

The New Mobility Agenda – Focus programs and peer discussions - Quick intro note for new colleagues -

The New Mobility Agenda has a twenty year track record as a fully independent, open, and diversified world wide collaborative peer program concerned with showing how progress can be made, step by careful step, toward more sustainable communities and lives by creating more human and more efficient transportation arrangements.

The Agenda has been organized in the interest of efficiency into a cluster of related but specific focus groups -- each with its own targeted concerns, working style and membership base. For each program (indicated here in large font), there is a corresponding discussion forum and shared library which can be reached directly in all cases via the top menu of its program (where it may be marked as Forum Café, or Idea Factory). The discussions are lightly but firmly moderated to ensure that they keep on track and provide good value for the busy participants.

The New Mobility Agenda – at <http://www.newmobility.org>

The New Mobility Idea Factory, opened its virtual doors in 1988 as the Access Café, and continues to offer a free, public, flexible discussion space for our international peers, concerned citizens and groups who feel that our transport systems need to be, and can be made to be, more sustainable and more just -- and who wish to freely exchange ideas and information about it. Unlike most generally similar fora the focus is above all on the Politics of Transportation. The orientation of the exchanges is strategic, informed and generally sober if often quite contentious.

World Transport Policy & Practice – <http://www.wtransport.org>

The **World Transport Forum** goes back more than a decade, and at present serves more than five hundred transportation experts, activists and policy makers world wide. The main business of the forum is to provide support and interactive discussion space for the Journal of World Transport Policy and Practice. For exchanges of a more general nature on the transport/environment theme try the New Mobility Agenda and its Idea Factory (see above)

The New Mobility Advisory/Briefs – at <http://newmobilitybriefs.org>

The New Mobility Idea Factory serves as the discussion forum for the Briefs. This program is aimed at informing and advising local government and concerned agencies about measures and policy options which they can put into action to get visible results within a max time horizon of two to three years. The Briefs are supported by Accelerated Learning Sessions which tackle key issue areas in intense three day workshops, the first of which is being organized in Monaco for European subscribers and other s interested from 29-31 March 2007: The Monaco New Mobility Policy Dialogues: *Accelerated Learning for City Managers, Planners and Decision-makers*

Lots Less Cars in Cities Idea Factory – <http://www.lotslesscars.org>

Lots Less Cars in Cities Forum "What we are looking at here is not quite zero cars (in most places) but, let us say, many fewer cars in our cities, a more tranquil environment, and a lot more safe and happy people." Free flow exchanges and shared information on how to address and achieve "less car" solutions to the challenges of transport in cities. Lots on non-motorized transport and car/traffic reduction measures. And lots of disagreement. Quite activist, rather informal and laid-back.

Kyoto World Cities 20/20 Challenge: -- <http://www.kyotocities.org>

The Kyoto Cities Forum Since late 2004 a reserved area for announcements and discussions in support of the Kyoto World Cities Program, The program is organized around a single question: "What can you do in your city to reduce traffic and its negative impacts dramatically (say on the order of 20%) in a very short period (we propose 20 months), and within your existing transportation budget." The discussions and exchanges Kyoto program over 2005 generated the ideas behind the New Mobility Advisory/Briefs.

Global South Mobility – <http://www.globalsouthmobility.org>

Global South - Sustran Network: Global South Mobility provides a Collaborative relay station for world-wide information and discussions. The forum is run by Sustran - the Sustainable Transport Action Network for Asia & the Pacific -- an email discussion list devoted to people-centred, equitable and sustainable transport with a focus on developing countries (the 'Global South'). Sustran: a major discussion forum on urban transport in developing countries." Discussions are well focused, expert-based and of very high quality.

The Gender, Equity and Transport Forum - <http://www.gatnet.net/>

GATNET - Gender and Transport - This is the discussion group of a community of practice that began with a program on mainstreaming Gender into the World Bank's Transport Sector. It is open to all those who are interested in issues relating to improving mobility and access for poor women and men in developing countries.

World Car Free Days – <http://worldcarfreeday.com>

The **Lots Less Cars in Cities Forum** – also serves for Car Free Day exchanges. This program resulted directly from the early work of the New Mobility Agenda, which led to an international call for days without cars in October 1994 in a new mobility congress in Toledo Spain. This wide open program looks at Car Free Day projects around the world and tries to determine if they are working, not working, useful or in need of a real overhaul. Critical discussion with at least half of the members convinced that all this is a good idea. But only half.

xTransit: New ways of getting there - <http://www.xtransit.org/>

xTransit Idea Factory for small vehicle transit- Another joker, this one given over to what we believe to be one of the most important single transport modes for the future, small vehicle systems, usually independently owned and operated, and prime targets for technology and supportive rethinking of legislation and relationships with the rest of the system. Getting people in and around cities in road vehicles, smaller than full sized buses, driven by real human beings, dynamically shared with others, and aided by state of the art communications technologies -- and all of that as no less than the only way to offer "car like" mobility in most of our 21st century cities without killing the cities themselves (the good old old mobility way).

The Land Cafe: Putting Value Capture to Work – <http://www.landcafe.org>

The Land Café: But how are we ever going to pay for all this? Check out our very busy Land Cafe if you are on the lookout for new thinking on this critical topic. An informal, shared, public interest, knowledge-building consortium -- supported by The Commons as an independent Open Society project, specifically to serve and bring together people and groups around the world who are concerned to find practical ways for our societies to come to grips with the troubling but important issues of value capture and land tax reform in an age in which important public services remain substantially under-funded.

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Videos, audio, media: You will find that many of these programs are supported by a variety other than print media, valuable components of the tool kit needed if we are to move toward more sustainable cities. You will find this information in the respective sits.

Daily Digests: Some busy readers may wish to sign into the Daily Digests, particularly for the New Mobility Idea Factory and the Lots Less Cars Café, both of which can get quite busy from time to time and generate what may to some prove an uncomfortable flow of email and references. (Get in touch if you are not sure about how to do this.)

Welcoming Note: Finally in closing here, we invite you energetically to read our **Welcoming Note** here before actually participating actively in any of the groups. Note: There are pretty good internal Search tools in most of the following. These help to turn what otherwise are just one-time messages into useful databases. Give it a try using your selected keywords.