



The End of Automobile Dependence: Planning for Green and Livable Cities

Valid: Spring 2020

Language: The course will be given in English

Purpose

This intensive 3.0-day course examines how cities can become more green and livable places by reducing their dependence on the car. It is a globally-oriented course which will take participants on a broad tour of ‘the good, the bad and the ugly’ of urban environments around the world. It will emphasise many important positive changes that are occurring in urban environments worldwide in this, “the century of the city.”

Focus

The course will show how cities have evolved to become dependent on the car, the many problems associated with that automobile dependence and the factors that underpin this phenomenon. Participants will learn about three fundamental city types that still exist in the world today - walking, transit and automobile - mixed together within each city, but in different proportions. It will show how we can plan for and implement reduced automobile dependence and how some cities are already moving beyond that dependence. It will examine best practice approaches to public transport and non-motorised modes and will critique traditional approaches to transport planning. A film will be shown which reveals how cities can do without freeways and how there is a growing trend to try to rid cities of selective parts of their freeway systems.

The course will provide an international perspective on linking urban public transport, especially rail, to land use development, through a global overview of transit-oriented development (TOD). More broadly, we will explore efforts to create green cities, particularly emphasising Europe. The lectures will examine two inspiring case studies from Freiburg in Germany and Portland in the USA, which show how, in an integrated way, these two cities from very different cultural and political contexts, have carved out some global credentials in implementing greener, more ecological and less car-dependent futures for themselves. Overall, the course will show how cities in many different contexts are moving away from car-based planning and how it is possible to envision an end to automobile dependence.

The following sessions will be included:

A Transport and Urban Form History of Cities: Walking, Public Transport and Automobile Cities in a Global Perspective

The Environmental, Social and Economic Problems of Automobile Dependence

Planning for Reduced Automobile Use: International Evidence of How Urban Development is Moving Beyond Auto Dependence
Best Practice in Public Transport Systems: A Global Perspective on the “Hardware” and “Software” of Public Transport Systems: Part 1
Best Practice for Non-Motorised Modes: A Global Comparative Perspective on the Role of Walking and Cycling and How to Promote It: Part 1
Traditional Transport Planning: Why It No Longer Works
Transit Oriented Development (TOD) and the Importance of Urban Rail: A Global Perspective
Making Cities Green Cities
Cases Studies in Greening Cities for Reduced Car Dependence

Approach

The course will include a mix of lectures, movies and discussions. Participants throughout the course will be given the opportunity, through five workshops and plenary discussions, to engage with course topics in relation to specific urban regions in Sweden.

The course would be ideal for people working in the areas of urban planning especially green or ecological city planning, transport planning, public transport, walking and cycling, either within government, the private sector or through community organisations.

Presenter

The presenter of the course is Professor Jeffrey Kenworthy, an internationally well-known researcher from Curtin University in Perth, Australia and Frankfurt University of Applied Sciences, who has 40 years of experience in sustainable transportation, public transport and urban planning. He has published a large number of scientific articles and books and one of his latest books is *The End of Automobile Dependence: How Cities are Moving Beyond Car-Based Planning*.

Date and venue

The course will be presented over a three-day period from 12th to 14th of May 2020, starting at 10:00 on Day 1 and finishing at 17:15 on the last day.