

Message from the Editor

Last week I attended the Southern African Transport Conference in Pretoria. Apart from presenting my own paper on the Tran:SIT programme, I attended the Transport Planning and Public Transport sessions, as well as the SAICE Workshop on Progress towards 2010. There were a number of presentations that were particularly interesting to, in particular, Jeremy Wakeford's on the impact of global oil depletion. It was encouraging to see that much of the work being done in cities around the country is focussing much more on the improvement to public transport and non-motorised transport systems. The demands around the 2010 World Cup are obviously playing a role here, but a clear legacy of a sustainable public transport system is a top priority for the country. This edition of the e-Tran:SIT will focus on the progress towards meeting the deliverables of the 2010 World Cup.

I was pleased to see that the theme for the Conference next year is "Sustainable Transport" and hope that the papers provide some insight into what is happening in South Africa around this theme. *Lize*

City of Cape Town – On track for 2010

Guest Author : Niki Covary

The City of Cape Town is striving to leave a legacy of a high quality, reliable, efficient and safe transport system for all supporters of the 2010 World Cup and for the City's residents beyond 2010. The World Cup has acted as a catalyst in accelerating the implementation of investment in a sustainable transport system.

With the influx of thousands of visitors into Cape Town during the event, a detailed transport planning process is essential to ensure the successful operation of Cape Town's transportation system. The City's planning process is well underway. The Development Framework, High Level Transport Operations plans as well as Host City Transport Operations Plan have already been completed. Detailed Venue Transport Operational Plans for each of the key World Cup facilities are currently being developed and are to be completed in 2009. Funding has been allocated to major projects and construction and implementation on several projects has begun.

A key transport project is the implementation of the Cape Town Integrated Rapid Transit System, which is envisioned to improve journey times and enhance the quality of road based public transport during 2010 and beyond. Phase 1 of the project, which includes the Inner City, Airport and West Coast routes, is to be completed before 2010. Other key 2010 transport projects include : Upgrading of Koeberg Interchange; Upgrading of Hospital Bend; Granger Bay Boulevard; Rail Based Park and Ride; Public Transport Infrastructure Upgrade on public Transport Corridors; Public Transport and Bus upgrade on Corridors; Upgrade to Cape Town Station; Long Distance Coach Terminals; Non Motorised Transport Bridge – Bunga Avenue; Road Signage Upgrade; Integrated Fare Management Systems and the Stadium Precinct.

In addition to priority being given to public transport over private vehicles and the provision for non-motorised transport services, the City is also considering Eco-taxis and CBD bicycle rickshaw services as part of its "Green Goal" programme.

The Green Point Stadium is currently under construction and Cape Town is on track with preparations to host the World Cup. Most of Cape Town's upgraded transport systems will be tested during the final draw event that Cape Town has been awarded in December 2009. The plans will then be revised to ensure that the transport systems operate smoothly and efficiently for the World Cup. For more information visit www.capetown.gov.za/en/2010/Pages/default.aspx

Sustainability in the National Transport Plans

The National Department of Transport in its Transport Action Plan for 2010 has stressed the importance of leaving a legacy of quality transport services, infrastructure and systems that meets the efficiency, safety, quality and cost-effective requirements of the modern world.

The focus will be on prioritising public transport over private vehicles, and a target of between 50% and 70% of spectators using public transport to and from the stadiums is being discussed. The promotion of Travel Demand Management strategies is a key focus of the transport plans, including the use of Park 'n Ride infrastructure, High Occupancy Vehicle (HOV) lanes or other dedicated lanes and intelligent transport systems, including integrated ticketing, variable message.

The National Department is also promoting the purchasing and use of vehicles, particularly public transport vehicles that meet strict fuel consumption and emissions standards, in order to improve the environmental and energy efficiency of the public transport fleet.

Host City Transport Plans and Developments

Public transport improvements will be one of the legacies of the 2010 World Cup. These improvements aim to make commuting safer and more efficient as well as helping to alleviate traffic congestion and provide a suitable alternative to the private vehicle in light of increased fuel prices. A trend in public transport infrastructure upgrade is a move towards Bus Rapid Transit, which uses dedicated bus lanes or bus way corridors and modern, efficient buses. Associated with improved public transport infrastructure is an improved infrastructure for non-motorised transport, including pedestrian walkways to and from stations and dedicated pedestrian routes to the stadiums.

Some of the problems being experienced by most host cities in the implementation of their plans include: i) a lack of capacity both within the local authority, as well as with consultants and contractors, ii) the increased costs of contractors and supplies, and iii) delays due to approval process for EIA's, which are required for most of the infrastructure upgrades.

Another area of concern for the Host cities is the shortage of formal accommodation that is available for the spectators and the FIFA Family. This is a particular problem in Gauteng and some of the larger cities, who will be hosting the key matches, including the final and semi-finals. With some cities looking at accommodation at least 200km from the stadium, the transport plans that are required for match day, will need to take this into consideration.

If you would like to contribute to this newsletter or if you have any comments or questions, please contact us at lize@sustainable.org.za or call 021 702 3622 and ask for Lize Jennings.

Practical Tip

Holidays to exotic destinations not only cost more than the local alternative, but also have a greater carbon footprint. Try your own province for your next holiday and explore some of the natural wonders we have in our own backyard.

Editor's Choice

Mobility Magazine is a newly launched magazine and is for policy-makers, practitioners and transport users. It brings news, insight and personal experience of local and international transport policy and practice.

It will keep you updated on the latest developments on light rail, intelligent transport, Bus Rapid Transit Systems, bicycle master plans, travel demand management, Integrated Transport Planning, people movers, congestion pricing and more.

For more information and subscription details, visit www.mobility.magazine.co.za

Upcoming Events

The Chartered Institute of Logistics and Transport (CILTSA) in association with the Consumer Goods Council of South Africa (CGCSA) will be holding a "**How Green is Your Supply Chain?**" Conference on 28 August 2008, in Muldersdrift, Gauteng.

The conference will highlight the importance and impact of environmental issues on the supply chain and consider best practice for Green Supply Chains.

For more information, visit www.ciltsa.org.za

Sustainable Energy Africa (SEA)

Sustainable Energy Africa promotes sustainable energy approaches and practices through research, capacity building, information dissemination, project implementation, lobbying and networking. SEA manages the Urban TRAN:SIT Programme, which aims to build capacity in local government to develop more sustainable transport policy, strategy and implementation in South African cities.

