



Sign-up for the **Podcar City** Conference

- San Jose, November 30th - December 1st 2023

What's in this newsletter?

- Reimagining Mobility
- There Is A Better Way!
- Keynote & Conference Program
- Threshold of change!
- Our Sponsors

Get involved

We would love for you as a major stakeholder and interested party to have the opportunity to use this event in the best way possible. Please contact us if you have any questions or want to get involved.

See our sponsor packages at podcarcity.org

Reimagining **Mobility**

Podcar City challenges the car-centric culture that has dominated the world since the 1950s. The automotive industry, aware of the negative consequences of a concrete and steel world, deliberately pushed for more roads and parking to accommodate the surging number of cars. Highways were hailed as the ultimate solution, promising universal freedom, the result was more cars and wider roads. This relentless cycle eradicated walkable neighborhoods for growing traffic.

Podcars offer a compelling alternative to individual car ownership, promoting shared, comfortable, on-demand, non-stop, and affordable travel that bypasses perpetual congestion. Solar-powered, they reduce reliance on nonrenewable resources while ensuring sustainable, inclusive, and affordable urban mobility. Podcar City advocates for a future of efficient, eco-friendly transportation.

Now is the time to think BIG and work out a solution. Join us at Podcar City.

Planning automated shared mobility
Nov 30th - Dec 1st 2023
 **Podcar City** 2023



- **Christer Lindström**

CEO 4Dialog and
Podcar City





There Is a **Better** Way!

Urban areas globally are struggling with increasing vehicle congestion. Electric, autonomous vehicles (AVs) offer the promise of easing traffic and reducing travel times but in reality, these expectations are not what they deliver. They simply make sitting in traffic less stressful by handing over the driving to a “robot.” In fact, they may worsen congestion and pose safety concerns. As we face these challenges, we need to re-examine our attitudes and embrace recent innovations to address urban sprawl, traffic congestion, and the cost of building new roads and transit systems.



Automated Transit Networks (ATNs): A Promising Solution

ATNs, fully autonomous vehicles traveling on grade-separated guideways, are emerging as a practical and efficient transit option. They operate on dedicated paths, free from intersections, pedestrians, bikes, or scooters. Unlike conventional

AVs, ATNs provide non-stop and affordable journeys. Mark Twain once said, “History doesn’t repeat itself, but it rhymes” – this quote is especially prescient when it comes to mass transit. Historical data shows that transit systems separated from regular road traffic, like subways and elevated trains, have thrived over time because they offer predictable and reliable travel, immune from congestion. That is the promise of ATNs, separate vehicles from anything that will force a stop, and provide rides virtually unmatched in efficiency.

Why Not Expand Subways and Elevated Trains?

The answer is these systems are now just too expensive to build and operate. Expanding conventional subway and elevated train systems is a costly endeavor, with construction costs often exceeding \$1 billion per mile. Despite being very good at moving large numbers of people during peak times, operating expenses are also high as these systems frequently operate near empty or at partial capacity during non-peak hours. ATNs provide a cost-effective alternative, with construction costs similar to building a bike path. Moreover, ATNs are capable of flexibly moving a low, medium or high capacity of passengers as required, without operating at a loss with empty seats.

The ATN Advantage: Lower Costs and Enhanced Experience

ATNs not only reduce costs but also provide an exceptional rider experience, which increases demand.



- Riders will always opt for private AVs when given the choice between sharing a train or bus with dozens of others and enjoying exclusive travel for themselves or a group of up to four peers.
- Riders will always prefer on-demand services over being compelled to adhere to a fixed transit schedule.
- Riders will always choose non-stop rides at a comfortable 30 mph over journeys mired in traffic, plagued by congestion, intersections, and frequent stops.
- Riders will always favor the ATN option, providing a private, congestion-free journey at the cost of a public transit fare, over premium-priced ride-hailing services like Uber and Lyft, which also end in traffic delays and congestion.

ATNs offer these advantages at transit-like fares, shifting our perspective on future transit. When systems provide an outstanding experience within a cost-efficient structure, they create a self-sustaining network, expanding to serve more destinations and riders.

ATNs: A Paradigm Shift in Public Transit

ATNs present an opportunity for public transit agencies and the private sector to develop modern transit systems rapidly and cost-effectively. These high-tech systems integrate autonomous driving and AI-powered coordination into dedicated lanes. ATNs are no longer science fiction; they are on the verge of becoming an integral part of our transportation network. They will play a vital role in providing reliable, accessible, and affordable transportation to underserved communities, ultimately increasing access to employment, housing, education, healthcare, and more.

To learn more about ATNs and Glydways, visit www.glydways.com.

