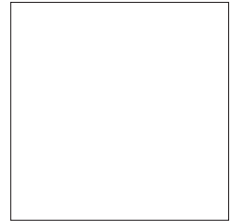




# ITDP

Institute for Transportation  
& Development Policy

9 East 19<sup>th</sup> Street, 7<sup>th</sup> Floor  
New York, NY 10003



# SUSTAINABLE TRANSPORT NEWSLETTER

SPRING 2023  
VOLUME 11  
Visit [ITDP.org](https://www.itdp.org)



# MOVING FORWARD: A NOTE FROM ITDP CEO HEATHER THOMPSON



**Promoting compact, accessible cities.** In tandem with electrification, a cornerstone of our work is advancing compact cities where cycling, walking, and micromobility are prioritized. As emphasized in our *The Compact City Scenario – Electrified* research, cities need to focus on more dense, transit-oriented development alongside public transport and vehicle electrification to significantly reduce urban transport emissions. One component of this is empowering more people to cycle, and our global Cycling Cities campaign — now in its second year — continues to build the capacity of over 80 cities worldwide. We have also been working with governments to pilot low-emission zones (LEZs) that have big potential for impact. In Jakarta, Mexico City, and Rio de Janeiro, ITDP has helped officials plan and implement LEZ pilots to promote more low-carbon, active transport.

**Mainstreaming gender and inclusion.** Considerations for gender equity and access have been part of ITDP's work for years, and we continue to focus on integrating these ideals across all of our projects. Our *Access for All* research on gender, persons with disabilities, and children and caregivers has inspired a collection of knowledge products, events, online courses, and partnerships that aim to place 'care' at the heart of urban mobility policies. This year, our teams have released studies with insights into everything from the cycling gender gap in China to gender-responsive BRT design in Cairo. We know from this work that, in order for us to have truly sustainable transport, we need systems that serve *everyone*.

Reflecting on the first half of 2023, I am amazed by the progress that ITDP has made to promote more sustainable, equitable, and healthier cities. Alongside dedicated partners, we are pushing for positive change at city, national, and regional levels to make sure our transport systems serve people's diverse needs while reducing emissions, improving access, and enhancing quality-of-life for all. As ITDP dives deep into newer approaches to sustainable mobility, from parking reform to electrification, we are continuing to make advancements in several key focus areas, including:

**Reshaping public transport.** The pandemic has had lasting consequences on public transport, and many cities are still feeling the ripple effects as the world enters a 'new normal'. For a real recovery in our cities, we need to continue investing in reliable electric fleets that will make transport — from buses to metros — more resilient and adaptable to crises. We know that doubling down on efficient, modern systems is key to modal shift, reducing the demand for private vehicles, and improving rider experience. ITDP is making progress on electric bus transitions with operators and officials in major cities, ranging from Rio de Janeiro to Pune to Jinan. From community outreach to procurement roadmaps, we are helping to scale electrification in places where bus systems are essential. With the 2023 update of the *BRT Standard*, we will keep fighting for more attention to and investment in our public transport.



For ITDP's efforts to continue making an impact, the transport sector as a whole needs more comprehensive financing tools and policy commitments from those in power. We need more than just bold statements and big meetings; there must be a spectrum of public- and private-sector stakeholders taking action. We need both top-down and bottom-up approaches to build a future of inclusive, electric, and compact cities. In this newsletter, I hope you find inspiration from our work that can carry through to your own. •



## WHAT'S NEW

Stay in-the-know with highlights from ITDP's network.

### Paris, France Honored with the 2023 Sustainable Transport Award

ITDP and the Sustainable Transport Award Committee are excited to honor the historic city of Paris, France as the winner of the 2023 Sustainable Transport Award (STA), which was also previously awarded to the city in 2008. Paris has been working to create multi-modal and wholly integrated transport networks that improve the quality-of-life for all Parisians, with particular attention to cycling infrastructure and public space. The pandemic allowed Paris to test policies and interventions to directly address issues of transport emissions, accessibility, and public health. The 2023 STA also recognized two honorable mentions — the City of Bhubaneswar, India, and the State of Jalisco, Mexico — for their progress on inclusive and sustainable mobility. Throughout 2023, ITDP is collaborating with



— Paris' 2023 STA honor highlights the city's efforts to enhance its public spaces and streets.

