

Track 10 - Transport Planning and Policy

Track Chairs:

Angela Hull, Heriot Watt University

Luca Bertolini, University of Amsterdam

Our congress hosts this year are asking us to take a look backwards to appraise what has changed over the last hundred years. We are proposing that one of the themes in the transport track will use this timeline to look backwards and reflect on what has changed but also to look forward to assess how the transport technologies available in the future will influence the way we travel and live.

In the last hundred years we have adapted to new transport technologies including trains, trolley buses, motor buses, cars, trams, propeller and jet passenger aircraft that have provided changed travel opportunities and compressed both space and time. We travel further, more quickly and more frequently than a hundred years ago and with the aid of new mobile communications we can make contact at a distance and on the move.

How can we sum up these last hundred years of mobility? Have our conceptions of mobility changed or have the factors that constrained transport choice for many changed? What lessons can be taken from attempts to plan for transport and mobility in the past to help us deal with the challenges and opportunities facing land use and transport planners in the future?

What will the future hold? Did we create highway cities on the back of cheap oil? What will the hydrogen city of the future look like? Will we still seek out speed, flexibility and independence in our transport modalities? Will the BRIC nations (Brazil, Russia, India and China) be able to fulfill their economic expectations with much lower levels of resource intensity than the West? We welcome papers in this track that help us learn from the past and those that will prepare us for the future.

Over the last few years, as a transport group in AESOP, we have been discussing ideas for collaborative research projects. We wish to take these ideas further by inviting research papers and ideas on the following themes:

Which skills do planners operating at the interface of mobility/transport and spatial issues need? How to develop these skills? How to bring together the different perspectives/disciplines in practice? How to bring the insights of transport/mobility research to bear upon the planning process?

What are the needs of transport planners for planning support tools and what are their capacities to use them effectively?

There are also a number of key issues which we continue to debate such as how to achieve sustainable urban mobility; how to manage large infrastructure projects; and how to integrate transport with local economic and social development. Please send us your new research on these topics too.