Mark Seeger, Founder, Glydways



Riders would **always prefer private AVs or on-demand travel** over sharing a crowded vehicle with frequent stops in congested traffic!



Podcar City

Keynote & Program



Nov 30

The program is susceptible to alterations.

5 - 7 pm

VIP social event at the Rotunda

Opening remarks by Christer Lindström, CEO 4Dialog and Sponsors

8 pm

Social hour

10.22 am

Panel 1: Automated communities for a new mobility

- **Krystal Harris**, Program Director AACIDs ATL Airport Community Improvement Districts
- **Brian Stanke**, Division Manager of Planning, Policy, and Sustainability
- **Stan Young**, Advanced Transportation & Urban Scientist
- **Steve Ruger**, Trinidad City Manger
- **Kiet Dinh**, Jacksonville Transportation Authority, VP Automation and Innovation
- **Jim Davis**, former Vice Mayor, City of Sunnyvale

15 Minute Break

11.30 am

Panel 2: Vendors and Automated Transit Networks. *What? How? Why? Who?*

- **Peter Muller**, President, Advanced Transit Association (ATRA)
- **Mark Seeger**, Founder, Glydways
- **Alexander Kyllmann**, CEO, ModuTram Mexico
- **Jeral Poskey**, CEO, Swyft Cities
- **Kiel Clasing**, Business & Product Development executive, Oceaneering

12.30 pm

Expo and Lunch VIP Speaker

- **Mark Seeger**, Founder, Glydways
- **Muhammad Amer**, ASCE (Zoom)

1.50 pm

Keynote speaker

- **Gerald McDowell**, Executive Director ATL Airport Community Improvement Districts

Dec 1

8.00 am

Breakfast, Welcome & House Keeping

- **Matthew Lesh**, Spectrum Mobility & MC

8.50 am

Conference Kickoff

- **Christer Lindstrom**, International Institute of Sustainable Transportation (INIST)
- **Dave Muyres**, Streetscope
- **Matt Mahan**, Mayor of San José

9.10 am

Keynote Speaker

- **Dr Mary Leary**, Associate Director Federal Transit Authority

9.30 am

Thought leader roundtable

- **Dr Karen Philbrick**, Executive Director Mineta Transport Institute
- **Dave Muyres**, Streetscope Inc
- **Fredrick Federley**, Former Parliamentarian, European Union
- **Christer Lindstrom**, CEO 4Dialog.com

10 Minute Break



Dec 1

The program is susceptible to alterations.

2.15 pm

Panel 3: Regulatory Issues

- **Iris Yuan**, Senior Associate, Lea + Elliot
- **Jim Davis**, Former Vice Mayor, City of Sunnyvale
- **Sam Lott**, Automated Mobility Services LLC
- **Jeral Poskey**, CEO, Swyft Cities
- **Peter Muller**, President, ATRA
- **Blake Barber**, CTO Glydways

15 Minute Break

3.20 pm

Panel 4: Financing of Automated Transit

- **Christer Lindstrom**, 4Dialog
- **Laura Fingal-Surma**, Urbanist Ventures
- **Lisa Firmender**, Certified Grant Writer specializing in transportation
- **Mike Thompson**, VP Project Development at Plenary Americas
- **Brian Gettinger**, VP Product Development Flatiron Constriction Inc

4.15 pm

Panel 5: Planning & Research

- **Todor Stojanovski**, Ph.D. KTH Sweden cities and urban morphology
- **Joerg Schweizer**, UNIBO Italy, Assistant Professor, Department of Civil, Chemical, Environmental, and Materials Engineering
- **Steve Raney**, CEO, Emerging Mobility
- **Stan Young**, Advanced Transportation & Urban Scientist
- **Robert Hilbrich**, Eclipse SUMO project lead Germany
- **Steven Jones**, University of Alabama

5.25 pm

10 Minute Break

Panel 6: Conclusion, Youth Projects and Looking Forward

- **Ron Swenson**, President, International Institute of Sustainable Transportation
- **Dr Burford Furman**, San José State University
- **Greg White & Kevin Nishinaga**, Solar Skyways and Transit Control Solutions
- **Douglas Kamoga**, CEO, Urban Scape Design Associates, Uganda, Envisionride planning youth

5.30 pm

Conclusion and final thoughts

7.30 pm

Dinner

More about the program, visit our homepage at: <https://podcarcity.org/podcar-city-2023-san-jose-usa/>

Key Conference Questions

- How Will Automated Transit Systems Shape the Future of Urban Mobility?
- How Can Sustainable and Connected Communities Be Created Through New Mobility Solutions?
- What Funding Models and Financing Strategies Are Required for Automated Transit Initiatives?
- What's the Global Perspective on Sustainable Mobility, and What Are the Key Takeaways for the Future of Transport?





