



Mobility Forum 2026

Heritage nodes, future flows: shaping mobility in timeless cities

18-20 March 2026

In cities where every street evokes the past, how do we design mobility systems that meet the needs of the future?

This year's Mobility Forum invites city leaders, planners, and innovators to explore that question – examining how heritage-rich cities can absorb increasing pressure while steering a more sustainable, interconnected future.

Set against the backdrop of cities like Rome, where ancient layers meet cutting-edge mobility solutions, the forum will look at how cities can manage mobility at moments of peak pressure, including major events, surges in tourism, daily rush hours, or seasonal changes. In line with the EU's forthcoming Tourism Strategy, discussions will focus on approaches that allow cities to deal with these pressures through cleaner, more efficient modes, such as public transport, cycling, walking, and micromobility, while enhancing the visitor experience and preserving the urban environment.

At the same time, with the EU aiming to double high-speed rail by 2030 and build a fully integrated network by 2040, rail is fast becoming a central pillar of Europe's climate ambitions. The forum will explore the vital role cities play as urban nodes within the TEN-T network: how they can welcome increased long-distance travellers, integrate stations seamlessly into local mobility hubs, collaborate across cities and regions to address shared challenges, and prioritise the investments needed to make rail-centred mobility and freight logistics a reality.

Beyond rail, the forum will also reflect broader European priorities shaping mobility in cities where historic urban landscapes meet growing transport demands. From managing tourism and visitor flows to ensuring that mobility systems are accessible to all, these themes highlight how cities can adapt infrastructure and services without compromising their cultural and spatial identity. They also point to the transition to cleaner and safer modes of transport; to the use of digital tools to create more responsive and connected mobility systems, guided by public value and transparent data governance; the need for sustained investment in complex urban environments; and the ambition to eliminate road deaths and serious injuries through safer street design and speed management.

These themes will come to life through interactive workshops and site visits, offering hands-on engagement with key aspects of urban mobility. Throughout the programme, the forum will explore how Europe's cities, ancient and modern alike, can honour their heritage while enabling the sustainable flows of the future. Join us as we imagine mobility in cities where every journey connects centuries.

Programme overview

Wednesday 18 March	Morning	High-Level Meeting - <i>upon invitation only</i>	Venue: Sala della Protomoteca
	Afternoon	Mobility Forum Opening session Policy Update Plenary panel 1 Plenary panel 2	Musei Capitolini, Campidoglio, 00186 Rome, Italy
	Evening	Welcome Reception	Venue: Terrazza Caffarelli Piazzale Caffarelli, 4, 00186 Roma RM, Italy
Thursday 19 March	Morning	Parallel workshops	Venue: Palazzo Valentini Via Quattro Novembre, 110/a, 00187 Rome, Italy
	Afternoon	Site visits	Leaving from Palazzo Valentini
	Evening	Official dinner	Venue: Palazzo delle Esposizioni Via Nazionale, 194, 00184 Roma RM, Italy
Friday 20 March	Morning	Cities on the MOVE: poster sessions Mobility Forum speed networking Closing session	Venue: Spazio Europa Via Quattro Novembre, 149, 00187 Roma RM, Italy

Contacts

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[Register Here](#)

DAY 1: 18 March 2026

Venue: Sala della Protomoteca
Musei Capitolini, Campidoglio, 00186 Rome, Italy

11:30 – 14:00	High-Level meeting <i>for political representatives only</i> Room: <i>Laudato Si</i>
13:00 – 14:15	Registrations
14:15 – 14:30	Forum Opening Ceremony and Mayor Address
14:30 – 15:00	Policy update
15:00 – 16:00	Plenary 1: When the World Arrives: what cities learn when mobility is stress-tested <p>Major events, tourism peaks and daily rush hours can push urban mobility systems to their limits, forcing cities to balance the everyday needs of residents with the very different expectations of visitors. This session highlights how political leadership, major public transport investments, active-mobility measures and data-driven solutions help cities stay liveable and accessible – while advancing a more sustainable and responsible European tourism model.</p>
16:00 – 16:30	Coffee Break & Family photo
16:30 – 17:30	Plenary 2: Are Cities on Track to Enable the European Rail Revolution? <p>Rail is Europe's cleanest and most reliable mode for daily and long-distance travel, yet its full potential depends on how well it connects into urban mobility systems. This session explores what is needed to better integrate long-distance and regional rail with local transport, active mobility, micromobility and urban logistics. We will look at how cities, as urban nodes, can develop multimodal hubs, strengthen first- and last-mile links, and put in place the funding, governance with other national and regional players, and planning frameworks required for seamless passenger and freight connections, while reflecting on measures to further incentivise passengers' modal shift to commuter rail.</p>
19:00-22:00	Welcome Reception Venue: Terrazza Caffarelli (Piazzale Caffarelli, 4, 00186 Roma RM, Italy)

