

Trafficable platforms – an additional design option?



November 2017

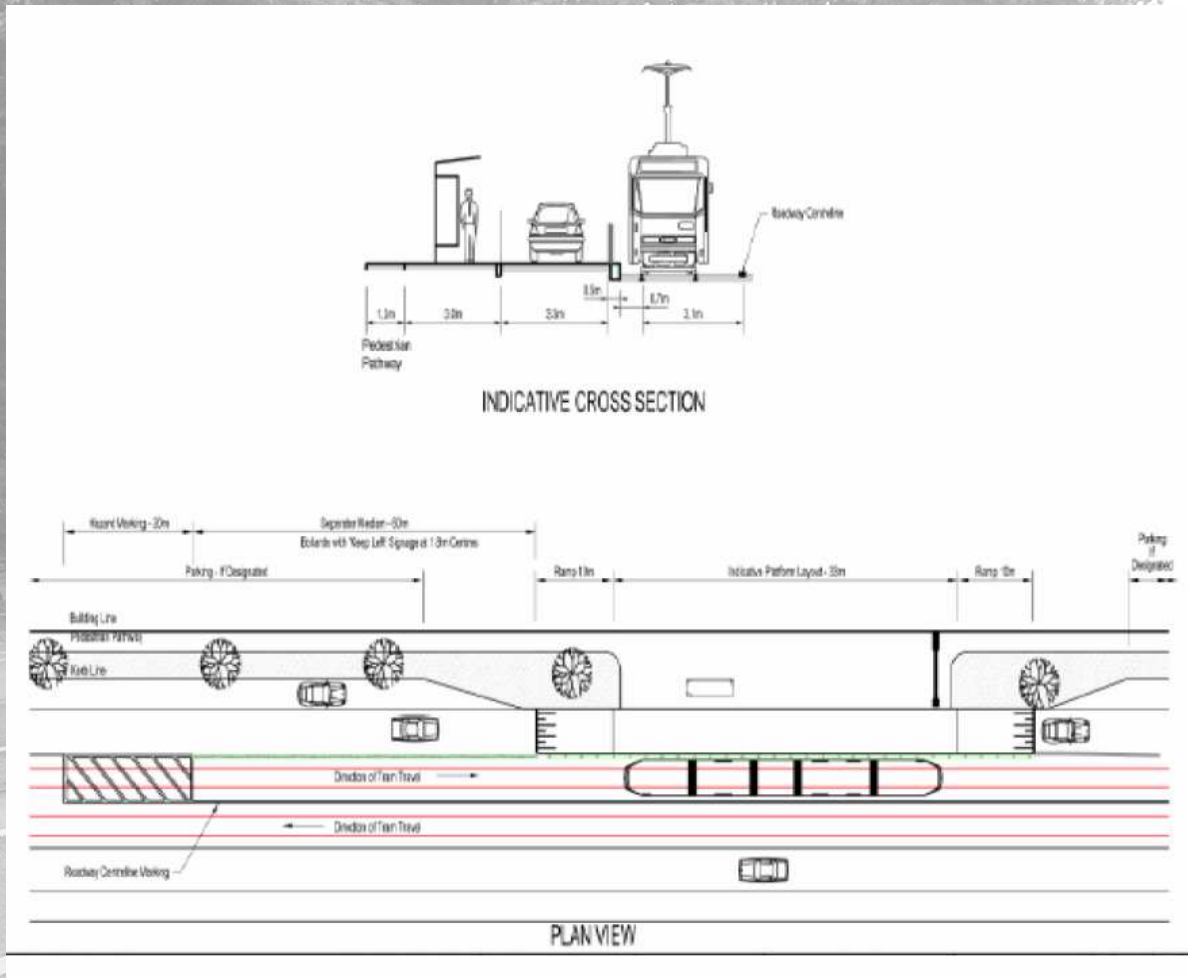
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Definition: Trafficable platforms

- **“Trafficable platforms” are based on parallel, elevated car lanes in the stop area where car traffic has to wait in front while the spaces are in use as “level access” platforms for tramway passengers ...**
- **A similar approach is now also taken for taking cycle routes through stop areas.**

Definition: Trafficable platforms



Source: Client Design Requirements for accessible tram stops, Department of Transport, Victoria/Australia

