healthy natural environment. With its geographic position, progressive infrastructure, strong human capital, and strong cultural, economic and natural potential, Bratislava was predestined as a natural crossroads of nations, cultures and trade of the old continent. Bratislava is a gateway through which new ideas, modern technology and investment capital enter Slovakia. This university city, which prospers primarily from the dynamic of its services, based on knowledge and education, supported by state-of-the-art technology, supporting talent in every possible way and also drawing on a deep tradition, is a progressive and inspiring environment for balanced and stable economic growth, which supports individual abilities and contributes to the satisfaction and pride of all the people of Bratislava.

Bratislava development priorities in 2006 – 2010

- To ensure better quality, safer and more comfortable transport;
- To boost continually and systematically the level of safety, the protection of life and property of residents, public order and cleanliness in the city;
- To ensure that the services that the Slovak capital provides to its residents are of a high standard and easily accessible;
- To create conditions and opportunities for the people of Bratislava to be able to spend their leisure time in an active and pleasant way;
- To create the conditions for the elderly and disadvantaged residents to have a more active and fulfilling life, and to get them more involved in the life of the city;
- To create a more human, healthier and greener city environment;
- To protect and enhance the cultural heritage of Bratislava in a systematic way and utilise it in the city's development activities;
- To improve the provision of information to residents and perfect communication with them so that they have more possibility to influence the city's decision-making;
- To boost the positive image of Bratislava by increasing the overall quality of life and by supporting the atmosphere and attractions of Bratislava.



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Local



government

Bratislava, the capital of the Slovak Republic, is governed by elected local authorities. The Mayor stands at the helm as the highest executive body of the city. The eighty-member City Council is the highest legislative body of Bratislava. This model of local government has been in place unchanged since 1990.

For the purposes of local governance, the City of Bratislava is split into 17 boroughs. These boroughs are independent entities operating with their own assets and budgets. Each borough has a borough mayor, borough office and borough council. The number of councillors depends on the borough size and number of residents.

The City Mayor and 80 councillors are elected by direct vote in municipal elections for a four-year term of office. The next municipal elections are set to be held in the autumn of 2010.

City Mayor

The Mayor is the top executive body of the city and represents it in external affairs. The post of mayor is dealt with under Article 16 of the Statute of the City of Bratislava.

Mayor of Bratislava:
Andrej Ďurkovský (KDH)

Deputy Mayors

The Mayor is deputised by Deputy Mayors who, at the recommendation of the Mayor, are elected from councillors by the City Council for the whole term of office. The post of deputy mayor is dealt with under Article 17 of the Statute of the City of Bratislava.



Milan Čílek (SDKÚ-DS), First Deputy Mayor for Economic Development and Strategy, Foreign Relations, Business Activities, Transport and Public Services



Anna Dyttertová (KDH), Deputy Mayor for Social Affairs and Health, Culture, Sport, Education, Tourism and Asset Management



Tomáš Korček (SDKÚ-DS), Deputy Mayor for Development, Building Issues, Construction, Legislation, Environment, Public Order and Fire Prevention

City Council

The City Council is the legislative body of Bratislava local government. It is the city parliament – the representative assembly of the people of Bratislava, which decides on all of the most important issues concerning the city.

The City Council is made up of 80 councilors who are elected by the people of the city in direct elections for a four-year term of office. The City Council convenes at least once a month, usually on the last Thursday of the month. The meetings are essentially public and take place in the Mirror Hall of Primate's Palace. Any resident of Bratislava can use the meeting to voice their ideas, proposals or grievances.



City Council:

Ružena Apalovičová (KDH)
Jozef Augustín (KDH)
Alexander Ballek (SDKÚ-DS)
Jozefína Baranová (KDH)
Michal Baranovič (SDKÚ-DS)
Pavol Baxa (KDH)
Anton Beleš (DSS)
Peter Beňuška (NEKA)
Martin Berta (KDH)
Pavel Blažej (SDKÚ-DS)
Ivan Boháč (Smer – SD)
Ján Brezák (SDKÚ-DS)
Ján Budaj (DÚ)
Milan Cílek (SDKÚ-DS)
Vladislav Čapček (SDKÚ-DS)
Peter Čecho (SDKÚ-DS)
Marta Černá (no political affiliation)
Viera Čerňanská (SDKÚ-DS)
Slavomír Čičmanec (KDH)
František Dej (Smer – SD)
Milada Dobrotková, MPH (SDKÚ-DS)
Helena Doktorová (SDKÚ-DS)
Slavomír Drozd (Smer – SD)
Peter Dubček (no political affiliation)
Gerti Duni (SDKÚ-DS)
Anna Dyttertová (KDH)
Miroslav Encinger (SDKÚ-DS)
Tomáš Fabor (SDKÚ-DS)
Ľudmila Farkašová (The Freedom Frum)
Jarmila Ferančíková (SNS)
Gabriela Ferenčáková (NEKA)
Stanislav Fiala (KDH)
Milan Ftáčnik. (no political affiliation)
Peter Gandl (SDKÚ-DS)
Libor Gašpírik (SDKÚ-DS)
Ján Hanko (SDKÚ-DS)
Peter Hanulík (Smer – SD)
Marek Hrgaš (SDKÚ-DS)
Jozef Házy (NF)
Štefan Holčík (no political affiliation)
Dušan Hruška (The Green Party)
Ernest Huska (SDKÚ-DS)
Eva Jandošová (SDKÚ-DS)
Ladislav Jaško (no political affiliation)
Peter Juriga (SDKÚ-DS)
Ladislav Kianička (SDKÚ-DS)
Viera Kimerlingová (KDH)
Tomáš Korček (SDKÚ-DS)
Gabriel Kosnáč (KDH)

Ján Kotuľa (KDH)
Ján Králik (SDKÚ-DS)
Alena Krištofičová (SDKÚ-DS)
Oliver Križ (SDKÚ-DS)
Viera Kyseliová (SDKÚ-DS)
Ľudmila Lacková (no political affiliation)
Matej Landl (no political affiliation)
Viera Lehoczká (KDH)
Peter Lenč (KDH)
Gabriela Luptáková (no political affiliation)
Bohdana Machajová (SDKÚ-DS)
Andrej Mede (SDKÚ-DS)
Gabriel Meheš (SDKÚ-DS)
Tibor Merva (SDKÚ-DS)
Valentín Mikuš (SDKÚ-DS)
Tatiana Mikušová (NEKA)
Pavol Minárik (Conservative Democrats of Slovakia)
Vladimír Mráz (no political affiliation)
Ján Mrva (SDKÚ-DS)
Oto Nevický (SDKÚ-DS)
Nadežda Orságová (SDKÚ-DS)
Katarína Otčenášová (SDKÚ-DS)
Andrej Petrek (SDKÚ-DS)
Branislav Raninec (SDKÚ-DS)
Peter Šinály (SDKÚ-DS)
Peter Šramko (KDH)
Milan Trstenský (SDKÚ-DS)
Martin Wolf (NF)
Branislav Zahradník (SDKÚ-DS)
Soňa Záporožanová (SDKÚ-DS)
Jozef Závodský (KDH)

City Council Committees

The City Council operates committees as its advisory, initiative and control bodies. Committees are composed of councillors, but also city residents – experts. Committees prepare expert standpoints to documents that the Executive Board and City Council then discuss.

City Council Committees:

Mandate Committee
Committee for Legislation and Law
Committee for Financial Strategy
Committee for Land Use and Strategic Planning
Committee for Environment and Construction
Committee for Transport and Information Systems
Committee for Schooling and Education

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Committee for Culture and Heritage Conservation
Committee for Social Affairs and Health
Committee for Housing Development
Committee for Protection of Public Order
Committee for Tourism and International
Co-operation
Committee for Protecting Public Interest in the
Work of Public Officials

Vladimír Mráz, Borough Mayor of Devínska Nová
Ves
Ján Mrva, Borough Mayor of Vajnory
Alžbeta Ožvaldová, Borough Mayor of Podunajské
Biskupice
Andrej Petrek, Borough Mayor of Staré Mesto
Ján Sandtner, Borough Mayor of Dúbravka
Pavol Škodler, Borough Mayor of Jarovce
Peter Šramko, Councilor
Ján Zvonár, Borough Mayor of Rača

Executive Board

The Executive Board is the initiative, executive and control body of the City Council. It also performs the role of advisory body to the Mayor. The position of the Executive Board is governed by Article 18 of the Statute of the City of Bratislava.

The Executive Board is composed of Deputy Mayors and other members up to 10 in number, who are elected by the City Council from its councilors for a full term of office, together with the borough mayors of all city boroughs and the City Mayor.

Executive Board:

Dušan Antoš, Borough Mayor of Rusovce
Ružena Apalovičová, Councilor
Milan Cílek, 1st Deputy Mayor
Marta Černá, Councilor
Slavomír Drozd, Borough Mayor of Ružinov
Andrej Ďurkovský, Mayor of the City of Bratislava
Anna Dyttertová, Deputy Mayor
Tomáš Fabor, Councilor
Ladislav Fatura, Borough Mayor of Vrakuňa
Gabriela Ferenčáková, Borough Mayor of Čunovo
Richard Frimmel, Borough Mayor of Nové Mesto
Milan Ftáčnik, Borough Mayor of Petržalka
Iveta Hanulíková, Borough Mayor of Karlova Ves
Ernest Huska, Councilor
Eva Jandošová, Councilor
Oľga Keltošová, Borough Mayor of Lamač
Ľubica Kolková, Borough Mayor of Devín
Tomáš Korček, Deputy Mayor
Vladimír Kubovič, Borough Mayor of Záhorská
Bystrica
Peter Lenč, Councilor

City Controller

The City Controller is an employee of the City of Bratislava who is responsible primarily for checking tasks under the jurisdiction of the city as a whole, and for checking the income and expenditure of the city's budget, as well as issues concerning the city's assets. The controller prepares expert standpoints to the budget and to the summary sheet before they are approved by the City Council. The City Controller conducts checks at City Hall, municipal police, and in budgetary and subsidised organisations operated by the city.

The controller is appointed and recalled from the post by the City Council. The controller answers to the City Council.

City Controller:

Katarína Kalasová

Chief Architect

The task of the Chief Architect is to protect and enhance the cultural, historical, architectonic and natural values of Bratislava, to demand strict compliance to the regulations and the land use plan of the city, to initiate a concept of systemic conversion of housing estates, to resolve key investments by public tenders, to initiate and

support progressive forms of housing, to prepare a conceptual design of the city's panorama and vertical landmarks, and the conceptual arrangement of entrance points to the city. A special task of the architect is to prepare a proposal of the definitive role of the Chief Architect to Bratislava.

Chief Architect of the City of Bratislava:
Prof. Štefan Šlachta

Human Resources

Bratislava City Hall had 504 employees as of 31.12.2007.

Number of employees of City Hall as of 31.12.2007	504
comprising: men	139
women	365
administration	449
manual professions	55
permanent	444
temporary	60
part-time	28
managers	69
Persons working on part-time work agreements alongside employment	68

The Municipal Police had 277 employees as of 31.12.2007.

A total of 1,015 people were employed in budgetary organisations of Bratislava as of 31.12. 2007.

Employees			
Youth Clubs	65	comprising: pedagogues	33
		other	32
Elementary art schools	537	comprising: pedagogues	464
		other	73
Old-folk homes and retirement homes	351		
Care facilities and RETEST	62		

A total of 811 people were employed in subsidised organisations of Bratislava as of 31.12. 2007.

City Library	70
Bratislava City Gallery	76
Bratislava City Museum	89
Bratislava Heritage Conservation Institute (MUOP)	16
Bratislava Culture and Information Centre (BKIS)	103
Bratislava Zoo	70
Sports and recreational facility administrator (STARZ)	169
Paving – city monument conservation investor	15
Marianum – funeral and cemetery services	165
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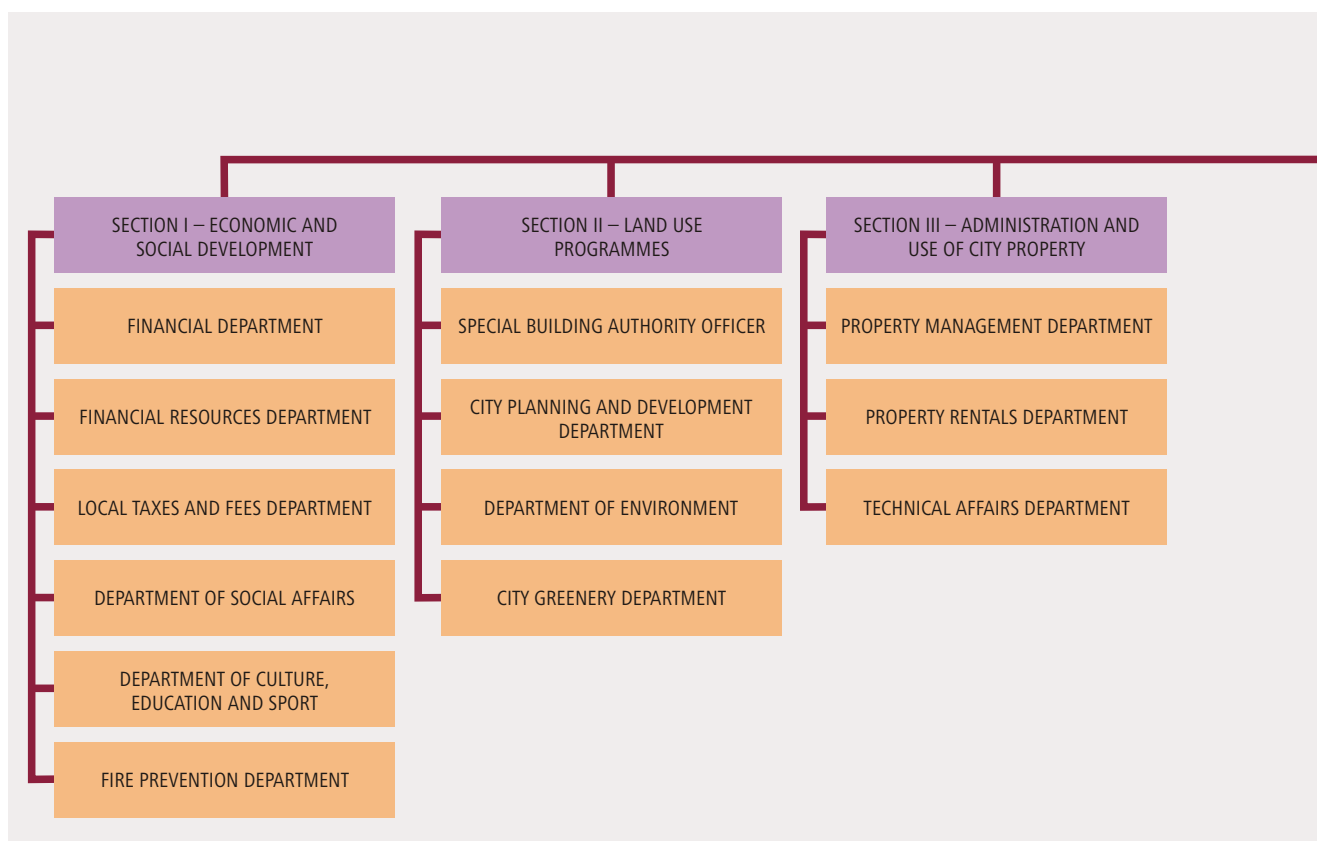
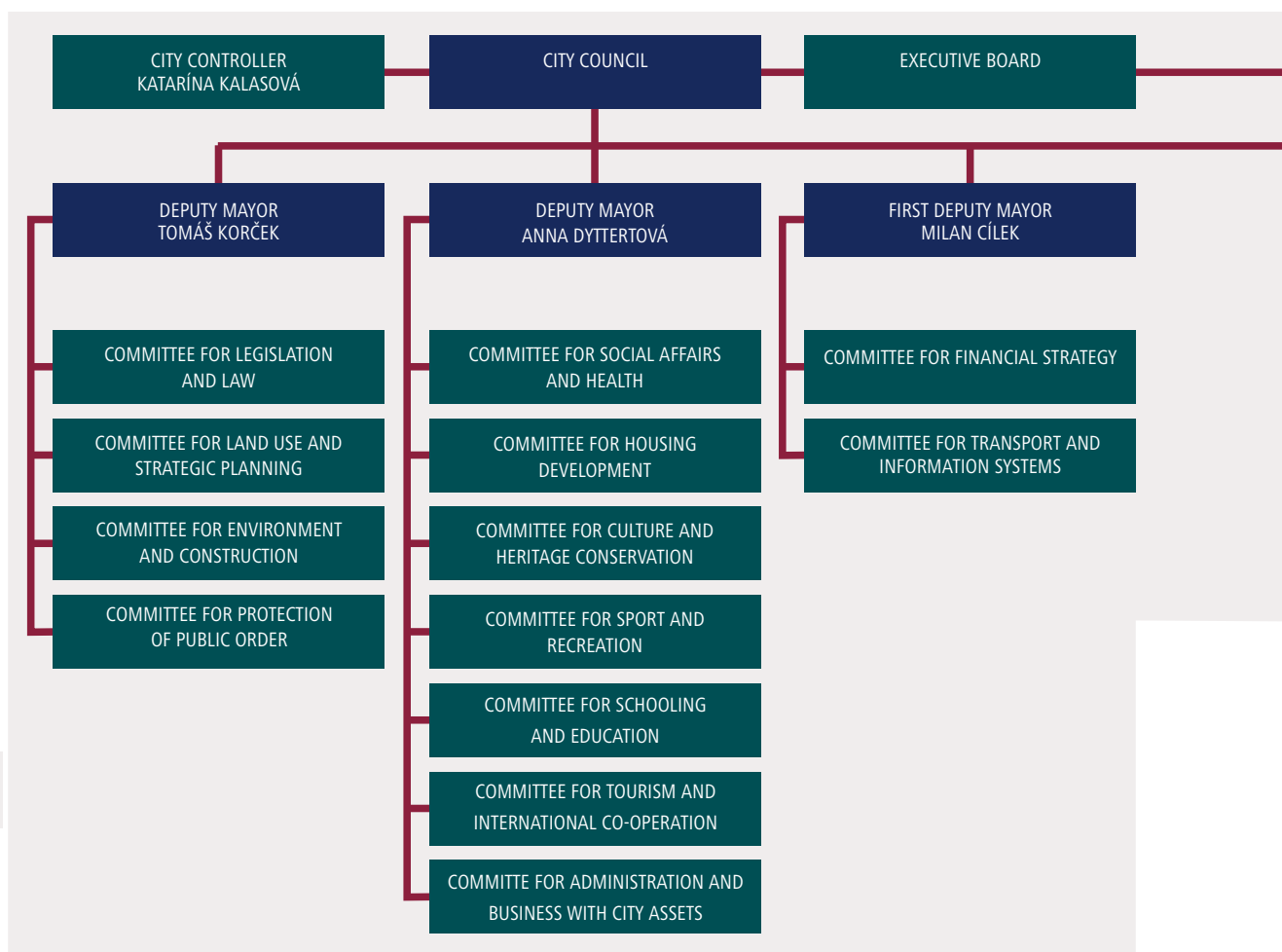
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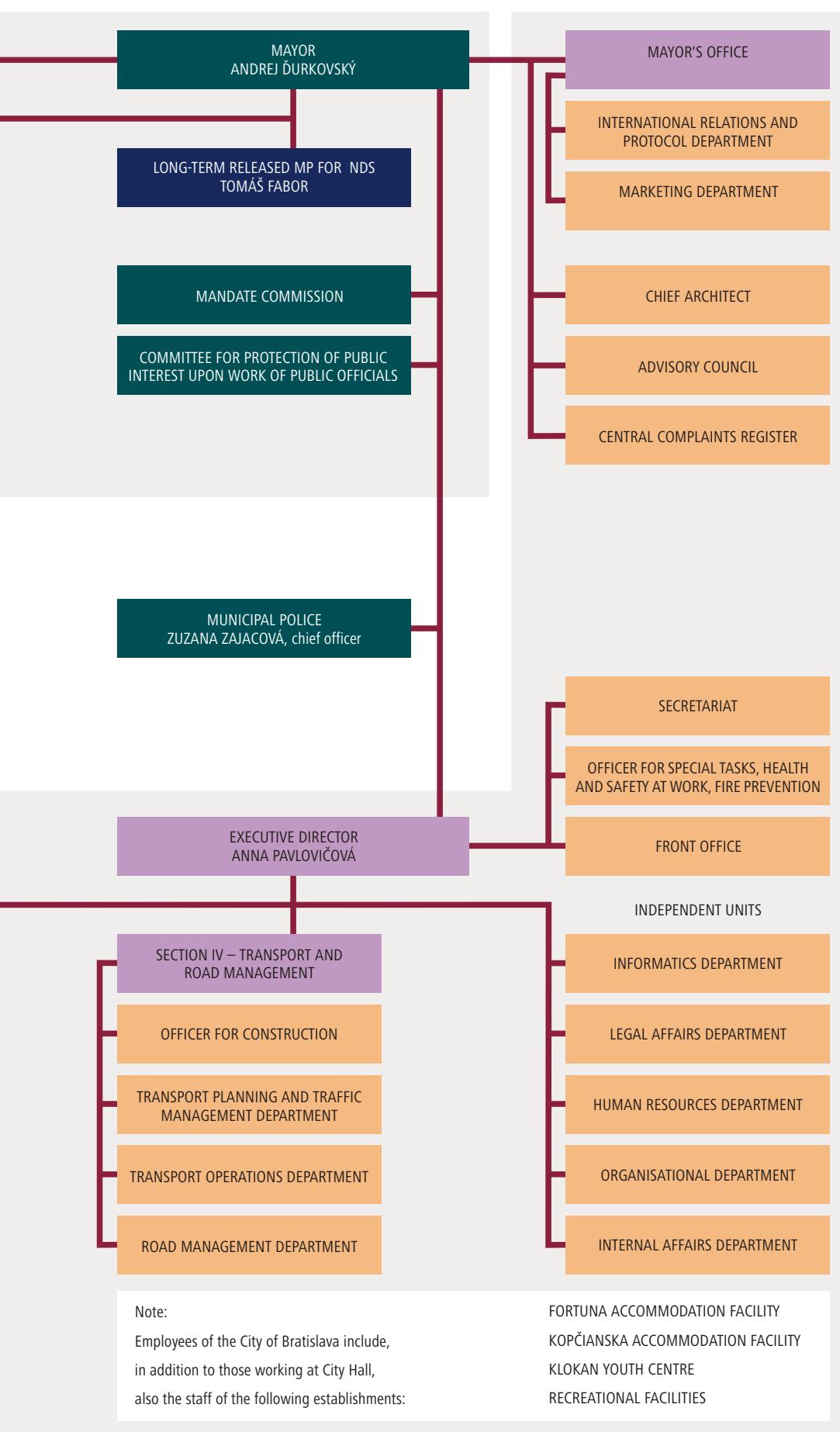
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STRUCTURE OF ELECTED BODIES AND CITY HALL OF THE CITY OF BRATISLAVA





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MESTSKÁ
POLÍCIA

Public order



Activities of the Municipal Police

In the course of 2007, the tasks assigned to the Municipal Police by the City Mayor, Deputy Mayor and borough mayors focused primarily on checking abidance to bylaws on observance of cleanliness and order, prohibition of creating illegal waste dumps, observance of closing hours and night peace, as well as ensuring public order during various public, cultural, social and sporting events. Officers of the Municipal Police also ensured the safety of schoolchildren at pedestrian crossings.

At the requests of borough authorities, officers of the Municipal Police assisted in enforcing decisions to evict premises in the ownership of the city. Patrols of the Municipal Police intervened also following reports of citizens suspecting the committing of offences or criminal acts, or they called the paramedics to help injured persons.

In 2007, the Municipal Police continued to apply a precinct system. By the end of the year, 14 officers became precinct officers and since 1 January 2008, 16 officers have operated in their assigned precincts. Their task is chiefly preventive action in ensuring surveillance over public order and ensuring first contact between the public and the police when dealing with the requests and justified interests of citizens.

The Municipal Police information system contains, besides others, also dog registers in 13 city boroughs, which are regularly updated. Dog registers in electronic form were provided by the boroughs of Staré Mesto, Ružinov, Podunajské Biskupice, Vrakuňa, Nové Mesto, Rača, Vajnory, Dúbravka, Devínska Nová Ves, Karlova Ves, Lamač, Petržalka and Rusovce. Other city boroughs will provide these registers once they process the necessary data into electronic format.

