



City network for Sustainable Mobility and
Transport for Liveable Cities



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2026 IMPACTS Conference Programme

Resilience – the base for lasting sustainability in urban
mobility and transport

Gothenburg
20-22 May 2026



City of
Gothenburg

Welcome to Gothenburg



It is my great pleasure to welcome you to Gothenburg for the annual conference of the IMPACTS city network, taking place on 20–22 May 2026. We are honoured to host this year's conference, originally planned to take place

in Lviv, and we are grateful that the City of Lviv will still be present and contribute to the programme.

This year's conference focuses on a topic that is urgent for cities across Europe and has become even more important since Russia's aggression against Ukraine and its cities:

“Resilience – the base for lasting sustainability in urban mobility and transport.”

With its many dimensions – political, social, economic and ecological – resilience is crucial for cities across Europe. Gothenburg is an excellent place to discuss these issues. As a coastal city, questions of resilience related to climate change and flood risk are particularly relevant. The conference provides an important opportunity to openly share experiences and discuss new ideas to meet these challenges. Learning from each other has become more important than ever.

The programme will take a closer look at questions such as:

- What are the greatest risks cities might face in the future regarding mobility and transport?
- Are we adequately prepared for unexpected incidents and crises? If not, where are the key gaps?
- Do our cities have dedicated strategies for making mobility and transport systems more resilient – and what should such a strategy include?

After a keynote from the City of Lviv to set the frame for our conference topic, the programme will explore a broad range of subtopics through sessions and site visits, and through the conference's social programme. All details and further practical information can be found in this programme.

I hope you will have an inspiring and exciting conference, as well as a pleasant stay in Gothenburg. Late spring is a wonderful time to visit – I hope you may also have the opportunity to explore our city and its beautiful surroundings.

I am looking forward to see you soon in Gothenburg!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Aslan Abkas". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Aslan Abkas

Lord Mayor, City of Gothenburg



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Conference venues

Hotel Riverton - Conference venue

Stora Badhusgatan 26

Gothenburg

Wednesday evening

17:00 walking tour Start at Riverton Hotel

19:00 Informal reception: Hotel Riverton View Skybar

Thursday dinner: Departure 18:30 sharp from Stenpiren



Friday site visit walking tour: Departs from conference venue



Wednesday, May 20th

Gothenburg invites attendees to a city walk (with focus on redesign of public space) starting with a brief presentation meeting point: room (tbc) inside the hotel for a short introductory presentation (Mikael Ivvari, City of Gothenburg, Urban Environment Department, Senior Advisor) at Riverton Hotel from 17:00, which ends with informal drinks reception at the View skybar of Riverton at 19:00.

Thursday, May 21st

VENUE: Hotel Riverton Gothenburg, Stora Badhusgatan 26 (opens at 8:30 for registration).

Welcome

09:00 Opening of the conference and welcome by **Aslan Akbas, Mayor of Gothenburg**

09:10 Keynote: on general topic of the conference, special focus on the experiences in Ukraine/Lviv), **Oleh Zabarylo, City of Lviv, Director of the Department for urban mobility and street infrastructure, IMPACTS President**

Session 1: Where do we stand regarding resilient cities: weaknesses, challenges, questions, solutions – an open exchange

09:40 Chair: Burkhard Horn, IMPACTS Secretary
Discussion in 3 to 5 groups (moderation tbd) along three guiding questions (45 min)

Summarizing discussion in plenary (15 min)

Guiding questions:

- Where do you see the greatest risks cities might face in the future regarding mobility and transport?
- Is your city adequately prepared for unexpected incidents and crises? If not, what are the largest deficits?
- Does your city have a dedicated strategy for making mobility and transport systems more resilient? What does it look like?

10:40 - 11:00 Coffee break



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Session 2: Strategies for resilient and sustainable transport structures – the general view

Chair: **Mikael Ivari, City of Gothenburg, Urban Environment Department, Senior Advisor**

11:00 **Dublin City – A shift towards building a resilient city, Dermot Collins, City Engineer, Dublin City Council, Transportation & Public Realm Department**

Amsterdam’s strategic approach to vital systems in a growing city, TBC

Gothenburg strategic plan for climate change adaptation, Anna Gollunberg, City of Gothenburg, Program Manager Climate Adaptation

Format:

Presentations (15 min max, Q&A)

Followed by panel discussion in fishbowl format (45 min): “On the road to resilient cities – what do we need?”

session speakers plus keynote speaker plus one empty chair.

