Podcar City 8

To the next level!

Post-Car Urbanism Conference:
Implications for Town & Airport District Planning

3-5 September 2014 🇸🇪
at Arlanda International Airport, Stockholm Sweden

For registration and more information, visit:
www.podcarcity.org

Podcar City 8 – Just two weeks away!

In just two weeks we gather at Arlanda Airport, Stockholm, for the eighth conference on how to get around using automation and renewable energy sources as basic parameters for development. Since the first ideas on ATN came around over fifty years ago, the current issues with congestion, environment and all other limitations of the current transportation paradigm have become obvious for a majority of people affected. This year conference is a must for anyone wanting to better understand the options and possibilities in using ATN and related technology for a better world.
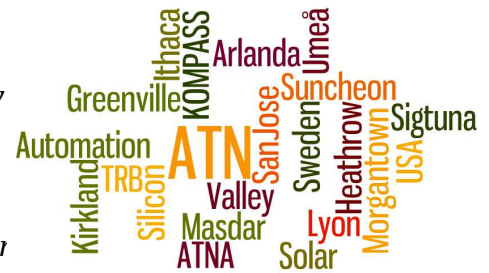
The conference is addressing *you* as a real estate developer, urban planner, elected official, agency person, academic, architect, traffic planner, consultant and others who are involved and concerned about how we form the emerging urban society today and for Future Generations. The 2½ day conference will cover different topics:

- **Podcars at airports – for mobility and development**
- **Urban trends and added values with Podcars**
- **Land use challenges and opportunities with Podcars**
- **State of the Podcar Industry**
- **Procuring process, business and financing models ..** *and more!*

REGISTRATION, MORE INFORMATION AND CONTACT:
http://podcarcity.org/arlanda

IST INSTITUTE for SUSTAINABLE TRANSPORTATION · NIST · atra Advanced Transit Association · KOMPASS · MINETA MTI · Radisson BLU · LEA ELLIOTT · ENCITRA · BEAMWAYS · Sigtuna kommun · Citizens for PRT Personal Rapid Transportation That Works · 4Dialog · TRANS.21

MORGANTOWN PRT UPDATE *By Larry Fabian*

As the Morgantown PRT nears its 40th year of service, major repairs and improvements are underway. The 5km, 5 off-line -station system with full "PRT functionality" is closed this summer to facilitate this work. New controls by Thales are to be ready for use next year. Extensions at both ends contemplated a few years ago are not part of these improvements. West Virginia University owns and operates the PRT. WVU developed costs estimates of several hundred million dollars for those extensions.

Growing Population and Ridership

The Morgantown area currently has a population of around 75,000. This is expected to rise as enrollment and research activities grow. A recent update of the long-range transportation plan predicts that 40,000 more residents will be added by 2040. Despite the relatively small size of this region, it suffers from severe congestion because the hilly terrain creates restrictions on highway development. These growth forecasts have attracted interest from national real estate developers who could profit from strong demand for student housing. Some of this may be in the vibrant downtown area which has one of the PRT stations. City planning officials are interested in offering developers a way to avoid lots of parking by contributing funds to the public parking authority. This opens the possibility that developers could contribute to expansion of the PRT.

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TIME FOR A NEW TRANSPORT MODE! *By Magnus Hunhammar, IST*

In many areas information technology has revolutionized the way things work today, e.g. how we communicate, how we handle money, how we send mails etc. But still IT has not made any differences in the way we transport ourselves or our goods. Get to know how to utilize Podcars - an innovative system! Podcars, PRT or Automated Transit Networks (ATN) offer a number of advantages over conventional automated people movers (APM), light rail trains (LRT) and other mass transit modes.

> *"A lot of times, people don't know*
> *what they want until you show it to them"*
> Steve Jobs, Apple

Podcar City Conference this year is highlighting how Podcars fit into urban environments and airports. Examples from the conference program:

KOMPASS, a network of Swedish municipalities with Podcar interests: Learn what different cities and suburbs across Sweden ask for and need in order to offer better services to their citizens, businesses and visitors. Many cities want to build and regenerate urban areas to better support more sustainable urban life styles. What are the lessons and hurdles in the process going forward?

Urban planning with Podcars: Preferably, Podcars should be considered early in the urban planning process, and with an integrated building and traffic design. What are the differences in planning methodology in doing so, compared to "business as usual", i.e. with the car as a norm? How to deal with the whole issue of car parking for better efficiency, both economically and spatially? What are the risks, concerns and barriers with Podcar implementation? Presentations by prof. Carl-Johan Engström (KTH/SWE), prof. Shannon McDonald (SIU/US), Austin Smith (ARUP/UK), regional and planner Cecilia Lindahl (TMR/SWE)

Heathrow PRT & creating airport cities: Experience and lessons learned from the airport application of Podcars at Heathrow, London. What are the benefits? What are passenger experiences riding pods? How to improve land value and create new incomes on landside and beyond with new urban developments? Etc. Presentations by Richard Isles (Ultra Global PRT/UK), Peter Muller (PRT Consulting/US), Kristina Alvendal (Stockholm Airport City/SWE), prof. Alain Kornhauser (Princeton/US), Magnus Hunhammar (IST/SWE), Fredrik Jaresved (Swedavia/SWE)

