


mobilize

Learning Lab



Future of Public Transport Bogotá Study Tour 2023

June 8-9, 2023



ITDP

VREF



ALCALDÍA MAYOR
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BOGOTÁ 

Future of Public Transport Bogotá Study Tour / June 8-9, 2023

Thursday, June 8 / MOBILIZE Learning Lab Day 1 / Bogotá as a Learning Lab

Morning

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|---------------|---|
| 9:00 - 9:30 | 1.1 Welcome Remarks with a Special Address from the City of Bogotá |
| 9:30 - 10:00 | 1.2 City as a Learning Lab: Presentations from the City of Bogotá |
| 10:00 - 11:15 | 1.3 Deep Dive Q&A: Learning From Bogotá: Breakout Groups |
| 11:15 - 11:30 | 1.4 Coffee Breaks |
| 11:30 - 12:00 | 1.5 Evolution of the Public Transport System in Bogotá |
| 12:00 - 13:30 | 1.6 World Café and Networking: Current Research and Emerging Themes Around Public Transport Solutions |
| 13:30 - 14:30 | 1.7 Lunch at Hotel |

Afternoon

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| 14:30 - 15:00 | 1.8 Storytelling on the Green Corridor's Participatory Planning Process |
| 15:00 - 18:00 | 1.9 The Future of Public Transport is Integrated: Public Space and Walking Site Visit |

Evening

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| 19:00 | Social Dinner at Hotel |
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Friday, June 9 / MOBILIZE Learning Lab Day 2 / The Future of Public Transport

Morning

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| 8:15 - 14:30 | 2.1 The Future of Public Transport is Resilient: Public Transport Site Visit |
| 13:00 - 13:30 | 2.2 Lunch (provided during the site visit) |

Afternoon

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| 14:30 - 15:00 | 2.3 Coffee Break |
| 15:00 - 16:30 | 2.4 Deep Dive: Solutions and Next Steps for the Future of Public Transport: Breakout Groups |
| 16:30 - 17:30 | 2.5 The Future of Public Transport Begins with Walking: Roundtable Session |
| 17:30 - 17:45 | 2.6 Closing Remarks |

Evening

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| 19:00 | Social Dinner at Hotel |
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MOBILIZE Learning Lab (MLL) is a collaborative community convened by ITDP and VREF comprised of researchers, practitioners, ITDP staff and experts, and ITDP's network of cities and partners. Over the past year, we have discussed and exchanged critical ideas around the future of public transport. We met online to unpack this topic through three foundational themes: funding and financing, transport justice and resilient public transport. These components are also the lens through which we will experience the study tour and engage in discussions to further unpack what the future of public transport means.

The goal of this collaboration is to chart and co-create a way forward on the topic of public transport, grounded in the expertise of VREF researchers and ITDP's regional offices and lighthouse cities. Both of our organizations have decades of deep expertise in the area. Coming out of the pandemic and into the unfolding crises of climate and inequity, we see a unique opportunity to seize our collective wisdom to influence the future of public transport to deliver on its promise and provide a clear path forward for cities.

Bogotá, the 2022 Sustainable Transport Award winner and lighthouse city, is an excellent case study on the processes and solutions around urban mobility that are forward thinking and revolutionary, and we are taking our MLL cohort to Bogotá to learn and experience this first hand! Join us for a two-day study tour for discussions, study tours, networking, and fun.

We will be building off of the three roundtables to dive deeper on the topics of funding and finance, transport justice, and resilience with the objectives of:

- 1) Agreeing on definitions and the purpose of public transport
- 2) Defining the parameters of what the future of public transport is - the vision
- 3) Identifying where we need more research or solutions to developing ways forward to meet that vision

We will be using a combination of place-based learning from both site visits and experts from Bogotá, discussions and breakout sessions, and interactive spaces for co-creation and passive engagement. Finally, we will be linking the future of public transport to nonmotorized transport, with a focus on walking.

MOBILIZE Learning Lab Day 1

Morning

1.1 Welcome Remarks with a Special Address From the City of Bogotá 9:00 - 9:30 Plenary, CAMBRIDGE Room

Speakers:

- Mayor Claudia López Hernández, *City of Bogotá*
- Heather Thompson, *CEO, ITDP*
- Nora Peña, *Head of the MOBILIZE Program, ITDP*
- Vanessa Duarte, *Research Officer, VREF*

1.2 City as a Learning Lab: Presentations From the City of Bogotá 9:30 - 10:00 Plenary, CAMBRIDGE ROOM

Speaker:

- Oscar Julián Gómez, *Undersecretary of Mobility Policy*

In this session, representatives from the City of Bogotá will present on the evolution of inclusive urban mobility in the city. This presentation will set the stage for thinking about what the future of public transport means through the lens of Bogotá's experience. The 2022 Sustainable Transport Award winner has been gradually integrating electric buses into its BRT system to address air quality and public health challenges. The new La Rolita bus fleets also exemplify a commitment to increase equitable access to both transport as a service and transport sector as an employment opportunity for women. The city has also worked tirelessly on establishing cycling as an essential means of transport and expanding the cycle paths. The Care Blocks are the new revolutionary approach to integrated land use planning to serve the most vulnerable groups like the women and caregivers. With this and more, we will see how Bogotá is planning to advance the future of its public transport considering impacts of climate change, and unforeseeable events such as the recent pandemic.