The Cycling Cities campaign promotes safe cycling in places like Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. —



these cities to spotlight important lessons, challenges, and insights from their work. Learn more at [STAward.org](https://www.staward.org).

### Pedaling Into A Second Year of Cycling Cities

ITDP's Cycling Cities campaign was launched in 2021 with the aim of improving global cycling infrastructure to reach 25 million more people. While the road ahead is still long, Cycling Cities has helped make clear the significant environmental, social, and economic benefits of cycling. Thanks to the efforts of our growing cohort of 32 cities and more than 45 partners working at regional and international levels, the campaign is helping to establish cycling as an essential transport mode and a viable solution for tackling emissions. Since its inception, the campaign has organized high-profile events, released impactful research, and convened global partners to share knowledge and provide peer support. As of 2022, the Cycling Cities cohort has implemented more than 580 kilometers of new cycle lanes worldwide. Sign the Pledge at [CyclingCities.ITDP.org](https://www.CyclingCities.ITDP.org).

## WHAT'S NEXT

Keep an eye out for more exciting work from ITDP this year.

### A New Standard for Bus Rapid Transit (BRT)

First released in 2012, ITDP and partners developed the *BRT Standard* to help city officials better understand BRT and the critical elements for creating a high-quality system. Over a decade later, the *Standard* continues to inspire cities to promote BRT ridership, reduce urban emissions, and improve air quality. So far, the *Standard* has ranked 127 BRT systems worldwide, with 16 being ranked as Gold, 43 as Silver, and 48 as Bronze-level systems. The third edition of the *Standard*, to be released later this year, reflects the changing nature of our world with updated guidance on the key elements of high-quality, community-oriented public transport. This update also addresses new and evolving challenges — from climate change and public health, to safety and equity — in modern transport to



— The *BRT Standard* evaluates the elements of high-quality systems worldwide, like Metrobús in Mexico City.

help cities create resilient systems for now and the future. Visit [BRTStandard.org](https://www.BRTStandard.org).

### A First-of-its-Kind Atlas of City Transportation

ITDP's *Atlas of City Transportation* is a novel online data dashboard designed to measure

sustainable and inclusive urban passenger mobility in dozens of metropolitan areas worldwide, while serving as an innovative new tool for transport and urban planners. The *Atlas* is designed to measure what matters most for improving transport in cities by spotlighting the number of people

served by a city's transport systems. As the *Atlas* develops, it will be a powerful tool for planners and policymakers alike to make more informed decisions about urban mobility and access. Visit [ITDP.org](https://www.itdp.org) for updates.



— The *Atlas* is designed to display the indicators that matter most for improving transport in cities.



— Off-street parking reform is key to reclaiming urban space from cars.

### Reforming Parking, Reshaping Cities

Parking management is gaining momentum worldwide as a strategy for reclaiming valuable space, reducing driving demand, and unlocking climate benefits. Bringing down the supply of parking — especially off-street parking — can help discourage driving and allow space for other uses that support compact city development. Many governments are recognizing that parking mandates that require a minimum number of parking spaces are inefficient and costly, and removing such mandates is an important step towards more efficient use of urban space. ITDP's upcoming *Off-Street Parking Reform: Global Lessons Learned* guide shines a light on off-street parking, an often overlooked area of planning that shapes the way cities are developed, and offers solutions for making key changes. Visit [ITDP.org](https://www.itdp.org) for updates. •

## AROUND THE WORLD

Learn how ITDP is actively working to transform cities in key regions.

The **ITDP Africa** team is supporting the Government of Egypt in implementing a BRT corridor in Cairo to improve transport service across the region. Working in partnership with the New Urban Communities Authority and UN-Habitat, ITDP Africa is helping develop an industry transition strategy, which will consider how to formalize bus operations while improving livelihoods for people. The transition plan will also include an employment framework to ensure representation from women and persons with disabilities. In addition, to enhance last mile connectivity with the BRT system, ITDP Africa will be assessing existing walking and cycling facilities, analyzing user behavior, and developing designs for 15 kilometers of complete streets linked to planned stations.

In Kenya, building on the city of Kisumu's *Sustainable Mobility Plan* released in 2020, ITDP Africa helped prepare the *Kisumu Public Transport Service Plan*. The new plan recommends the introduction of cross-town transit routes, the use of cleaner and higher-capacity buses, the construction of more bus shelters and terminals, and a transition to formalized bus company operations. The city has expressed interest in taking the recommendations forward with ITDP Africa's continued support in discussions with public transport operators and in identifying financing options.

