

MOBILITY

Public Transport: Planning Cities around Mass Transit Networks

Concept Note

Autonomous vehicles, ride hailing, ride sharing and on-demand services, as well as micro-mobility options are transforming urban mobility and redefining urban transport. While mass public transport should remain the backbone around which sustainable mobility solutions will thrive, cities also need to capture the benefits of these complementary solutions.

In fact, some experts argue that public transport should include all shared and collective modes. Yet not all cities have the same needs. Some [analysis](#) suggest that the **Seamless Mobility model** moving residents quickly from place to place, sometimes by switching among modes of transport, would work for dense, developed cities. **The Clean and Shared model** with cost-effective forms of transport would produce the most societal benefits for dense, developing cities. Eventually, the **Private Autonomy model**, in which private cars still dominate the mobility mix but new technologies enable different uses, would work for high-income low-density cities.

Be as it may, local governments need to [prepare for this shift](#) by involving the community and coordinating public transport with other urban strategies such as housing development, economic development and traffic reduction strategies to ensure it is inclusive and easy to use for all. In this active scenario, transport authorities play an important role, which includes the regulation and management of the whole transport system.

This is all the more important as public transport is also expected to use Big Data and Artificial Intelligence (AI) to build [personalized mobility services](#) and move towards an even smarter mobility.

All in all, the sector must work to take advantage of innovation, while steering developments towards truly sustainable urban transport, containing costs and improving operation efficiency.

Expected outcomes

Participants will:

- Gain insights on the benefits of accessible integrated public transport systems.



- Get more knowledge on how a coordinated strategy on public transport and urban planning can be a powerful tool to improve citizens' life.
- Learn how efficient mobility strategies can improve competitiveness in metropolitan areas.
- Discover innovative business models to develop a sustainable urban mobility.

Guiding questions

- What is the role of public transport in shaping cities?
- How can public transport adapt to emerging alternative forms of urban mobility?
- What would be the opportunities and challenges of public transport in collaborating with other sectors?
- Are public transport authorities the best institution to make public transport coordinated and consistent?
- What are the most important features to be developed so that citizens effectively use public transport?

Keywords

public transport authorities; integrated mobility plans; mobility regulation; bus rapid transit; travel behavior