How to solve traffic difficulties? Many presentations touch the subject, e.g.: How to boost capacity with Podcars, Podcar systems for dense urban areas, New emerging ATN-systems, New US federal report from Mineta Transportation Institute (MTI), etc. Presentations by MTI group/US, prof. em. Ingmar Andreasson (KTH/SWE), Dr. Nanzheng Yang (TTI/China), Bengt Gustafsson (Beamways/SWE)

Discussions and debates: Many car manufacturers invest in driverless car technology. Can the development of ATN and autonomous cars merge? Possible synergies and differences are on discussion, with Volvo Cars, PRT vendors, academia and national agencies. Political will for new traffic policies and courage for change is on debate, with all Swedish political parties.

Networking, exhibition and visit part of Sweden: The social side of conferencing should not be underestimated. With social contacts come also new business opportunities...

NEW JERSEY TRANSIT AUTOMATION CENTER *by Larry Fabian*

ATRA chair Alain Kornhauser formally announced in July the establishment of an automated vehicle research center in New Jersey that will focus on collision avoidance. The aim will be on the certification and commercialization of safer bus and other forms of public transport. Called for now the Automated Vehicle Research Center, it will be located on the grounds of a former military facility known as Fort Monmouth along the coast of New Jersey.

Jerome Lutin will lead the first project which is to develop standards for passenger buses. Insurance companies, investment firms, China, BMW and the City College of New York have already expressed interest. This comes at a time of surging interest in robocars - known variously as driverless or automated or autonomous vehicles. For example, trials will soon be running at Milton Keynes in the UK with support from the low-carbon Urban Transport Zone (LUTZ) program which has funding from the UK Transport Catapult program and the Department of Business, Innovation and Skills. The program calls for a fleet of one hundred driverless vehicles.

Prof. Alain Kornhauser, Princeton University

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READ ALL ABOUT IT!

There is a lot of good information out there on the web about ATN, Podcars, PRT and more.
We recommend that you read some of the latest and also older information to better understand what the ATN community is aiming for.

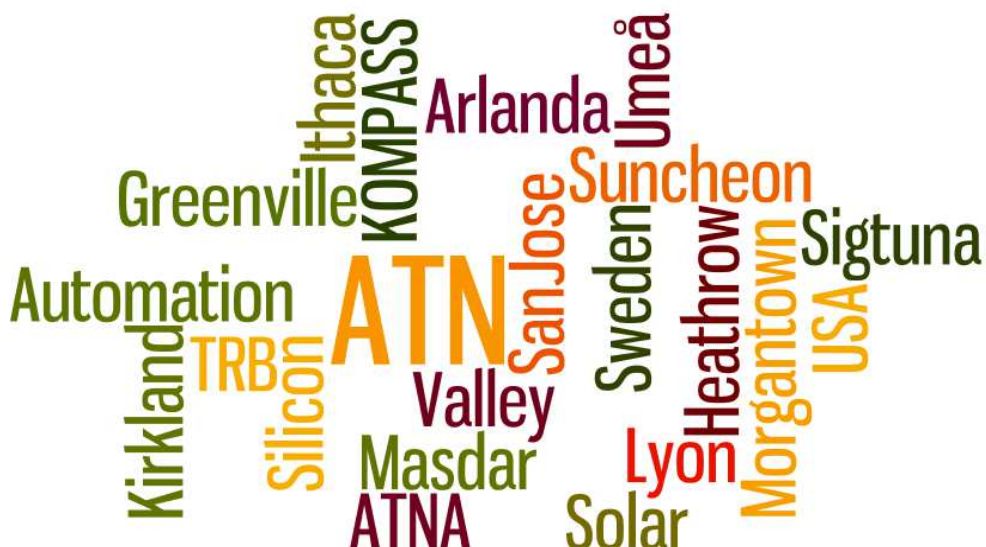A short list of links to articles and information:

ARTICLES:

http://thecityfix.com/blog/personal-rapid-transit-replace-90-percent-cars-innovation-technology-public-transpo
http://www.boston.com/bostonglobe/ideas/articles/2009/10/04/invasion_of_the_pod_car/
http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/chandigarh/Punjabs-fairy-tale-public-transport-projects/articleshow/39
http://www.mercurynews.com/food-wine/ci_15153663?nclick_check=1
http://archive.today/Ux4xJ

WIKIPEDIA:

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Personal_rapid_transit
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Morgantown_Personal_Rapid_Transit
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/ULTra_(rapid_transit)

BLOGS AND OTHER RESOURCES:

Http://www.podcar.org
http://www.prtcons.com/content.html
https://www.facebook.com/pages/Personal-Rapid-Transit-Information-Blog/168392909849866

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For program, registration and news:

Go to

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