Information for the public was provided by www.msp.bratislava.sk, regularly publishing updated information about the Municipal Police activities. The "Register of Towed Vehicles" is also



available on the site, providing information about motor vehicles that were towed away by the Municipal Police in the territory of the capital. The Register is updated immediately after the vehicle is towed away and it is able to generate the results of an enquiry of a citizen a few minutes after the requested data is provided.

In 2007 the Municipal Police continued to implement a preventive project dedicated to fifth-grade pupils of elementary schools under the slogan "Behave normally". In the school year 2006/2007 eight Bratislava elementary schools were engaged in the project, receiving lectures from 7 trained municipal police officers.

In the scope of preventive activities, the Municipal Police took part in traffic education at elementary schools through a mobile traffic training course. The project was targeted at pupils in the first year of elementary school and children in pre-school facilities. Practical training was given at elementary schools in Záhorská Bystrica, Vajnory and Dlhé Diely.

Overview of offences by type of breach of bylaws, comparison with 2006:

Breached bylaws	2007	2006	Difference
Cleanliness and order	8,882	8,717	+165
Containers and other sites	419	168	+251
Pavement cleanliness	18	139	-121
Walking dogs	2,389	4,039	-1,650
Keeping animals (mostly dog fees, registration tags)	2	20	-18
Fees from advertising + posters	27	44	-17
Market rules	45	104	-59
Street selling	403	957	-554
Closing hours	552	519	+33
Use of public space	102	126	-24
Public greenery, parking on greenery	8,404	6,716	+1,688
Pedestrian zone	2,922	3,241	-319
Restricted stopping zone	8,212	7,628	+584
Unauthorised parking in parking places	4,810	5,369	-559
Car wrecks	173	243	-70
Taxi service	279	208	+71
Use of alcohol beverages in public spaces	5,245	5,950	-705
Fireworks	34	63	-29
Harassment	935	1,477	-542
Sexual services	42	80	-38
Other bylaws	263	342	-79
Total	44,158	46,150	-1,992

Comparison of activities in 2007 with 2006:

Activity	2007	2008	Difference
Total offences	85,016	86,567	-1,551
Offences dealt with by on-the-spot fine	46,859	45,434	+1,425
On-the-spot fines in SKK	13,174,800	11,323,900	+1,850,900
Offences dealt with by reprimand	31,095	33,199	-2,104
Other resolved offences	7,062	7,934	-872
Discovering and reporting crimes	35	52	-17
Number of clamps fitted	22,812	20,697	+2,115
Number of towed away vehicles	9,332	9,039	+293

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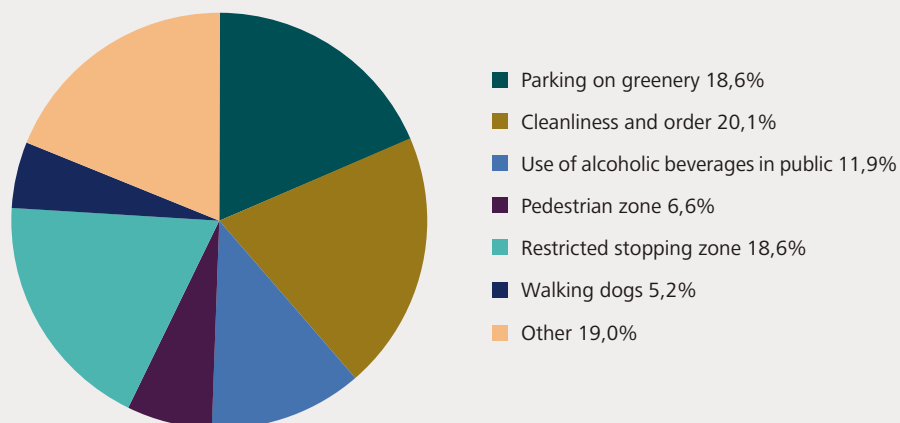
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Resolved offences by type of breach of bylaws in 2007
(percentage)



New camera headquarters of the Municipal Police

Since January 2007 the Municipal Office has been making use of a new headquarters for its camera system. Forty-four interconnected cameras monitor a large part of the city. The new system, which nowadays is standard equipment in European cities, will help cut down and resolve crimes. The camera system lets the police monitor also performance of the Municipal Police patrols themselves, to check parking prohibitions etc.

The majority of the cameras, 17 to be exact, are located in the Staré Mesto borough. Public order in the city borough of Petržalka is monitored by 11 cameras, while the city borough of Nové Mesto and the borough of Ružinov have 7 cameras in operation. In December 2006, two cameras were put into operation in the borough of Lamač in

order to monitor the local square Malokarpatské námestie and the surroundings of the elementary school in the square.

The outputs from the camera system in the form of photographs or recordings help law-enforcement agencies uncover and document crimes of suspected individuals. In compliance with regulations on specialised workplaces, the recordings may be provided only on written request. In 2007, 5,976 incidents were resolved that had been discovered by the camera system.

Police patrol interventions initiated by citizens' requests or by discoveries through the camera system

Intervention initiated by	2007	2006	Difference
Calls to 159 telephone number	11,569	8,487	+3,082
Call to the phone number of a police department	4,593	4,784	-191
Reporting in person to a police department	547	563	-16
Camera system	5,976	5,969	+7

Police Equestrian and Cynology Station

In 2007 this specialised Municipal Police station fulfilled tasks linked to maintaining public order at cultural and sporting events, preventive-safety operations and reinforcing the services of other Municipal Police precinct stations, including surveillance over observance of public order in and around Bratislava cemeteries when the number of visitors was especially high in October and November, in Staré Mesto borough during the Christmas market and during the New Year celebrations.

During the summer tourist season, Municipal Police officers with dogs ensured public order in the centre of the capital and other places in order to prevent offences and criminal acts. Their

operations focused in particular on areas such as the pedestrian zone in Staré Mesto borough, Obchodná ulica, Predstaničné námestie, Námestie slobody and Podhradie, Kuchajda and the city borough of Devín.

The mounted police were active particularly in localities with difficult access, such as Partizánska lúka, Železná studnička, Bratislava Forest Park etc. Their tasks mainly focused on checking environmental protection, observance of fire prohibition and prohibition of vehicle access and parking restrictions, including parking on greenery.



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City planning and the environment



New Land Use Plan of Bratislava

On the last day of May 2007 Bratislava city councillors passed the new Land Use Plan of the City of Bratislava as the fundamental document that will serve as the basis for development of the capital in the period roughly up to 2030.



The Land Use Plan is the basic land planning tool that sets out the requisites for the harmonic development of Bratislava and the ongoing co-ordination of all activities being carried out in the territory of the city. The New Land Use Plan does not just see Bratislava from the perspective of a regional centre and the capital of the Slovak Republic, but also as a key part of the Central European region in all its respects.

It comprehensively resolves the spatial layout and functional use of the territory, harmonises interests and activities affecting land development, the environment and ecological stability. The Land Use Plan of Bratislava sets out the principles and rules for the spatial arrangement and functional use of the territory, environmental protection, public transport, technical and civic amenities, and defines areas for public service buildings, and for protected parts of the countryside. This basic document is the framework for more detailed documentation – zone land use plans – and it also

steers investment activity in the city. It is the basis for planning decisions of the city.

The most recent land use plan for Bratislava to date was compiled back in 1976. It was augmented in 1982 and then again in 1985. The updated Land Use Plan of the City of Bratislava that was in force to date comes from 1993. The first ever land use plan for the city of Bratislava dates from 1907.

The draft Land Use Plan was put forward for public debate, being discussed with the professional community, the general public, residents, civil associations and interest groups. The standpoints and proposed revisions that were raised by the boroughs of Bratislava when reviewing the draft Land Use Plan were discussed on the level of borough councils. As part of this review of the draft plan, the contracting authority had an expert appraisal elaborated. Approximately 700 submissions were received from individuals and organisations in the draft review process, containing almost 1,000 practical revisions, of which 125 were accepted and 470 taken into consideration.

The draft LUP submitted for approval by Bratislava City Council was a programming document that arose out of agreements and compromises achieved through in-depth discussions of all parties involved. Now it has been passed, it will be the key tool for land planning through which the objectives and land planning tasks of the city will be achieved. These objectives mostly concern the creation of conditions for co-ordinating all activities in the territory, with particular emphasis on the creation of an urban environment, protection and formation of the countryside, preservation of natural and cultural values, care for the natural environment and the responsible use of natural resources.

Development concept of Bratislava and its application in the draft LUP

The LUP creates the requisites for the formation of Bratislava as the capital of Slovakia in international, cross-border and domestic aspects as:

- the heart of the Bratislava agglomeration – the historic junction of European migration routes from the north to the south of Europe (the Amber Route), and from the east to the west (the Danube Route);
- one of the representative metropolises of Europe and the Danube valley;
- one of the central points in the triangle Vienna – Bratislava – Győr;
- a “gateway” for the exchange of cultural historical values of west and east Europe;
- a hub for the creation and exchange of key information for development of the economic base of the city and the whole of Slovakia;
- a pleasant and safe home for its residents and visitors;
- a city with sustainable development, a high quality of life for all segments of the population, protecting the values of cultural heritage and nature.

The long-term formation of the capital applies the adopted Bratislava Development Strategy from 1999, the findings of national documents, in particular the binding part of the Slovak Land Planning Concept and regional documents, chiefly the binding part of the Land Use Plan of the upper-tier regional unit of Bratislava Region, the findings of common international documents for the development and co-operation of metropolises of Europe, the Danube valley and strategic documents for development of the Central European area.

Bratislava – heart of the Bratislava Region

The new LUP contains the requisites for building up regional development at border contact areas of Bratislava in pivotal areas with localisation of new regional centres of services and economic activity, and also of sports and recreational centres of regional significance:

- development to the north-west in the Lamac development area The Port;
- regional development to the south in the direction of Rusovce - Čunovo – Rajka - Mosonmagyóvár, focusing mainly on making use of the recreational potential of the river dam on the Danube for recreation, water sports

and tourism in localities around ‘Jarovské rameno’ – with a rowing course of Olympic parameters, and the Čunovo area – international centre of tourism specialising in water sports;

- development to the south-west in the direction of the borough of Petržalka – Berg – Wolfsthal – Hainburg, and in the direction of Jarovce – Kittsee – Bruck a/L – building up representative, service and sports-recreational activities.

Inland development of the capital city

- north-east development in the direction of the borough of Rača, Vajnory, Svätý Jur – supporting the cultural and social traditions of winemaking;
- development to the east in the direction of the east section of the borough of Ružinov, Nové Mesto, Vajnory continuing on to Ivanka pri Dunaji, Bernolákovo – establishment of services and sports-recreational centres with link to Zlaté piesky and along the road Ivanska cesta;
- development to the south in the direction of the borough of Podunajské Biskupice, Rovinka, Dunajská Lužná – proposal for regional centre of services in the southern part of Podunajské Biskupice.

Nature conservation and the countryside

The system of supra-national and supra-regional bio-corridors and bio-centres is regarded as the basic framework of ecological stability in terms of how Central European areas are used spatially and functionally. This system includes large protected areas that constitute part of the European ecological network – EECNET. The LUP respects and applies regulations for the protection of natural values of European importance:

- large conservation areas CHKO – Little Carpathians, Morava, Dunajské luhy, protected aquatic area Žitný ostrov, key drinking water sources in the territory of Bratislava, including requisites for conserving natural values in adjacent territories in Austria (Neusiedler See national park) and in Hungary;
- supra-national bio-corridors of biospheric and

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supra-regional importance, with supra-regional bio centres along the flows of the River Danube, River Morava, in the area of the Zahorie forests and in the direction of the ridges of the Little Carpathians and the Carpathian lowlands;

- the territories defined by the Ramsar convention, territories included in the programme NATURA 2000 – protected bird sanctuaries and other areas of European significance.

The land use plan sets out the requisites required for restoring the values of floodplain forests as part of natural parks in the Danube valley.



Strategic priorities of the city

The LUP respects and supports the strategic priorities for building up and developing Bratislava:

- creating the requisites for developing the most attractive city centre localities on both banks of the Danube – the zones Pribinova, Podhradie, PKO, the area around the train station, the south bank of the city centre from the exhibition area to the bridge Prístavný most;
- creating the requisites for building up central areas in individual boroughs;
- creating the requisites for the re-implementation of council flats, support for housing in the private sector in such forms that correspond to the characteristic of the environment of individual boroughs;
- commencement with the establishment of the core public transport system - Stage I - Petržalka – south bank embankment (compatible with the existing tramline, while respecting the planned dual solution leading under the River Danube and the overall south bank as such). This project represents also the possibility to develop Petržalka as a key part of the city centre;
- the development of municipal communication systems;
- revitalisation of sports and recreational areas in the natural environment of the Little Carpathians and support for the creation of new areas, especially in connection with the Danube;
- establishment of flood barriers against the River Danube.

New city park between the lakes Veľký Draždiak and Malý Draždiak

The most important project to start being prepared by the local government of Bratislava in 2007 is the establishment of a new park of significance to the whole city in the area between the lakes Veľký Draždiak and Malý Draždiak in Petržalka. The plan was discussed in April with representatives of the borough of Petržalka, who supported the creation of the new park and promised to contribute to making it happen and to provide all necessary collaboration.

The new modern recreational park will be set on an area of about 50 hectares and will cater for all segments of society, families with children, the elderly, and also the young. There will be no lack of amenities – children's playgrounds, modern sports areas, learning trails, climbing frames, places for barbeques and so on. The park will not be unlike the one at Partizánska lúka, but will be much larger.

The land planning department of City Hall prepared the specifications for an Urban Study to be produced and announced a public tender for it. The process of settling title to land lots was also set in motion.

Revitalisation of roadside greenery on Trnavska cesta

The city decided to revitalise the greenery on the central strip on Trnavska cesta, which has traditionally been one of the nicest areas of roadside greenery in all of Bratislava. As part of the preparatory stage for revitalisation of this strip, felling was approved of some 23 trees that had been attacked by disease or which posed a threat to traffic, health or property, based on expert appraisals of phytopathologists.

City Hall relocated several smaller trees that did not fit in with the project concept. Another 17 mature trees and 16 Magnolias and 300 bushes were replanted. These adjustments cost SKK 3.6 million, which was donated to the city by the company Slovnaft.

The revitalisation will continue, with total costs for revitalisation of the green strip on Trnavska cesta requiring SKK 24 million, while the total tended area is 9,268 m².

The greenery on Trnavska cesta, which is one of the most important thoroughfares in Bratislava, was inappropriate, particularly because in the past the greenery here was not planted with any real concept or composition in mind. Some trees were in a bad state, while several threatened traffic safety. The greenery here is a prime example of the lack of a professional approach in the past to planting roadside greenery, as unsuitable types of bushes and trees were planted in the most endangered places. Following agreement with city boroughs, NGOs and environmental organisations, the concept of planting throughout Bratislava is being reassessed, including replacement planting where greenery was eliminated due to investment activities.



Gardens for Everyone

In co-operation with the Faculty of Architecture of the Slovak University of Technology in Bratislava and Technische Universität Wien, the city is implementing the project called "Gardens for Everyone", which is being financed from the Community initiative INTERREG IIIA Austria – Slovak Republic. The project was spread out over 13 months from September 2006 to the end of September 2007 with participation of the boroughs of Petržalka, Karlova Ves, Dúbravka and Podunajské Biskupice. Total costs of the project come to SKK 2 million, whereby 50 percent is covered by the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF), 45 percent from the state budget and 5 percent co-financing from the budget of the City of Bratislava.



The theoretical part of the project pinpointed suitable locations for renewal or the creation of new public parks that would serve primarily residents living in adjacent housing schemes. Eventually 10 suitable localities were selected in Petržalka, Dúbravka, Karlova Ves (Dlhé Diely) and Podunajské Biskupice.

Partners from Technische Universität Wien (TUW) and the Faculty of Architecture at the Slovak University of Technology (FA STU) in Bratislava were involved in the practical part of the project. Students of architecture at both universities actively took part in two three-day workshops in March and April, at which they selected areas from determined localities and prepared design proposals for parks under expert supervision of Professor Richard Stiles from TUW and other expert consultants – landscape architects - Alžbeta Ondrušová and Zoltán Balko from FA STU. Each team worked with the localities that they had

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selected, carrying out surveys among residents based on which the concept and details of the park arrangement were chosen.

As students from the ERASMUS programme also took part in the project, this meant that the new parks in Bratislava were proposed not just by young people from Slovakia and Austria, but also from Turkey, Romania, Greece, Italy and Japan. In May all the prepared proposals were presented to an expert commission, which chose the three best designs to be applied. As it happened, the authors of all three selected proposals were all students from TUW:

- Park on Pekníkova ulica, Dúbravka: Roman Flenreisz, Doris Medek
- Park on Jiráskova ulica, Petržalka: Nami Takeyama, Cnizeburau Karacizmeli, Ozen Ayden
- Medzijarky housing scheme, Podunajské Biskupice: Jasenka Nina Skokic, Kersten Baumgartner, Reinhard Barnthaler

The selected ideas were presented to the public directly in the earmarked localities in the form of student projects. The main aim of presenting the proposals to the public was to get local residents themselves involved in forming the natural environment in their locality. In this phase of the projects, residents put forward their own revision proposals, initiatives and specific ideas toward producing the final semblance of the designs. These were then assessed and incorporated into the final specification of project documentation for planning decisions and building permits for individual parks.

An exposition of the students' city park projects by housing scheme was put on display at the Gallery of the Slovak Architects Society in August. The three chosen city parks should be created sometime in the first half of 2009 at the latest.

Pilot project of waste electrical and electronic equipment (WEEE) collection

The City of Bratislava in co-operation with its boroughs launched a pilot project in October 2007 for the collection of waste electrical and electronic equipment (WEEE) from households in individual boroughs. The project of WEEE collection from households was proposed by various affiliations of producers and importers of electrical and electronic equipment in Slovakia SEWA, ENVIDOM, ZEO, and ETALUX, which are implementing the project at their own cost, including promotion.

At the beginning of the project, mobile collection was organised, which gradually covered all city boroughs, whereby each borough proposed its own dates, places and system of collection and promotion so that the collection was as effective as possible.

Just like in all other EU member states, in Slovakia also it is the producers that are responsible for the whole lifecycle of the products – from the design through to safe liquidation and recycling at the end. For this reason, producers established professional organisations, referred to as collective systems, which have the task of assuming the responsibility of producers for the whole process of handling electrical equipment linked chiefly to the system of collection, logistics and recycling, including financing of the whole process. Municipalities have the obligation to allow these collective systems to set up a system of separated WEEE collection from households in their territories, or to let them use existing facilities for the collection of municipal waste.

Change of bulk waste collection system

During 2007 Bratislava changed the system of collecting bulk waste and small building debris, which was used to the end of 2006. The principle of this system was to allocate large rubbish skips to individual boroughs according to the number of

people who have their permanent address registered there.

Those boroughs where waste collection depots are located did not have skips allocated to them because waste disposal company OLO, a.s. would collect full containers from the depots progressively as required. The aim of this change was to create conditions for legal storage and subsequent liquidation of the waste and so contribute to the cleanliness of the environment, which is in the common interest of all parties concerned.

This solution was only a temporary one because the aim was to create a network of collection depots that would ensure sufficient capacity and eliminate pollution under economically advantageous conditions. This method of collection replaced also the autumn cleanup in 2007.

Based on the above, three ways of collection were distinguished, according to actual conditions created in individual city boroughs:

Boroughs with allocated quantity of large rubbish skips as part of the new collection system (Petržalka: 135 skips, Dúbravka: 45 skips, Nové mesto: 45 skips, Staré mesto: 45 skips, Karlova Ves: 38 skips, Rača: 30 skips, Devín: 23 skips, Vrakuňa: 22 skips). The rubbish skips are positioned progressively according to a schedule, which contains the terms for location of the skips determined by OLO a.s. and the actual location of

the skips, determined by individual boroughs. This method of collection replaced the original system of an autumn cleanup campaign.

Boroughs with collection depots without allocated rubbish skips (Ružinov, Podunajské Biskupice, Jarovce, Rusovce, Čunovo). There are waste collection depots in these boroughs from where OLO a.s. collects bulk waste and small building debris progressively according to the requests of their operators. This method of collection also replaced the autumn cleanup campaign. More full skips are collected from the boroughs than they would have been entitled to if applying the allocation system mentioned above.

Boroughs without collection depots and with low numbers of residents (Vajnory, Lamač, Devín, Záhorská Bystrica). These boroughs would be worse off if applying the new system (unlike the previous two groups). Accounting for the low number of residents with registered permanent address, they would not even qualify for the number of rubbish skips used to date for the autumn cleanup, i.e. 15 skips. In these cases, the autumn cleanup was resolved individually.

In future OLO, a.s. will give priority and preference to those boroughs that have waste collection depots because this method of collection is the most economic alternative when arranging the legal disposal of bulk waste.

