



Challenges of Sustainable Urban Mobility Planning in Theory and Practice

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Message from the Guest Editors

Whilst not explicitly called Sustainable Urban Mobility Plans (SUMPs), this approach to transport planning has been in existence in the shape of French Plans Deplacement Urbain (PDU), or English Local Transport Plans (LTPs), since the 1990s. As more cities and governments set objectives and targets to reduce pollution from urban transport, improve quality of life in cities and tackle road safety problems, so SUMP has become more well-known and it is now recommended by the European Commission as the core of urban transport planning, in the shape of its Guidelines for Developing and Implementing a Sustainable Urban Mobility Plan. Whilst they highlight some of the challenges in sustainable urban mobility planning, such as scenario testing or measure selection, as might be expected from a set of guidelines, they do not take a critical view of the SUMP process and its component parts, especially in view of the differing planning cultures and administrative contexts of the countries and urban areas in which they are implemented.





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