



14-17 DECEMBER

MELBOURNE 2021

GLOBAL PUBLIC
TRANSPORT SUMMIT

Global Public Transport Summit

Call for Abstracts

This is a call for abstracts for the Global Public Transport Summit 2021.

1. The programme of the Global Public Transport Summit

The programme of the Global Public Transport Summit is steered by a Programme Committee on behalf of the UITP Policy Board. To this end, the Summit Programme Committee (SPC) is launching the present call for abstracts.

In addition to this call, UITP releases independently and also for the Global Public Transport Summit 2021, a call for posters open to academics and researchers which will support the definition of poster sessions, and at later date a call for abstracts for expo sessions on the exhibition, dedicated to the Summit exhibitors.

Call for abstract for the Congress programme

The Programme Committee, together with the Secretariat of UITP, is identifying the focus of around 70% of the sessions of the Congress part of the event. The Committee is also identifying a number of high-level and headline speakers which will be featured in the programme.

Abstracts submitted for sessions in the Congress are expected to focus on the streams and topics, which are described and listed below. **It should be noted that the number of abstracts which will be accepted is limited. Traditionally, there is a very high number of submissions to this call while the number of slots available is relatively low.**

This is a call for individual proposals of speeches, open to individuals from any organisation, regardless of their membership in UITP. Selected papers will be assigned by the Summit Programme Committee to the relevant session.

2. Introduction to the theme 'Mobility for life'

The programme of the event is expected to reflect some of the topics which are developed by UITP and its members in the framework of the Integrated Global Work Programme. This programme is focusing on **Redefining Public Transport**: embracing all collective and shared modes of transport, public transport is advancing its digital transformation as well as its decarbonisation, with evolving business models and a greater focus on customers reflected in the evolution of the company employee cultures.

The event programme will reflect this framework, while also addressing the theme '**Mobility for Life**':

'It is easy to take many things in life for granted: our ability to move, to connect with others, to go about our daily activities, to live on this planet and breathe clean air.

Every day is another step in our journey, and how we choose to get there is key.

Public transport is a healthy, sustainable way of life for all. And that's our choice every day.

We choose '**Mobility for Life**'.

This theme forces us to think about the impact of public transport on the life of the user, but how do we, as the sector, meet these customer expectations and ensure we are truly providing a lifelong mobility solution with services that can always be depended on, no matter the circumstances? How do we guarantee 'Mobility for Life' for our customers? As we reflect in the aftermath of the COVID-19 crisis, there is much to learn from this experience about providing 'Mobility for Life' in the most challenging of circumstances. The Summit programme will address this theme in five main streams:

- 1: Achieving financial sustainability
- 2: Building resilient cities with inclusive transport systems
- 3: Prioritising health and safety
- 4: Innovating for quality services
- 5: Engaging with staff and customers

The programme of the Summit will revolve around these five main streams.

Each stream is described below. These descriptions give indications of what each of them will cover.

For the Congress Sessions, a list of topics under each stream is included. Proposals for abstracts are invited to cover one or more of these topics.

Stream 1: Achieving financial sustainability

Public transport, cities and businesses thrive simultaneously, putting public transport in a strong position for **partnership** and **supporting funding mechanisms** that allow for the mutual success of all three. We have seen the necessity of public transport services, especially in times of crisis: cities simply cannot afford to lose essential mobility services. How can we restructure **business models**, or improve **financial sustainability** to ensure the mobility services we offer are for life? Sessions under this stream will explore how to tackle this challenge.

- Rebuilding transport finances after COVID-19: the evolution of funding and investment strategies
- Changing cost structures and their impact
- Complementary revenue sources for public transport
- Public Private Partnerships, managing risks
- The evolution of contracts and governance (risks, business models, tender processes, etc.)
- Fare policies

Stream 2: Building resilient cities with inclusive transport systems

To address future and ongoing challenges such as urbanisation and climate change, it is crucial for our sector to help optimise limited **urban space** with the goal of building **more liveable cities**. How do we do that? With **inclusive urban planning**, that **prioritises mass public transport** as the backbone of the city and complementing this with **active modes, on demand and shared services**. The perfect transport system looks different from city to city: these elements are building blocks to help define your ideal long-term mobility solution.

- Governance in time of changes
- Setting up transport authorities
- Corporatisation of informal transport
- Articulating urban transport policies to improve **accessibility** for more liveable & competitive cities
- Ensuring **complementarity** between public transport, walking and cycling, and new mobility services in the urban fabric: from tactical urbanism to new urban transport systems and infrastructures
- Planning the changing pace of cities
- Managing the demand for mobility, e.g. to address the challenge of peak hours
- Redefining PT for accelerating the improvement of the urban environment
- Decarbonising cities and their transport system
- Taxi and ride-hailing also keep cities moving

Stream 3: Prioritising health and safety

As we reflect on the challenging months behind us, and look forward to the years ahead, we can certainly agree that the **health** and **safety** of our customers and workers remain the top priority. The guaranteed health and safety for all must be the minimum requirement for any operational mobility service. This requires to contain the risks related to pandemics in particular to COVID-19. On the other hand, we must also highlight the health benefits of an efficient public transport system in cities. Public transport, together with other **active, shared** and **collective modes of transport** are critical to manage the health impact of urban mobility by improving road safety, as well as by reducing the impact of mobility on air pollution.