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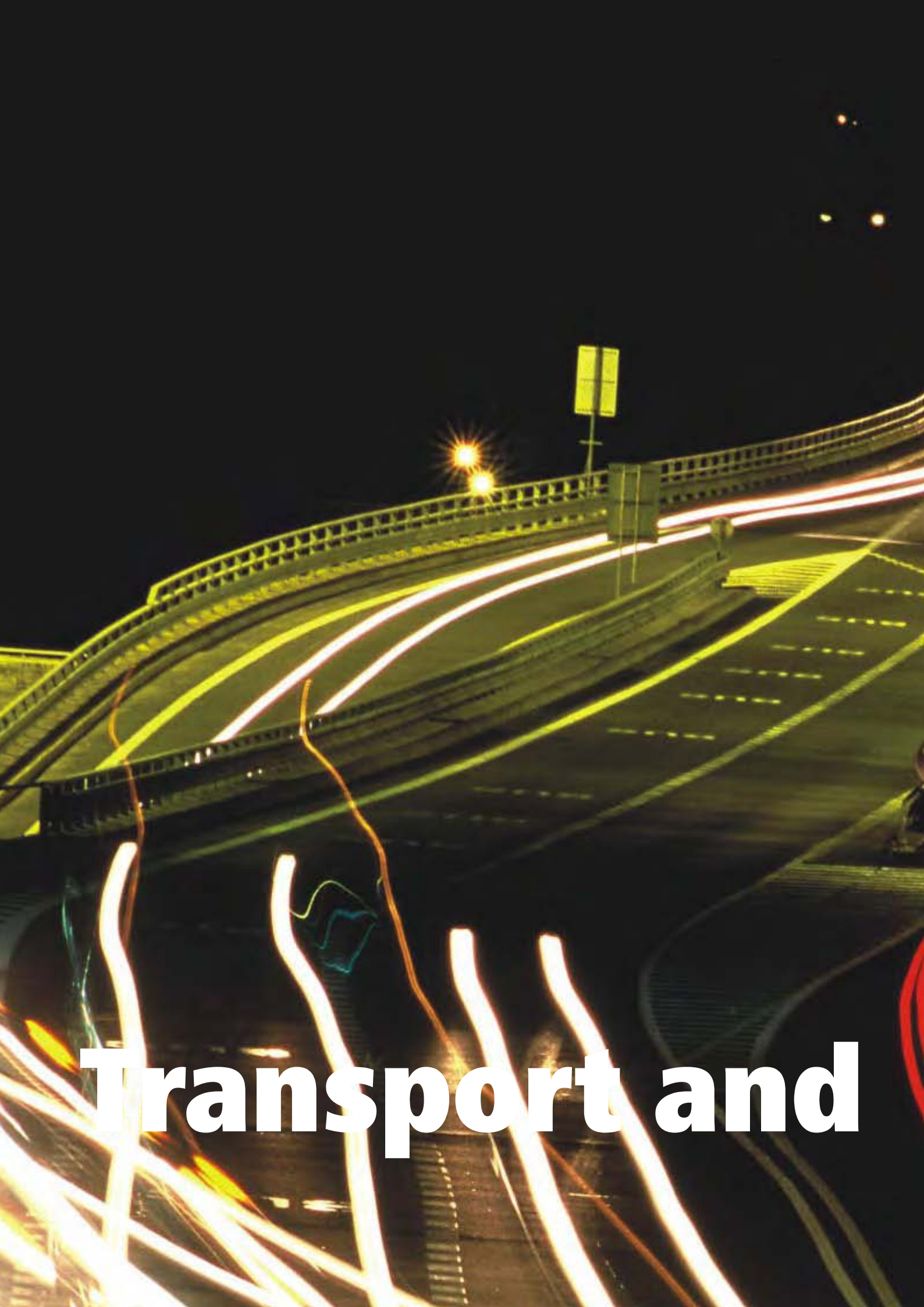
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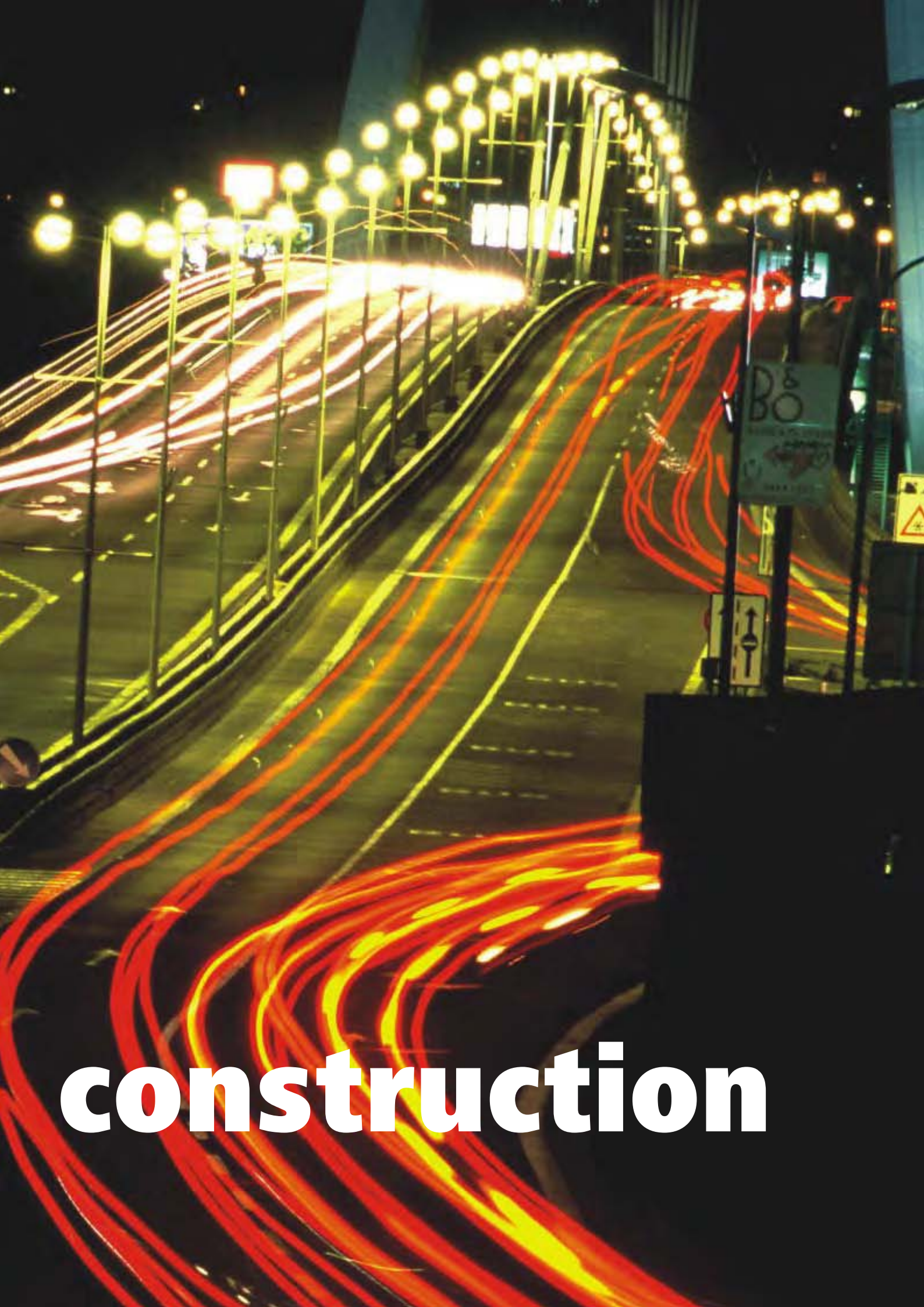
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Transport and



construction

Opening of SITINA Tunnel

On Saturday 23 June 2007 the Sitina Tunnel was officially opened for traffic after construction work lasting three and a half years. The opening ceremony included a presentation and tour of the tunnel with various accompanying events, including a ride through the motorway section and tunnel by a Formula One car.



The Sitina Tunnel has helped save the picturesque zone of Patrónka and also resolve the traffic situation of the whole western part of Bratislava in a significant way. The junction at Patrónka, being part of the radial-circular transport system of the capital, affects traffic in the boroughs of Kramáre, Lamač, and even Karlova Ves, Dúbravka, Devín and Devínska Nová Ves. The D2 Bratislava motorway section of Lamačská cesta – Staré grunty is part of European road E65 from Prague – Brno – Bratislava – Győr to Budapest. At the moment the E65 road leading through Slovakia is classed over its whole length as the D2 motorway, with the exception of the Lamačská cesta – Staré grunty section. It enters Bratislava at its northern border near Lamač and exits in the south at the border with Hungary.

Public tender for the core public transport system

The city called a public tender for the core public transport system, on the operational section Janíkov dvor – Šafárikovo námestie in Bratislava, 1st phase between Bosákova Street and Šafárikovo námestie.

The terms of the public tender were published in the Official Journal of the European Union in the Public procurement journal SR. The goal of the project is to develop and define a solution for the first integral part of the municipal core public transport system in Bratislava on the operational section Janíkov dvor – Šafárikovo námestie from Bosákova Street to Šafárikovo námestie in Bratislava. The public procurement will result in a framework agreement stipulating the conditions for documentation necessary for a decision on the construction location, project documentation for building permits for all constructions resulting from the valid decision on construction location, documentation for construction itself, documentation for selection of a contractor and expert author supervision.

Reconstruction of the oldest Bratislava bridge over the Danube, constructed at the end of 19th century, will be an important part of the first phase of the core transport system construction. It currently bears an unused train line, two road lanes and footbridges for pedestrians.

TEN-T 17 Memorandum

At the beginning of April 2007 the Mayor of Bratislava, Andrej Ďurkovský, the Slovak Minister of Transport, Post and Telecommunications, Ľubomír Vážny and the Director General of the Railways of the Slovak Republic, signed a Memorandum on a common approach to the preparation, implementation and use of railway infrastructure in the territory of the Slovak capital, Bratislava, constructed as part of the TEN-T 17 projects, in order to integrate municipal rail transport with national rail infrastructure. The goal of the adopted document is to declare a common interest in the construction of the north-south

railway line passing through the Danube connected with the central city area and its use within the integrated rail transport system, including also the first operational section of the core system Janíkov dvor – Šafárikovo námestie, which is in preparation.

Bratislava signed the European Road Safety Charter

On 12 June 2007, the Slovak capital, Bratislava, joined the signatories of the European Road Safety Charter aiming at various measures to halve the number of traffic fatalities by 2010. In Slovakia the Charter has so far been signed only by Košice and Banská Bystrica. Besides the capital, they were joined by Trenčín and Zlaté Moravce.

The commitment of Bratislava in the form of an Action Plan for 2007 – 2009 focuses chiefly on securing infrastructure, fleet modernisation for municipal public transport and on increasing citizen awareness in order to promote public transport. Despite the fact that in the last 5 years the number of vehicles registered in Bratislava increased from 206,000 to almost 240,000, which means one vehicle per two inhabitants, the number of road accidents declined from 11,500 to 10,680. The number of fatalities decreased almost by half, from 32 in 2001 to 17 in 2005.

The European Road Safety Charter is an initiative of the European Commission, Directorate General for Energy and Transport. It originated in Dublin in January 2004 with the objective of saving 25,000 lives on European roads every year by 2010. According to the statistical data of the European Commission, every year 45,000 people die in Europe due to traffic accidents. Death in a traffic accident is even the most frequent death cause of Europeans under 45 years of age.

According to the adopted Investment Activities Plan of the City, Bratislava will invest EUR 15 million from its own budget to purchase new

buses, trams and trolley-buses. The purchase of other vehicles is to be funded through operational leasing. With the use of individualised marketing and information campaigns, the capital will try to reduce the use of cars in daily traffic by 7 percent in three years compared to the current situation.

Agreement on Bratislava Integrated Transport

At the end of June 2007, an Agreement on Cooperation concerning Bratislava Integrated Transport (BIT) was ceremoniously signed. The parties to the Agreement are, on one side, the coordinator of the BIT preparation – Bratislavská integrovaná doprava, s.r.o., representing the interests of its founders – Bratislava Self-Governing Region and the City of Bratislava and, on the other side, key transport operators in the region that will provide public transport services in the Bratislava region and in the territory of the city as part of the BIT project under development: Dopravný podnik Bratislava, a.s., bus operator Slovak Lines, a.s., railway company Železničná spoločnosť Slovensko, a.s., rail infrastructure manager Železnice Slovenskej republiky.

The signed agreement establishes the basic framework of cooperation of all stakeholders in creating the Bratislava Integrated Transport system with the beginning of the 1st phase set for the spring of 2008.

The integrated system of public transport in the territory of Bratislava Self-Governing region and the City of Bratislava, is a system connecting individual modes of public transport and unifying the traffic, tariff and economic systems of transport operators in order to provide for purposeful, efficient and high-quality transport services in the region.

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Car Free Day

Bratislava joined this year's European Mobility Week and Car Free Day. Since 2002 the European Commission has organised the campaign of European Mobility Week. This year's topic of the campaign was "Streets for people", the aim of which was to create more space for pedestrians and cyclists in the streets of cities, while making greater use of public transport instead of individual automobile transport. The emphasis is put also on the necessity to enhance the air quality in cities. Several events were organised for Car Free Day, aimed at raising awareness of this topic. They included closing the bridge Starý most to traffic, a bike run, in-line run, and cultural events in the parking lot on Gondova Street near Starý most. Room was provided for a discussion of citizens with the organisers and partners of Car Free Day. Municipal public transport was free of charge on this day, which was the contribution of public transport company Dopravný podnik Bratislava to the event.

At present, bike traffic accounts for 1.6% of the transport volume in the territory of the City of Bratislava, which currently has 92.2 km of cycling paths, while in 2003 it was just 32 km of main cycling paths and 20 km of secondary paths.

Pilot project of night time public transport

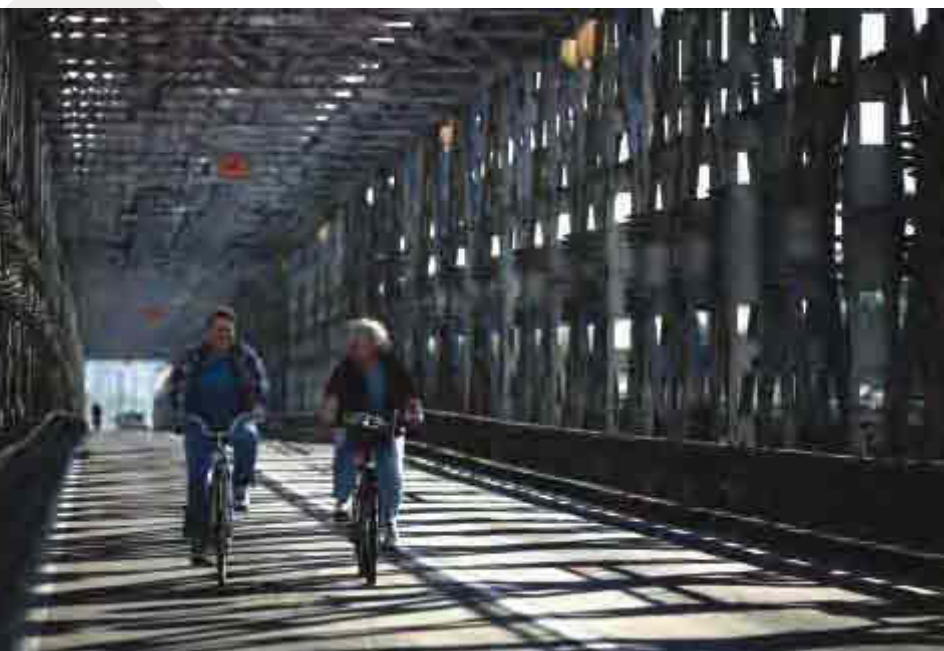
The city and Dopravný podnik Bratislava, a.s. have jointly decided to answer the needs of the city's residents and visitors. Passengers are becoming increasingly interested in public transport between 11 p.m. and 1 a.m. the next day. The first step consisted of a pilot project on the organisation of night transport, starting on 1 July 2007. The effort was made to come as close as possible to tried and tested systems of night transport organisation known from other European cities, while keeping the existing radial routes of night transport lines, with the central connection point at the Main Railway Station. Hodžovo Square remained the second connection point. The main interval of night lines was shortened to 60 minutes, and then further shortened to 30 minutes at certain hours. Departures from the Main Railway Station are at 11 p.m., 12 p.m., 0.30 a.m., 1.30 a.m., 2.30 a.m. and 3.30 a.m. Security surveillance is provided on certain night line vehicles.

New buses for municipal public transport

In November 2007 new SOR type buses were put into operation on routes of municipal public transport. Based on a resolution of city councillors, the city allowed Dopravný podnik Bratislava, a.s. to purchase 13 new buses of this type in 2007. The funds invested into new SOR buses in 2007 came to SKK 84 million and to SKK 16 million for other vehicles.

Renewed pedestrian crossings

In 2007 the Road Management Department of City Hall renewed 90% of pedestrian crossings in the vicinity of schools. The pedestrian crossings near schools, which are situated in the most critical places, are marked with red and white colours. City Hall administers a total of 1,168 pedestrian crossings on its roads, all of which were renewed by the end of September. In 2007 City Hall managed to renew horizontal road signs



on approximately 80% of all roads and all pedestrian crossings. The costs for the renewal of horizontal road signs amounted to SKK 13.5 million.

The city has begun extending the lighting over pedestrian crossings in several places where the crossing is not governed by traffic lights. The results of this lighting achieved so far are very positive – the sections with lighted crossings have seen a drop in the accident rate. The price of one set of lighting is in the range of SKK 110,000 to SKK 350,000 depending on technical conditions.

Reconstruction of Patrónka junction

The comprehensive reconstruction of one of the most complicated junctions in Bratislava was planned immediately after the Sitina Tunnel opening. It was carried out from the end of July till the end of August, during the summer holidays, when traffic is slightly less intense. During morning peak times the traffic through the junction was controlled by the police with provisional traffic signs helping to navigate drivers. The main contractor for the construction was the company Technické služby s.r.o. Bratislava, and the City of Bratislava was the investor. The reconstruction budget amounted to around SKK 46 million. At the end of August 2007 the traffic on the junction roads at Patrónka was almost finalised and traffic was restored to the full extent.

Prístavná ulica

Another major completed transport construction comprised extension of Prístavná ulica by two lanes. Construction work lasting almost a year was officially completed and the lanes were put into operation on 26 October, including the new traffic lights on Plynárenská ulica. The construction was carried out by the city organisation Generálny investor Bratislavy. The total length of the Prístavná ulica extension was 800 m, 8 m wide. The new surface, 120 mm deep, was placed on the road over the whole length and a new road drainage system was installed. The road has new

traffic signs, barrier-free pedestrian crossings and a new public transport stop. The surface modification on original lanes on Prístavná ulica included also the junction of Plynárenská ulica and Prístavná ulica.

New traffic lights

In September traffic lights at the pedestrian crossing of Ružinov Cemetery and Gagarinova ulica were put into operation. The city provided for pedestrian crossing reconstruction into a split crossing controlled by traffic lights, with request buttons for pedestrians.

At the beginning of December new traffic lights at the junction of Kutlíkova ulica and Romanova ulica in Petržalka borough were put into operation. The construction amounting to SKK 28 million was carried out by the company NOPE a.s. Bratislava. The construction funded by the municipal organisation GIB was carried out within a shortened deadline from the beginning of September to 30 November 2007.

In September the city put into operation new marking of the pedestrian crossing near Iuventa on Karloveská cesta. It differs from the usual crossing markings as it has lights installed in the road under the road markings, which react by blinking to the movement of pedestrians. The installation of new equipment should significantly help reduce car accidents in this location.

Bratislava flood protection

In January, the city, Slovenský vodohospodársky podnik (a water-managing company) and Váhostav SK signed key documents at Primate's Palace for the construction of the Bratislava flood protection system.

The project of a flood protection system in Bratislava and villages on Žitný ostrov island, funded to 85% by the EU, aims to provide adequate protection of people of the city against floods, prevent economic loss and environmental

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damage, including the protection of drinking water resources and of arable soil from contamination.

Construction of the flood protection system began in May. The whole construction is divided into 8 activities and will be completed in 2009. The construction was planned to begin at the village of Sap, around 8 kilometres from Gabčíkovo. Seven construction activities are being carried out on the left side of the Danube and one on its right side.

Flood-protection constructions are being carried out also by private investors as part their projects of River Park and Eurovea. The intention is to build a "promenade plateau" in the city centre and to remove the existing sloping walls of the Danube riverbank.

The European Commission decided to allocate funds for the project of "Bratislava flood protection" from the Cohesion Fund in its decision of December 2005. The level of subsidy comes to 85%, with the maximum sum totalling EUR 26.5 million. Overall costs for the project reach SKK 1.2 billion. The project in Bratislava is the very first project of a flood protection system of a preventive nature to be funded by the European Union.

New City Auditorium in the EUROVEA suburb

The new City Auditorium to be built in the reconstructed historical building of Warehouse no. 7 in the newly constructed city suburb of Eurovea – Pribinova Zone, will become a replacement for the Park of Culture and Leisure (PKO) which will gradually close down. The City of Bratislava perceives this project as an opportunity to incorporate a new cultural centre into a new, modern and attractive location on the Danube riverbank, in the immediate vicinity of the new Slovak National Theatre building.

Thanks to the project, Bratislava will have a representative place for organising cultural and social events with a capacity sufficient for more than a thousand visitors. The Auditorium will make use of modern technological equipment with the possibility of high-quality backdrops for demanding performers. The project also provides a unique benefit by increasing the value of a national cultural heritage building that was not used for many years and which was classified as a technical historic building. It will host a generous space for galleries, exhibitions, museums and small club activities.

The City Auditorium, the new centre of Bratislava culture life, will be situated in an attractive environment of the newly built quarter near the new central square and new building of the Slovak National Theatre. It will comprise the shopping zone Pribina Galleria, modern flats, office premises, cafes, restaurants, multi-cinema, sport areas and entertainment centres. The location of the new culture centre designed under the direction of Irish investor Ballymore Properties is





the logical outcome of long considerations, discussions and proposals of experts in culture and art, as well as architects and urban planners.

The new Auditorium will be constructed from private resources combined with funds from the city budget.

The new municipal cultural centre will offer a wide range of opportunities for all activities typical for a functional city centre. The concept envisions a large main hall modifiable to a flat position for social, music and dance events and to a sloping position for concerts or presentations for audiences. The main hall will be complemented by a small club hall that could be used as a backstage for performers, technical equipment and for the programming and production preparation of performances.

The new City Auditorium will let the city develop traditional municipal projects such as the Bratislava Ball, the Danube Cup, festivals and a wide range of concerts. It also opens up the possibility for new projects in quality premises.

Process of Warehouse no. 7 reconstruction:

Warehouse no. 7 reconstruction under the direction of the company Ballymore lasted from the beginning of September 2006 to 21 August 2007. The reconstruction included:

- static adaptations
- construction of new flood walls
- insulation and complete renewal of the façade
- new roof and construction of new roof railings
- reinforcement of concrete ceilings
- guttering work
- complete replacement of windows
- restoration of internal and exterior technical elements
- placing of glass railings onto tiltable ramps which will serve as balconies after the reconstruction
- lighting of the façade and towers

The interior of Warehouse no. 7 was kept in its original condition without any substantial building alterations. The reconstruction comprised the repairing of cracks, re-fitting technical equipment and the repair of lifting mechanisms.

The architectonic solution counts with extension of Warehouse no. 7 by:

- an auditorium situated in the roof extension (1,012 m²)
- communication core (503 m²)
- mixed-used entrance hall (356 m²)

After its completion the roof of Warehouse no. 7 will be turned into an interesting roof extension in the form of a membrane construction covered by technical textile. The central tower on the roof of the building will be kept also after completion of the auditorium. Approximately in the middle of the building the roof extension will be connected to the highest, third floor of Warehouse no.7, which will establish a two-floor space, 8 metres high, intended for social events of a larger scale. With different seating options the space could accommodate from 660 to 1,300 visitors. The dressing rooms of performers during social and cultural events in the auditorium will be situated on the second floor.

In the second half of Warehouse no. 7 a roof extension will create an independent floor, 4 metres high. These premises will serve for a small hall with a capacity of 170 seats and a restaurant for 200 people with a terrace offering a nice view.

The building reconstruction and building of the auditorium will create representative premises in Warehouse no. 7 with a great variability of use, such as big social events, cultural festivals, chamber concerts and theatre performances or exhibitions and presentations.