For **ITDP Brazil**, the new Lula presidential administration has opened up critical opportunities for sustainable development and climate action nationally. ITDP Brazil and other transport and civil society coalitions have ramped up work with the federal government to influence regional climate policies and to ensure that transport is highlighted on the agenda. This includes supporting the Secretary of Climate Change in efforts to ensure that sectoral plans on decarbonization and adaptation are up-to-date and reflect Brazil's Nationally Determined Contributions in a bottom-up process. The



— In India, national programs are helping promote more active mobility like walking and cycling.

Ministry of Cities is also working on the design of a *National Plan of Urban Mobility* in which decarbonization and public transport are spotlighted.

In Rio de Janeiro, the long-anticipated *Cycling Network Expansion Plan (CicloRio)* was launched with ITDP Brazil's close collaboration. The plan aims to encourage cycling as an essential transport mode, improve the accessibility of the existing cycling network, and connect a hundred percent of transit stations to cycling infrastructure by 2024. In 2022, 30 kilometers of new dedicated cycle lanes and boulevards were implemented, connecting 55 transit stations in 18 neighborhoods. The target for 2023 is to integrate a further 64 stations and put cycling and public transport infrastructure at the forefront of the city's mobility.

**ITDP China** has been working closely with the City of Tianjin and partners at the World Bank on an *Urban Transport Improvement Project* that is focused on significantly improving walking and non-motorized transport conditions in the city through financing and infrastructure implementation. ITDP China provided key planning and design recommendations to the city, including guidance to improve local transport by enhancing rider experience, increasing last mile accessibility, promoting road safety, and pushing for more transit-oriented development.

For International Women's Day 2023, ITDP China released *Women On Wheels*,





— Improved bus service can increase access for communities in Greater Boston, USA.

a comprehensive survey exploring the country's gender gap in cycling. The report is based on cycling volume counts at dozens of locations in the major cities of Guangzhou, Beijing, and Nanning. Findings show that the proportion of women cyclists in these cities are much lower than that of men, leading the team to assess the mobility challenges that women face in order to provide policymakers with recommendations for breaking down these gender barriers.

**ITDP India** continues to advance work on national programs to promote walking, cycling, and active mobility nationwide.



— Women face more barriers to cycling than men in cities like Guangzhou, China.

New plans will expand cycling infrastructure across Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. —

Working with the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs, ITDP India launched the third iteration of the *Freedom2WalkCycleRun* campaign for city leaders. The campaign encourages leaders to choose active mobility to fully experience their local urban environments. The first quarter of the campaign had registrations from over 340 participants across 46 cities and 3 governmental organizations, who have reported over 75,000 kilometers of walking and cycling-related activities. In an encouraging step, over 80% of participants also reported that they have started replacing car trips with walking and cycling.

ITDP India has also been a key part of revising the Indian state of Tamil Nadu's Electric Vehicle (EV) Policy, which was released in February, to draw more attention to the need to electrify public transport. As one of the most populous states in the country, a strong framework for transport electrification is critical to reducing emissions. ITDP India has been advising the state's Industries Department on an updated EV policy on issues related to private and public transport electrification and the provision of charging infrastructure. The EV Policy also mandates setting up an EV Cell to monitor progress, with six cities identified to work on the implementation.

**ITDP Indonesia** delivered a comprehensive roadmap to government officials for the

transition of Transjakarta's bus fleets towards electric vehicles by 2030. The roadmap includes recommendations for alternative financing schemes and business models, a robust regulatory framework to support implementation, and a technical implementation plan. The ITDP Indonesia team continues to work closely with the city and local and regional partners to promote and advance the progress towards full electrification of the Transjakarta fleet.

ITDP Indonesia has also been working with partners towards implementation of a bikeshare pilot in Jakarta since 2022, with the goal of launching the pilot in 2023. ITDP Indonesia and the Jakarta Transport Agency have been working to assess bikeshare operators and evaluate possible service areas for the system. Drawing on ITDP's extensive experience with bikeshare programs around the world, ITDP Indonesia is working to develop a system for Jakarta that will encourage more cycling for first-and-last mile connectivity, particularly when well-integrated with the city's Transjakarta BRT and metro networks.