- Integrating the health benefits of public transport intervention
- Health and safety of workers and travelers
- Public transport **lifestyle**, active travel, and health
- How to manage future pandemics
- Road safety and vehicle safety

Stream 4: Innovating for quality services

Public transport implies **operational excellence**. We must continually strive to improve the efficiency and quality of transport operations and services, particularly in line with the ongoing digital transformation of our sector, in order to meet mobility demands and address new challenges. What are some of the latest **innovations** and technological trends that can **optimise our bus and rail operations**, increase our cost efficiency and make our systems future-proof? The Summit aims to put top trends in operational excellence in the spotlight.

- Building more flexible urban and public transport systems to provide for changes in demand
- Roll-out and management of E-Bus fleets, including models of integration with the infrastructure
- Energy transition strategies in urban and regional transport and their impact on the ecosystem
- Deploying and integrating autonomous vehicles including autonomous buses and shuttles, on the urban and regional transport networks
- Integrating shared and collective mobility services with mass public transport, MaaS and beyond
- Deploying on demand transport solutions
- Rethinking and optimising network design and service supply as a result of the deployment of new services and systems
- From automation to autonomy in rail transport
- Ticketing & payment
- Crowd and capacity management in public transport
- Traffic management and intelligent transport systems, including C-ITS in urban and public transport
- Life Cycle Costing and Life Cycle Assessment (LCA)

- Innovative technologies applied to maintenance (Artificial intelligence, Augmented Reality, robotics, etc.)

Stream 5: Engaging with staff and customer

Public transport is **a service provided by people for people**: the happiness of both staff and customer are essential to the success of our business in the long run. How do we properly **engage staff and customers**, and create a culture of **trust** and **loyalty** between both? The Summit aims to identify the necessary elements of building a strong **corporate and employer brand** to both engage and delight staff and customers.

- Leadership and staff engagement
- Gender inclusive mobility planning
- Diversity in public transport
- Engaging with the connected customer
- (re)Building trust
- Accelerating social changes, what impact on public transport?
- Creative mobility & art in transit
- The ongoing challenge of delivering excellence in customer experience
- Training the workforce of tomorrow

3. Rules for submissions

Applications for abstracts must comply with the following rules:

1. Applicants are requested to submit their applications online via the dedicated website (www.uitpsummit.org). Applications made through other channels will not be evaluated.
2. If papers have more than one author, only one of them can benefit from the preferential conditions granted to speakers to attend the Summit.
3. Individuals are allowed to submit only one application to the call for abstracts.
4. A selected speaker is not allowed to designate a substitute in case he/she is not available. It is up to the Programme Committee or UITP Secretariat to make such a decision if relevant.
5. All documents are to be submitted in English only.
6. UITP does not cover travel and accommodation costs but speakers will enjoy a premium registration fee policy: free-of-charge registration for the speakers attending the UITP Global Public Transport Summit for the day of their presentation only; a reduced registration fee applies in other cases.

7. Selected speakers must commit to promoting the Summit using the communication tools provided by the UITP Secretariat.
8. UITP has the exclusive copyright of all selected applications (abstracts and full presentations).
9. Speakers must be aware that the Summit Programme Committee reserves the right to cancel their participation if they do not comply with the speakers' guidelines which they will receive once they are selected.

Consideration for the evaluation of applications

The programme to be defined by the Programme Committee will combine sessions and papers in a way to reach the expected quality and range to cover the priority topics of the call.

When evaluating applications, the Programme Committee will pay particular attention to the following aspects:

1. The Summit audience is made primarily of transport professionals, policy officials and decision makers involved in urban and public transport. Preference will be given to applications focusing on systems, actions and policies of practical value with results and/or effects which can be measured.
2. Applications promoting specific commercial products will only be accepted for Expo Sessions.
3. UITP is eager to promote a diversity of profiles. The SPC will give consideration to geographical balance in building the programme.

For many years UITP has been strongly committed to **promoting gender equality** in public and urban transport and we specifically encourage female professionals to respond to the call for abstracts. We aim to **increase the presence of women in the programme** compared to our last edition of the Summit, where women comprised 44% of the Congress speakers.

The public transport sector offers attractive career paths for the **youth**. The Summit programme aims at providing opportunities and visibility for a diverse range of professionals, in particular **young professionals**. Submission from professionals under 35 of age are therefore encouraged.

4. Congress programme framework

It is our aim to offer various types of sessions for participants to enjoy a lively and engaging event. All types of sessions can take several forms. They can be organised as lecture or theatre sessions with presentations, Q&As and discussions involving the audience, roundtable sessions with a discussion around a topic, Pecha Kucha sessions¹, etc.

For this reason, authors proposing abstracts may be selected to join roundtable sessions rather than lecture sessions with presentations, for instance.

5. Milestones

- Call for abstracts for the Congress opens on the 20th of October 2020 and closes on the 11th of December 2020.

¹ Pecha Kucha is a presentation style in which 20 slides are shown for 20 seconds each (6 minutes and 40 seconds in total)