



Paris, France: 9 May 2016

Mayor of Paris outlines plan to put sport in the heart of the city

The **Mayor of Paris, Anne Hidalgo**, has outlined part of a 43 point plan that will place sport at the very heart of Paris and leverage the **2024 Olympic and Paralympic Games** as a catalyst for the re-invention of the city. Key proposals include a new rapid transit line that will serve major Olympic sites and a major clean-up of the Seine, enabling the public to swim in the river.

The plan for a greener, healthier Paris with sustainable transport initiatives works in harmony with the key principles of the Paris 2024 bid with the aim of creating the perfect environment for showcasing world class sport and promoting the core values of the Olympic Movement.

Key proposals in the action plan include:

- A major clean-up programme for the Seine which could lead to Olympic Triathlon and Open-Water Swimming taking place in the river – also enabling the public to swim in the river
- A cycle lane that will link proposed 2024 Olympic sites including: Stade de France (Olympic Stadium), the Aquatics Centre and the Olympic Village
- A new 35km hiking trail in the centre of Paris passing through protected green spaces
- The implementation of sports equipment on street corners, in social housing areas and in new dedicated areas such as the right bank of the Seine
- A new rapid transit line that will run from the east to the west of Paris serving major Olympic sites including: Parc des Princes (Football), Roland Garros (Tennis), Jean-Bouin Stadium (Rugby Sevens), The Eiffel Tower (Beach Volleyball), Grand Palais (Fencing), Esplanade des Invalides (Archery) and Bercy Arena (Basketball and Judo).

Mayor Hidalgo will present the action plan in full to the Paris city council on 17 May 2016 in the presence of Paris 2024 Co-Chairmen, Bernard Lapasset and Tony Estanguet.

Many of the initiatives are already underway and the goal is to implement the plan in full between now and the proposed start of the Games in 2024.

The announcement of the plan comes following the pedestrianisation of the iconic **Champs-Élysées** in Paris yesterday as part of a wider initiative enabling the public to use many city-centre

streets to walk, run, cycle and play sport. The project, designed to improve the local environment and promote healthy lifestyles, is a further demonstration of the city's commitment to innovative solutions that create a more sustainable way of living for residents and visitors.

Mayor of Paris, Anne Hidalgo, said:

“Paris is embarking on a journey of re-invention driven by innovation and I am delighted to announce our plan for a sustainable and more active Paris with sport at the heart of the city. This plan aims to immediately build and prepare the legacy of the Games from now on. By harnessing the unique power of the Olympic Games we can realise our vision and transform our radiant city while staying true to our traditions.

“Paris’ Olympic and Paralympic project works in co-ordination with our city’s and nation’s long-term sports, economic, social and environmental strategies and this plan will help to secure both hard and soft legacies.”

Paris 2024 Co-Chairman, Bernard Lapasset, said:

“Paris 2024 is delighted with this comprehensive action plan from Mayor Hidalgo which puts sport first – reflecting the core values of our bid.

“Parisians and people across France already have a strong passion for Olympic sport. By making sport even more accessible and encouraging participation amongst more people across all of society we can help the Olympic Movement create a new generation of fans globally – offering the best possible showcase for Olympic events and a fertile environment for promoting and sharing the Olympic values.”

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