



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 Updates 40 Years of Eurocities 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	<p>High-Level meeting for political representatives only</p> <p><i>Room: Laudato Si</i></p>
13:00 – 14:15	<p>Registrations</p>
14:15 – 14:30	<p>Forum Opening Ceremony and Mayor Address</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Roberto Gualtieri, Mayor, Rome
14:30 – 15:00	<p>Policy update</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • André Sobczak, Secretary General, Eurocities • Thomas Lymes, Policy Director, Eurocities
15:00 – 16:00	<p>Plenary 1: When the World Arrives: what cities learn when mobility is stress-tested</p> <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> <p>Moderator: André Sobczak, Eurocities Secretary General</p> <p>Speakers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Eugenio Patanè, Deputy Mayor for Sustainable Mobility and Transport, Rome • Lars Strömgren, Vice Mayor for Transport and Urban Environment, Stockholm • Elke Van den Brandt, Minister of Mobility, Public Works and Road Safety, Brussels-Capital Region
16:00 – 16:30	<p>Coffee Break & Family photo</p>

DAY 1: 18 March 2026

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

<p>16:30 – 17:30</p>	<p>Plenary 2: Are Cities on Track to Enable the European Rail Revolution?</p> <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> <p>Moderator:</p> <p>Isabelle Vandoorne, Deputy Head of Unit, Directorate-General for Mobility and Transport</p> <p>Speakers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Arne Herz, Permanent Secretary for Mobility and Transport, Berlin • Jaromír Beránek, Deputy Mayor for Transport, Prague • Elodie Petrozziello, Research Associate, European University Institute/Florence School of Regulation
<p>19:00-22:00</p>	<p>Welcome Reception</p> <p>Venue: Terrazza Caffarelli (Piazzale Caffarelli, 4, 00186 Roma RM, Italy)</p>

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			
19:30 – 22:30	Site visit 6: A Multimodal Journey Across Rome’s Past and Future			
	Official Dinner Venue: Palazzo delle Esposizioni (Via Nazionale, 194, 00184 Roma RM, Italy)			

DAY 3: 20 March 2026

Venue: Spazio Europa, Via Quattro Novembre, 149, 00187 Roma, Italy.

<p>09:00 – 10:30</p> <p>Cities on the MOVE: poster session</p> <p><i>Showcased through posters, in this session you will have the chance to hear about challenges, success stories and results from:</i></p>	<p>Espoo - A Freight Dilemma: how to accelerate the shift to clean city logistics? - Mari Pääta, Development Manager</p> <p>EMT Madrid - Advancing Public Transport Automation: EMT Madrid's Integrated CCAM Strategy - Sergio Fernández Balaguer, Head of International Department</p> <p>Cycling Counts - Cycling data in the EU - Thomas Mourey, Project Coordinator, Eurocities</p> <p>JUST STREETS - Co-Creating a School-Street: Equity, Accessibility and Shared Ownership in Braga - Filipa Corais, Head of Mobility Department</p> <p>Rotterdam - How to nudge? Lessons from pilots on changing mobility behaviour - Kevin van der Linden, Mobility Strategist</p>	<p>Rome - Transforming School Streets Through Art - Iolanda Fiori & Fabrizio Benvenuti, RSM Resp. "Strade scolastiche" project</p> <p>Braga - Making Urban Mobility More Inclusive: Reclaiming Braga's Streets for People - Sandra Brito, Architect at the Mobility Department</p> <p>Ungheni - Pedals in Motion: Ungheni Rides Together for Velo Friday - Victoria Darie, Project Manager</p> <p>AMAT Milan - ELABORATOR: A Data-Driven Decision Support System for Universal Accessibility in Milan - Andrea Canevazzi, Head of Universal Accessibility Unit AMAT</p> <p>CodeZERO - Cities' role in shaping sustainable e-commerce delivery solutions - Anne-Charlotte Trapp, Project Coordinator, Eurocities</p>
<p>10:30 – 11:00</p>	<p>Coffee break</p>	
<p>11:00 – 11:30</p>	<p>Mobility Forum updates and upcoming activities</p> <p>Find all about the latest burning issues we have been working on. In this session the Eurocities Mobility Team will provide updates on the work we are carrying out in working groups and task forces, as well as opportunities for members coming from EU funded projects.</p>	
<p>11:30 – 12:45</p> <p>Celebrate with us 40 Years of Eurocities</p> <p><i>You will be able to join one of the two parallel sessions on the right</i></p>	<p>40 Years of Change: Lessons From the Past, Priorities for the Future</p> <p>Forty years on, European cities have transformed how people and goods move. What did we change, what did we learn, and where do we go next? In this interactive session, city peers will fast-scan the past four decades, share turning points, and discuss the next-decade priorities for urban mobility. Join to help shape a shared agenda for 2030–2035 and capture commitments we can carry forward across the Eurocities network.</p>	<p>Fail Forward: Stories of Trial, Error & Learning</p> <p>Progress is paved with imperfect experiments. In this “Fail Forward” session, cities will share short, candid stories of mobility initiatives that didn’t land as planned, and the pivots that followed. Chatham House Rule applies; no recording without consent.</p> <p>Come to learn from what didn’t work—so the next thing does.</p>
<p>12:45 – 13:00</p>	<p>Mobility Forum closing</p>	

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:

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**.