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Building/structure	Starting date - Completion date
Road repairs on Prístavna ulica	1007 - 1207
Tichá ulica - road section Slávičie údolie-Tichá inclusive of trolleybus line	0310 - 1010
Rybničná ulica - Reconstruction of Rybničná ulica, Stage II - Vajnory	2008 - 1009
East bypass Vajnory	2009 - 2011
Reconstruction of road junctions Hradská-Podunajská-Dvojkřížna- Ráztočná	1106 - 1008
Traffic lights Račianska-Pionierska, right turn	0497 - 0907
Reconstruction of Záhradnícka-Líšcie Nivy-Miletičova- 4th lane	0508 - 1209
Traffic lights Kutlíkova-Romanova	0907 - 1207
Left turn lane to housing scheme Rusovce-south	2008 - 2009
Construction on Vlárská ulica, stage II and III	0408 - 1008
Extension of Saratovska ulica by 4th lane, including extension of tramline to route II/505	2008 - 2009
Extension of Harmincova ulica by 4th lane	0310 - 1210
Extension of Tomášikova ulica at the section Vajnorská-Tomášikova	1008 - 1010
Road at Na pántoch (extension from Mäsokombinát)	0409 - 0510
Traffic work (selected investment projects)	
Mlynská ul. in Devínska Nova Ves, stage III	0907 - 1207
Traffic lights Žižkova II	1007 - 1208
Traffic lights Kuklovska - Karloveska	1007 - 1107
Expansion of junction at Tomášikova-Ružinovská	0408 - 0708
Traffic lights Slovaftská - Komárňanská	
Traffic lights Vrakunská - Podunajská - Komárovska	1008 - 1208
Traffic lights Púchovská - Pri vinohradoch	0309 - 0609
Restoring TV surveillance of crossroads, stage II	0407 - 1207
Cycling paths, stage II	0307 - 0607
Motorway feeder road D61 Mierová - Senecká	0307 - 1207
Road connection Harmincova - Rázsochy	0808 - 1108
Reconstruction of the bridge Nové most	0608 - 1108
Reconstruction of bridge on road I/2 in Lamač over the railway	0408 - 0808
Pedestrian crossing at Ružinov cemetery - Gagarinova	0807 - 0907
Traffic lights Námestie hraničiarov	0908 - 1108
Control study of roundabout on Hodžovom námestie.	
Other traffic work	
Total for traffic work	
Construction of flats	
comprising:	
Mixed-use block no. 135 Dlhé diely	0706 - 0207
Construction of council flats, 100 units	0508 - 0409
Total for other construction	
Capital expenses in total	

Planned expenditure	Budget for 2007	Actual for 2007	% fulfilled
17 000	15 000	11 385	75,9
150 000	600	510	85,0
150 000	0	0	x
100 000	10	3	30,0
80 000	21 055	10 150	48,2
25 000	20 000	16 710	83,6
220 000	6 000	663	11,1
30 000	33 000	28 681	86,9
15 000	0	0	x
43 000	0	0	x
250 000	0	0	x
60 000	2 000	732	36,6
80 000	50	42	84,0
180 000	2 000	0	x
1 400 000	99 715	68 876	69,1
35 000	36 780	25 847	70,3
19 100	5 300	5 201	98,1
16 300	11 500	7 086	61,6
22 000	500	445	89,0
300	300	3	1,0
15 000	0	0	x
30 000	1 970	1 091	55,4
34 000	34 000	33 965	99,9
6 000	6 000	5 891	98,2
3 000	3 000	2	0,1
60 000	11 500	9 064	78,8
85 000	500	0	x
9 000	500	0	x
5 000	5 000	4 572	91,4
15 000	950	0	x
50	50	50	100,0
354 750	117 850	93 217	79,1
1 754 750	217 565	162 093	74,5
200 000	19 500	19 027	97,6
200 000	1 000	0	x
400 000	20 500	19 027	92,8
2 154 750	238 065	181 120	76,1

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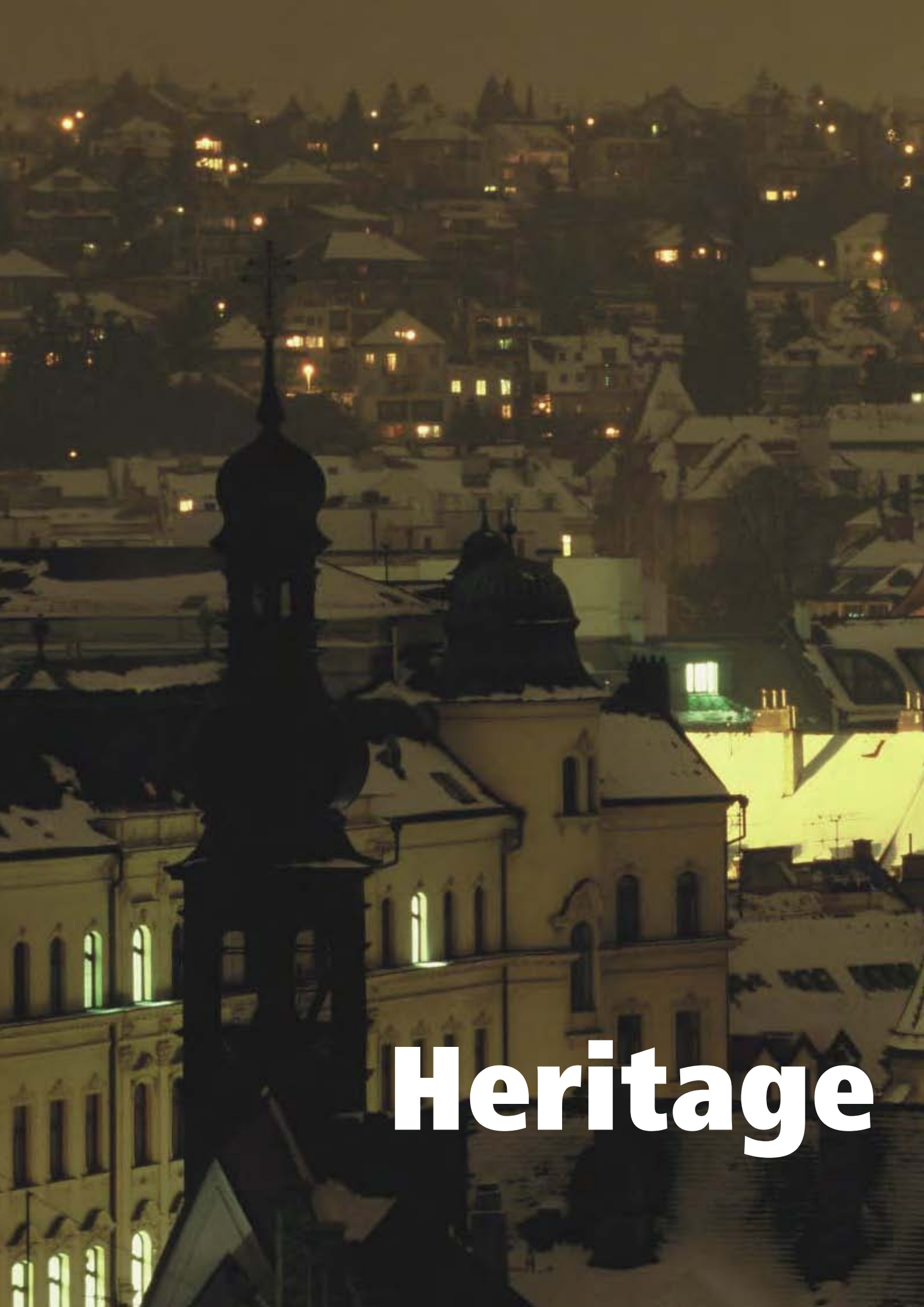
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Heritage



conservation

Restoration of ancient Roman camp Gerulata

One of the most important projects with regard to restoring historical monuments was the project set up in 2005 called Renewal of the national heritage monument Gerulata, an ancient Roman stronghold in Rusovce. The project was provided with non-returnable funding as part of the Single Programming Document, Objective 2, measure 1.5 Renewal and development of municipalities and the preservation of cultural heritage. The project arose out of the need to comprehensively restore this national cultural monument. Since it was established and the museum opened in 1985, no investments had been made in the exposition, even though its importance is attested to by the findings of archaeological findings from Roman times, with the special finding of a preserved above-ground part of the settlement at Bergl. The actual discovery of the stronghold dates back to the 1960s, when during digging work to repair the Danube embankment machinery struck the foundations of the Roman fortress Gerulata. Archaeological research was then started and is still ongoing today.



Actual implementation of the project started in February 2006 with work going on in the Lapidarium, with air-conditioning being installed to create the optimal temperature. Exhibits were stabilised on uniform pedestals, with bulkier findings being exhibited without pedestals. Protected glass was placed in front of the relief of Daedalus and Icarus, thereby protecting the colours of the exhibit from fading and the exhibit itself from being touched by visitors. Work went on simultaneously at several places of the site, with walls that were treated several decades ago receiving treatment once more. As the original Roman tiled floor was in an exceptionally bad condition, a copy was made at the very site of the finding while some fragments were on display under glass in situ.

When adapting the surroundings, the project focused on the final finish of the lookout platform, the tiling and asphaltting of entry points, replacement of limestone grit in the quadratic building, the revitalisation and sowing of grass, greenery in the grounds and portable greenery in ceramic plant pots. A new access path was built to

the lookout platform. The overall investment came to almost SKK 4.8 million, of which the financial contribution of the European Union and the Slovak state budget comprised almost SKK 4.3 million.

The project "Renewal of the ancient Roman camp Gerulata in Rusovce" was one of three projects of the capital recently that present this unique national cultural monument in the Bratislava territory. Two projects supported by funding from the Community initiative programme INTERREG IIIA Austria – Slovak Republic, focused on promoting the monument. As part of the project "Rusovce Gerulata – Petronell Carnuntum" presentation materials were produced on all aspects of Roman life in co-operation with the Archaeological Park Carnuntum.

Archaeological research in Apponyi House

As part of the reconstruction of the important historical monument Apponyi House, work on which was started in 2004, the City Heritage Conservation Institute (MUOP) conducted archaeological research. The aim of this was to prepare detailed archaeological topography of the land parcels, which maps out the archaeological settlement of the parcels since the new age – from the turn of the 18th century back to the late Laten Age – meaning the 1st century BC.

The youngest findings from archaeological research come from the period of the 16th to the 18th centuries, and have been found at various places on the parcels, like in the courtyard or in the basements. Where the courtyard is concerned, the finding concerns a sewerage collector from the 18th century, a well that is located on the central line of the courtyard and built sometime in the 16th century, and in the basement cold store premises. These findings are augmented also by a large discovery of coins. There are 17 coins in total from the Kingdom of Hungary, silver Denar coins from the rules of Ferdinand I, Maximilian II, determined provisionally as being from the first half of the 16th century.

The Middle Ages development of the parcels at the time of a Middle Age town is mapped over the period of the second half of the 13th century to

the turn of the 15th and 16th centuries. Archaeological research managed very accurately during the course of historical and archaeological research to identify two original Middle Ages parcels on which today's parcel of Radničná 1 – Apponyi House was established. On the parcel closer to Ungerov dom (Unger House) archaeological research identified the oldest walled architecture on the parcel – a two-room house from the second half of the 13th century, with an extension from the turn of the 15th and 16th centuries. The economic base of parcels was also localised with a system of waste pits, which chronologically pertain to the second half of the 13th century until the second half of the 14th century, according to findings. In the case of walled architecture the oldest well on the parcels was discovered, which was active until the turn of the 14th and 15th centuries. Movable items found from this period include extremely well-preserved ceramics and glass items from the Middle Ages.

The settlement of the parcels on the edge of town dates to the end of the 12th to the first half of the 13th centuries. Here a wood-clay house was discovered, which was located at the site of today's gateway. This is an exceptional find in terms of Middle Ages archaeology in the city's territory. Findings from the Great Moravian era from the second half of the 9th to the beginning of the 10th centuries were also found in the archaeological settlement of today's parcels at Radničná ulica 1, namely two skeleton graves that are part of a larger graveyard identified in this area already earlier, and also an original supply pit, later being a waste pit. Surprising is the presence of a pit grave containing a pot and bronze ring, which is preliminarily dated to the turn of the 5th and 6th centuries.

The oldest archaeological settlement on the parcel of Radničná ulica 1 comes from the late Latén Age – 1st century BC. This is just as significant as the Middle Ages settlement. The research identified two wells, a pottery kiln and pile dwellings. Unique items that were found here include an iron grate, which is the only specimen of its kind in the region of Central Europe. The discovered pottery kiln is also unique in terms of preservation, and it will become part of the archaeological exposition of the Bratislava City Museum and will be presented "in situ".

Restoration of the Church of Poor Clares

From December 2006 the sacred Church of the Poor Clares has served for cultural and social purposes. The project of its restoration started in 2003, whereby the aim of restoration work was to clean up the building and protect it against dampness, repair interior outfitting, utility lines and to build up its functional and social amenities.

The contractor – the company SARPO a.s. – made building alterations to the church, dried out the exterior walls, floors and protected the building from dampness. They also installed the heating and ventilation of the building, new electrical equipment and wiring. The restoration expert Miroslav Černák carried out artistic and restoration work, adding stone, wooden and metal elements. Work of the contractor cost a total of SKK 18 million.

The first phase of restoration work included the reconstruction of the historical organ. The organ is a unique specimen which according to a preserved record was made by Petznik Franciskus Eduardus back in 1788 as his first work. In connection with making the organ functional, it was necessary to resolve also where the organ was to be situated, because from the nave of the church it looked like the organ was "sunken". The organ was moved forward toward the rail in a way that it allowed the future ventilation equipment to be fitted. The organ was also raised on a newly installed raised podium, which at the same time also served to fix the new "high" organ bench with stairs.

For the repair of the historical organ a donation of SKK 90,000 was made in 2007 by Milan Rederer. Paming – the city heritage protection investor, arranged the repair of the organ with the donation. Total costs for the restoration of the organ come to SKK 218,000. The reconstructed organ was presented to the public for the first time on 18 July 2007, when the Church of Poor Clares resounded with the sound of J.S. Bach – Toccata a fuga in d minor and F.M. Bartholdy – the Wedding march, played by the organist Michal Jozefovič.

The second stage of church restoration will concern an annex of the technical and social elements of the

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concert hall. The church annex is located in the west wing of the church under the tower. The whole annex will be set below the level of the garden. It will be equipped with a separate side entrance for performers from Farska ulica. The annex resolves also the dressing rooms for performers and cloakrooms for visitors, social amenities, and a ventilation equipment room for the annex and the church. Work on the annex can go ahead only once archaeological work is complete.

Archaeological research of the Church of Poor Clares

Probably the most important finding of the archaeological research of the Church of Poor Clares, which was presented to the public in July 2007, could be said to be the discovery of late Laten Age bulwark from the 1st century BC. The finding belongs to the category of archaeological finding of the year of the magazine Pamiatky a múzeá.

At that time on the site of today's Staré Mesto borough of the city there was an opidium – a political, economic and military stronghold of the Celtic tribe Boii. As part of the opidium there is a so-called acropolis to the massif of castle hill and the area below the castle to the east and south of Kapitulská ulica. The Boii built a fortification in contact with the acropolis and the area below the castle. This usually was a clay mound with moat. West of the Church of Poor Clares on parcel no. 363 we have just managed for the first time to archaeologically prove the existence of this fortification – a clay mound with stone wall at the front.

The building of the former Church of Poor Clares is situated in the western section of the Bratislava Heritage Reservation. It comprises part of historical building no. 16, bordered from the west by Kapitulská ulica, from the south by Farska ulica, from north by the street Na vřšku and from the east by Klariska ulica. The core element of the architecture of historical building no. 16 is undoubtedly the former church and monastery of Poor Clares.

In the vicinity of Michalska ulica there is a mention from 1235 of the house of the order of Cistercian

monks. Other historical sources on the order of Cistercian monks relates to 1238, and to 1244, and 1249, respectively. When in 1271 and 1273 Czech King Otakar II raided Bratislava, the Cistercian monks left Bratislava. The Poor Clares were permitted into Bratislava by Hungarian King Ondrej III based on a letter from the Roman cardinal Mathew from 9 September 1297.

Archaeological research to date has confirmed an undisturbed poly-cultural archaeological locality on the site of parcel no. 363. The youngest settlement line here comprises findings of objects from the end of the 13th to the end of the 15th centuries. This concerns waste pits situated in the north-west part of the parcel. From the content there is a fair collection of table and kitchen crockery, as well as products made of glass and bone. An exceptional finding was the stoneware glass from the end of the 15th century. This kind of stoneware is, unfortunately, the only example from the site of Middle Ages Bratislava. Some fragments of Roman brick with stamp of the fourteenth legion also ended up in one of the pits as waste. A prize is the localisation of part of a settlement from the end of the 9th century and beginning of the 10th century. Archaeologists have registered seven objects, with a predominance of dug out bowl-shaped pits. In one case this concerns a half-submerged structure with fired perimeter construction. Its content includes a rich collection of fragments of period ceramics, as well as the bodies of receptacles. The research here also discovered a strong concentration of charred grains. They were found together with part of a ceramic plate, which was used for roasting the grain, or for ridding the grain of impurities, chaff.

Restoration of the Plague memorial column and the statues on St. Michael's Bridge

The city heritage conservation investor Paming completed reconstruction work in July 2007 of the plague memorial column Morový stĺp of the Holy Trinity on Rybné námestie and restoration of the statues on St. Michael's Bridge. The original baroque and rococo parts of the memorial were

most damaged. When uncovering the foundations, bones were found. The said finding was reported to the Regional Heritage Office and the City Heritage Conservation Institute (MUOP). Reconstruction of the memorial cost SKK 4.8 million. It was last repaired in 1977-1980.

The 'Plague memorial column of the Holy Trinity' on Rybné námestie was erected in 1713 in memory of the great plague of 1711, which took the lives of 3,860 people in Bratislava.

In March 2006 the city organisation Paming disassembled the statues of St. Ján Nepomucky and St. Michael the Archangel that were on St. Michael's Bridge. The reason for taking them down was not just their damaged pedestals, but the statues themselves, which were in dire need of restoration.

Both statues facing each other, installed on St. Michael's Bridge, stand on the same late baroque pedestals. It is not entirely clear when the statues were put in place. Literature says that the statues were ready already in 1725, while the stone bridge was not built up until 1727. The statue of St. Ján Nepomucky shows the patron of bridges and also one of the strongest anti-reform saints. The statue of St. Michael the Archangel is in Roman military dress with helmet, holding a rounded shield with the emblem of Bratislava and the inscription Maria, and a flaming sword in his right hand.

The statue of St. Ján Nepomucky was restored in 1877, and the statue of St. Michael the Archangel in 1897. The restoration in 1984 was carried out by the sculpture Ladislav Chamuti, at which time the originals were replaced with copies. The last restoration was done by Ladislav Chamuti together with Andrej Baník. The costs for reconstruction come to just under SKK 300,000.

Soltz' bench

The restored Soltz' bench enhanced the exterior of Horský Park on 10 July 2007. The metal bench is made from steel pipes resembling the branches of a tree. It is called 'Soltzová lavička'. The test of

time and possibly also vandals made sure that the bench was in a catastrophic condition for many years. PAMING started to repair it in the autumn of 2006 and during the winter months the bench took on its former glory in the studio of Igor Kaplan.

It is assumed that the bench was located in Horský Park in the immediate vicinity of the forest cabin in 1905 to 1910. It is artistically created in the style of the so-called Hungarian secession. The bench was almost completely corroded, partially broken, and so its restoration had to be done in the studio. Damaged parts of the bench were replaced, missing parts added on, joints welded again and grinded, the whole bench was sandblasted and then galvanized, and in the end it was painted brown. It was installed in its original position. Total costs for the work came to SKK 65,100.

Bratislava Fountains

The city heritage investor PAMING administered a total of 54 fountains, wells and drinking fountains during the course of 2007. Overall there were 36 fountains and 6 drinking fountains in operation, with 4 fountains and 3 drinking fountains requiring reconstruction, and there are 2 drinking fountains in storage. Bratislava currently boasts around 120 fountains including those that are administered by boroughs or private owners. Operation of the fountains costs Bratislava around SKK 3.8 million a year, of which SKK 2.2 million is allocated for the cleaning and maintenance of fountains, SKK 800,000 for water and SKK 700,000 a year on electricity.

This year various repairs were made to some of the fountains. PAMING renewed technological equipment, as well as the external appearance of the technical fountain on Ožvoldikova ulica. In September 2007 the complete reconstruction was started on the Fountain for Zuzana on Kupeckého ulica, which is to be handed over to the public in the spring of 2008. PAMING switches on the fountains every year at Easter and usually shuts them off at the beginning of November.

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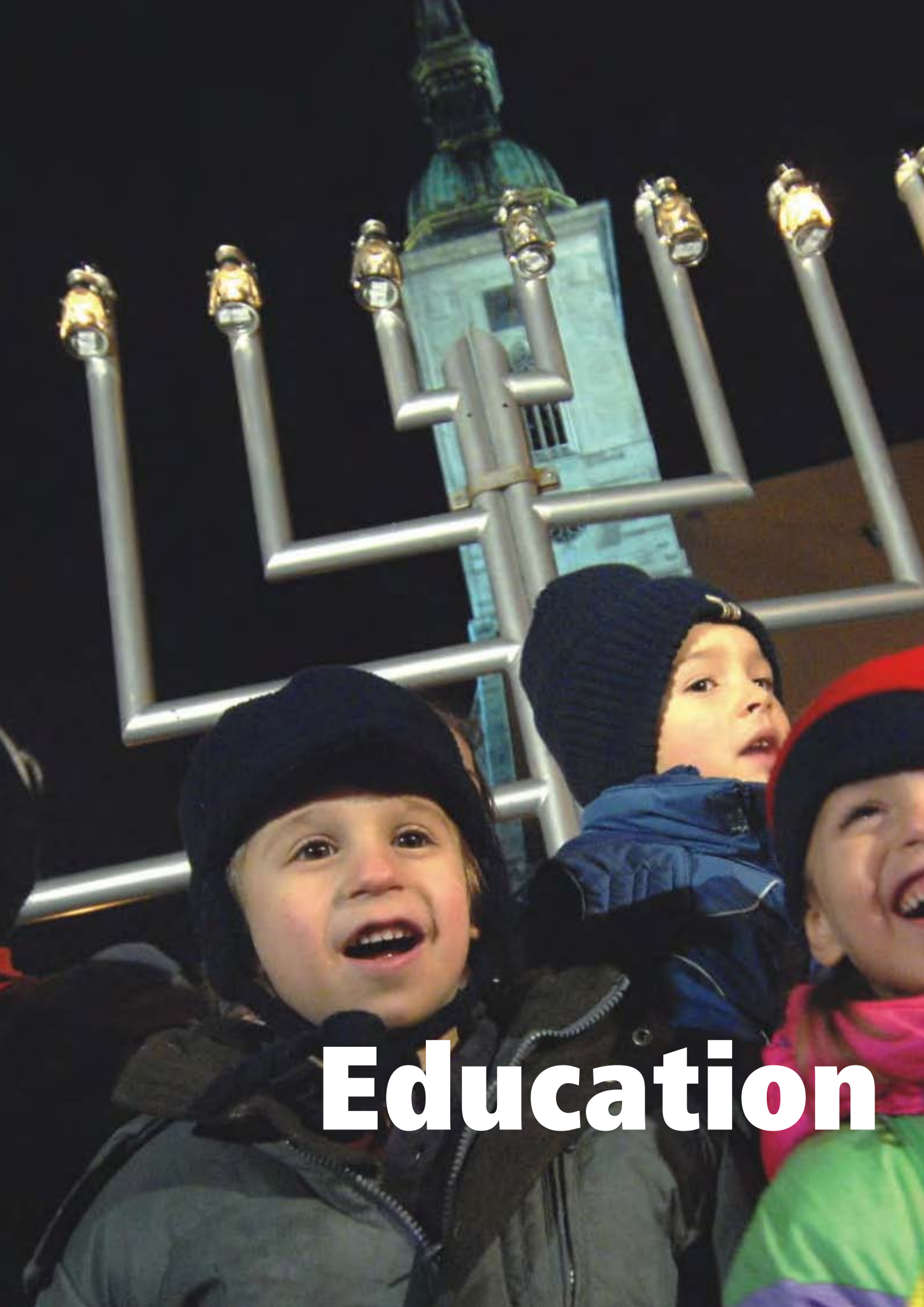
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Education



and the youth



Age structure of children and youth

After several years of stagnation, Bratislava once more recorded a growth in the total number of inhabitants (+632 as of 1 January 2007, source: Statistical Office SR). A growth was seen once again in the age group from 0 to 4 (+1,000), but overall in the age category of 0 to 24 years of age the decline still prevails (-3,299).

Change in number of elementary and nursery schools and total number of children

There are a total of 85 elementary schools established in the territory of Bratislava, of which 61 are run by the municipality (city boroughs), 4 by the region or regional schools authority, 10 by private operators and 10 by the church.

The decline in the number of pupils continued also in the 2007/2008 school year in the case of elementary schools run by the municipality (1,793 fewer pupils), with the downward trend most distinct in the boroughs of Petržalka (-431), Staré Mesto (-262), Ružinov (-253), Karlova Ves (-204) and Dúbravka (-194). Just one elementary school (Petržalka) was abolished and excluded from the network of schools and school facilities of the

Ministry of Education SR. A slight growth was seen in the number of pupils in just two boroughs; Vajnory (+25) and in Záhorská Bystrica (+15). There was a drop of 43 in the number of pupils in non-state elementary schools (20).

The decline in the number of school age children is being caused mostly by the ongoing drop in the number of young people in Bratislava. However, since 2002 the number of children in the lowest monitored age category from 0 – 4 showed positive development, with a slight growth recorded also in the last year.

Elementary schools provide children of pre-school age with an education, supplementing the family upbringing and creating the conditions for the schooling of children.

Despite a growth in the overall number of children in the 0 – 4 year age category, in the 2007/2008 school year the number of children in nursery schools run by the municipality dropped (-66), with the biggest declines seen in the boroughs of Ružinov (-278) and Karlova Ves (-93). A growth was recorded chiefly in the boroughs of Nové Mesto (128), Devínska Nová Ves (63) Lamač (58) and Podunajské Biskupice (45). Two nursery schools were abolished, while there was an increase of 83 children in non-state nursery schools (13).

