

BACK TO BETTER MOBILITY

MANIFESTO



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The coronavirus pandemic has spread rapidly across the globe, causing a complete halt in daily activities and giving new meaning to what's considered "essential" in life.



Despite the nearly 90% drop in public transport ridership around the world, the sector has stepped forward into the front lines to help fight the coronavirus. As the pandemic puts our society and economies under pressure, our Guardians of Mobility, have kept our cities moving.

Together, we have been responding to short-term emergencies, but now we must move beyond, ensure the survival of the public transport and seize a historical, unique opportunity to start over and shape the future of our cities.

We certainly want to restart urban life and relaunch economic activity, but we don't want to go back to an inefficient urban mobility which was feeding the climate

This is our chance to build back better bringing cities back to people.

crisis, causing millions of untimely deaths and chronic health problems with road danger, air pollution and lack of physical activity, and jeopardising our economic life with traffic congestion.

We don't want to go from lockdown back to gridlock.

This is our chance to build back better bringing cities back to people.

Decision makers must act now to prevent the current health crisis leading to a much bigger social, environmental and economic crisis.

Public transport, as the backbone of urban mobility, is fundamental to building resilient cities, to combating climate change, preventing the 'bounce back' of air pollution, encouraging healthy, active lifestyles, and boosting local economies leaving no one and no place behind.

All these challenges will not be met without a clear priority given to public transport as a vital pillar for economic, social and environmental recovery, both in the short and long term.

We need to go back to better mobility to build better cities, and better lives.

Our future is in your hands!



BREATHE BETTER



A future without public transport is a future without clean air.

Eight million premature deaths are due to air pollution, causing up to 1/3 of deaths from the leading non-communicable diseases (stroke, lung cancer, heart attacks and chronic obstructive pulmonary disease).

Over 90% of the world's population live in areas where air pollution exceeds safe levels. There must therefore be no 'back to normal' after the coronavirus where it is dangerous to merely breathe.

Public transport is four times more efficient per pax-km than private cars. Every kilometre travelled via public transport saves 95 grams of GHG emissions and 19 grams of NO_x compared to using motorised individual transport.

By fighting emissions on a local level with more public transport and active mobility, we can breathe more easily, reverse the trend of the climate crisis and save our planet.

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MOVE BETTER

A future without public transport is a future where active travel and free movement in cities will be limited, congested and even dangerous.

Public transport enables a healthier, more active lifestyle in cities. Active travel and public transport are complementary and mutually beneficial, support to one being likely to induce an increase in the modal share of the other.

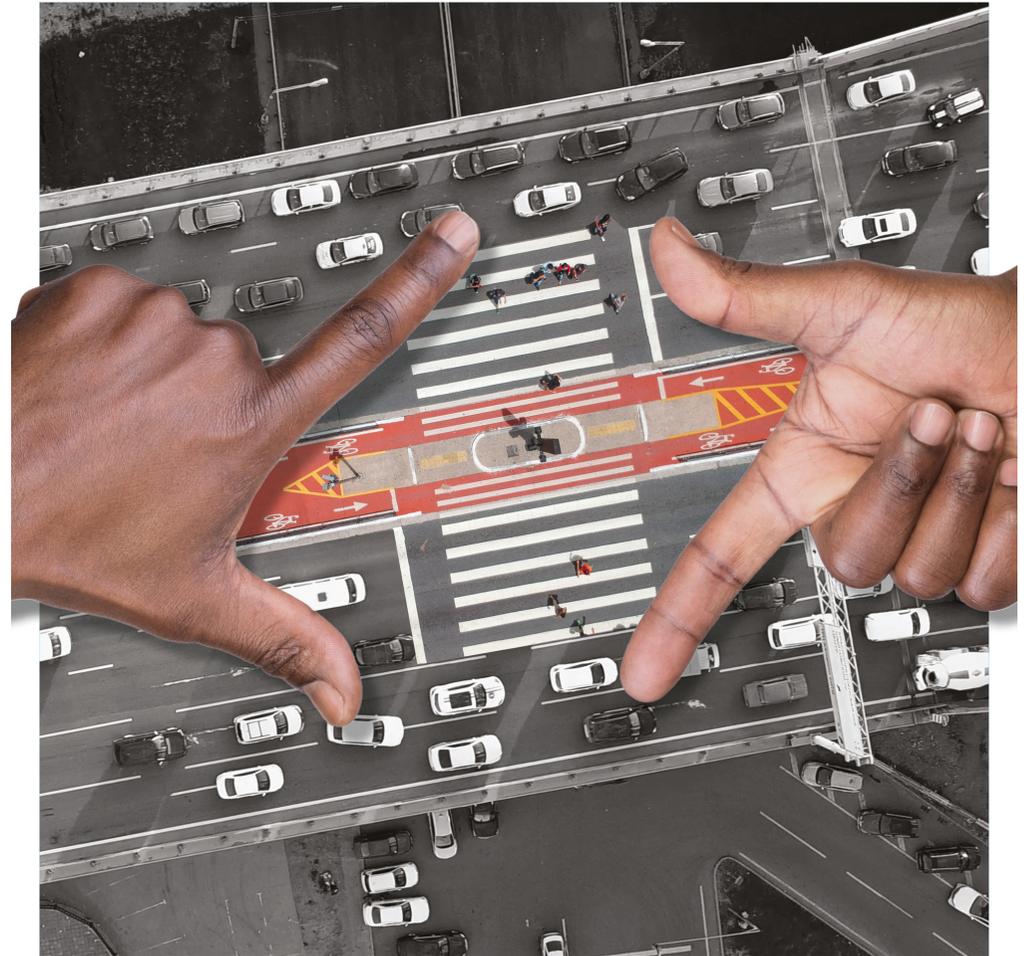
However, there needs to be a safe and accessible walking and cycling option in cities which involves careful coordination and planning.

Road traffic accidents are the 10th leading cause of death globally, responsible for around 1.2 million deaths each year, costing governments up to 3% of their GDP.

As recognised by SDG 11.2, access to a safe and sustainable urban transport system for all is critical for better cities and improving road safety.

It is time we stopped accepting so many deaths and reclaim the space to move around our cities safely and easily.

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WORK BETTER



A future without public transport will damage the economy further.

Public transport, cities and economies thrive simultaneously. We have seen the necessity of public transport services, especially in times of crisis: cities simply cannot afford to lose essential mobility services.

Public transport provides an increased connectivity to public services, work and leisure, allowing more people to travel smoothly within the urban space available.

The math is simple: more people reaching more employment, studies and businesses more easily will result in more opportunities for all. This, in turn, spurs social and territorial cohesion and local developments.

Investing in public transport will furthermore protect millions of local jobs worldwide, as well as boost job creation with new expansion and renovation projects in the pipeline.

Public transport, driven by innovation and service quality, plays a key role in rebuilding flourishing local economies in which all of us may thrive, putting people at the heart.

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