Contact: Jemilah Magnusson

Institute for Transportation and Development Policy

[jemilah.magnusson@itdp.org](mailto:jemilah.magnusson@itdp.org) | 212-629-8001

\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*EMBARGOED UNTIL MARCH 14, 2017 08:00 EST \*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*

**Elite International Sustainable Transport and Development Summit**

**to Feature Santiago, Chile**

*High profile International Speakers from Government, NGOs, and Research Institutions Partnering with Santiago Officials to Inspire Replication of Transport Best Practices*

For three days in June, 200 urban transport and development planners, practitioners, and officials, world-class researchers, and NGO representatives will convene in Santiago to share opportunities, challenges, and study the example of Santiago as an international best practice in pedestrian, cycling, public transit, and policy. Organizers expect representatives from around 20 nations to attend the [MOBILIZE Summit](http://mobilizesummit.org/), June 28-30, to be held at the Pontifical Catholic University of Chile.

Speakers will include Dr. Philipp Rode, Executive Director of LSE Cities at The London School of Economics, Laura Ballesteros, Undersecretary of Planning for the Secretariat of Mobility of Mexico City, Shin-pei Tsay, Executive Director of the Gehl Institute, and Manuela Lopez Menendez, Secretary of Public Works for the Transport Ministry of Argentina.

MOBILIZE is an annual summit organized by the [Institute for Transportation and Development Policy](http://www.itdp.org/) (ITDP), a New York-based NGO with offices in Mexico City and Rio de Janeiro, as well as India, China, Indonesia, and Kenya. The summit aims to elevate the winner of the annual [Sustainable Transport Award](http://www.staward.org/). MOBILIZE spotlights the achievements of the winning city and gives transport professionals and researchers from around the world an opportunity to experience the city as a learning lab with lessons on how to get world class projects implemented.

Last June, Santiago was announced as the winner of the Sustainable Transport Award, selected by a [committee](http://staward.org/committee/) of international transport experts for major improvements in pedestrian space, cycling, and public transit. Director of Mobility Miguel Olivares accepted the award at the ceremony in Washington, DC on Tuesday, January 10th. Together, the STA and MOBILIZE highlight an elite group of international cities that inspire and catalyze more cities around the world to implement transport solutions of their own.

“MOBILIZE brings together leading thinkers and city shapers for a capacity building opportunity using Santiago as a learning laboratory. Santiago was chosen this year for implementing strategic projects that focus on improving walking conditions as a top priority,” said Michael Kodransky, Chair of the STA Committee and Head of MOBILIZE, “Walking infrastructure and access to transit stations are a big concern for cities all over the world. Santiago has made walking, cycling, and public transit in the city center a key component of improving quality of life and easing congestion. We’re thrilled to be working with the city and region to showcase Santiago’s great progress to the world. The lessons and challenges from Santiago will surely resonate with other municipalities.”

Participants, including representatives from the Municipality of Santiago, Santiago Metro region, and the Chilean Ministries of Transport and Housing, will spend half the day in workshops sharing ideas and best practices in sustainable transport, development, and urban planning, and half the day on site visits in and around the city, including visits to Transantiago, the public bicycle and cycle network, and a walking tour of the newly-redesigned streets in the city center.

ITDP is organizing the summit in partnership with the Volvo Research and Education Foundation (VREF), and additional sponsors, and is consulting with a local host committee as planning moves forward.

* Mayor Felipe Alessandri, Host
* Juan Carlos Muñoz, Chair, Director of the Bus Rapid Transit Centre of Excellence
* Claudio Orrego, Intendant of the Metropolitan Region
* Paulina Saball, Minister of Housing and Urbanism
* Andrés Gómez Lobo, Minister, Transport & Telecommunications
* Claudio Olivares Medina, Bicivilizate

“We are very pleased to participate in MOBILIZE, and welcome participants to this key global summit on sustainable transport. This June, the eyes of the sustainable transport community will be on Santiago, and those who visit us will find a very interesting opportunity to learn from these new changes and advances that our municipality, and the city region, have made,” said the Mayor of the Municipality of Santiago, Felipe Alessandri.

2017 will be the second annual MOBILIZE Summit. The first was held in 2016 in [Yichang, China](http://staward.org/winners/2016-yichang-china/) by the Institute for Transportation and Development Policy (ITDP) in co-operation with VREF and the City of Yichang. More information on [MOBILIZE Yichang](http://mobilizesummit.org/past-summits/) is available.

Sustainable transport and development professionals interested in attending should contact [Nora.Pena@itdp.org](mailto:Nora.Pena@itdp.org) to request an invitation. Members of the press interested in attending should contact [Jemilah.magnusson@itdp.org](mailto:Jemilah.magnusson@itdp.org) . For more information, visit [mobilizesummit.org](http://www.mobilizesummit.org).

The Institute for Transportation and Development Policy works around the world to design and implement high quality transport systems and policy solutions that make cities more livable, equitable, and sustainable.

ITDP is a global nonprofit at the forefront of innovation, providing technical expertise to accelerate the growth of sustainable transport and urban development around the world. Through our transport projects, policy advocacy, and research publications, we work to reduce carbon emissions, enhance social inclusion, and improve quality of life for people in cities.