**ITDP Mexico** concluded its *Ideamos* program – an initiative to pilot cross-sector mobility solutions – in April, following more than three years of piloting projects focused on sustainable, inclusive transport for Mexico's cities. With support from the Inter-American Development Bank, *Ideamos* was launched in 2020 and helped implement eight pilot initiatives over three years to tackle issues ranging from gender equity to last-mile delivery to digitization. On average, across the pilots that were implemented, there was a recorded 30% reduction of CO2 emissions over baseline levels, with more than 27,000 individuals directly benefiting from the interventions. The program culminated in a two-day *FORO Ideamos* event that drew global transport experts and public officials to highlight insights, challenges, and opportunities from the program.

Building on ITDP Mexico's years of advocacy on parking reform in Mexico City, the team is working with city officials on the implementation of a strategic plan for improving on-street parking management and assessing priorities for



— A car-free day event in Jakarta, Indonesia.



planned changes. In the metropolitan area of Guadalajara, ITDP Mexico is also working to advance off-street parking reforms, including the elimination of parking minimums for new residential and commercial developments, and has conducted surveys of private-sector stakeholders to inform a metro-wide strategy. Such reforms will be foundational to reclaiming public space from private vehicles and reducing the demand for polluting trips across Mexico's cities.

The **ITDP US Program** collaborated on the publication of a new report to highlight

urgent reforms for Greater Boston's regional bus system. The *Keeping Pace: How Greater Boston's Bus System Can Support a Growing and Changing Region* report, produced with LivableStreets Alliance, outlines how the area's population has increased, particularly in low-income communities of color, while the size of the transit agency's bus fleet has decreased. The report provides action items to get bus service back on track by 2030, starting with calls to increase state funding and workforce support. ITDP US worked closely with the regional transit agency and partners to promote the report to local decision-makers.

In March, a national working group of high-profile US-based urban and environmental development organizations, including ITDP, issued detailed comments to the White House calling for stronger leadership and direction from the transport sector in achieving urgent national emissions reduction targets. The comments were in response to the Biden Administration's White House Council on Environmental Quality's (CEQ) latest Guidance on the "Consideration of Greenhouse Gas Emissions and Climate Change" under the National Environmental Policy Act. •

## RESEARCH TO KNOW

Stay in-the-know with some of ITDP's latest research.

### Roadmaps Towards Compact, Electric Cities

Addressing the climate crisis will require rapid, sustained transformation in every country and every sector of economic activity. In a study released in late 2021 titled the *Compact City Scenario — Electrified*, research by ITDP modeled the global changes that will be necessary to decarbonize urban transport and found that promoting vehicle electrification alongside cycling, walking, and public transit are crucial for reducing emissions. While this study took a global perspective, ITDP is now producing a series of country-specific *Compact Cities — Electrified* roadmaps that will assess transport emission scenarios within regional contexts. The first in the series took a closer look at Egypt, the host of COP27. ITDP identified four highly ambitious, but feasible, scenarios for the next 30 years of the country's urban transport, and found that only a *Electrification and Modal Shift* approach can help Egypt make a substantial impact on its emissions. ITDP is releasing additional regional roadmaps in 2023 on **ITDP.org**.



### The Opportunity of Low Emission Zones

In cities experiencing rapid urbanization, there is an urgent need to shift away from private, polluting cars and transition to transit, cycling, walking, and electric vehicles to lower emissions, improve air quality, and reduce traffic injuries. Cities around the world must explore traffic reduction strategies that prioritize people and require drivers to consider the serious environmental and societal costs of their cars. In recent years, low-emission zones (LEZs) have grown in popularity as a potentially impactful strategy for cities to reduce dependence on private vehicles and offer clean, affordable, accessible alternatives. Building on ITDP's *Taming Traffic* report that highlights strategies for reducing driving demand, *The Opportunity of Low Emission Zones* offers a closer look at the elements of LEZs and similar initiatives to provide context for policymakers exploring these strategies for their own cities. Read the report at **ITDP.org**. •

**MOBILITY'S  
FUTURE  
IS FOSSIL  
FUEL FREE**



**GIVE A \$45 GIFT TO HELP KEEP URBAN  
TRANSPORTATION EMISSIONS IN CHECK.  
SEE THE ENCLOSED ENVELOPE OR VISIT  
[ITDP.ORG/DONATE](https://ITDP.ORG/DONATE)**