1.3 Deep Dive Q&A: Learning From Bogotá: Breakout Groups **10:00 - 11:15 Breakout Session**

Group 1: CAMBRIDGE Room

Group 2: EDIMBURGO Room

Group 3: OXFORD Room

Speakers:

Group 1 (Funding and Financing of Public Transport):

- Chris Kost, *Director of ITDP Africa*
- Claire Birungi, *Transport Systems Manager, ITDP Africa*
- Orlando Santiago Cely, *Manager of Transmilenio*
- Óscar Julián Gómez, *Undersecretary of Mobility Policy, City of Bogotá*

Group 2 (Equitable Public Transport):

- Adriana Ruth Iza Certuche, *Undersecretary of Citizen Services, City of Bogotá*
- Aimee Gauthier, *Chief Knowledge Officer, ITDP*
- Alejandra María Álvarez Orrego, *Gender and City Lead, Despacio*
- María Fernanda Ramírez, *Sustainability and Mobility Lead, Despacio*

Group 3 (Resilient Sustainable Transport):

- Susana Morales, *Director of Mobility Planning*
- Clarisse Cunha Linke, *Director of ITDP Brazil*
- Camilo Urbano, *Urban Development Lead, Despacio*

In this deep dive session, we will deepen our discussions around the future of public transport stemming from the three main themes (funding and financing, transport justice and resilient public transport) and drawing from the experience of the City of Bogotá. As we look into these topics, we will explore how the city of Bogotá has been addressing them through their policies and plans, innovative thinking, and political will.

1.4 Coffee Break

11:15 - 11:30

1.5 Evolution of the Public Transport System in Bogotá

11:30 - 12:00 Plenary, CAMBRIDGE Room

Speaker:

- Dario Hidalgo, *Professor of Transport and Logistics, Universidad Javeriana, Bogotá, Colombia*

Bogotá was recognized with a Sustainable Transport Award in 2005 for its innovative TransMilenio bus rapid transit (BRT) system, which became an example to the world of a high quality, high capacity modern bus system. TransMilenio transformed our understanding of BRT with innovations in contracting, service delivery, and infrastructure design. It helped create a faster and better organized system for existing users and encouraged people to get out of their cars. Twenty years later, the public transport system has been transformed, and continues to transform through the electrification process, adoption of new standards, SIPT reform, integration with other modes, and deployment of the publicly owned La Rolita system integrated with TransMilenio.

1.6 World Café and Networking: Current Research and Emerging Themes Around Public Transport Solutions

12:00 - 13:30 Plenary, EDIMBURGO Room

This world café style session will showcase research in emerging themes around transport solutions from the VREF and ITDP network. The focus will be on sharing research findings, examples of innovative tools and practices in public transport or latest projects.

1.7 Lunch

13:30 - 14:30

1.8 Storytelling on the Green Corridor's Participatory Planning Process 14:30 - 15:00 Plenary, CAMBRIDGE Room

Speaker:

- **Carlos Felipe Pardo, Independent Consultant, Transport Expert**

Creating a green corridor on Avenida Séptima (Seventh Avenue) is Bogotá's newest plan to support increasing access through sustainable mobility options and reducing air pollution in the city. A green corridor can provide flexible and sustainable ways of travel, and streamline movement of people, including during times of disruption or distress. It also represents the holistic system of spaces, mobility networks, and surroundings that can coexist as a resilient, integrated urban feature.

Avenida Séptima, or Seventh Avenue, is considered one of the most important roads in Bogotá, covering 23 kilometers and crossing the eastern portion of the sprawling city. It is perhaps the only corridor that traverses neighborhoods at every income level, from the poorest to the extremely wealthy. It is also the most contested space in the city.

In 2020, the new administration proposed the creation of a green corridor on Seventh Avenue as a safe, convenient and a zero emissions public transport solution for the city, and a model project of civic engagement in the planning process. To achieve this project, the city reversed the normal course of planning a city infrastructure project. Instead of starting the conversation with an analysis of traffic engineering - such as capacity, connectivity needs, and infrastructure costs - the city government proposed integrating the voices and imagination from the public.

In this session, we will hear from Carlos Felipe Pardo about the genesis of the Green Corridor Project, characteristics of this unique urban feature like its relationship with the urban fabric and mobility options, and participatory process that engaged city residents to help imagine the future of Avenida Séptima. This example will highlight unique tools like Streetmix that were used to crowdsource ideas. It also will showcase how civic engagement and bottom up planning can strengthen outcomes of a project. We will, then, be able to experience sections of the corridor through the site visit and take a look at the walking, cycling and public transport infrastructure within the green corridor system, and observe what improvements could bolster this symbiosis.