Threshold of **change!**

Change is a multifaceted concept, often met with resistance and uncertainty. Whether it's the unexpected shift in the quality of your daily water supply, watching a friend board a train and disappear, or facing the need to modify your own behaviors, change is a challenge that confronts us in various forms. These changes are sometimes beyond our control, leaving us feeling unsettled.

Yet, what about those instances when we recognize the need to change our own actions? These behavioral alterations, such as embracing recycling, reducing food waste, shedding a few extra pounds, or rethinking our daily commute, often come with an inherent awareness that "something needs to change."

In my quest to enhance public mobility for all, one significant roadblock we encounter is the resistance to change. The hurdles take various forms—insufficient funding for novel ideas, past failed attempts, or simply individuals who speak on behalf of others, presuming what people will or won't like.

As I've toured around the world, presenting the Podcar idea to diverse audiences, I've noted a striking pattern in reactions. Interestingly, it's often young people who respond with enthusiasm, asking when they can access this innovative mode of transportation in their communities, while elected officials and those invested in the status quo, particularly in the transportation industry, tend to be more critical and resistant to change.

This has prompted me to contemplate the

"Threshold of Change." What is the point at which people embrace change? Is it when someone with substantial resources and an absurd idea, like Elon Musk's 1000km/h vacuum tunnel, garners attention and suddenly convinces even skeptics that "this is the future, and we must change"? Or when critical thinkers, spirits driven by a brighter & sustainable future persuade their communities to Change?

The question remains, how can we, as change advocates, help people recognize that proactively changing our selves is preferable to being thrust into change uncontrollably by an ever changing world?

My answer is straightforward: we must lead by example and unite in our efforts for change.

Join us at PodcarCity 2023 and engage with ATC (Automated Transit Communities). Together, we can take the initiative to shape the future and avoid being swept into change unwillingly.

AUTHOR;

Christer Lindstrom

CEO, 4Dialog



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- We are very proud to introduce our sponsors!

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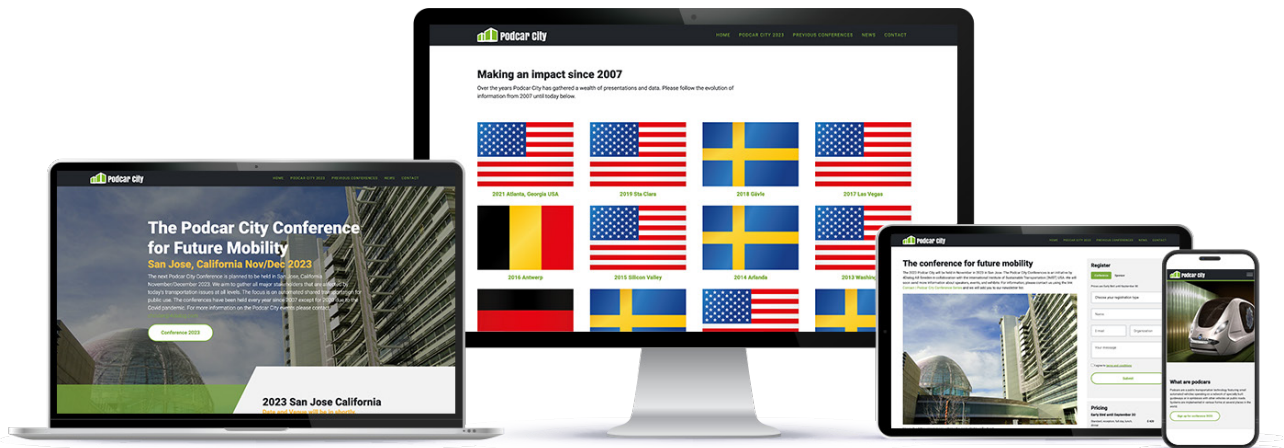
Automated Transit
Communities WE CAN DO
BETTER!

SPECTRUM
MOBILITY

INIST

Podcar City

Follow our news on **podcarcity.org**



Our vision

We believe that there is something better beyond the horizon. What is there out there that can make a considerable change in how we get around in everyday life that is safer, more convenient, available for all, and affordable for both ourselves and the environment? Podcar City is a series of gatherings looking into short- and long-term ideas to solve this question. Come join us in finding a better way to develop our common future - together.

The Podcar City Conferences have been ongoing Since 2007 In Sweden, the US, and Belgium and are now again planned to be held in San José, the Capital of Silicon Valley.

