

Monitoring the Implementation of a Shared Space Scheme in Exhibition Road

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Wednesday, 24 February 2010 - 16:00

Location: Room 609, Skempton (Civil Eng.) Bldg, Imperial College London

Abstract

Traditionally street design has been driven by the concept of segregation of pedestrians and vehicular traffic, relying upon the design and implementation of structures including pedestrian subways, bridges, guardrails and walls. In recent years, however, there has been a perceptible shift in architecture, urban planning and street design practice around the world towards desegregation and shared space, where vehicles and pedestrians are encouraged to share a single surface with reduced clutter, street furniture, signage, delineation or kerbs. In the UK, shared space schemes have been successfully introduced in, among other places, Newcastle and Brighton, while a £25m scheme is being implemented in London's Exhibition Road, replacing the current dual carriageway layout with a paved granite single surface. As part of a monitoring programme of the Exhibition Road scheme, research is being undertaken in the Centre for Transport Studies, Imperial College London, on pedestrian perceptions and behaviour in segregated and shared space environments as well as vehicle-pedestrian conflicts analysis methods appropriate for use in shared spaces. In this talk, an overview of the research activities will be given, including a presentation of the results obtained so far.

Biography

Dr. Ioannis Kaparias is a Research Associate at the Centre for Transport Studies, Imperial College London. He has a background in Civil Engineering and a PhD in Transport from Imperial, that focused on the development and testing of a new route finding algorithm for reliable dynamic in-vehicle navigation. His research interests include Intelligent Transport Systems, network reliability, traffic engineering and shared space. In the past he has been involved in a variety of related research and consultancy projects and currently he is working on a monitoring programme of the Exhibition Road shared space project, funded by the Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea.