Accessibility for all in the 15-minute city

Call for abstracts for a NECTAR Cluster 6 (Accessibility) workshop

London, UK 17-18 March 2027

The Bartlett School of Planning at University College London (UCL) is organising a workshop titled 'Accessibility for all in the 15-minute city'. The workshop will be held at Bloomsbury campus of UCL on 17-18 March 2027.

Workshop topics

We welcome abstracts exploring different aspects of accessibility and travel behaviour with various travel modes in the 15-minute – or more broadly X-minute – city. Abstract topics include, but are not limited to:

● *The feasibility of 15 minute cities*: To what extent can 15-minute cities be realised? Which type of trips can be done within 15 minutes, and by which travel mode?

● *The desirability of 15 minute cities*: To what extent are 15-minute cities desirable? Which activities can be accessed within 15 minutes, and are these people's desired activities?

● *The inclusiveness of 15 minute cities*: To what extent are 15-minute cities inclusive? Are 15-minute cities available for everybody and, if so, can everybody (children, older adults, people with disabilities) use 15 minute cities in the same way?

● *The sustainability of 15 minute cities*: To what extent are 15-minute cities sustainable? Do 15-minute cities really stimulate active travel and discourage car use, and which elements prevent people from making a modal shift away from cars in these compact, mixed-use environments?

● *The well-being in 15 minute cities*: To what extent do 15-minute cities enhance travel satisfaction – due to shorter and more active trips – and life satisfaction – due to easier access to activities and less time spent on daily travel.

● *The measurement of 15-minute cities:* To what extent can 15-minute city performance metrics be standardized? What are the benefits and limitations of standardized metrics, and how can these metrics account for differences in local contexts, travel behaviours, and community needs?

We seek an open discussion about each presentation. Early-career researchers and PhD students are especially encouraged to submit an abstract.

Abstract submission

Colleagues interested in presenting a paper are invited to send an extended abstract of maximum 500 words by email to: Jonas De Vos (jonas.devos@ucl.ac.uk) and Thiago Carvalho (thiago.carvalho@ucl.ac.uk) by 11 December 2026, indicating the title, author(s), affiliations, corresponding contact, and three keywords. A maximum of three references are allowed.



Travel and Accommodation Expenses

Up to 20 NECTAR Members will be invited to present a paper. The participation of one author per paper is free and includes a dinner and two lunches. NECTAR membership for two years is required in order to attend the meeting. Non-members can find details on how to join the association on the 'Membership' page of NECTAR's website: https://www.nectar-eu.eu/membership/

Important dates

Abstract submission: 11 December 2026
Abstract acceptance notice: 21 December 2026
Meeting dates: 17-18 March 2027

Venue

The workshop is hosted by UCL and will be held at the Bloomsbury campus in Central London.

Organising committee

Jonas De Vos, University College London, UK
Thiago Carvalho, University College London, UK
Tiantian Xu, University College London, UK
Robin Hickman, University College London, UK
Benjamin Büttner, TUM, Germany, NECTAR Cluster 6 Co-chair
Ahmed El-Geneidy, McGill University, Canada, Cluster 6 Co-chair
Maria Attard, University of Malta, Malta, NECTAR chair

NECTAR is a European-based scientific association. The primary objective is to foster research collaboration and exchange of information between experts in the field of transport, communication and mobility from all European countries and the rest of the world. It is a multidisciplinary social science network bringing together a wide variety of perspectives on transport and communication problems and their impacts on society from an international perspective. For further information on NECTAR, use the link: http://www.nectar-eu.eu.