12:30 - 13:30 Lunch

Session 3: Strategies for resilient and sustainable transport structures – specific aspects

Chair: **Willem van Heijningen, City of Amsterdam, Directorate Infrastructure Traffic and Transport, Strategist**

13:30 **Strategic portfolio planning in Zurich to allocate financial resources effectively and efficiently, Rupert Wimmer, City of Zurich, Department for Civil Engineering, Head of transport and urban space planning (tbc)**

A new inclusive public space design process supporting the transformation of public space in Paris, Michèle-Angélique Nicol, City of Paris, Head of the PEPQA (Public Space Sharing and Air Quality) Department, Paris Mobility Agency

Resilient Historic Cities: Managing Pressure, Tourism, and Events in Rome without Losing Urban Function, Chiara di Majo, Rome Mobility Agency, Head of European Projects and Environmental Sustainability

Format:

Short inputs in the plenary (10 min each)

Discussion in parallel groups (40 min)

Summary in plenary (15 min)

15:00 Coffee Break



IMPACTS General Assembly

- Chair: **Burkhard Horn, IMPACTS Secretary**
- 15:15 Separate invitation, only for member cities.
- 18:30 Conference Dinner: Departure time for boat 18:30 sharp from Stenpiren
Dinner speech (on long-term questions and challenges from an external view (“look beyond the horizon”), James Thoem, Senior Project Manager, Gehl Architects)

Friday, May 22nd

Venue: Hotel Riverton Gothenburg, Stora Badhusgatan 26

Welcome for second conference day

- 08:45 Welcome
- 08:50 Wrap-Up: What have we learned from the dinner speech (discussion)?
- 09:15 Site visit - walking tour with focus on resilient infrastructure, preceded by short presentation at conference venue: Gothenburg storm surge program, Anna Karlsson, City of Gothenburg, Climate Adaptation Strategist
- 10:45 Coffee Break

Session 4: Resilience of public space and transport infrastructure

Chair: **Brendan O’Brien, Dublin City Council, Head of Technical Services, Transportation and Public Realm Department and Ivo Cré (POLIS, Director Policy and Projects)**

- 11:00 Part 1: New planning approaches
- Redundant transport systems in Madrid, **Pedro Fernandez, City of Madrid, Head of Department for International Projects – Mobility and Environment Area**
- The “Low traffic Grätzl” – a new approach for low budget measures to redesign public space, **Gregor Stratil-Sauer, City of Vienna, Department for Urban Development and Planning, Head of Mobility Strategies**
- Resilience through governance: when regulation becomes infrastructure (traffic safety by speed limits), **Chiara di Majo, Rome Mobility Agency, Head of European Projects and Environmental Sustainability**
- Planning and construction of the new metro line U5 in Hamburg, **Tina Wagner, City of Hamburg, Director-General of Transport**
- Part 2: Management of incidents, disasters and other crises
- How Amsterdam is preparing for a 72 hour power outage, **speaker and title tbc**

Mobility management in Barcelona during the regional railway service outage at the beginning of 2026, **Adrià Gomila, Barcelona City Council, Strategic Projects Manager of Barcelona Region**

(Re-)Building bridges in Berlin: approach and effects on the urban Infrastructure, **Julius Menge, Senate Department for Urban Mobility, Transport, Climate Action and the Environment in Berlin, Head of the Unit for Key Policy Issues of Mobility and Transport Development Planning**

Format: Short presentations (7-8 min) followed by short panel for Q&A after each part (15 min)

12:30 Closing of the conference - Mikael Ivvari and Burkhard Horn

12:45 Lunch (or lunch bags)

Notes



IMPACTS is a network of European capital and major metropolitan cities for exchanging their experiences in providing sustainable urban mobility and transport policies to create livable. It provides city Mayors and other elected officials with a lively forum to discuss transport issues and solutions with experienced technical experts.

More information:

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