DAY 2: 19 March 2026

Venue: Palazzo Valentini

Via Quattro Novembre, 110/a, 00187 Rome, Italy

09:30 – 11:00	Speed management for Safer Cities: 30km/h Task Force meeting ➤ More details at page 6	When trans-European flows hit local realities ➤ More details at page 7	Better route planning for persons with disabilities ➤ More details at page 8	Large sport events and sustainable mobility policies ➤ More details at page 9
11:00 – 11:30	Coffee break			
11:30 – 13:00	Cycling and walking in cities: active mobility in all circumstances ➤ More details at page 10	Beyond mobility: integrated urban planning for liveable and resilient neighbourhoods ➤ More details at page 11	Stakeholder engagement for data-based inclusive mobility planning ➤ More details at page 12	From Rome to Europe: Accelerating Clean Bus Deployment Through Smart Procurement ➤ More details at page 13
13:00 – 14:00	Lunch			
14:00 - 17:30	Site visits – more details on the site visits are available here			
	Site visit 1: Award-Winning Regeneration: Rome's high line Cycling tour			
	Site visit 2: New Metro Stations Porta Metronia & Colosseo-Fori Imperiali			
	Site visit 3: Metro Cantiere di Piazza Venezia in parallelo			
	Site visit 4: Inside Portonaccio: Powering a Zero-Emission Fleet			
	Site visit 5: Human Speed: Piazza Pia and Zone 30			
	Site visit 6: A Multimodal Journey Across Rome's Past and Future			
19:30 – 22:30	Official Dinner Venue: Palazzo delle Esposizioni (Via Nazionale, 194, 00184 Roma RM, Italy)			

DAY 3: 20 March 2026

Venue: Spazio Europa, De Gasperi e Sassoli

09:00 – 09:30	Networking coffee
09:30 – 10:30	<p>Cities on the MOVE: poster session</p> <p>APPLY NOW! Become a protagonist at the next forum meeting</p> <p>Would you like to showcase a success story? Are you facing a particular challenge that you would like to discuss with peers? Would you like to share the results from one of your projects?</p> <p>This session is made for you! Read how to apply to have your city featured in the poster session HERE.</p> <p>Deadline to apply: 13 February 2026</p>
10:30 – 11:00	Coffee break
11:00 – 12:30	<p>Mobility Forum speed networking</p> <p>Find out all the latest burning issues we have been working on. Different thematic tables will be chaired by Eurocities mobility team colleagues, you will be able to sit and chat with us for three 20-minute rounds.</p>
12:30 – 12:45	Mobility Forum closing

Speed management for Safer Cities: 30km/h Task Force meeting

DAY 2: 19 March 2026

Venue: Via Quattro Novembre, 110/a, 00187 Rome, Italy

Concept:

This Task Force workshop aims to **discuss, validate and enrich** the findings of the *Eurocities Pulse Survey on the implementation and impacts of speed reduction in European cities* that we conducted in 2025. Based on extensive data collected from cities across Europe, the survey provides evidence on governance frameworks, implementation pathways, enforcement, communication strategies and the safety, environmental and social impacts of 30 km/h policies.

The workshop will support the development of a **survey-based report and policy statement** by testing preliminary conclusions, identifying gaps, and gathering additional qualitative insights from Task Force members. Particular attention will be given to **data availability, indicators used, impact assessment methods and evidence needs** to strengthen advocacy at EU and national level.

Speakers / Case Studies

Participants will contribute as expert discussants, drawing on their city experiences and survey responses. The session will be facilitated by **Clarisse De Cerjat & Kateřina Kührová**.

Methodology for the Workshop

The workshop will be structured around **thematic discussion tables**, each linked to key chapters of the survey report (e.g. governance and legal frameworks, implementation and enforcement, communication and acceptance, impact assessment, challenges and lessons learned). Participants will review draft findings, validate interpretations, and provide additional examples, data points and recommendations to strengthen the final outputs.

When trans-European flows hit local realities

DAY 2: 19 March 2026

Venue: Via Quattro Novembre, 110/a, 00187 Rome, Italy

Concept:

Long-distance passenger and freight transport corridors, such as rail, road, and inland waterways have a significant impact on cities and urban regions. While they are essential for European connectivity and economic development, they can also generate negative externalities at the local level, including congestion, noise, air pollution, land-use pressure, and social impacts. Addressing these challenges often requires targeted investments and coordinated planning.

Effective responses depend on strong collaboration across governance levels, involving cities, regions, national authorities, and international partners. This session will explore how cities and regions are responding to trans-European transport flows, highlighting concrete initiatives, studies, and governance approaches that aim to balance European connectivity with local urban quality of life.