Overview of age groups of children and youth in Bratislava:

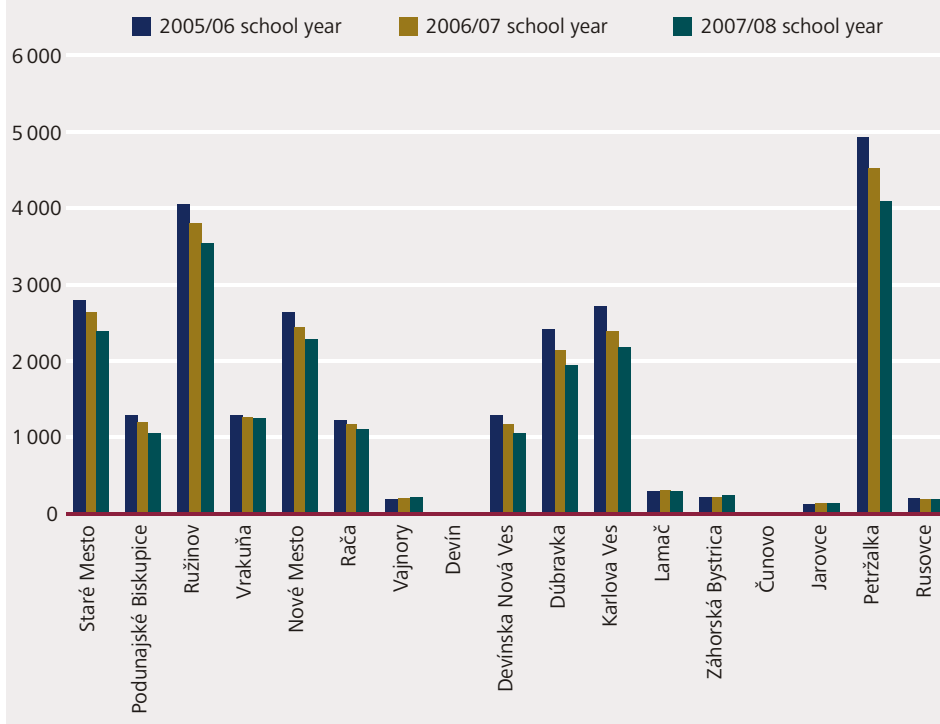
Year	Inhabitants	Age category – absolute figures					
		0 – 4	5 – 9	10 – 14	15 – 19	20 – 24	0 – 24
1997	451 395	19 046	26 382	32 971	37 425	36 600	152 424
1998	449 547	17 652	24 926	31 603	36 306	37 814	148 301
1999	448 292	16 891	23 269	30 053	35 197	38 440	143 850
2000	447 345	16 492	21 738	28 328	34 537	38 234	139 329
2001	428 094	14 821	18 929	26 855	33 711	37 595	131 911
2002	427 049	15 077	17 309	25 229	32 216	37 028	126 859
2003	425 533	15 561	15 868	23 584	30 820	36 050	121 883
2004	425 155	16 221	15 014	21 747	29 221	34 928	117 131
2005	425 459	17 115	14 583	20 045	27 547	34 198	113 527
2006	426 091	18 115	14 513	18 322	25 972	33 306	110 228

Date source: Statistical Office SR, Bratislava

Change in number of elementary schools run by the municipality and count of pupils in them sorted by boroughs:

Borough	2005/06 school year		2006/07 school year		2007/08 school year	
	schools	pupils	schools	pupils	schools	pupils
Staré Mesto	9	2 803	8	2 640	8	2 378
Podunajské Biskupice	4	1 295	4	1 185	4	1 064
Ružinov	9	4 056	9	3 800	9	3 547
Vrakuňa	3	1 297	3	1 258	3	1 244
Nové Mesto	8	2 635	8	2 444	8	2 288
Rača	3	1 228	3	1 169	3	1 103
Vajnory	1	195	1	200	1	225
Devín	0	0	0	0	0	0
Devínska Nová Ves	2	1 299	2	1 170	2	1 064
Dúbravka	4	2 414	4	2 142	4	1 948
Karlova Ves	4	2 704	4	2 392	4	2 188
Lamač	1	297	1	312	1	288
Záhorská Bystrica	1	221	1	221	1	236
Čunovo	0	0	0	0	0	0
Jarovce	1	122	1	132	1	131
Petržalka	12	4 926	12	4 521	11	4 090
Rusovce	1	201	1	192	1	191
TOTAL	63	25 693	62	23 778	61	21 985

Overview of number of pupils in elementary schools run by the municipality in the 2005/06 to 2007/08 school years by borough



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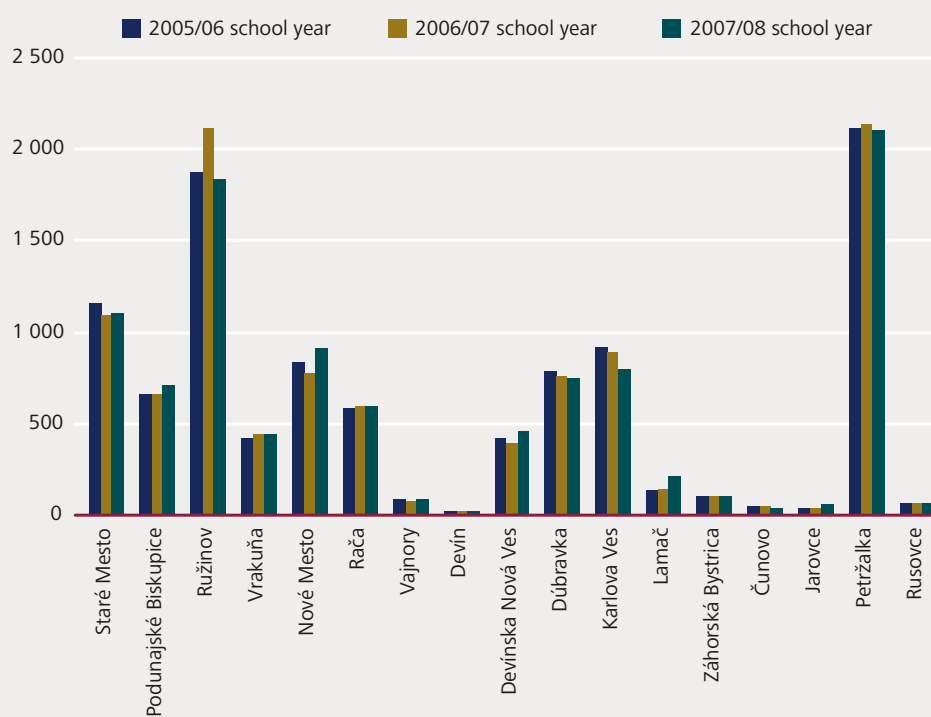
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Change in number of nursery schools run by the municipality and count of children in them sorted by borough:

Borough	2005/06 school year		2006/07 school year		2007/08 school year	
	nursery schools	children	nursery schools	children	nursery schools	children
Staré Mesto	19	1 158	19	1 091	19	1 097
Podunajské Biskupice	7	661	7	662	7	707
Ružinov	23	1 878	23	2 116	22	1 843
Vrakuňa	5	424	4	442	4	444
Nové Mesto	11	830	11	780	11	908
Rača	7	588	7	592	7	596
Vajnory	1	84	1	81	1	89
Devín	1	18	1	16	1	21
Devínska Nová Ves	4	418	4	397	4	460
Dúbravka	10	789	10	752	10	747
Karlova Ves	8	916	8	889	8	796
Lamač	1	132	1	148	1	206
Záhorská Bystrica	1	105	1	105	1	105
Čunovo	1	46	1	44	1	42
Jarovce	1	38	1	41	1	56
Petržalka	20	2 117	20	2 134	19	2 108
Rusovce	1	64	1	66	1	65
TOTAL	121	10 266	120	10 356	118	10 290



Overview of number of children in nursery schools run by municipality in the 2005/06 to 2007/08 school years sorted by borough



Art schools provide the young generation and adults alike with the possibility of developing their natural talent in certain artistic fields of music, dance, visual arts, literature and drama. They also prepare pupils for study at a higher level of school with artistic focus.

The City of Bratislava operates 12 elementary art schools, which were attended by a total of 9,158 pupils in 2007 (of this number 319 pupils were in the form of study for adults). From the total number, 3,975 were taught in group form, while 5,183 pupils received individual tuition. Where individual tuition is concerned, most pupils are learning to play the piano, the guitar, the flute and singing.

Youth clubs and school clubs are establishments for free time and interest activities for children and the youth. Throughout the whole year, including during school summer holidays, the centres arrange and organise educational activities, special interest activities, and recreational and sports activities for children and the youth, and provide the necessary conditions for them.

In Bratislava there are 5 local youth clubs set up, the regular activities of which were attended by 4,230 children through various interests. Some 29,881 children took part in occasional interest activities and 1,566 children attended summer school activities. The greatest interest at youth clubs is in the area of culture and art, physical activities and natural sciences.

Change in number of pupils at art school, number who completed course and number of new pupils:

Art school	Number of pupils in 2005/2006	Number of pupils in 2006/2007	Number of pupils in 2007/2008	Pupils completing a course in 2006	Pupils completing a course in 2007	Number of pupils enrolled to for first year in 2007/2008
ZUŠ Jesenského 6	507	467	447	23	26	193
ZUŠ M.Ruppeldta Panenská 11	560	569	564	39	45	160
ZUŠ Podjavorinskej 9	273	205	224	27	8	85
ZUŠ Exnárova 6	981	981	976	79	69	308
ZUŠ Ľ.Rajtera Sklenárova 5	1 014	968	1 040	55	54	346
ZUŠ Háľkova 56	716	696	697	41	44	289
ZUŠ Vrbenského 1	424	429	538	8	7	306
ZUŠ E.Suchoňa Batkova 2	894	965	862	54	41	390
ZUŠ J.Kresánka Karloveská 3	1 703	1 703	1 788	111	133	601
ZUŠ Istrijská 22	506	537	643	32	29	291
ZUŠ J.Albrechta Topoľčianska 15	797	684	654	20	37	312
ZUŠ Daliborovo nám. 2	599	767	725	33	63	198
TOTAL	8 974	8 971	9 158	522	556	3 479

Number of children in youth centres:

	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08
regular interest activities	4 292	4 120	4 230
occasional interest activities	36 614	37 450	29 881
summer school	1 355	1 374	1 566

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Legislative changes

On 1 January 2007 the National Council of the Slovak Republic Act No. 689/2006 acquired force, amending and supplementing National Council Act No. 597/2003 on the financing of elementary schools, secondary schools and school facilities, as amended, and on the amendment and supplementing of Act No. 596/2003 Coll. on state administration in schooling and school administration and on the amendment and supplementing of certain laws, as amended.

In practice this meant that from 1 January 2007 the municipality had to start providing subsidies for salaries and the operation of 47 operators of non-state art schools (13) and school facilities (65) within its territory from funding credited to the municipality as per specific regulation. In order to ensure the fluent transition of financing, the Slovak government provided the City of Bratislava with an extraordinary subsidy of SKK 60 million. The municipality provided SKK 10.4 million from its own sources to subsidise the non-state operators.

Grant programme in support of children and youth leisure activities

The City of Bratislava earmarked SKK 2.5 million in its budget for 2007 for primary drug prevention projects and in support of children and youth leisure activities. The support went to projects focusing on the following areas:

1. support for creative thinking and creativity among children and youth,
2. long-term and short-term activities for children and youth,
3. prevention of aggression, racial and ethnic intolerance and vandalism,
4. encouraging the interest and involvement of young people in the life of Bratislava,
5. prevention of child and youth criminality in Bratislava.

In 2007 the Grant Committee reviewed a total of 156 projects, the overall financial applications for which came to SKK 6,630,589.

Information on the number of supported projects in 2007 sorted by category:

Area	Number of projects	Granted subsidy in SKK
Culture	16	332 000,-
Sport	29	599 500,-
Interest activities (courses)	28	476 700,-
Day school and summer school	29	871 500,-
Other projects of primary drug prevention (education, courses, seminars ...)	9	220 300,-
Total	111	2 500 000,-



Mayor's meeting with talented youth

The Mayor of Bratislava had a meeting with talented youth on 19 June 2007 in the Mirror Hall of Primate's Palace. This was the twelfth time this annual meeting had taken place with young people who attend schools under the jurisdiction of the Regional Schools Authority, Bratislava Region and city boroughs, as well as with pupils of art school and youth clubs that the city operates.

Some 53 successful young people were invited to the meeting with talented youth who, by way of culture, language, sport, natural and technical sciences, and also sensible ways how to use free time as part of hobbies, spread the good name of the city at home and abroad. The meeting also saw the involvement of 44 pedagogues and coaches, who prepared them for the competition.

Appreciation of pedagogues

On the occasion of Teachers' Day, Bratislava deputy mayor Anna Dyttertová received 20 Bratislava pedagogues at Primate's Palace on 29 March. They all work in nurseries, elementary schools and art schools or in youth clubs.

The selection of those to be praised was made based on the nominations of borough mayors and directors of art schools and youth clubs, by a committee made up of members of the City council committee for youth and education, directors of art schools and representatives of City Hall.

Bratislava Children's Parliament

The Bratislava Children's Parliament (BCP) took stock of its first year of operation on 20 June 2007. The BCP comprises representatives of regional children's parliaments selected by individual schools. The Bratislava Children's Parliament has 23 members and the point of the whole project is to put forward the interests of children, to support the possibility for them to

have a say on current issues, and to create space for shared decision-making on common issues.

The idea of the Bratislava Children's Parliament is the application of Article 2 (3) of the Principles of relations of the City of Bratislava toward children and youth. This promotes the involvement of children in institutions and the creation of a mechanism of shared decision-making about the life of the city, issues and problems that affect children, and generates a feeling of shared responsibility for life in the city.

One of the themes that the child MPs decided to look into was the problem of bullying in school. In co-operation with the local government, the Slovak Association of Social Workers, the Slovak Committee for UNICEF and the Bratislava Region Youth Board, they initiated an information campaign aimed foremost at the parents of potential victims of school bullying. They also supported the efforts of the Bratislava Region Youth Board to create information boards in schools, they got involved in the project entitled "European Union and anti-discrimination" and established contact with the children's home Pohoda, the representative of which became a full member of the BCP.

Bratislava – Vienna pupil and student exchanges

The idea to arrange exchanges between 1,000 pupils of elementary and secondary schools in Vienna and Bratislava as part of the project "Twins" came about from the initiative of Wiener Stadtschulrat (Vienna School Board) and the Regional Schools Authority in Bratislava pursuant to the programme Interreg IIIA. The project involved 11 schools from Vienna and 11 schools from Bratislava.

The exchanges were made on 12 – 16 March 2007 (500 pupils, Vienna – Bratislava) and on 19 – 23 March 2007 (500 pupils, Bratislava – Vienna). A bilingual publication and film documentary presents how the pupils imagined life in the neighbouring city before the exchange and how it actually was for them in reality.

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SPaP



Social assistance and housing

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Year-round shelter accommodation facility DePaul

The homeless shelter DePaul on Ivanska cesta has been providing social services to the homeless to a greater extent since 15 April 2007. The homeless shelter was set up in December 2006 by the city in co-operation with the Catholic charity DePaul Slovensko. Since it was opened, the first homeless shelter in Bratislava drew in almost 500 people without roofs over their heads, and will be providing its services all year round. In its first winter the shelter provided 8,552 overnight stays to the homeless.

A stay at the DePaul homeless shelter is not subject to any conditions. It offers refuge to those homeless who have no papers, health insurance or money, the sick, and even those under the influence of alcohol. They are the most endangered groups during harsh winters as they are often not given help from other institutions.



Complete care for the homeless

For the first time the city had a full service in place for caring for the homeless in Bratislava from the beginning of the 2007-2008 winter. The full service consists of the possibility to use the shelter accommodation, which tolerates also those who have consumed alcohol, accompanied by personal hygiene facilities for the homeless after their stay to use with no alcohol tolerance. The total capacity goes from a stable 250 beds to almost 350 in the event of crisis situations.

At the end of 2006 the city rented out premises to the non-profit organisation DePaul Slovensko, which then opened the shelter for dependent homeless just before Christmas 2006, providing the following services: bed, dinner and breakfast, shower, change of clothes, arrangement of care, spiritual help.

In 2007 the city arranged for the capacity of homeless shelters to be increased by renting out premises on Hradská ulica in Vrakuňa to the civil association "Domov pre každého" (Home for

everyone), which set up a shelter with 140 places in two buildings. The civil association also has city premises rented on Ivanska cesta, where families are accommodated – total of 27 people.

At the request of the city, the civil association "Domov pre každého" set up a Personal hygiene centre on Hradská ulica. This service (shower, change of clothes) was used by around 20 people, although its full capacity at any one time is 70.

The oldest shelter in Bratislava for homeless people is MEA CULPA with a capacity of 35 beds, which the city set up in January 2004. Since 2006 the shelter has operated the whole year round.

Resolving the issue of homelessness in the city has been helped forward by the operation of two social homes Fortuna and Kopčany, which by offering temporary accommodation prevent situations where families with no housing possibility end up on the street, and so they do not increase the number of homeless in Bratislava.

When resolving the issue of homeless people the city co-operates with other NGOs who it rents premises to at a symbolic price or for which it covers energy costs or does not levy tax for the use of public space.

Temporary accommodation at Archa seniors' home

After the opening of the Day Activation Centre (DAC) in Archa seniors' home in November 2006, at the beginning of October 2007 the city put into operation the next part of the extension. The aim was to provide services in the form of temporary accommodation. It is an extension of the services of DAC and has the ambition of returning people to their home environment after a temporary stay by way of appropriate activation and rehabilitation.

The capacity of the extension for temporary stays is 34 beds, 24 of which serve for temporary stays (copying the services provided to date by the care services facilities on Česka and Bartoškova streets). Additional beds are occupied in Archa seniors'

home in the form of respite stays (respite – a place for resting) for those in care if some situation arises preventing their carer from continuing to provide care.

The Archa seniors' home is run by the City of Bratislava and provides care to those residents who find themselves in social need. The growth in the number of residents who are dependent on various forms of social assistance is rising constantly, and produces the need to look at suitable potential and the scope of provided assistance. The city spent SKK 33.1 million on building work. Outfitting the operation cost SKK 2.7 million.

Office for Family and Women

The Office for Family and Women has been in operation in Bratislava since 2003 and is part of the Front Office section on the ground floor of the City Hall building. The main task of the office also in the past year was to provide information and advice, especially in terms of legal issues, relating to family matters. Of course, as the office is part of Front Office, the scope of information and advisory services is all the greater.

In 2007 some 700 people made use of the services of the office, either by visiting the office in person, or by telephone or e-mail. The clientele of the office comprised mostly women, although some men also turned to the office. Office visitors mostly came from Bratislava and the surroundings, but other people from outside Bratislava were not turned away either.

The Front Office department provided assistance also to those citizens who requested social assistance – 2,044 people in total. Most applications were for social services for seniors, whether for a placement in an old-folks home or retirement home, care services facilities or other advice (meals, care work, etc.).

The second biggest group turning to the office were families (358), who were provided with social advice. The third group consists of those applying for accommodation in shelter

accommodation or those requesting advice on how to resolve their problem with housing. Then there were homeless people and the physically handicapped, who mostly came to enquire about where they could go regarding appeals, contributions, what benefits they were entitled to and where they could arrange them.

New council flats in Dlhe Diely

In April the city handed over new council flats to tenants in the block of flats on the street Hany Meličkovej in Dlhe Diely. This meant another 90 new council flats in the city. The building was erected on land owned by the city, which was originally the site of an unfinished health centre. The whole building cost SKK 164.6 million, for which the city also drew a state subsidy of SKK 27.8 million.

The new block of flats has a mixed use function, comprising flats, a mixed-use section and other things. They include water mains, electrical, sewerage and heat connections, greenery, children's playground, perimeter walls and so on. Part of the existing building framework from the unfinished health centre was removed and part comprising the load-bearing part of the structure will be used for parking once properly prepared.

The block was built by the company OTYK invest, spol. s r.o. using design documentation from the company STAPRING, a.s., Nitra.

The city is finalising the transfer of land lots under co-operative flats

During the course of 2007 the city also continued with the transfer of shared title to land lots under blocks of flats, with priority going to those under former co-operative blocks of flats. From January 2004, when the capital started with this agenda, the City Council has approved over 14,000 transfers. The total number of registered applications is in the range of 18,600, with about a thousand new transfer requests being filed each year.

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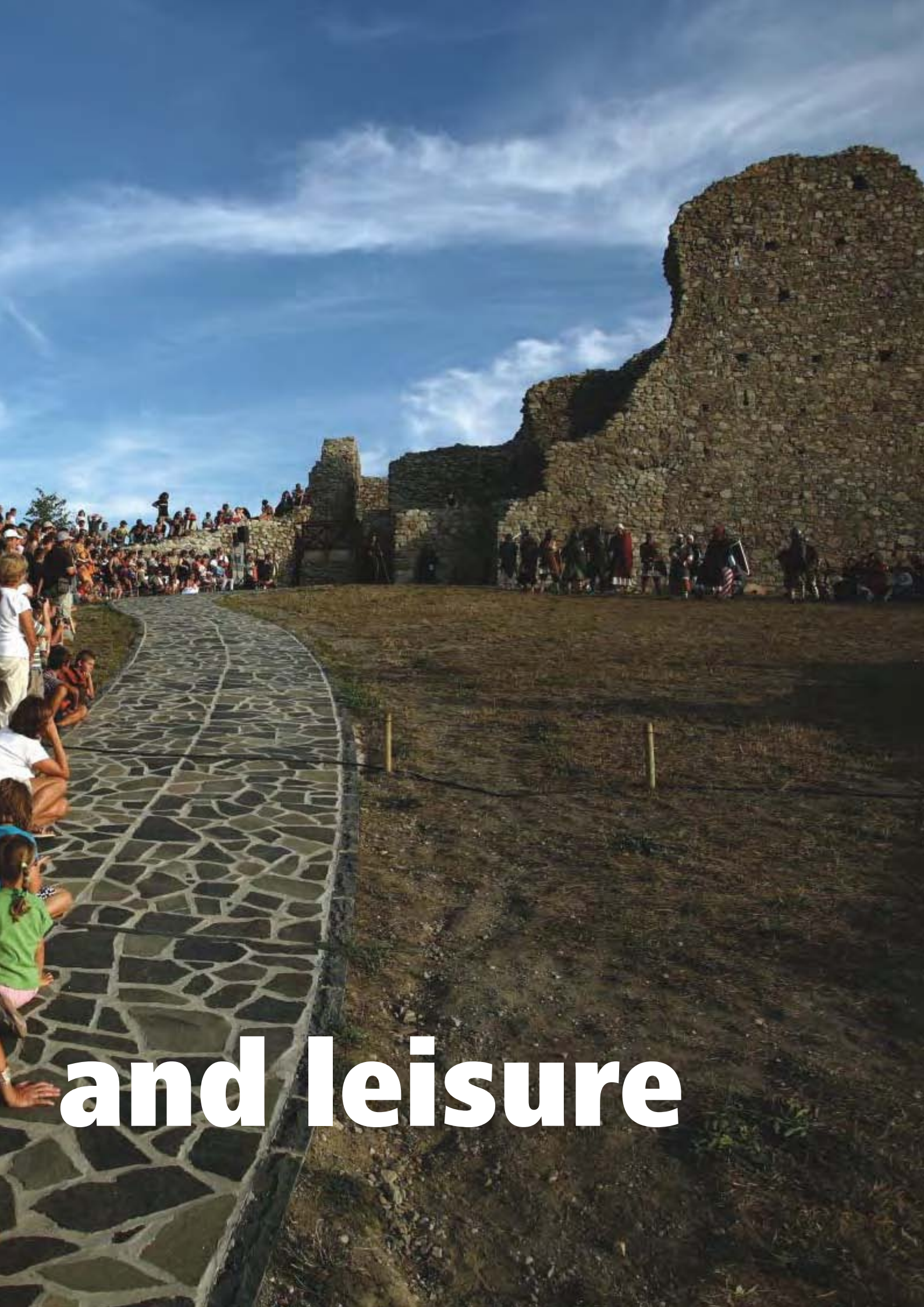
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Culture, sport



and leisure

Being the capital of the Slovak Republic, Bratislava is the center of Slovak cultural life. Each year the local government and organisations founded by it greatly contribute to the cultural life by their own projects and by co-operating with other organisers.

Naturally, Bratislava is also a venue of regular sports activities, events and projects.

2007 Cultural Summer and Castle Celebrations

In 2007, the 32nd annual Bratislava Cultural Summer offered more than 200 events divided into 25 cycles and festivals, of which 9 were new ones. Artists from 19 countries presented themselves at various stages located across Bratislava. The festival began on 17 June and ended on 20 September.