1.9 The Future of Public Transport is Integrated: Public Space and Walking Site Visit

15:00 - 18:00 Meet at Hotel Lobby at 15:00 to depart

The Future of Public Transport will rely on integrated modes, public spaces, and urban activities that support each other. In an urban ecosystem, walking infrastructure supports local access and supports transport ridership, cycling infrastructure enables medium trips and first/last mile connectivity, while public transport links major destinations and boosts urban activities. In this tour, led by the City of Bogotá, we will see this interplay in addition to the unique features of the city.

The tour will include:

- Parque El Virrey, linear park created along a water body for its conservation, nested within a dense urban environment
- Eje Ambiental transit corridor integrating pedestrian infrastructure, public transport, urban design, and urban morphology of historic and more contemporary building structures
- Plaza de Bolívar and surrounding historical areas
- Carrera Séptima (site of a future green corridor) where we will walk for a stretch of several blocks to observe the active mobility infrastructure and the characteristics of changing urban fabric, which are the key elements influencing the vision for the Green Corridor
- Parque Bicentenario which sits on top of Avenida El Dorado (Calle 26). It is a “bridge” that adapts to a local morphology and integrates green roofs and native plant species.

Evening

1.10 Social Dinner at the Hotel

19: 00 - 21:00

MOBILIZE Learning Lab Day 2

Morning

2.1 The Future of Public Transport is Resilient: Public Transport Site Visit **8:15 - 14:30 Meet in Hotel Lobby at 8 am to depart at 8:15 sharp**

Public transport systems can be both flexible and adaptable to withstand sudden shocks and challenges of climate change, equity issues and urban growth. In this tour, we will see what the city is doing to address these challenges through bus electrification, optimization of transport service, and integration with city services that serve the most vulnerable population in the city: women and caregivers.

The tour will include:

- (Riding!) The recently launched publicly-owned La Rolita buses which is a feeder system to Transmilenio.
- La Rolita is notable for its strategies to ensure gender equity and to continue environmental sustainability efforts
- La Rolita bus depot in Perdomo to tour the electric charging facility and maintenance infrastructure
- Portal del Tunal intermodal hub
- Manzana del Cuidado (a care block facility) at the Manitas TransMiCable station. The care blocks integrate mobility systems and land use, where services are clustered to help caregivers manage their daily routines related to childcare and welfare

2.2 Lunch

13:00 - 14:30

2.3 Coffee Break

14:30 - 15:00

Afternoon

2.4 Deep Dive: Solutions and Next Steps for the Future of Public Transport: Breakout Groups

15:00 - 16:30 Plenary

Group 1: CAMBRIDGE Room - Spanish and English

Group 2: EDIMBURGO Room

Group 3: OXFORD Room

Speakers:

- *Jacob Mason, Research and Impact Director, ITDP*

The Future of Public Transport will need to be well-funded, equitable, and resilient. In this interactive breakout group session, we will take learnings and discussions from the previous roundtables and the previous day, and we will solidify our understanding on the Future of Public Transport. We will define the key principles of resilient and equitable public transport, reiterate key tools and next steps cities need to take, and identify remaining areas for further research. We will walk away with an understanding of key things that are important in order to ensure the transport systems are resilient and adaptable to long term impacts and sudden shocks.

2.5 The Future of Public Transport Begins with Walking: Roundtable Session

16:30 - 17:30 Plenary, CAMBRIDGE Room

Speakers:

- *Gladys Nyachieo, Senior Lecturer, Multimedia University of Kenya*
- *Iwona Alfred, Program Manager, ITDP*
- *Karin Henriksson, Communications Manager, VREF*
- *María Fernanda Ramírez, Sustainability and Mobility Lead, Despacio*
- *Paschalin Basil, Phd Candidate, Institute for Development Studies, University of Nairobi*
- *Ricardo Giesen, Director of the BRT+ Center of Excellence*
- *Sylvester Hayker, Scholar and Lecturer, Technical University of Kenya*
- *Vanessa Duarte, Research Officer, VREF*

Active mobility, namely walking, is an integral part of inclusive access. Good walking conditions correlate to increased ridership on public transport, and resilient public transport and cities rely on adequate pedestrian infrastructure that enhance access options. Good walking conditions also support vibrant neighborhoods filled with diverse activities and can lead to safer streets and cleaner air in the city. In this session, we will discuss how walking and active transport link with the future of public transport and explore how existing research supports the idea of a systems approach where walking plays a foundational role.

2.6 MOBILIZE Learning Lab Closing Remarks **17:30 - 17:45 Plenary, CAMBRIDGE Room**

Speakers:

- Aimee Gauthier, Chief Knowledge Officer, ITDP
- Jhon Alexander Gonzalez, Undersecretary for Mobility Management, City of Bogotá

Evening

2.7 Social Dinner at the Hotel **19: 00 - 21:00**