Speakers / Case Studies:

- *(Speakers to be confirmed)*

Methodology:

- **Welcome and introductory presentation:** Overview of CEF-related work by Eurocities (10 minutes)
- **Introductory case presentations:** Three short pitches from speakers (3 × 5 minutes)
- **Moderated roundtable discussion:** In-depth discussion with speakers, focusing on lessons learned, governance challenges, and transferability of approaches (approx. 60 minutes total)

Better route planning for persons with disabilities

DAY 2: 19 March 2026

Venue: Via Quattro Novembre, 110/a, 00187 Rome, Italy

Concept:

Accessible route planning is essential for enabling independent mobility and full participation in urban life for persons with disabilities. While many cities are investing in digital tools and inclusive mobility services, challenges remain around the availability, quality, and use of accessibility data, as well as coordination between transport, public space, and digital planning. This 90-minute workshop brings together city practitioners, accessibility experts, and mobility stakeholders to explore how better route planning can be achieved through more inclusive design, improved data practices, and user-centred approaches. Discussions will focus on high-level principles, shared challenges, and emerging practices, highlighting how cities can move from fragmented solutions to more coherent, reliable, and accessible routing experiences that support diverse needs across the urban mobility system.

Large sport events and sustainable urban mobility policies

DAY 2: 19 March 2026

Venue: Via Quattro Novembre, 110/a, 00187 Rome, Italy

Concept:

Sports events can place significant pressure on cities and their transport networks due to large influxes of spectators and increased traffic. Encouraging the use of public transport and active mobility can help ease congestion, reduce environmental impacts, and improve overall transport efficiency. It is easy to see how travel to sporting events can disrupt families enjoying a peaceful weekend walk, affect neighbourhood life, and unnecessarily increase stress, traffic, and pollution. **Reducing the pressure that major sports events place on cities is therefore both achievable and essential.**

Cycling and walking in cities: active mobility in all circumstances

DAY 2: 19 March 2026

Venue: Via Quattro Novembre, 110/a, 00187 Rome, Italy

Concept:

The catchphrase 'active mobility' has a main benefit: it refers to all modes of transport which use human energy as their main 'fuel', and therefore deliver sustainable alternative to motorised traffic, in terms of air pollution, noise and public space use. This is mainly used to refer to walking and cycling. However, this phrase also hides a diversity of practices, of contexts and of conditions. Because of this diversity, walking and cycling deserve proper development: from planning to infrastructure, implementation and monitoring.

This session covers the different facets of walking and cycling in European cities, and will present some good practices already implemented across the continent to fully exploit the potential of active mobility.

Beyond mobility: integrated urban planning for liveable and resilient neighbourhoods

DAY 2: 19 March 2026

Venue: Via Quattro Novembre, 110/a, 00187 Rome, Italy

Concept:

This interactive workshop, co-developed with Chaire ETI within their work on [Sustainable Urban Proximities](#), explores how integrated urban planning can deliver mixed-use, resilient neighbourhoods that balance multiple priorities — from energy and green transitions to sustainable mobility, service accessibility, and social inclusion. Using scenarios and personas, participants will explore how cities can turn integrated planning strategies into tangible actions that break down silos, foster change, and generate positive impact.

The workshop will provide participants with practical insights and inspiration to advance integrated and resilient urban development in their own contexts.

Methodology:

- Four discussion tables with structured material, each centered on a single case study.
- Participants will receive a scenario describing a specific urban challenge and be assigned distinct personas. The workshop will run through multiple rounds to uncover assumptions and lock-ins from diverse perspectives in the process of urban planning and collaboratively develop solutions to their challenge.

Stakeholder engagement for data-based inclusive mobility planning

DAY 2: 19 March 2026

Venue: Via Quattro Novembre, 110/a, 00187 Rome, Italy

Concept:

Cities across Europe are increasingly using **data-driven tools**, digital platforms and smart mobility solutions to improve transport efficiency and reduce environmental impacts. Yet data and technology alone are not sufficient to deliver sustainable, inclusive and equitable mobility systems. Governance frameworks, data-sharing practices and stakeholder engagement often struggle to keep pace with rapid digital change, creating gaps between data availability and effective decision-making.

This workshop explores how data-informed participatory approaches and multi-level collaboration can help bridge this gap. Through the lens of the [GOLIA project](#), three cities will briefly present their local mobility use cases, focusing on data needs, stakeholder engagement challenges and lessons learned in using mobility data to support sustainability, accessibility and social equity objectives.

From Rome to Europe: Accelerating Clean Bus Deployment Through Smart Procurement

DAY 2: 19 March 2026

Venue: Via Quattro Novembre, 110/a, 00187 Rome, Italy

Concept:

Rome is accelerating its transition to zero-emission buses through large-scale procurement, coordinated infrastructure investment, and strong public–private collaboration, supported by national and EU funding. As one of Europe’s largest and most complex urban transport systems, the city illustrates how clean bus deployment goes beyond vehicle purchasing to include depots, charging infrastructure, grid connections, and operational planning. This workshop brings together city authorities, transport operators, industry stakeholders, and European experts to reflect on Rome’s progress and exchange practical experiences from across Europe. Discussions will explore how smart procurement can accelerate clean bus uptake while supporting wider sustainability goals and Europe’s strategic and economic development.