

New interchange names in *-motet* welcome

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Summary

Along Sweden's major roads there are interchanges – referred to in Swedish as *trafikplatser* – where different roads meet or cross one another. In some parts of the country these junctions are named *Trafikplats* + a place-name, e.g. *Trafikplats Brunnby* or *Trafikplats Hjulsta*. As a name formation, however, such a construction is unusual and not particularly felicitous. In certain areas, especially in the west of Sweden, interchange names have been formed using the name element *mot* 'meeting', resulting in place-names with a more normal structure: *Backadalsmotet*, *Nybodamotet* etc. In Stockholm and Uppsala, views differ as to which system should be applied. The central government agency responsible, the Swedish Road Administration, prefers *Trafikplats X*, while the local authorities concerned and their name committees advocate names in *-motet*. In Stockholm over thirty such names have been adopted over the years, beginning in the early 1960s. This short article puts the case for more names in *-motet* in Sweden.

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