Bratislava for Everyone

The fourth annual Bratislava for Everyone event: Bratislava Open Days took place during the weekend of 20 – 22 April. This year fulfilled the expectations of citizens and visitors alike, with 29 localities opened to citizens with free-of-charge access to events, museums, galleries, libraries, the zoo, Botanical Gardens, Water Museum, horserace course, sports facilities and tourist locations. Visitors showed particular interest in St. Jacob Chapel, concerts performed at Devín, Partizánska lúka (Partisan meadow), a trip by vintage tram or Prešporáčik, and a visit to the zoo. Over 90 events took place at these locations. All of them boasted high visit rates, exceeding a total of 110,000 visitors. Considering the overall atmosphere and interest shown by citizens, as well as their reactions, we can readily say that the Bratislava for Everyone project is already perceived as a regular part of the city's life, while growing in popularity also among people living outside Bratislava.

When preparing the timetable for this 3-month marathon of cultural events, the festival organisers attempted to cater for visitors of all age groups – from families with children and young people to adults and also the elderly – they prepared programmes for lovers of various music genres – jazz, folklore, folk, country, world and ethno music, through to classical music, as well as theatrical performances for children and adults.

The events took place at 21 outdoor and indoor venues in the city, among them the Main Square, Hviezdoslavovo Square, Old Town Hall courtyard, St. Jan Nepomucký courtyard in Primate's Palace, the Mirror Hall in Primate's Palace, the ship Martin on the Danube, Slovak railways ŽSR in Bratislava, Bratislava Zoo, the Music Room in Bratislava Castle, Bratislava Castle courtyard, Bratislava Castle garden, PKO, Klarisky Concert Hall, the Church of the Most Holy Family in Petržalka, Liszt Pavilion in the University Library, the Červený rak reading room, Small and Big Evangelic Church on Panenská Street, Partizánska lúka recreational area, Devín Castle, Design Factory and others.



2007 New Year's Celebrations: Welcome to Partyslava!

In the past few years, Bratislava has had few problems integrating among those European and world cities that have a tradition of spectacular New Year's celebrations in their streets.

These celebrations have sprung from almost nothing, since there was nothing to continue on from until 1998. However, since then the organisers have managed to attract tens of thousands of Bratislava residents and visitors to the historical centre with a programme which has always featured top names from contemporary Slovak pop culture.

This year's celebrations were equally successful as previous years.

The Main Square was once again the center of the celebrations with a marathon concert. From the early afternoon, visitors to the Main Square were able, thanks to a large screen, to take part in the midnight celebrations in other major cities of the world from different time zones.

Thanks to its size and location, Hviezdoslavovo Square has been predestined to house a big disco party, attracting dance lovers from 10 p.m. until nearly 2 a.m. However, as early as 4 p.m. this venue saw concerts from some interesting music formations playing various folk, world and ethno music styles from many countries around the globe.

The climax of this year's New Year Celebrations came with the midnight fireworks over the River Danube, being preceded by an impressive countdown of the last seconds of the outgoing year. The venue of this emotional show was a section of the Rázusovo embankment between the Slovak National Museum and Nový most (New Bridge).

The program featured 70 artists mostly from Slovakia and the Czech Republic, but also from Mexico and Panama. The spectators enjoyed a

true multi-genre performance spanning pop, rock, ska, folk, mariachi and even gypsy and Balkan brass music.

Nearly 100,000 people attended the celebrations directly in Bratislava city centre with approximately 15,000 of them coming from abroad, for whom bringing in the New Year in Bratislava has recently become an attractive choice.



The Bratislava Ball

The Bratislava Ball was one of the peaks of the ball season in the capital, the organisation of which fell to Bratislava Culture and Information Centre (BKIS). The 6th annual ball took place in the representative premises of the Reduta building under the auspices of the Mayor, Andrej Ďurkovský. Four music and dance scenes with original programmes were situated in four different halls. The pivotal idea behind the 2007 Bratislava Ball was to honour the traditional values in our city, those specific to Bratislava, local patriotism, as well as the historical ties between Bratislava, Vienna and Budapest. This year, the "Bratislavská čučoriedka" (Blueberry of Bratislava) prize (in commemoration of Július Satinský) was awarded at the event, going to precious people who have done something valuable or stimulating for the city.

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Devín Festival

The fourth year of the Historical Fencing, Music, Dance and Crafts Festival Devín 2007 took place on 17 – 19 August 2007 in the area of the national cultural heritage site Devín. During the three-day weekend various artists performed on two stages, creating a visually attractive programme focusing on historical topics. In addition to the programme on the main stage, visitors to Devín Castle had the chance to experience a historical fair, at which artisans dressed in period clothes presented their crafts and wares. In the historical firing range, visitors could try their hand at handling a bow, javelin or a throwing axe. A musketeers camp and a medieval armoury was prepared for visitors inside the castle grounds, as well as a museum exhibition showing archaeological findings from Devín and its surroundings. In addition to the City of Bratislava, the 2007 Devín Festival was co-organised by the Fencing & Theatre Group Argyll, Bratislava City Museum and Bratislava Culture and Information Centre.

Days of Masters at the Castle

The 17th annual festival of traditional arts and crafts Days of Masters at the Castle took place over the weekend of 1 – 2 September 2007 in the grounds of Bratislava Castle. This festival, traditionally organised by the Centre for Folk Art Production (ÚLUV) in cooperation with the City of Bratislava, BKIS, the Slovak Ministry of Culture and the Office of the National Council of the Slovak Republic on the occasion of the national holiday – Constitution Day of the Slovak Republic – featured live demonstrations of manufacturing processes of various products made of natural materials – baskets, barrels, pitchers, bells, traditional Slovak 'Fujara', pipes, linen, lace, honey biscuit decoration, Easter eggs, and also less known decoration of pumpkins etc. The event also featured creative workshops for children where they could learn the techniques of old craftsmen.

Danube Cup

The world's top sport dancers met at the 31st annual Danube Cup event held in late April. The competition was organised by BKIS and the Jagermajster Dance School, being attended by more than 350 sport dance pairs. This 2-day sport dance festival featured a total of 26 performance categories and 5 age categories. The main competitions are classified in the highest IDSF (International Dance Sport Federation) category - International Open.



J. N. Hummel Chamber Days

The 2nd annual international music festival J. N. Hummel Chamber Days took place on 10 – 31 May 2007. The second year of this festival has successfully built on the idea of spreading the message of this renowned composer and piano virtuoso who was born in Bratislava in November 1778. The concerts performed at the festival featured top domestic artists. At the same time, the festival provided scope for initiating cooperation with the Joseph Haydn Music School in Eisenstadt, by which it took on a key international dimension. The international academy Hummel Without Frontiers took place during this festival.

International Choir Music Festivals

The international choir music events are successfully organised in Bratislava thanks to the support of the local government.

The first year of the international choir competition Slovakia Cantat took place on 19 – 22 April. The goal of the festival is to restore the tradition of choir competitions in all categories, to support the development of choir music and to allow choirs to meet. Twenty ensembles met at the festival in Bratislava with more than seven hundred singers. In its first year, the festival created the perfect foundation for its successful continuation in the future.

The second annual international choir festival Musica Sacra Bratislava 2007 focusing on sacral music took place on 23 – 27 May 2007. The festival featured competition, public concerts and a workshop on Choir singing issues.

The goal of the international festival Gregorian Choral, which took place on 18 – 21 October 2007, was to help revive performance of Gregorian choral music based on latest knowledge. Choirs from Austria, the Czech Republic, Poland, Italy, Finland and Slovakia took part in the festival.

The Festival of Advent and Christmas Music took place on 6 – 9 December 2007. Performances by

choirs have become a part of Christmas events in Bratislava and contributed to the pre-Christmas atmosphere in the city. In addition to local choirs, the festival also saw the participation of choirs from Sweden, Ireland, Spain, Croatia, Poland, Belgium, Italy, Slovenia and other countries.

International Festival of Children's Folk Ensembles

The jubilee 10th annual International Festival of Children's Folk Ensembles in Bratislava took place in late May and early June 2007. In addition to 18 Slovak ensembles, the festival was also attended by 6 foreign ensembles from the Czech Republic, Russia, Poland, Bulgaria, Italy and Turkey. Performances by the ensembles in the open air and their procession through the city attracted the attention of spectators. The dancing and singing children, who by their spontaneity and playfulness embodied the beauty of traditional folk songs, the dynamism of dances, and the variety of traditional folk dress, captured people's attention both by their artistic achievements and their passionate and joyful atmosphere. The international Children's Folk Festival in Bratislava has become a regular event in the calendar of cultural events in the city.

Events in memory of the deceased of Bratislava

The local government of the capital city organises several events devoted to commemorating those who have passed away. These events took place on 30 and 31 October 2007.

On 30 October, the pious event took place on the Danube embankment, commemorating those who lost their lives on the Danube. The event follows in the tradition seen in many cities on the Danube, dating back to the time when people, especially fishermen, were exposed to the dangers of this European river to a much greater extent. The ceremony that takes place on the Danube embankment involves the lowering of a wreath on the water surface, and is attended by the relatives of the river's victims, but also other residents of Bratislava who wish to commemorate the history and traditions of their city.

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The pious act of remembering deceased distinguished figures of Bratislava took place a day later at Ondrejský Cemetery, at the cemetery at Kožia Gate and at Slavín. All the deceased residents of Bratislava, but also those who are buried in Bratislava, were commemorated by representatives of local government headed by the Mayor, by the laying of a wreath, the burning of candles and a minute of silence.



Young Wine Festival

In 2007 the fourth annual event took place that represents a combination of strengthening historical awareness among Bratislavians, celebrating the efforts of winemakers and commemorating St. Martin's day – one of the patron saints of Bratislava.

The event started with the ceremonial blessing of the young wine in St. Ladislav Chapel in Primate's Palace and continued in the courtyard of the Old Town Hall where young wine, 'lokše' potatos, 'pagáč' savoury rolls and other traditional products were offered by the winemakers from Rača, Vajnory, Devín, Dúbravka and Nové Mesto. Just like in previous years, the primary goal of the event was to celebrate the results of the efforts of Bratislava and Little Carpathian winemakers and to commemorate St. Martin's Day, who is a Bratislava patron. With the Young Wine Festival, the local government of the capital wishes to continue strengthening historical awareness among the people of Bratislava and their relationship to their own traditions.

Christmas Bridges between Cities

Bratislava has been involved in the international project of 5 permanent cities (Bratislava, Prague, Brno, Krakow and Vienna) for 8 years now. The main goal of the project is to boost cooperation between the cities and create bridges, friendships and contacts – all accomplished by children. The project took place in Bratislava on 30 November – 1 December 2007, during which time 6 foreign ensembles gave performances on the Main Square. Four ensembles from Bratislava travelled abroad to give their performances in other participating cities.

Long Night of Museums and Galleries

For the third time already, the Long Night of Museums and Galleries took place on Saturday 19 May 2007 on the occasion of International Day of Museums. On this day, the exhibitions of 24 museums in Bratislava stayed open until midnight. More than 60 exhibitions were made available with more than 90 accompanying activities. This year once again visitors paid a lower than usual admission fee, and they only had to pay it at the first museum visited. Visitors could then visit any other museums free of charge. Moreover, they could take part in a prize draw with some interesting prizes.

A Town Called Brezalauspurc

On the occasion of 1,100 years since the first chronicle to Bratislava, Bratislava City Gallery prepared an exhibition presenting the history of the city topography depicted on selected works of arts found in the city's collections. Although the exhibited pictures did not depict the said period, the goal of the exhibition was to generate interest in this field among the people of Bratislava and to remind them about the important standing of Bratislava in the history of Central Europe. The exhibition entitled "a Town Called Brezalauspurc" was open during the summer months in Pálffy Palace.

Summer reading garden U červeného raka

After seven long years, in 2007 the reconstructed summer reading garden U červeného raka was finally reopened. It is accessible free of charge to everyone, a library card issued by the City Library is not a condition for entry. The reading garden is open from Monday to Saturday from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. Promotional materials for tourists about Bratislava are also available in the garden. Visitors can read 7 dailies and 23 magazines.

Reconstruction work on the reading garden, which was a part of the 2004 – 2006 Programme of Bratislava Development Priorities, began in late 2005 and early 2006 and focused on renovating Michalský Bridge. The costs of reconstructing Michalská Moat – Červený rak reading garden came to almost SKK 22 million and were covered from funds allocated under the Programme of Bratislava Development Priorities.

Čumil celebrates his 10th birthday!

On 26 July 2007 the popular Čumil (Gazer) bronze statue celebrated 10 years. On the same day in 1997, Čumil was installed at his location on the corner of Rybárska brána, Panská and Laurinská Streets, from where he has been imprudently gazing under the skirts of beautiful Bratislava girls and women ever since. At that time,

approximately 30,000 Bratislava citizens welcomed Čumil to the world, headed by the then Slovak President, who all attended the Korzo Party on that day to celebrate the reconstructed pedestrian zone in Bratislava. Čumil's "father" is the artist Viktor Hulík. This piece of art was ordered by the local government of Bratislava – Old Town borough, headed at that time by the current Mayor of Bratislava, Andrej Ďurkovský. Two other popular statues found in Bratislava city center celebrated their 10th birthday on the same day – the "Napoleon Soldier" leaning on the bench on the Main Square and "Schöne Naci" in front of Café Mayer (created by sculptor Juraj Meliš).

Milan Rastislav Štefánik Monument

The Capital City of Bratislava selected the locality to install the Milan Rastislav Štefánik statue at the meeting point of Dostojevského rad and Pribinova Street as a sign of the birth of the new city quarter Eurovea. The Milan Rastislav Štefánik Monument will therefore be positioned along the route leading from Bratislava Castle to the new Slovak National Theatre building. The total costs of building the new monument, including project documentation, pedestal, pylons, disassembly and re-assembly of the lion statue presently standing in front of the Slovak National Museum building on Vajanského nábrežie, came to SKK 31 million, to which the capital contributed SKK 5.4 million.

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Carmina Burana on the Main Square

On 21 September 2007 the Main Square witnessed an extraordinary cultural event – a performance of Carmina Burana by Carl Orff. This grandiose event took place on the occasion of the 1,100 anniversary of the first recorded reference to the city. The performance was given on a huge podium on the Main Square by a 90-member orchestra joined by soloists from the Slovak Philharmony.



100 Slovak mother centres celebrated mothers and motherhood by this unusual event for the fifth time. It invited everyone who wished to walk a symbolic mile for their own mother – but also for all other mothers. The event also featured accompanying events in the form of a representative parade of the city children's ensembles, small theatres and artistic groups. The aim of the event was to draw public attention to the values of motherhood and parenthood, to strengthen society's recognition of mothers and also to point out the barriers that parents with small children must overcome in their lives. However, the biggest accompanying event was a nationwide public collection with a slogan reflecting let's enjoy motherhood to the full. The collection was made in the form of a voluntary contribution for the purchase of a 'thank you' postcard for mothers.

Four Cities Tournament

This year the tournament of four cities – Budapest – Vienna – Bratislava – Ljubljana was hosted on 22 – 25 June 2007 by the last of the mentioned cities. The under-17 athletes competed in five disciplines. The event was attended by 300 young athletes.

Old Town Hall Market

In early October the sales and presentation fair of products made by handicapped workshops and social services centres – Radničkine trhy 2007 (Old Town Hall Market) – took place. More than 30 workshops and social services centres from across Slovakia and the Czech Republic exhibited and sold their products in the Old Town Hall's courtyard.

A Mile for Mothers

On the eve of International Mothers Day, on Saturday 12 May 2007, the Mile for Mothers event was organised as a celebration of motherhood and a tribute to all mothers of the world. The Union of Mother Centres that affiliates

International Students Games

The 22-member team of Bratislava representatives – under-15 athletes – attended the 41st annual International Students Games in Reykjavik on 19 – 26 June 2007. They came back to Bratislava with 2 silver and 3 bronze medals in athletics and swimming. More than 1,000 young athletes attended the games from across the globe.

City Marathon

The second annual sports & social event Tatra banka City Marathon 2007 took place at the weekend at the turn of March and April in the capital. More than 850 participants registered for the second marathon. The event's agenda was accompanied with interesting activities for children, young people and adults.



New swimming pool in Lamač

The end of August saw the completion of reconstruction work on the municipal swimming pool in Lamač. The old Lamač swimming pool was put into operation back in 1961. Due to its run down condition, it had to be closed after the 2002 swimming season. Considering the extent of work and the removal of all old structures, the new swimming pool is basically a new one, being the first newly-built swimming facility in Bratislava in the last 25 years. The borough of Lamač therefore received a new facility designed for recreation and leisure.

Supermarathon

On 19 – 23 October 2007, the Vienna – Bratislava – Budapest Supermarathon took place. The idea to organise this event relates to the common Vienna – Budapest World Exhibition. Although the actual exhibition did not in fact take place in the end, the idea of a sporting event stayed alive and has been applied 17 times since 1990. The Supermarathon is a 5-stage event covering 320 km in length with more than 1,000 runners, who visit several Slovak cities and villages on their way. Bratislava hosted the marathon for the second time, the Slovak capital being the destination city of the first stage which started in Vienna and ended in Bratislava on 19 October.

City Beach

The first city beach in Bratislava was opened on the Petržalka side of the Danube embankment. A total of 1,130 tons of sand were transported to Tyršovo nábrežie and a beach was therefore created covering 3,200 square meters. From late June 2007, the beach served citizens and visitors of the city as a relax oasis near the city center, providing opportunities for relax, sports, gastronomy and a sanitary zone. The project took off thanks to the close cooperation of the local government and Slovak Telecom.

Ars Bratislavis Grant Scheme

The goal of the Ars Bratislavis grant scheme is to support amateur cultural and artistic activities in Bratislava or activities promoting the city abroad. In 2007, a total of 91 applications were filed from various genres and fields of arts and culture. The commission supported 56 projects and allocated financial grants totalling SKK 2,767,400.



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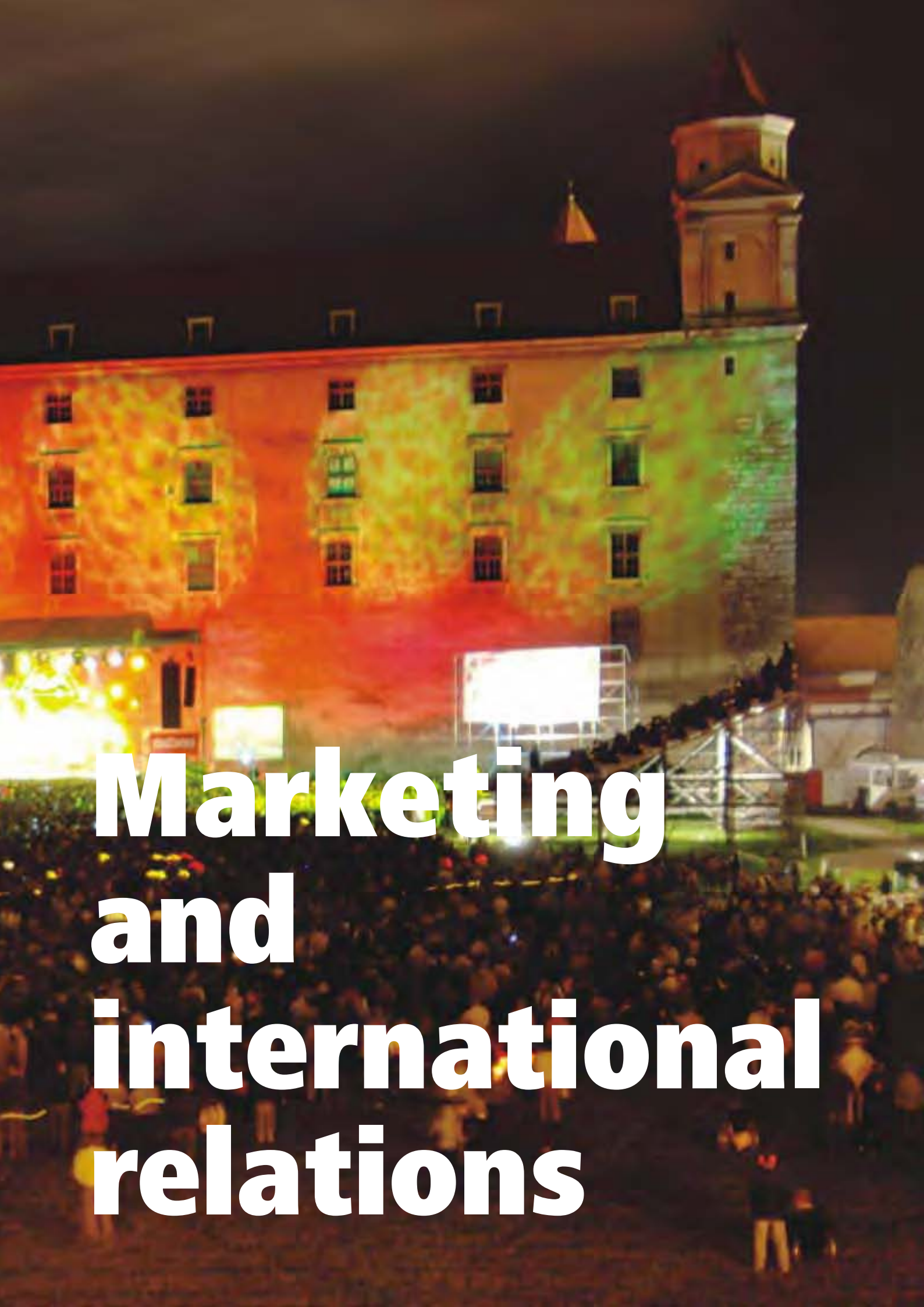
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Marketing and international relations

Bratislava at the MIPIM trade fair in Cannes



Bratislava took part in the world's largest real estate fair MIPIM 2007 in Cannes from 13-16 March with a truly impressive presentation.

Bratislava's stand was located right next to those of Prague, Brno, Ostrava and the Polish metropolis Warsaw, which meant visitors could get an overall picture of the state of the real estate market in the Central European region. Just like in 2006, in 2007 once again the city's 130 square metres of exposition space in the most prestigious section of Festival Palace included five co-exhibitors representing a selection of some of the most interesting investment objectives. Partners included Ballymore Properties, Cresco Group/Quinlan Private, IPR Slovakia, Petržalka City and the real estate/development division of financial group J&T. They represent a selection of the most important executed or planned projects in the Slovak metropolis: the projects Eurovea (Ballymore Properties), South City (Cresco Group/Quinlan Private) and River Park (J&T), revitalisation of the zone around the main train station (IPR Slovakia) and the new mixed-use complex in the borough of Petržalka (Petržalka City).

Bratislava mayor Andrej Ďurkovský, who led the Bratislava exposition at the trade fair, said the following concerning the participation of the city:

"Our presentation this year had two basic objectives. On one hand, we helped provide space for presentation at the fair for our partners - investors, who are part of our exhibition stand and who come to promote their projects at the MIPIM fair. This is just as important for the city as it is for the investors, because, naturally, the success of these investments affects the overall impression of the city's presentation. The second objective of this year's participation was to present the development in the south of the city, in Petržalka. This territory has been earmarked as the corridor for the establishment of an express core public transport system and it is also a unique place for developing further the urbanisation of a central

part of Petržalka – from the construction of flats through to the establishment of amenities for recreation and leisure.

Where the trends of this year's fair are concerned, I was interested in the theme regarding permission to construct high-rise buildings in the city, which we in Bratislava also face very often. If you were to go around the trade fair, you would see that high-rise buildings are a worldwide trend. It is necessary, however, to approach this issue very sensitively and to consider where such buildings should be located. I do not identify with these kinds of buildings in the vicinity of historical city centres. Placing them in newly established quarters is not a problem, though. The issue that accompanies this theme – and in this sense we still have some catching up to do on other countries – is that of municipal public transport".

The statistics of the trade fair have shown that MIPIM continues to retain its position as the biggest European forum on these issues. The fair saw the involvement of 26,131 participants with almost 8,000 companies from 76 countries, exhibiting on over 24,000 square metres of space, which meant yet another new record for the trade fair. Over 30 companies came to Cannes from Slovakia, including distinguished multinational investors and developers, which are already successfully established in Bratislava and which demonstrate the rising quality of the Slovak investment environment. Following last year's premiere, this time Bratislava was the only Slovak city or region to be present at MIPIM.

Bratislava at EXPO REAL in Munich

In the second week of October the City of Bratislava took part in the special 10th anniversary international trade fair of investment opportunities and property EXPO REAL in Munich.

