

19 August 2018

Press release

Significant increase in unlawful use at the weekend
Bikes in Bern to be recalled and upgraded

The situation in the “Velo Bern” network worsened at the weekend. Only a few bikes remain available to customers. PubliBike has therefore decided to recall and upgrade all rental bikes effective immediately. The Bern fleet is currently unavailable to customers as a result. PubliBike is doing its utmost to put the upgraded bikes back into service as quickly as possible.

Large numbers of bikes have been stolen and unlawfully used in the “Velo Bern” network. The locks must therefore be upgraded. Until Friday, the intention was to continue to operate as usual, as sufficient bikes were still available at stations. The situation in the “Velo Bern” network worsened at the weekend, however, and PubliBike has therefore decided to interrupt services in Bern and to recall and upgrade all bikes effective immediately. The City of Bern has been informed of this decision.

The service interruption will allow the bikes to be upgraded quickly and comprehensively. PubliBike is doing everything it can to make the Bern fleet of bikes available to customers again as quickly as possible. The upgraded bikes will be put into service gradually so that a satisfactory number will be available again within two weeks at the latest.

PubliBike apologizes for any inconvenience caused to customers. Bern subscribers will receive a one-month free subscription as compensation. PubliBike would like to thank members of the public for the extensive information received regarding the stolen bikes (velo@publibike-service.ch).

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