

What do we want from transport?

The future of mobility

Technology offers better ways to move around our cities flexibly and sustainably. What are the most important issues in transitioning our transport systems?



A recent CMS panel discussed what regulation, infrastructure and the economic environment mean for the future of transport.

Panel members

From CMS:

Laurence Kalman
Partner, CMS UK

Gerd Leutner
Partner, CMS Germany

Martin Wodraschke
Partner, CMS CEE

Michael Hurwitz
Director of Strategic Portfolio Management, Arrival UK

Richard Balshaw
Group Vice President, KINTO UK Limited, UK

Benedikt Sperling-Zikesch
Sales Director People Transport EMEA & Managing Director DACH, EasyMile, Berlin



Do we all want the same thing from urban transportation?



It might take one hour to get across Berlin but four hours to cross Los Angeles. Society needs to decide what is acceptable; how do we want to get from A to B?

Benedikt Sperling-Zikesch



The success of urban transport solutions rides on their ease of use, the absence of obstacles and being more efficient.

New urban developments can be built with wide streets to allow separate routes for:



Public transport



Cars and other automobiles

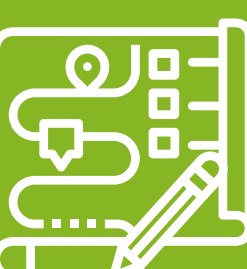


Cyclists and pedestrians

In many urban environments improving mobility will involve reducing the overall number of vehicles.

63%

of CMS's Repurposing Real Estate respondents want to have more restricted access for cars in town centres in the future.



Embedding new transportation systems within old established cities requires sophisticated planning and creative adaptation.

Reducing car numbers:



PUSH

Authorities introduce restrictions such as congestion zones.

PULL

Demand for private vehicles reduces due to shared mobility options.

There are political choices to be made about whether private car use is discouraged.

How do we ensure rural transport is sustainable?

Cities are not the only places people travel - solutions are needed for travel within and between regions.



Changing cultures and mindsets is a bigger challenge than developing technology - you have to replace cars with something as good and convenient. If you give up your car, what happens if you need to get to a hospital at 2am?

Richard Balshaw



In rural areas, there are additional challenges to implementing new transport models:



The need to change culture and mindsets.



Tighter funding constraints.



More limited infrastructure resulting in higher costs of implementation.



Reliance on traditional train and bus routes.



Harder for funders to show impact compared to urban projects.

How could rural projects attract funding?



Greater government subsidy.



Cross-funding requirement within urban projects.

Could existing infrastructure such as car dealerships be used as mobility hubs outside cities?



How can regulation support innovation?

PROBLEM



Legislation

- Does not keep pace with innovation.
- Hard to get consensus for new innovative regulation.
- Can add requirements that make new ideas economically unsustainable.

SOLUTION



Future-proof laws

- Create a sandbox environment to develop and test.
- Insert innovation clauses in legislation.
- Allow authorities to test out new ideas.
- Create balance between regulatory duties and opportunities for innovation.
- Clear liability regime from the beginning.



A new transport service fails unless it provides equally well for everybody. Authorities must promote inclusion regardless of characteristics like age, race, and level of ability.

Michael Hurwitz



Addressing liability



RIGHT NOW

Risk is in the hands of individuals behaving predictably in their cars.



AUTONOMOUS VEHICLES

Overall risk might be lower, but accidents could attract greater publicity.

✓ Avoiding grey areas in liability by testing at scale.

✓ Giving a clear message to the public on minimum safety standards.

Issues with autonomous vehicle liability

✓ Ensuring organisations are not hindered from innovation by excessive liability.

✓ Clear responsibilities identified if something goes wrong.

How do you create scalable solutions?

To be scalable, mobility solutions need to work:



Across different countries and regions.



Without overly relying on local infrastructure.



With flexibility to adjust for local regulations.



Solutions will be easier to manage and scale up if intelligence is built into vehicles, rather than relying on local authorities to upgrade infrastructure.

How do you approach mobility design?

Successful mobility is a connecting system, not individual standalone elements.

People-centric design:

How can we make people's lives better?

- Start with tech solution.
- Start with how we want to move around a city then find solutions that work.



How can we reimagine cityscapes?



Car parks as mobility hubs.



Efficient ways of dropping off and picking up people and goods.



Flexible, future-proof development.



Using tarmac roadways in more imaginative ways.



Streamline last-mile delivery.

What is the impact of the current economic climate?

Challenging economic conditions have impacted:



Availability of capital.



Energy costs.



Supply chain risk.



Appetite for risk.

In the current environment, there is a heightened risk of:



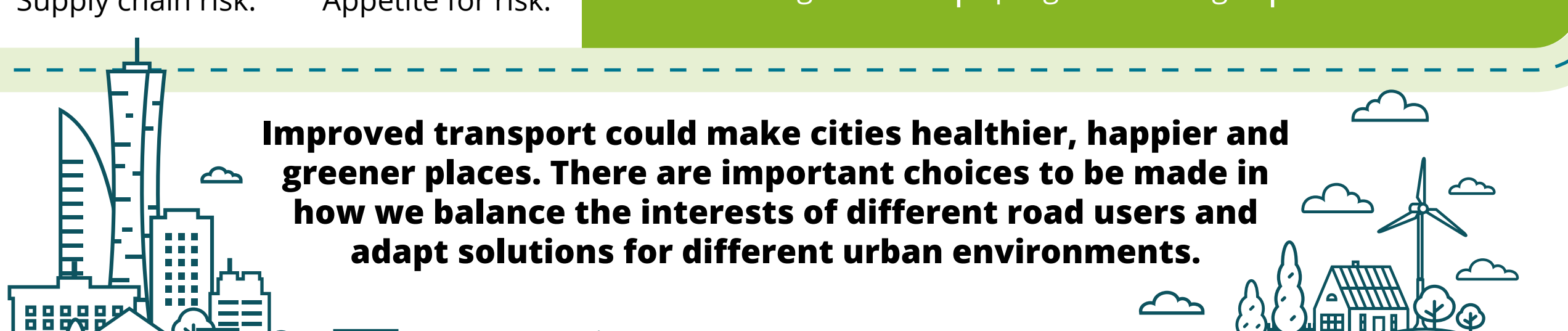
Failing to meet carbon reduction goals.



Innovation progress slowing.



Lack of investment in the sector.



Improved transport could make cities healthier, happier and greener places. There are important choices to be made in how we balance the interests of different road users and adapt solutions for different urban environments.



Technology is at the heart of the transition to better mobility but liability, safety and connection to other transport systems must be carefully considered.