Compared to the first year in which Bratislava attended this event in 2006, the exposition of the city was expanded to 80 square metres in 2007, being situated in Exhibition Hall B1. Just like in

previous trade fairs, the city's exposition in Munich also involved partners of the city that represented a selection of the most interesting executed or planned projects in Bratislava. The company Petržalka City presented the project of constructing a modern mixed-use complex on the south bank of the River Danube in Petržalka, the company CEPIT Management promoted its construction of a science and technology park of innovative technologies in Vajnory, while Grunt a.s. presented its current residential projects in Koliba and Slanec – Pekná cesta.

CENTROPE

CENTROPE is a Central European region – a grouping of 16 cities and regions in four countries with a common goal: to create a strong competitive region with the aim of providing mutual support for shared dynamic development.

CENTROPE is a project for developing multilateral, binding and permanent co-operation in public administration, companies and state organisations in the region. CENTROPE co-ordinates, integrates and injects life into cross-border activities and is founded on multilateral co-operation of all partners involved. It provides a professional platform of shared management aimed at the dynamic development of the region.

The grouping was formed in September 2003 in Kittsee by the signing of the memorandum entitled "BAER - Building a European Region". Later on in 2005 in St. Pölten the political conference was held called "We grow together, together we grow". The main areas of focus of CENTROPE are:

- Economics, innovation, science and research;
- Infrastructure, transport, natural environment, planning;
- Labour market, qualification and employment;
- Culture, creativity, leisure, sport and tourism.

A common memorandum on mutual support and co-operation was signed in 2007 by the four Slovak members of the group – the City of Bratislava, the City of Trnava, Bratislava Self-

Governing Region and Trnava Self-Governing Region. The capital of the Slovak Republic defined its priorities within the scope of CENTROPE:

- a city of knowledge with a focus on turning Bratislava into a centre of European importance through support for science, research and development;
- the creation of space for the application of modern innovative technologies into prospective areas of the national economy – automotive industry, bio-technology, biomass;
- the establishment of a framework and space for setting up and developing centres, science and research parks focusing on the creation and use of innovation technologies;
- co-operation with universities and scientific establishments in creating platforms for developing an innovative knowledge-based region.

At the end of November 2007 a CENTROPE political conference was held in Bratislava, which in addition to the Mayor of Bratislava also saw the participation of partners from the political sphere in the region – head of Bratislava Self-Governing Region, the mayors of Vienna, Eisenstadt, St. Pölten, Trnava, Brno, Szombathely, Sopron, Győr, and also representatives of principalities from Hungary, the regions of Lower Austria and Burgenland and the South Moravian Region.

They agreed on support for innovative technologies and industrial zones, by which they want to contribute to the development and prosperity of CENTROPE as an economic and technological locality. Common educational programmes will be the basis for equal development of employment. Better quality co-ordination of common offers is also planned in the areas of tourism, leisure, culture and sports activities.

The CENTROPE region, which seemed like a mere utopia just a few years ago, is now becoming a reality. Another key step to be taken toward achieving it was the accession of Slovakia, Hungary and the Czech Republic to the Schengen Area on 21 December 2007.

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Memorandum of co-operation on the CEPIT project

In March 2007 a preliminary agreement on future co-operation was signed by representatives of the Slovak Academy of Sciences (SAV) and CEPIT (Central European Park for Innovative Technologies).

Support for the co-operation of SAV and the CEPIT project fits in with the overall development concept of the City of Bratislava, also in the context of active co-operation of local government with universities and science and research institutions. Following the concluding of an agreement of co-operation between the Slovak University of Technology and CEPIT, the signing of the memorandum between SAV and CEPIT is yet another step toward strengthening the position of Bratislava as a centre of science, research and education in Slovakia.

In November 2007 the City of Bratislava and the borough of Vajnory also signed memoranda of understanding and mutual co-operation in the CEPIT project. The project CEPIT Bratislava – Vajnory is a binding objective of private investors to create a modern science and technology park in

Bratislava within reach of the Central European capitals Vienna, Prague and Budapest. The aim of the CEPIT project is to contribute to increasing the education, culture and quality of life in Bratislava and to achieve qualitative growth in industry, this by way of innovative concepts, modern infrastructure and services, education, research, development and technological companies.

Bratislava with candidacy as the European Capital of Culture 2013

The City of Bratislava prepared its proposed candidature for the title of European Capital of Culture 2013.

Bratislava submitted its candidature symbolically in the year in which it celebrated 1100 years since the first chronicle on the city. The city, as the natural cultural centre of Slovakia with rich cultural heritage and also economically strong agglomeration, is aware of its strengths as a candidate city for this prestigious title. At the same time, it wanted to offer more with its project than just greater quantity and better quality cultural and artistic projects, which the city hosts about 20,000 of per year at present. As the country's capital, Bratislava was well aware of its obligation to the rest of Slovakia, and so if it were to be successful with its project it was ready to give the rest of the country an equal share and participation in projects, programmes and accompanying benefits of the event.

At the same time, with this project Bratislava communicated openly its intention to use the project European Capital of Culture 2013 to change the overall concept of culture in Bratislava, with an emphasis on the participation of the creators and organisers, activation of minority and disadvantaged social groups, with innovation and richer forms and themes of culture. All these attributes represented the candidate project called "Bratislava – the city that unites".

The offer of Bratislava for co-operation in the preparation and supplementing of the project and partnership in its implementation, was accepted by almost 60 other organisations by the time the project was submitted, including Bratislava Self-

Governing Region and key towns in the region, top national cultural establishments (SND, SNG, SNM, SFÚ, and more), theatre groups, as well as 9 foreign cultural institutions and centres. In the preparatory phase Bratislava made various contacts with candidate French cities (Toulouse, Nice - Côte d'Azur, Marseille – Provence), with which it preliminarily agreed reciprocal exchanges of the most interesting artistic projects, regardless of the outcome of the selection process.

Special emphasis was placed by Bratislava on the marketing and communication strategy of the whole project, as well as on the creation of an attractive season-round product that would stimulate active tourism not just for Bratislava, but for the whole country.

The submitted project Bratislava – the city that unites, was the most comprehensive partner-oriented activity of the capital in modern times. Unfortunately, the eleven-member international panel did not select Bratislava's project at their meeting on 12-14 December 2007, instead putting the projects of Košice, Nitra, Martin and Prešov through to the next round.

Bratislava Day in Berlin

On 14 September 2007 Bratislava mayor Andrej Ďurkovský presented the City of Bratislava at the Slovak Institute in Berlin. The activity of the city was focused primarily on strengthening

communication with the capital cities of the countries in the spirit of the international relations concept of Bratislava.

The organiser of the Bratislava evening called "Bratislava is 'in' once again" was the Slovak Institute in Berlin together with the Embassy of the Slovak Republic in Germany. The presentation of Bratislava included an exhibition called "A town called Brezalauspurc", which Bratislava City Gallery prepared on the occasion of the 1100th anniversary of the first chronicle on Bratislava. The event was complemented by a performance from the jazz band Traditional Club Bratislava.

The presentation of Bratislava concentrated on development of the city, its economic potential and on support for tourism. Some 200 invited guests took part in the event from German political, social and cultural life, mostly those based on Berlin.

Jerusalem Mayors Conference

In October 2007 Bratislava took part in the 25th international Conference of Mayors in Jerusalem. The main theme this year was "The City as Capital and Metropolitan Centre", "The city as the centre of the highest state, administrative, economic, cultural and historical significance". Bratislava was represented by Mayor Andrej Ďurkovský and Deputy Mayor Anna Dyttertová.

This traditional conference of mayors of capitals from all over the world saw the participation of 40 mayors this year. In addition to the European cities London, Dublin, Zagreb and Bratislava, others included, for example Kiev, Montevideo, Quito, La Paz, Tbilisi, Cincinnati, Providence, Madison and many more.

The themes of discussions in individual sections were 'The city and the capital as the centre of the state', 'Economic challenges for capitals and cities' and 'Intercultural challenges for capitals and cities'. Those attending the conference visited also Yad Sarah – nationwide organisations of volunteers helping the sick, disabled, the elderly and the abandoned homeless under the auspices of the UN.

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Bratislava commemorates 1100 years since the first chronicle

In 2007 the City of Bratislava commemorated the anniversary 1100th year since the first recorded reference to the city. It is linked to a description of the crucial battle of the Bavarians and the Magyars from the summer of 907 below Bratislava castle. The description refers to Bratislava by the name Braslavespurch (Brezalauspurc).

We know what happened in the battle from the Aventinus chronicles *Annales Boiorum*, which were published in 1530. The author was Bavarian humanist Johannes Turmair, referred also to as Aventinus, who drew information from the so-called *Annals of Salzburg*. In these historical documents the exact date of the said battle is given as 4 July 907. As the actual *Annals of Salzburg* were not discovered until 1921, the anniversary of the first chronicle on Bratislava could only ever be commemorated in our generation.

For Bratislava this is undoubtedly an important historic anniversary. It confirms that although Bratislava is still one of the youngest capitals in Europe, it is also a historic place whose history dates back to periods from the beginning of our era. Bratislava last commemorated a significant anniversary in 1991, when it celebrated 700 years since the confirmation of royal town privileges by Hungarian King Ondrej III.

The anniversary of the first written mention of the city was evident in the city's activities throughout the second half of 2007. As the exact date of the anniversary falls during the summer holidays, the local government of the city together with various partners commemorated it with numerous activities from June to December 2007.

The professional community commemorated the anniversary at an international colloquium on 19th and 20th June "The battle of Bratislava in 907 and its impact on development of the central Danube valley". The colloquium was organised by the Slovak Archaeological and Historical Institute. Top Slovak, Czech and Hungarian historians and archaeologists spoke at the event.

Slovak mail company Slovenská pošta a.s. also took note of the anniversary. On 27 June 2007 the ceremonial inauguration of the commemorative stamp "Bratislava Castle" and accompanying products took place in Primate's Palace. The stamp depicts Bratislava Castle from the Vienna Illuminated Chronicle from the 14th century. Defenders of the castle are drilling into the ship of Kaiser Henrich III in 1052. The motifs presented on the FDC (first day cover) show a view of Bratislava in the Middle Ages with city emblem in the foreground (wood carving from 1562). The nominal value of the postage stamp is SKK 37. The stamp measures 44.4 x 30.5 mm. The author of the artwork is Dušan Kállay, while the etching of the stamp and the sheet was done by František Horniak. The stamp was printed in Prague using a steel printing plate in combination with offset.

Specialised thematic events on the occasion of the 1100th anniversary of the first mention of Bratislava were prepared also by various municipal organisations. The Bratislava City Gallery contributed to the celebrations with the exhibition "A town called Brezalauspurc". In September Bratislava Culture and Information Centre co-organised a large open-air performance of the work "Carmina Burana" on Hlavné námestie (Main Square).

Individual programmes, activities and projects related to the anniversary were communicated by the city under a separate logo "Bratislava 1100". Various attractive souvenirs bearing the anniversary logo also appeared on sale.

Handing out mineral water in Bratislava city centre

For the first time on Friday 20 July 2007 – at the height of a week-long heat wave – the city decided to hand out free half-litre bottles of mineral water to people moving around the city centre in particular. In co-operation with the company Coca-Cola Beverages Slovakia a total of 10,000 half-litre bottles of mineral water were distributed from 10 distribution points located between Michalska brana (Michael's Gate) and Hviezdoslavovo námestie (Hviezdoslav Square). The city spent SKK 50,000 on this event, with all other costs being covered by the partner to the event. Accounting for the generally positive

response that the idea met with, the city contacted Bratislava water company BVS, a.s. to discuss terms for supplying public drinking water in the streets of Bratislava when the summer temperatures soar around 32 degrees Celsius.

Prize for Bratislava's website

The official internet site of the City of Bratislava at www.bratislava.sk took first place in the 'Zlatý erb' competition. For the third year in a row it won the prize of Best site of a city or borough in Slovakia. It also won two silver places for best electronic service of local government and for best electronic site of local governments in the field of tourism. It was up against 74 registered local governments in the competition.

Bratislava was also awarded the absolute Grand Prix prize for the second time now and a nomination to the international competition for the "EuroCrest" prize for the Slovak Republic, to take place in the spring of 2008 in the Czech Republic.

The Zlatý Erb competition is announced each year by the Union of Towns and Cities of Slovakia together with the civil association eSlovensko. The main aim of the competition is to support the informatisation of Slovak local governments and appreciate exceptional projects, support the exchange of experiences and evaluate the efforts of the representatives of local government to use information-communication technology effectively in order to increase the quality and accessibility of services of self-governing regions, towns/cities, boroughs and villages.

The results of the competition were ceremoniously announced at the gala evening of the international conference ITAPA 2007.

Some of the most interesting official receptions in 2007

Vilma Jamnická – 12.1 (on the occasion of her 100th birthday)

Marián Varga – 8.2 (on the occasion of his 60th birthday)

Robert Fico, Prime Minister SR – 16.2 (on the official working visit of the Prime Minister SR to the local government of the capital city)

HC Slovan Bratislava – 5.4 (on winning the title of Slovak Ice-Hockey Champions)

Letizia Moratti, Mayor of Milan – 14.5 (on presenting the official candidacy of the City of Milan to organise the world exhibition EXPO 2015)

Queen Beatrix of the Netherlands – 22.5 (on the first official visit of Her Royal Highness to Slovakia)

Heads of the city halls of Paris, Vienna, Prague, Budapest and Ljubljana – 8.6 (on the occasion of the anniversary conference and signing of Memorandum of Understanding)

The Organisational Committee and members of the European Handball Federation – 2.7 (on the occasion of the European Women's Under-17 Handball Championship)

Participants in the Slovak language summer course – 16.7 (on the occasion of the 16th year of the Slovak language summer school in Bratislava)

Jacques Barrot, Vice President of the European Commission – 26.11 (working breakfast on support for the European railway corridor project TEN T 17)

Zoran Jankovič, Mayor of Ljubljana – 30.11 (on the occasion of an official visit and the signing of a Declaration on continued co-operation of the two capitals)

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>>>>Bratislava at the MIPIM trade fair in Cannes

>>>>Bratislava at EXPO REAL in Munich

>>>>CENTROPE

>>>>Memorandum of co-operation on the CEPIT project

>>>>Bratislava with candidacy as the European Capital of Culture 2013

>>>>Bratislava Day in Berlin

>>>>Jerusalem Mayors Conference

>>>>Bratislava commemorates 1100 years since the first chronicle

>>>>>Handing out mineral water in Bratislava city centre

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Tourism





The City of Bratislava is still very much an attractive tourist destination, especially in terms of two and three day city breaks. Following years of sharp year-on-year growth, where the number of visitors and overnights they spent in commercial accommodation in the territory of Bratislava is concerned, in 2007 the city recorded a slightly milder tempo of growth.



growth in the number of visitors continued particularly in the case of the neighbouring countries – Czech Republic, Poland and Austria. Bratislava has become an interesting new destination also for people from Croatia, Ireland, Portugal and China, for example, as strong year-on-year growth is recorded in the case of all these countries, with the number of visitors from them doubling. Growth was seen also on some other prospective markets such as the Netherlands, Spain, Russia, Korea, and Scandinavia.

Main attractions of the tourist product Bratislava

The interest of visitors continues to be drawn to the historical city centre with its monuments, museums, galleries and gastronomic establishments. The main attractions of the tourist product of Bratislava include the SND Opera, galleries (SNG, GMB and Danubiana), the bridge Nový most with vista from the terrace of the UFO restaurant, the Jewish cultural heritage of the city, the Primate's Palace, Bratislava Castle and Devín Castle, as well as cruises down the Danube and trips on vintage tram or car. Excursions to various destinations around the city are also very popular, especially to the so-called Little Carpathian Wine Route. Compared with the last summer season the share of organised groups increased, while the number of individual guests dropped slightly. On the other hand, the number of backpackers and those travelling for adventure is on the rise.

A crucial task of the city's tourism marketing is especially to market the Bratislava brand as effectively as possible. The city's budget was used to finance chiefly a communication tactic aimed at boosting the overall recognition of the Bratislava brand in local media, but above all in foreign media, through the use of advertisements, advertorials, information trips for journalists, and multimedia projects. In 2007 the capital focused its activities in the area of external communication on 7 main markets of visitors in particular, i.e. Great Britain, Austria, Poland, Czech Republic, Germany, France and Italy.

Visits to Bratislava in 2007

Some 735,183 visitors came to Bratislava in 2007, which is 7.1% more than in 2006. They spent a total of 1,461,093 overnights in the city, which represents a growth of 5.9% over the previous year. The overall growth in the number of domestic visitors to Bratislava contributed to the growth more than in previous years, as the capital welcomed some 252,635 of them, which was up 9.2% over 2006. Likewise, the number of overnights spent here by domestic visitors posted a growth of 9.8%, as Slovak tourists spent a total of 598,151 overnights in Bratislava.

A total of 482,548 foreign visitors came to Bratislava in 2007, which is the highest figure in recent times and represents a growth of 6.1% compared to 2006. Even so, a drop was seen in the number of visitors from Germany, Italy, Great Britain and Japan. Conversely, strong dynamic

Cultural and sports events as a destination marketing tool

Organising and providing support for marketing events, especially in the areas of culture, sport and leisure time, represents an effective tool of destination marketing. In 2007 the city was either the organiser or a partner for over 100 large events, which saw the attendance of over 1 million people. The biggest events in 2007 included the New Year celebrations, the Cultural Summer and Castle Festival, Bratislava for Everyone – a municipal open day, the city marathon, the Bratislava Ball, the festival Viva Musica!, the Christmas market, the Coronation Festival, Festival Devín, Bratislava Jazz Days, the Bratislava music festival BHS and much more.

Participation in tourism trade fairs and exhibitions

Applying the Bratislava Strategy for Developing Active Tourism in 2007-2010 approved by city councillors, the city took part in selected international trade fairs and exhibitions on tourism, with particular focus on the most important source markets. Apart from the domestic trade fair ITF SlovakiaTour in Bratislava, the following are also of strategic significance for Bratislava: Utázas Budapest, Salon des Vacances in Brussels, LATO in Warsaw, IMEX in Frankfurt, CITY BREAK Expo in Athens, the WTM and Thames Festival in London, and the EIBTM in Barcelona. The city took part in these trade fairs mostly in co-operation with the Slovak Tourist Board (SACR) and Bratislava self-governing region - BSK.

Services and products of BKIS

Bratislava Culture and Information Centre (BKIS) has 4 tourist information bureaus in operation, which deal with over 250,000 enquiries a year. The front office workers of BKIS together speak 6 languages and can arrange guide services in 17 languages in the city, including sign language. In

2007 a total of 1,143 guided tours of Bratislava were organised through BKIS, which is double what it was five years ago. In the year the city handed out over a quarter of a million tourist maps in 9 language versions.

Bratislava Culture and Information Centre (BKIS) continued with the development of several new offers and special products for individual visitors, like the Bratislava City Card (BCC). The BCC was included in the European system of city tourist cards, including a common internet presentation through ECM (European Cities Marketing). BKIS issued a new information leaflet called Bratislava – the friendly city, which contains key information to help people find their way around the city and deal with any problem situations, with contact details to the various organisations that can help resolve them. The leaflet was issued in three languages and was made available at all entry points to the city. Another new thing was the preparation of manuals for the police and municipal police that serve as a practical aid in communicating with visitors to the city. In co-operation with the British Embassy, branches of the BKIS information centres also distributed materials intended for those taking part in stag parties, in an attempt to make sure they behave in a way that their stay in Bratislava is enjoyable, not just for them, but also for others in the city.

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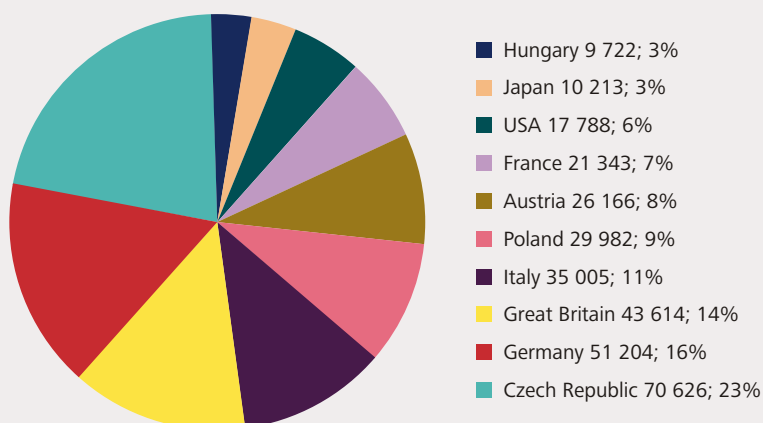
Branding survey of Bratislava

In the course of 2008 the city plans to call a public tender for marketing research surveys and analyses required to define the new marketing and communication strategy of Bratislava for active foreign and domestic tourism in 2009 through

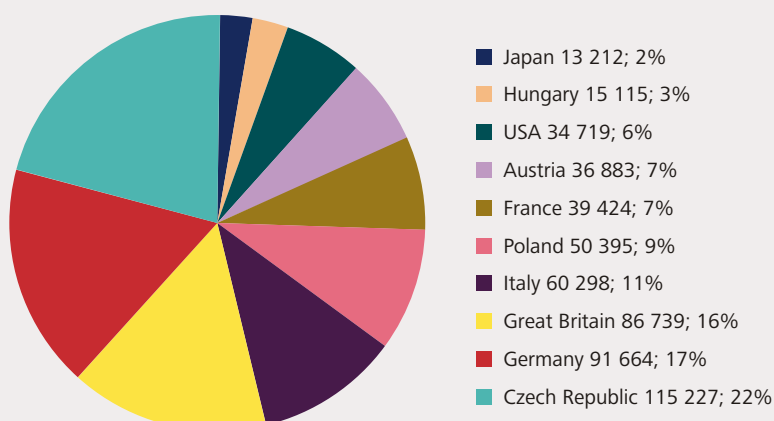
2012 and to support the creation of a marketing strategy. The project will also look at the positioning of the Bratislava brand on a nationwide scale, in source countries of active tourism, and also provide an analysis of consumer behaviour of visitors to Bratislava. Based on these results, the capital will produce its marketing strategy for active tourism in the coming years.



