OPINION

of the Committee on Regional Development

for the Committee on Transport and Tourism

Towards a new culture for urban mobility
(2008/2041(INI))

Draftsman: Jan Olbrycht
The Committee on Regional Development calls on the Committee on Transport and Tourism, as the committee responsible, to incorporate the following suggestions in its motion for a resolution:

1. Agrees with the Commission’s assertion in its Green Paper ‘Towards a new culture of urban mobility’ (COM(2007)0551) that urban mobility is an important facilitator of economic growth and employment, as well as balanced regional development in the EU, thus contributing to the achievement of the goals of the Lisbon and Gothenburg strategies;

2. Stresses that ensuring that citizens enjoy equal and easy access to coordinated quality transport services, including collective transport, in urban and peri-urban areas is vital to EU territorial cohesion; calls for particular attention to be given to the needs of disabled and elderly people;

3. Stresses that urban mobility plays a significant role in ensuring internal cohesion in urban agglomerations and that urban transport development strategies must therefore be closely linked to wider strategies for spatial development and the development of urban areas;

4. Firmly believes that, while the quality of transport infrastructures and services is crucial to the attractiveness and competitiveness of urban centres, the effectiveness of transport investment depends on its being linked to a sustainable development strategy for individual urban agglomerations; considers it therefore essential for account to be taken in urban planning schemes at conurbation level of the current and future impact of urban transport;

5. Calls on the Commission, the Member States and regional and local authorities to adopt an integrated approach to transport investment planning for urban and peri-urban areas, taking into account social, economic and environmental factors; stresses the importance of public consultation for developing successful sustainable urban planning strategies;

6. Calls on the Commission to facilitate the development of an integrated approach by carrying out studies on the benefits of such an approach and highlighting the costs of a non-integrated approach; further calls on the Commission to provide a guide for those working at grass-roots level to advise them on the practicalities of an integrated approach, for example, using check-lists;

7. Calls on the Commission to review Community legislation and guidelines which directly or indirectly influence the way in which sustainable urban development is pursued, with a view to providing regions and cities with a common frame of reference to make it easier for them to make choices as regards the planning and implementation of development strategy;

8. Calls on the Commission to draw up a comprehensive guide setting out in a systematic manner all the funds available for urban transport (FPRD, regional funds, Life+, Marco Polo) and the facilities offered by the EIB, along the lines of the guide on cities recently published by the Commission's Directorate General for Regional Policy;
9. Recalls that the Commission must encourage local stakeholders to set up public-private partnerships;

10. Stresses that the planning of urban development falls within the competence of local authorities; calls on the Commission to support local authorities by promoting pilot and experimental projects, in particular those aimed at applying an integrated approach to the issue of urban mobility, providing assistance for research in the field of urban planning and encouraging the use of the financial resources available in the Member States;

11. Calls on the Commission to illustrate, using examples from the Member States, the benefits of good practice in integrated mobility planning when implementing major projects and to consider introducing a reward system for towns and cities that introduce pioneering solutions to tackle congestion in urban transport systems;

12. Firmly believes that access to assistance from the Structural Funds and the Cohesion Fund should be conditional on the drawing up of an integrated strategy for the sustainable development of urban and peri-urban areas;

13. Stresses the importance of cooperation between cities and regions for the framing of optimal development strategies and calls on the Commission to include urban mobility issues in exchanges of experiences and good practice, in particular under the URBACT programme and the Regions for Economic Change initiative.
RESULT OF FINAL VOTE IN COMMITTEE

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<th>Date adopted</th>
<th>08.4.2008</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Result of final vote</strong></td>
<td>47: + 0: - 3: 0</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Members present for the final vote</strong></td>
<td>Emmanouil Angelakas, Stavros Arnaoutakis, Elspeth Attwooll, Rolf Berend, Jana Bobošíková, Victor Boştinaru, Antonio De Blasio, Petru Filip, Gerardo Galeote, Iratxe García Pérez, Eugenijus Gentvilas, Gábor Harangozó, Filiz Hakaeva Hyusmenova, Mieczysław Edmund Janowski, Rumiana Jeleva, Gisela Kallenbach, Tunne Kelam, Evgeni Kirilov, Miloš Koterec, Constanze Angela Krehl, Miguel Angel Martínez Martínez, Sérgio Marques, Miroslav Mikolášik, James Nicholson, Lambert van Nistelrooij, Jan Olbrycht, Maria Petre, Markus Pieper, Pierre Pribetich, Elisabeth Schroedter, Grażyna Staniszewska, Catherine Stihler, Margie Sudre, Kyriacos Triantaphyllides, Vladimir Železný.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Substitute(s) present for the final vote</strong></td>
<td>Bernadette Bourzai, Jan Březina, Brigitte Douay, Den Dover, Emanuel Jardim Fernandes, Francesco Ferrari, Madeleine Jouye de Grandmaison, Ramona Nicole Mănescu, Ljudmila Novak, Miroslaw Mariusz Piotrowski, Zita Pleštinská, Samuli Pohjamo, Manfred Weber,</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Substitute(s) under Rule 178(2) present for the final vote</strong></td>
<td>Jean-Paul Gauzès, Jacques Toubon.</td>
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