Definition: Trafficable platforms



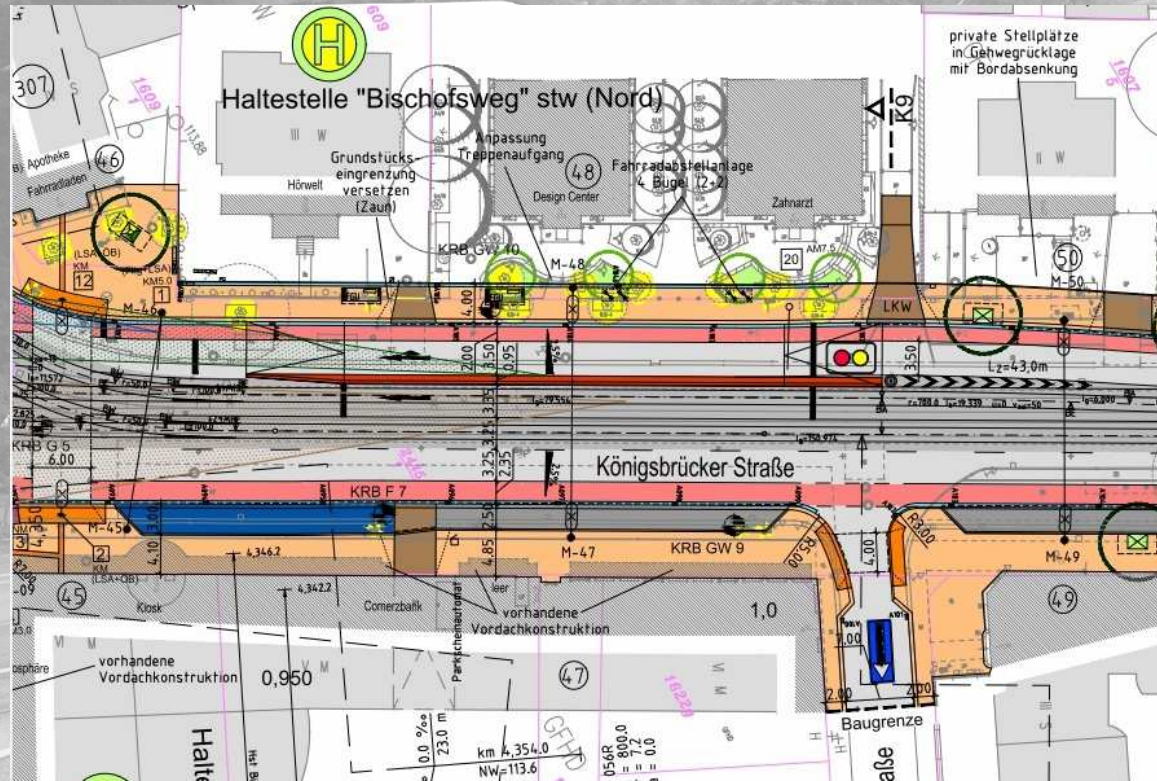
Picture shows an old style “street stop” which does not fulfil today's level access requirements. Trafficable platforms are to be seen as an upgrade to these stop types.

Trafficable platforms: examples



Dresden: Standard platform in one direction – trafficable platform in the other (with traffic signal for car traffic)

Trafficable platforms: examples



Source: DVB

Dresden: trafficable platform in a location with two parallel car lanes (with traffic signal for car traffic)

Trafficable platforms: examples



Gera: trafficable platform in a location with low car traffic (without traffic signal for car traffic)

Trafficable platforms: examples



**Nordhausen: trafficable platform
(without traffic signal for car traffic)**

Trafficable platforms: examples



**Linz: trafficable platform
(without traffic signal for car traffic)**

Trafficable platforms: examples



**Darmstadt: trafficable platform
(with traffic signal for car traffic + additional warning signs)
Design-wise not so nice ...**

Trafficable platforms: examples



**Karlsruhe:
partial trafficable
platform (with
traffic signal for car
traffic)**

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Advantages

- Reduced space requirement in cross section due to use of sidewalk as waiting area.
- Potentially reduced requirement to buy private properties.
- No visual disruption of street appearance and thus reduced impact for trees and/or other neighbouring areas.
- Full length of vehicle can be safely accessed and thus independence from a single, signalled pedestrian crossing (avoidance of “last second” runs to departing vehicles through car traffic).
- Layout can be seen as supportive for traffic calming measures (ramps for car traffic).

Disadvantages

A grayscale photograph of a tram on a city street. The tram is white with a dark roof and has the number '10' on its front. The street is lined with trees and has a dashed white line in the center. A few people are walking on the sidewalk to the right. The text 'Disadvantages' is overlaid in the top left, and a list of three bullet points is overlaid in the middle. At the bottom, there are three pieces of text: 'November 2017', 'Axel Kuehn, Karlsruhe', and '13'.

- Potentially unclear situation for car drivers.
- Concerns in regard of passenger safety connected to potential misbehaviour of car drivers.
- Larger distance between waiting area and vehicle may increase “weather impact” for passengers.

Experience

A grayscale photograph of a tram on a city street. The tram is white with a dark roof and has the number '10' on its front. The street is lined with trees and has a sidewalk with a few pedestrians. The text 'Experience' is overlaid in the top left corner, and a list of bullet points is overlaid in the center. The date 'November 2017', the name 'Axel Kuehn, Karlsruhe', and the page number '14' are at the bottom.

- The solution is in use for several years in several countries and cities (only few examples shown here) and the number of applications is further increasing.
- Dresden can be seen as the hot spot where this solution has become quite a standard!
- However, the solution is clearly dependent on some level of “traffic culture” (respecting rules ...).

Trafficable platforms for cycles



Berlin:
Cycle route kept in front of shelter and not deviated behind

Thank you and discussion



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Author and copyright

A grayscale photograph of a tram on a city street. The tram is white with a glass roof and has 'DVB' and the number '10' visible. It is moving along a track on a road. In the background, there are trees and a few pedestrians. The text is overlaid on the left side of the image.

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