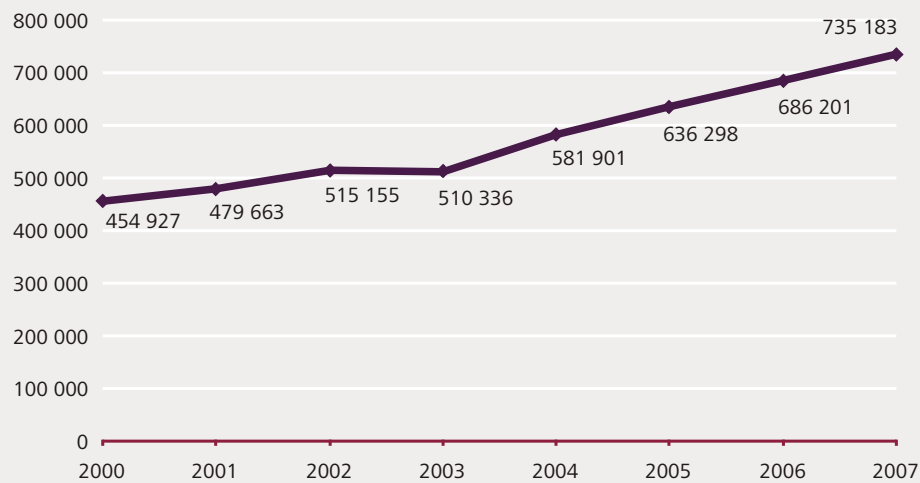
Shares of TOP 10 countries in number of visitors



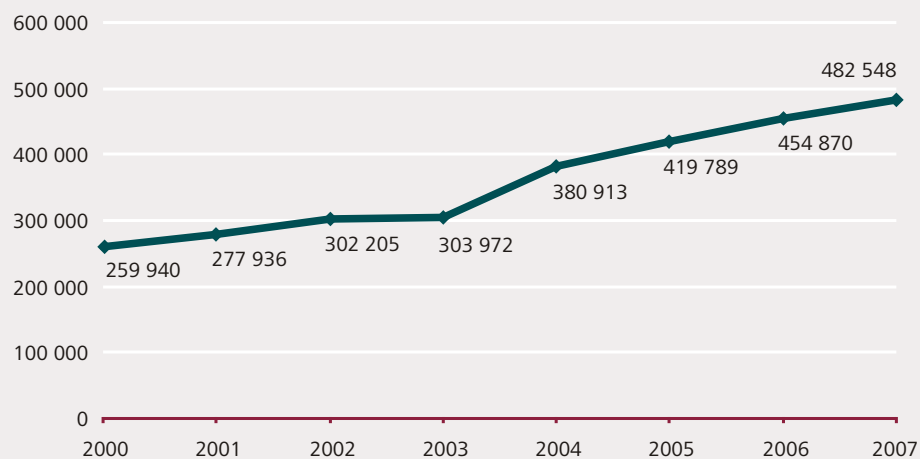
Shares of TOP 10 countries in number of overnights



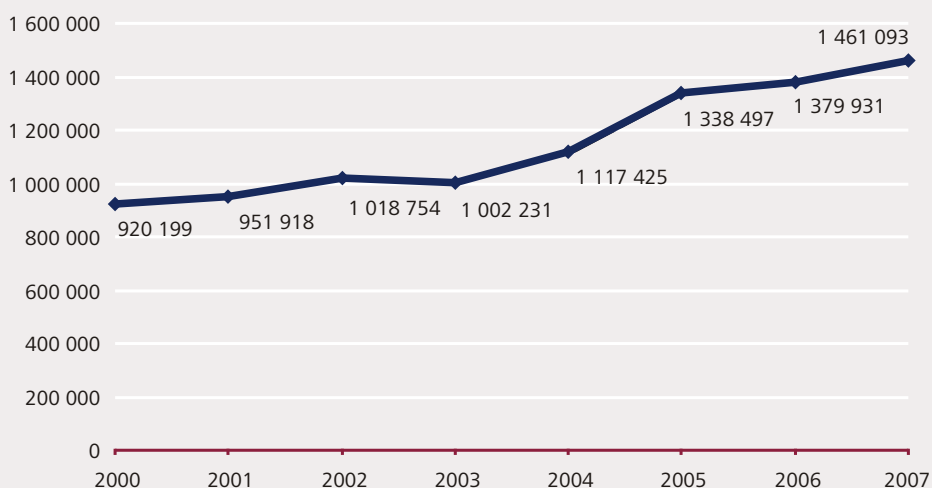
Visitors to Bratislava in 2000 - 2007



Foreign visitors in 2000 - 2007



Number of overnights in accommodation establishments in Bratislava in 2000- 2007



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Budget of the City of Bratislava for 2007 (in SKK '000)

	Budget for 2007	Actual for 2007	% fulfilled
Current income - total	5 521 071	5 689 811	103,1
100 Tax receipts	3 919 000	3 970 172	101,3
111 Personal income tax	1 910 000	1 932 882	101,2
121 Property tax	1 235 000	1 243 532	100,7
133 Tax on specific services (local taxes and fees)	774 000	793 758	102,6
comprising: accomodation tax	54 000	57 500	106,5
tax for use of public space	30 000	32 617	108,7
fee for municipal waste and petty building debris	690 000	703 641	102,0
200 Non-tax revenues	696 323	813 608	116,8
210 Income from business and asset ownership	378 379	458 715	121,2
220 Administrative and other fees and payments	183 502	198 357	108,1
240 Interest from domestic loans, transfers and deposits	94 975	107 918	113,6
290 Other non-tax income (miscellaneous and chance revenue)	39 467	48 618	123,2
300 Grants and transfers	905 748	906 031	100,0
Transfers from state budget	902 917	902 901	100,0
Other transfers	2 831	3 130	110,6
Current expenses - total	5 521 071	5 477 906	99,2
600 Current expenses of city budgetary organisations	367 060	359 591	98,0
600 Current expenses for local government, including Municipal Police	2 148 352	2 120 416	98,7
640 Current transfers	2 800 659	2 799 793	100,0
650 Payment of interest and other local related payments	205 000	198 106	96,6
Surplus (+), Deficit (-) CURRENT BUDGET	0	+211 905	x
Capital income - total	790 296	1 035 863	131,1
230 Capital income from sale of assets and property	764 767	1 010 333	132,1
300 Grants and transfers	25 529	25 530	100,0
Capital expenses - total	855 834	663 234	77,5
710 Procurement of capital assets - budgetary organisations,			
Municipal Police, City of Bratislava	209 956	107 650	51,3
720 Capital transfers	645 878	555 584	86,0
Surplus (+), Deficit (-) CAPITAL BUDGET	-65 538	+372 629	x
Income - excl. financial operations	6 311 367	6 725 674	106,6
Expenses - excl. financial operations	6 376 905	6 141 140	96,3
Income surplus (+), deficit (-)	-65 538	+584 534	x
Financial operations income - total	241 193	190 820	79,1
400 Revenues from transactions with financial assets and financial liabilities	241 193	190 820	79,1
Financial operations expenses - total	175 655	175 655	100,0
800 Expenses from transactions with financial assets and financial liabilities	175 655	175 655	100,0
comprising: settlement of principal	170 055	170 055	100,0
Surplus (+), Deficit (-) FINANCIAL OPERATIONS	+65 538	+15 165	x

Current budget - Income (in SKK '000)

	Budget for 2007	Actual for 2007	% fulfilled
Current income total (without budgetary organisations, municipal police)	5 430 825	5 599 091	103,1
comprising:			
100 Tax receipts	3 919 000	3 970 172	101,3
111 - personal income tax	1 910 000	1 932 882	101,2
121 - property tax	1 235 000	1 243 532	100,7
133 - tax for specific services	774 000	793 758	102,6
comprising: accommodation tax	54 000	57 500	106,5
tax for use of public space	30 000	32 617	108,7
municipal waste fees	690 000	703 641	102,0
200 Non-tax receipts	609 476	726 459	119,2
211 - income from business - dividends	40 000	90 502	226,3
212 - income from rented land	239 012	256 543	107,3
212 - income from rented buildings, premises and other facilities	96 158	107 996	112,3
220 - administrative and other fees and payments	100 210	115 563	115,3
240 - interest from domestic loans, transfers and deposits	94 950	107 881	113,6
290 - other non-tax income	39 146	47 974	122,6
310 Grants and transfers	902 349	902 460	100,0
- subsidy from state budget for transferred jurisdiction for schooling	752 882	752 866	100,0
- state budget subsidy for individual requirements of municipality	200	200	100,0
- decentralisation subsidy from state budget for transfer of jurisdiction for social assistance	58 697	58 697	100,0
- subsidy of Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs SR for social services	440	440	100,0
- state budget subsidy for transfer of jurisdiction for building authorities	10 717	10 717	100,0
- subsidy of Ministry of Health SR for applying strategic noise maps	14 997	14 997	100,0
- state budget subsidy for transfer of jurisdiction for road traffic and roads	667	667	100,0
- state budget subsidy for financing non-state elementary art schools and non-state school facilities	60 055	60 055	100,0
- subsidy from District Office in Bratislava - war graves	163	163	100,0
- subsidy from Regional Environmental Office for transferred jurisdiction for state administration in environmental issues	1 238	1 238	100,0
- subsidy from Regional Schools Authority for regional and local rounds of olympiads, qualification and sports events of elementary and secondary school pupils	151	151	100,0
- grant from European Regional Development Fund through the Ministry of Construction SR for city development projects	1 839	1 839	100,0
- grant from the European Social Fund through the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs SR for city development projects	253	253	100,0
- sponsor contributions to the city	50	177	354,0
Total income of budgetary organisations	79 326	78 379	98,8
Income of Municipal Police	10 920	12 341	113,0
TOTAL CURRENT INCOME	5 521 071	5 689 811	103,1

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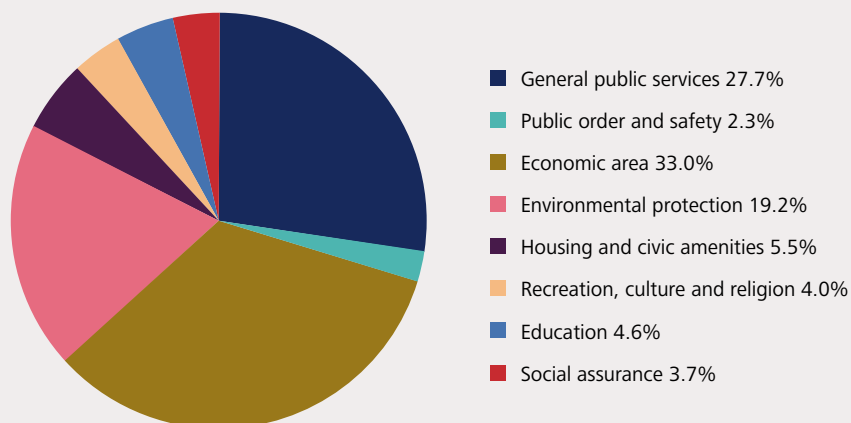
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Capital budget - Income (in SKK '000)

	Budget for 2007	Actual for 2007	% fulfilled
230 Capital income	764 767	1 010 333	132,1
- capital income - from sale of assets and property	764 767	1 010 333	132,1
320 Grants and transfers	25 529	25 530	100,0
- state budget subsidy for social services facilities	450	450	100,0
- state budget subsidy for construction of council flats - "Mixed-use building ref. no. 135 Dlhé diely"	10 564	10 564	100,0
- subsidy from Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs SR for old-folks home Gerium	130	130	100,0
- state budget subsidy for individual requirements of municipality	810	810	100,0
- subsidy of the Ministry of Education SR for reconstruction of Pasienky swimming baths	5 000	5 000	100,0
- state budget subsidy for capital expenses in education	4 000	4 000	100,0
- for projects related to development of the city	3 230	3 231	100,0
- domestic grants from donors and sponsors for old-folk homes and retirement homes for social development, for youth clubs, art schools and the capital city	1 345	1 345	100,0
CAPITAL INCOME total	790 296	1 035 863	131,1

Structure of current expenses



Income and expenditure from financial operations of the City of Bratislava in 2007 (in SKK '000)

	Budget for 2007	Actual for 2007	% fulfilled
Financial operations - income	241 193	190 820	79,1
400 Income from transactions with financial assets and financial liabilities	241 193	190 820	79,1
410 comprising: - from settlement of loan principal	-	-	-
430 - sale of interests	107 500	108 045	100,5
453 - balance from previous years (levy of financial settlement for 2006)	1 697	-	
454 - transfers from cash funds	133 693	81 078	60,6
comprising: transfers from reserve fund	130 975	78 360	59,8
other transfers	2 718	2 718	100,0
500 Received loans, transfers	-	-	-
Financial operations - expenses	175 655	175 655	100,0
800 Expenses from transactions with financial assets and financial liabilities	175 655	175 655	100,0
810 comprising: - loans, transfers, returnable financial assistance and capital interests	5 600	5 600	100,0
821 - repayment of principal	170 055	170 055	100,0

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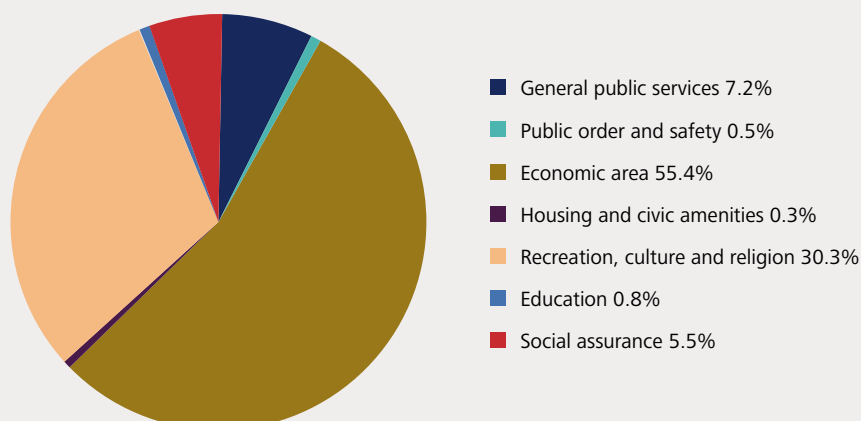
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Structure of capital expenses



Income of budgetary organisations of the city in 2007 (in SKK '000)

Organisation	Budget for 2007	Actual for 2007	% fulfilment
Retirement home " Dom tretieho veku", Poloreckého ul.	10 292	10 347	100,5
Old-folks home "Dom jesene života", Hanulova ul.	14 444	13 653	94,5
ZOS Sekurisova ul.	1 590	1 535	96,5
Old-folks home "Domov dôchodcov Rusovská ul."	2 670	2 679	100,3
Archa - seniors' home	5 491	4 848	88,3
ZOS Bartošková ul.	339	339	100,0
ZOS Česká ul.	1 710	1 710	100,0
Retirement home "Na barine"	8 909	8 909	100,0
Old-folks home "Gérium Pri trati"	3 136	3 062	97,6
ZOS Smolnícka ul.	2 275	2 384	104,8
Retirement home Pri križi	8 024	8 049	100,3
RETEST - resocialisation centre - Ladvá ul.	286	196	68,5
ZUŠ Jesenského ul.	900	905	100,6
ZUŠ Panenská ul.	1 567	1 689	107,8
ZUŠ Podjavorinskej ul.	242	242	100,0
ZUŠ Exnárova ul.	2 148	2 179	101,4
ZUŠ Sklenárova ul.	1 821	1 979	108,7
ZUŠ Hálkova ul.	1 550	1 540	99,4
ZUŠ Vrbenského ul.	700	713	101,9
ZUŠ Batkova ul.	1 805	1 806	100,1
ZUŠ Karloveská ul.	2 550	2 601	102,0
ZUŠ Istrijská ul.	1 026	1 030	100,4
ZUŠ Topolčianska ul.	1 430	1 431	100,1
ZUŠ Daliborovo nám.	1 470	1 479	100,6
CVČ Štefánikova ul.	1 149	1 148	99,9
CVČ ESKO Chlumeckého ul.	813	906	111,4
CVČ Hlinická ul.	1 199	1 231	102,7
CVČ Gessayova ul.	1 135	1 134	99,9
TOTAL	80 671	79 724	98,8

ZUŠ - primary art school

CVČ - youth club

ZOS - care service facilities

Overview of balance and development of debt as of 31.12.2007

	Loan from Istrobanka, a.s.	Loan from Dexia banka Slovensko, a.s.	Total obligations
Granted on	14.8.2003	29.12.2004	
Loan amount	EUR 71.6 mill.	EUR 82.4 mill.	
Converted to SKK as of date of loan receipt	SKK 2,995.9 mill.	SKK 3,200.0 mill.	SKK 6,195.9 mill.
Loan balance as of 31.12.2007	EUR 59.1 mill.	EUR 82.4 mill.	
Converted to SKK as of 31.12. 2007	SKK 1,986.3 mill.	SKK 2,768.0 mill.	SKK 4,754.3 mill.

Overview of granted guarantees of the City of Bratislava as of 31.12.2007

Loan recipient	Granted guarantee	Purpose of loan and loan provider
Dopravný podnik Bratislava, a.s.	SKK 18,000,000	Loan for reconstruction of tramway line on Mostova ulica from Dexia banka Slovensko, a.s.
Bratislava borough of Podunajské Biskupice	Establishment of right of lien to property worth SKK 13,360,000	Loan for the construction of a block of council flats on Uzbecka ulica in Bratislava:
	Establishment of right of lien to property worth SKK 13,016,000	- from Dexia banka Slovensko, a.s. - from National Housing Development Fund (SFRB)
Waste disposal company OLO, a.s. Bratislava	Establishment of right of lien to properties worth SKK 58,756,000	Loan from ČSOB, a.s. for restructuring of loan for reconstruction of municipal waste incinerator

Formation and use of off-budget funds (in SKK '000)

	Reserve fund	Housing development fund	Static traffic fund	Fund in support of physical activity
Projected fund balance as of 1.1.2007 (before financial settlement)	2 200 000	390 000	700	-
Allocation from city's surplus from previous year	150 000	20 000		
Allocation from car park rentals			300	
2% from proceeds from sold assets				12 000
TOTAL	2 350 000	410 000	1 000	12 000
Transfer of funds from Reserve Fund to budget income	478 572			
Transfer of funds from Housing Fund to budget income to finance flat construction		16 000		
Transfer of funds from Static Traffic Fund for the preparation, construction, operation and maintenance of static traffic equipment			700	
Transfer of funds from Fund in support of physical activity for development of physical activity in the city				5 000
Total used	478 572	16 000	700	5 000
Balance as of 31.12.2007	1 871 428	394 000	300	7 000

Note:

The formation and use of off-budget funds represents true cash flows.

The balances in funds are sources, i.e. express the balance in the funds inclusive of receivables of the City of Bratislava.

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Transfers granted by the City of Bratislava (in SKK '000)

Borough	Granted subsidy for current expenses in 2007	
	schooling transferred jurisdiction	schooling non-normative transfers*
Staré Mesto	81 404.0	2 652.6
Ružinov	111 473.0	3 471.0
Podunajské Biskupice	35 964.0	1 124.9
Vrakuňa	36 313.0	1 449.3
Nové Mesto	69 447.0	3 415.7
Rača	32 668.0	1 393.6
Vajnory	6 541.0	233.5
Karlova Ves	81 675.8	2 296.4
Dúbravka	61 207.0	3 372.9
Devínska Nová Ves	32 659.0	1 242.1
Devín	-	-
Lamač	8 801.0	844.1
Záhorská Bystrica	6 991.0	237.3
Čunovo	-	-
Petržalka	149 133.0	5 071.3
Jarovce	5 516.0	89.0
Rusovce	7 163.0	419.8
TOTAL	726 955.8	27 313.5
	754 269.3	

*) school authorities, retirement benefits, faults, education vouchers, Infovek, Enviroprojekt, etc.

Business results of the City of Bratislava for 2007 and proposed distribution (in SKK ,000)

Indicator	Installation of alarm equipment, monitoring systems and operation of central security desk to protect people and property against fire	Organisation of educational events	Advertising and promotion
Total revenue	11 593.0	841.0	1 939.0
comprising: finished goods and services	11 427.0	841.0	1 939.0
other revenues	166.0	0	0
Total expenses	10 570.0	665.0	0.0
comprising: energies	919.0	15.0	0
services	4 007.0	159.0	0
payroll	3 968.0	474.0	0
amortisation/depreciation	1 096.0	17.0	0
other expenses	580.0	0	0
road tax	0	0	0
tax on interest	0	0	0
Pre-tax income profit (+), loss (-)	+1 023.0	+ 176.0	+ 1 939.0
Acquisitions (tangible fixed assets)	39.0	0	0

Proposed distribution of income:

Total generated income - profit	SKK 3,614,000
Corporate income tax for 2007	- SKK 738,000
Income after tax - profit	SKK 2,876,000
Advance payment to budget income in 2007	0

Granted subsidy for current expenses in 2007				
building authorities	roads and thoroughfares	natural environment	social assistance	TOTAL
1 045.9	43.4	80.7	8 450.0	93 676.6
1 765.8	73.3	133.1	-	116 916.2
509.3	21.1	38.2	-	37 657.5
482.9	20.0	36.3	-	38 301.5
928.5	38.5	70.7	-	73 900.4
514.2	21.3	38.9	-	34 636.0
112.3	4.7	8.3	-	6 899.8
849.4	35.2	64.1	-	84 920.9
1 035.4	42.9	66.0	-	65 724.2
439.2	19.3	29.8	-	34 389.4
17.3	1.1	1.9	-	20.3
-	-	12.3	-	9 657.4
33.5	-	4.8	-	7 266.6
-	-	1.7	-	1.7
2 983.6	123.8	219.4	4 500.0	162 031.1
-	-	2.3	-	5 607.3
-	-	4.1	-	7 586.9
10 717.3	444.6	812.6	12 950.0	779 193.8

Front Office	Geodesy and cartography	Automated data processing	Accommodation services	TOTAL
19.0	608.0	51.0	318.0	15 369.0
19.0	608.0	51.0	318.0	15 203.0
0	0	0	0	166.0
0.0	520.0	0.0	0.0	11 755.0
0	0	0	0	934.0
0	0	0	0	4 166.0
0	520.0	0	0	4 962.0
0	0	0	0	1 113.0
0	0	0	0	580.0
0	0	0	0	0
0	0	0	0	0
+ 19.0	+88.0	+ 51.0	+ 318.0	+ 3 614.0
0	0	0	0	39.0

Remaining balance – levy to city budget	SKK 2,876,000
Amortisation/depreciation	SKK 1,113,000
Applied depreciation in 2007	SKK 39,000
Balance of depreciation – retained for investment acquisitions	SKK 1,074,000

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Economic results of the City of Bratislava for 2007 (in SKK '000)

Income (gain/loss) of current budget surplus (+) deficit (-)	Income (gain/loss) of capital budget surplus (+) deficit (-)	Income (gain/loss) of current and capital budget surplus (+) deficit (-)	Balance of financial operations surplus (+) deficit (-)
+ 211 905	+ 372 629	+ 584 534	+ 15 165
Arrangement of economic surplus of current and capital budget			SKK 584 534 000
- reduction by unused funds of subsidies returned to account of State budget:			
• unused in 2006			- SKK 75 000
• unused in 2007			- SKK 1 000
exclusion of unused funds from 2006 purposefully allocated for transferred jurisdiction for state administration in schooling and used in 2007			- SKK 9 000
exclusion of unused funds in 2007 purposefully allocated for:			
• transferred jurisdiction for state administration in schooling			- SKK 138 000
• for replacement planting of trees			- SKK 1 478 000
Budget surplus for purpose of forming cash funds			SKK 582 833 000
Proposed redistribution of budget surplus of city for 2007 to cash funds:			
Comprising: to reserve fund			SKK 469 179 000
to housing development fund			SKK 97 209 000
to parking administration fund			SKK 205 000
to physical activity development fund			SKK 16 240 000
TOTAL			SKK 582 833 000
Arrangement of financial operations – positive balance			SKK 15 165 000
- return to reserve fund			SKK 15 165 000

Impact of proposed financial settlements concerning the Bratislava city budget for 2007 on the approved budget for 2008

Current income – personal income tax	+ SKK 23 982 000
Current expenses – transfer of transport company DPB, a.s. to current expenses	+ SKK 23 982 000
Financial operations – income:	
Levies after financial settlement	+ SKK 3 813 000 /*
Transfer of funds from reserve fund	- SKK 3 813 000

/* In connection with levies after financial settlement to the city budget, it will be necessary to reduce the transfer of funds from the city's reserve fund by the same amount.

Recapitulation of changes to Bratislava's budget for 2008 (in SKK '000)

	Approved budget for 2008	Adjustment (+) (-)	Adjusted budget for 2008
Current budget			
Current income	5 835 058	+ 23 982	5 859 040
Current expenses	5 835 058	+ 23 982	5 859 040
Surplus (+), deficit (-) of current budget	0	0	0
Capital budget			
Capital income	860 000	0	860 000
Capital expenses	1 850 934	0	1 850 934
Surplus (+), deficit (-) of capital budget	- 990 934	0	- 990 934
Financial operations			
Financial operations – income	3 054 276	0	3 054 276
Financial operations – expenses	2 063 342	0	2 063 342
Surplus (+), deficit (-) from financial operations	+ 990 934	0	+ 990 934

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BASIC FACTS ABOUT BRATISLAVA 2007:

Inhabitants:	426 091
Area:	367.6 km ²
Population density:	1,159 persons/1 km ²
Number of boroughs:	17
Earliest chronicle:	907
Confirmation of royal town privileges:	1291
Highest structure:	200 m (TV transmitter Kamzík)
Highest building:	115 m (Tower 115)
Average annual temperature:	11.0 °C
Precipitation:	581.5 mm p.a.
Average humidity:	71%
Number of legal entities:	32,819
Economically active people:	335,634
Average nominal monthly salary:	SKK 30,657 (= EUR 1,017.60)
Unemployment rate:	1.88%
Number of registered vehicles:	253,607
Number of university students:	65,569
Share of GDP:	25 %
Purchasing power standard (PPS):	25,351
Share in foreign direct investments:	67%

Source: Statistical Office of the Slovak Republic, 2007

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Annual Report 2007
Design: atelier2
Photo: Marek Velček
Translation: Language Sense Ltd (John Boyd)

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