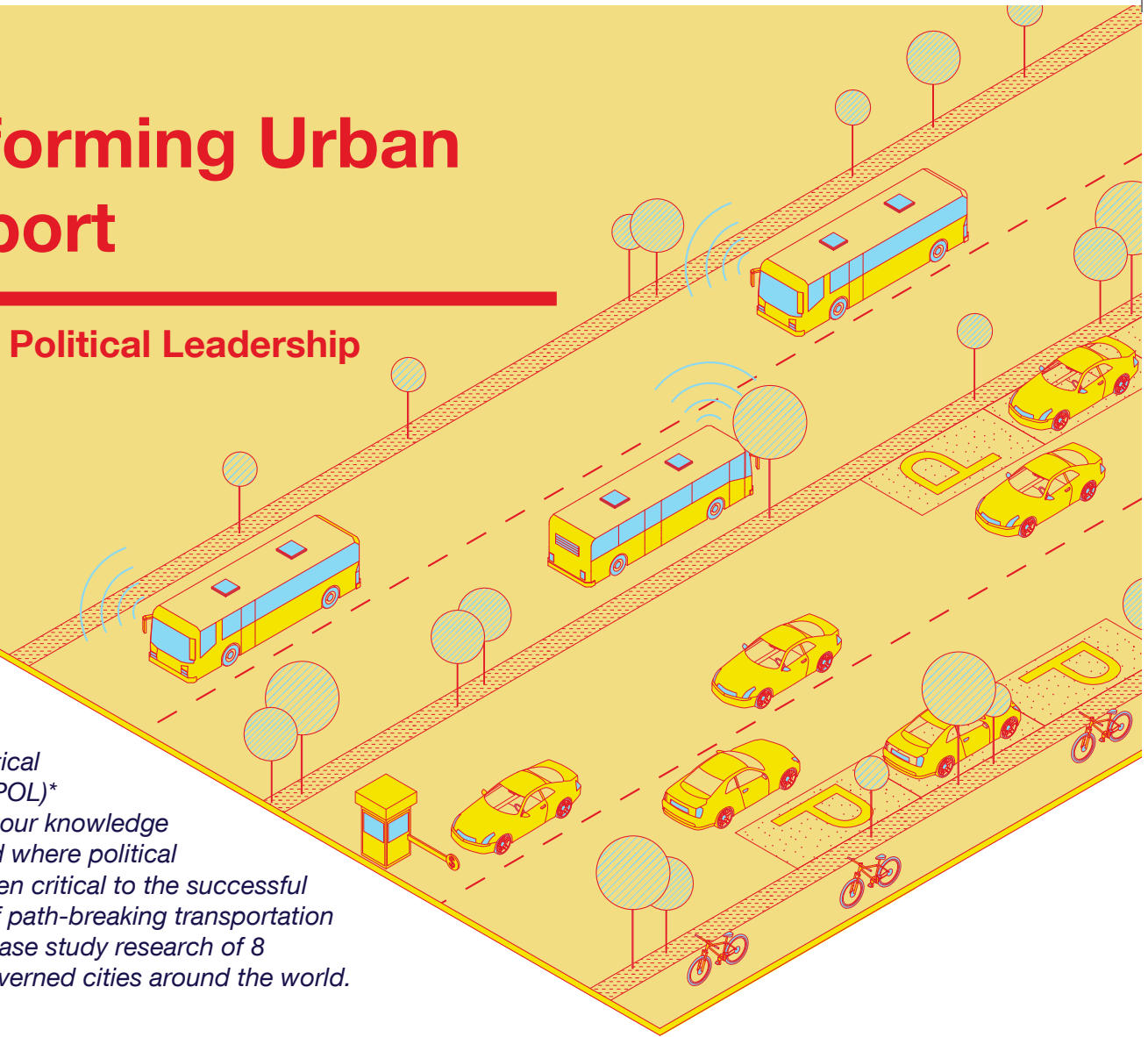


Transforming Urban Transport

The Role of Political Leadership

Transforming Urban Transport - The Role of Political Leadership (TUT-POL) seeks to advance our knowledge of how, when, and where political leadership has been critical to the successful implementation of path-breaking transportation policies through case study research of 8 democratically governed cities around the world.*



Transport Policy Priorities: Confronting Different Challenges

New York City USA

Livable Streets initiative and restructuring institutional mandates from transport to transit from 2007.

Los Angeles USA

2008 ballot referendum (Measure R) imposing a half-cent sales tax increase for county-wide transportation investments with strong transit tilt.

San Francisco USA

Regulatory accommodation of commercial ridesharing starting in 2013.

Mexico City Mexico

Replacement of independent bus and jitney system with Bus Rapid Transit network on key roadways (2005 – 2014).

Seoul South Korea

2003 downtown expressway demolition, bus system overhaul, and urban stream restoration.

Stockholm Sweden

Adoption of congestion pricing on results of a voter referendum following full-scale trial in 2007.

Vienna Austria

Cumulative public transit improvements and parking management since the 1990's.

Paris France

Networked urban transport improvements in Paris and surrounds since 2001.

Political Strategies for Policy Success

Identify Appropriate Timing

Assess such factors as the overall political atmosphere, a triggering opportunity, and the availability of viable solutions.

Assess and Enable Stakeholders

All stakeholders are not equal. Identify who can help most and at which moments in the process, and be as cognizant of opponents as of supporters.

Strategically Frame the Issues

Recast a transport policy in the language of other goals such as environmental aims or economic growth rather than mobility. Focus on what is gained rather than what is lost.

Work Across Multiple Levels of Government

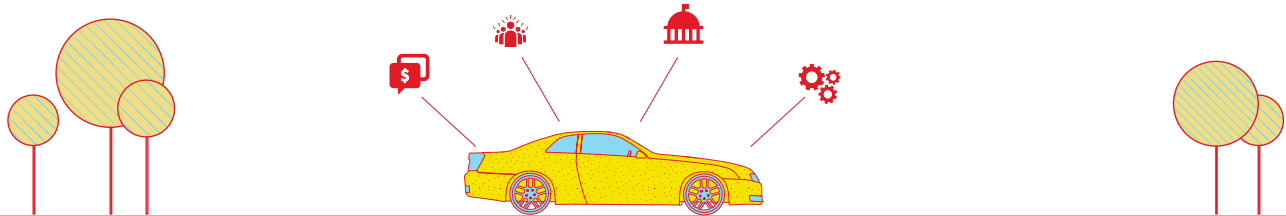
Multi-scalar coordination can broaden the range of allies, redistribute the political costs of decision-making, and expand implementation resources and capacities.

Integrate Technical Expertise

Recruit technical experts to study feasibility, both financial and legal, and empower them to assess costs and benefits in a politically savvy manner.

Proactively Assess Policy Response

Trials and prototypes can reduce uncertainty, allow policymakers dry-run opportunities to work out programmatic kinks, and thus generate wider public support.



Actionable Lessons

1.

Initiating objectives are not always about transportation.

2.

Both “disruptive” and incremental policies can lead to change.

3.

Both conflict and collaboration will generate forward movement.

4.

Strategic use of open and closed negotiations can produce results.

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