A presentation on Rome Zone 30 will be delivered during the meeting by **Daria Giura**, Director, Directorate for the Planning and Implementation of Sustainable Mobility Plans, Rome.

Format:

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:

- **Leif Gjesing Hansen**, Project Leader & **Louise Svensson**, Business developer, City of Malmo – Impacts of the Fehmarnbelt Fixed Link on Malmo: expected effects, future perspectives, and local investment needs
- **Martine Vazquez**, Head of Unit – Sustainable Economic Development, Grand Paris Metropole – The Seine River Axis cooperation between local authorities, Metropolitan areas and port authorities along the Seine on urban and long-distance logistics.
- **Sébastien Rabuel**, Head of the Mobility Analysis, Planning and Evaluation Department, Grand Lyon Metropole – Lyon’s Rail Saturation: unlocking a key bottleneck for European connectivity and local mobility.
- **Tim Neugebauer**, Policy Advisor, Mobility Coordinator, City of Mannheim. Challenges and opportunities of an Urban Nodes at the crossroad of three corridors.

Format:

- **Welcome and introductory presentation:** Overview of CEF-related work by Eurocities (10 minutes)
- **Introductory case presentations:** Four short pitches from speakers (4 × 5 minutes)
- **Moderated roundtable discussion:** In-depth discussion with speakers, focusing on lessons learned, governance challenges, and transferability of approaches (approx. 55 minutes total)
- **Summary and wrap up:** Session closing, summarizing the key outcomes of the workshop (5 min)

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.

Speakers:

- **Andrea Canevazzi**, Architect Ph.D., AMAT Milan
- **Vishruth Krishnan**, Data Scientist, Amsterdam
- **Borbála Ivicsics**, Accessibility Officer, BKK Centre for Budapest Transport (*tbc*)

Format:

- **Welcome and scene setting:** introduction to the subject and objective of the discussion by Eurocities (5 minutes)
- **Speakers' presentations:** speakers will present how they are working to develop or have developed accessible route planners for person with disabilities (3 x 15 min – including Q&A)
- **Moderated roundtable discussion:** In-depth discussion among speakers and workshop participants, aimed at understanding how other cities are working on this subject, what type of data city collects when it comes to accessibility, how far are cities in the development of route planners for person with disabilities. (approx. 30 minutes total)
- **Summary and next steps:** summary of workshop outcomes and overview of our upcoming work on this subject in the framework of the Eurocities Barrier-free City for All WG (10 min)

Large sport events and sustainable urban mobility policies

DAY 2: 19 March 2026

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

Concept:

Large sport events are critical stress tests for urban mobility systems. Sudden peaks in travel demand, driven by tens of thousands of spectators, staff, and service vehicles, can overwhelm transport networks, reduce service reliability, and negatively affect residents' daily mobility patterns. Effective mobility management is therefore essential to safeguard accessibility, minimise congestion, and advance cities' climate and public-space objectives.

This session explores how cities can apply mobility management strategies to plan, operate, and monitor transport patterns during major events. By leveraging public transport prioritisation, active mobility measures, shared mobility coordination, real-time data, and targeted communication campaigns, cities can significantly reduce car dependency while ensuring smooth travel for both residents and sport events crowds. The insights from the workshop will feed into an upcoming CIVITAS Policy Paper on Large Events and Mobility Management.

Speakers:

- **Chiara Di Majo**, Senior European Projects Officer Rome Mobility Agency (RSM) & **Francesco Iacorossi**, UPPER Project Coordinator, Eurocities – Roma Gioca Sostenibile – Leveraging the power of communication for behavioural change
- **Karin Jonson**, REALLOCATE Project Manager, Gothenburg – Collaboration with Frölunda Hockey Club - Nudging fans towards sustainable modes
- **Clémence Castell**, EU Innovation Projects Manager, Instant System – Digital mobility services, MaaS insights and lessons from the 2024 Paris Olympics
- **Anestis Papanikolaou**, AI Product Manager (Mobility), Volkswagen – Innovative solutions for integrated mobility management in the GEMINI Munich's living lab

Format:

- **Welcome and Introduction from Eurocities:** Welcome and Scene-setting on mobility management for large events (5 minutes)
- **Speakers' presentations and Q&A** (45 minutes)
- **Interactive Group Discussions:** Participants split into two parallel groups for in-depth exchange (30 minutes)
- **Summary and next steps:** summary of workshop outcomes and overview of our upcoming work on this subject in the framework of the CIVITAS Policy Paper on Large Events and Mobility Management (10 min)

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:

Active mobility refers to modes of transport powered primarily by human energy—most notably walking and cycling. These modes bring clear advantages over motorised travel, including reduced air and noise pollution and more efficient use of public space. Yet active mobility is far from uniform: walking and cycling behaviours vary significantly depending on local context, climate, infrastructure, and social and cultural factors. Unlocking their full potential therefore requires thoughtful planning, targeted investment, and continuous monitoring.

This session explores several dimensions of walking and cycling, including strategies to encourage cycling in adverse weather conditions, transforming streets around schools to improve walkability, and ways to address transport poverty through more inclusive and affordable active mobility options.

In the second part of the session, participants will break into smaller groups for interactive discussions focused on overcoming common barriers and assumptions that have historically or culturally limited the uptake of active modes. The aim is to exchange practical approaches and real-life measures that cities have used to make walking and cycling natural, attractive, and accessible choices for everyday travel.

Speakers:

- **Heike Bunte**, Head of Mobility, Department of Public Space management, Hamburg – Borough of Altona
- **Rachel Scott**, Active Travel Manager, Transport for Greater Manchester
- **Marisdea Castiglione**, Rome Mobility Agency (RSM)
- *City tbc*

Format:

- **Welcome:** Introduction to the topic and format of the session (5 minutes)
- **Presentations:** Four presentations focusing each on a particular type of conditions of active modes (4 × 10 minutes)
- **Interactive discussion:** two rounds of discussions, focusing on practical approaches and real-life measures (2x20 minutes)
- **Summary and wrap up:** Session closing, summarizing the key outcomes of the workshop (5 min)

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 sustainable logistics and mobility to green transitions, 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.

Speakers:

- **Filipa Corais**, Head of Mobility Division, Braga
- **Erlijn Mulder**, EU Representative & **Rens Jonker**, Mobility Coordinator Management, Utrecht
- **Victoria Herslöf**, Strategist Urban Logistics & **Amanda Baumgartner**, Head of Strategy and EU Affairs, Stockholm
- **Laura Trujillo Parra**, Head of Planning and Evaluation, Barcelona

Format:

- Four discussion tables with structured material, each centred on a city and specific challenge.
- Participants will receive a scenario describing a specific challenge in one of the four cities participating in the session and be assigned distinct personas to discuss solutions on how to overcome this challenge. The workshop will run through multiple rounds to uncover assumptions and lock-ins from diverse perspectives in the process of urban planning decision making 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.

Speakers:

- **Michiel Penne**, Coordinator Smart ways to Antwerp, Antwerp
- Florence (speaker tbc)
- Pilsen (speaker tbc)
- **Suzanne Green**, Project Manager, EU projects & **Jonas Malmryd**, Project Manager - ITS, Gothenburg
- **Sergio Fernández Balaguer**, Head of the International and EU Projects Department, EMT Madrid

Format:

Welcome and Introduction by Eurocities: Scene-setting on the importance of inclusive, data-informed mobility planning and overview of the workshop flow (10 min)

City Presentations & Peer Contributions (50 min)

- GOLIA cities: Antwerp, Pilsen, Florence (3 × 10 min)
- Peer inputs: Gothenburg (REALLOCATE) & EMT Madrid (MobilitiesForEU) (2 × 10 min)

Interactive Group Discussions: Participants split into three parallel tables, each dedicated to one GOLIA city, for peer-review style feedback and practical exchange (25 min)

Summary and Next Steps: Wrap-up of key takeaways and upcoming Eurocities work on data-driven inclusive mobility planning (5 min)

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.

Speakers:

- London (speaker tbc)
- Sofia (speaker tbc)
- Rome/ATAC (speaker tbc)
- Job Steneker, Province of Utrecht (*tbc*)

Format:

- **Welcome and scene setting:** introduction to the subject and objective of the discussion by Eurocities (5 minutes)
- **Speakers’ presentations:** The speakers will share practical experiences and lessons on how to accelerate the shift to zero-emission bus fleets. They will highlight different procurement approaches, infrastructure investments, and operational strategies that enable large-scale deployment of clean buses. (4 x 10 min – including Q&A)
- **Moderated roundtable discussion:** Participants will discuss how smart procurement can accelerate clean bus uptake while supporting wider sustainability goals and Europe’s strategic and economic development. (approx. 30 minutes total)
- **Summary and next steps:** summary of workshop outcomes and overview of our upcoming work on this subject (10 min)