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EUROPE

PRESS RELEASE

CRITICAL FOR COVID-19 RECOVERY: CEOs AND CITY REPRESENTATIVES CALL FOR PUBLIC TRANSPORT TO BE KEY SECTOR IN EUROPEAN PLAN



BRUSSELS, 13 MAY 2020

Since the outbreak of the coronavirus, the local public transport sector has been hit hard and is now fighting to survive.

UITP Europe has brought together **more than 80 CEOs and city representatives to call upon the European institutions to include the urban public transport sector among those covered by the EU's recovery plan.**

During the COVID-19 pandemic, the **huge benefits of public transport** have become evident: they provide **an essential mobility service to citizens.**

In order to limit the consequences of the crisis on the public transport sector, **exceptional targeted measures will need to be adopted at EU level** and rapidly deployed.

Public transport is, and will be, a key sector for both the **economic recovery** and the achievement of the **Green Deal objectives**.

Who is on board our outreach and why?

As the European Union is preparing its recovery strategy, **the importance of the local (urban, sub-urban and regional) public transport sector for the European economy is vital** – it plays a key role in fulfilling many of the **EU's policy objectives and Sustainable Development Goals**.

The first available data from various European Member States shows that the passenger transport sector's ecosystem will continue to be heavily affected by the pandemic: **across Europe, the sector expects €40 billion in farebox revenue losses by the end of 2020**.

Public transport is **a key accelerator of the economy, job creation, social inclusion, health and sustainability** – and by signing our Open Letter, these CEOs and city representatives recognise its important role.

More than 80 CEOs and city representatives from almost 20 countries have joined UITP in encouraging the European institutions to recognise the vital role of public transport in their recovery plans.

The survival of public transport should be a priority for decision makers at the European level.

Local public transport must be included in their economic recovery plan and ensure that the sector can benefit from European financial recovery measures to survive and thrive.

We're proud to bring together many leading industry names and members – including **STIB, Wiener Linien, RATP, GVB, Volvo, Keolis, Transdev, FGC, Metro Madrid, Irish Rail, SNCF, Alstom, Metro Lisboa, TMB, Hamburger Hochbahn and Warsaw Metro**.

[You can see all CEOs who have joined our outreach here – with an open invitation for other sector leaders to join](#)

For more information on UITP at the European level – and news on our joint outreach to fellow associations and bodies – visit our [dedicated site](#).

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ABOUT UITP EUROPE

UITP is the international association representing public transport stakeholders. In the European Union, UITP brings together more than 450 urban, suburban and regional public transport operators and authorities from all Member States. We represent the perspective of short distance passenger transport services by all sustainable modes: bus, regional and suburban rail, metro, light rail, tram and waterborne.

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