



International Seminar on  
**Urban Transport in the  
Mediterranean Region**

Under the subject

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**QUALITY OF LIFE AND COMPETITIVENESS OF CITIES : A CHALLENGE FOR THE AUTHORITIES**

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# Selecting Rapid Transit Modes

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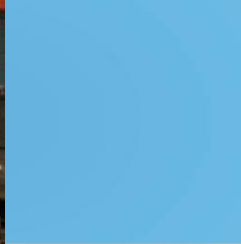
# Selecting a Rapid Transit Mode

- **Process**
- **Considerations**
- **Options**



# Buying A New Motor Vehicle

1. Do I need a two wheeler or a car?
2. How will the family use it?
3. How much money do I have to spend?
4. What are my options?
5. How do the options compare?
  - Cost?
  - Size?
  - Features
  - Comfort?
  - Repair record?
6. Opinion of wife, wife's brother?
7. Decision



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# Why should buying a >\$500M public transport line or highway be different?



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**Establish Goals and Objectives;  
Transportation, Quality of Life**



**Evaluate Current Problems,  
Future Challenges**



**Identify Viable  
Alternatives**



**Evaluate Alternatives**



**Decision on Mode and  
General Alignment**

**Go!**

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# Alternatives Analysis



# Basic Principals

**Alternatives Analyses** follow metropolitan strategic planning; a corridor has been identified as a top priority for:

- a new high performance & capacity public transport (rapid transit) link,
- a high performance & capacity general traffic highway link (e.g., a new expressway)
- possibly both

# Basic Principals

The inputs to **AA** are the short list of alternatives passed from earlier metropolitan strategic planning or strategic “thinking”

**Consider them in the greater detail of AA**



# Basic Principals

- **AA's are about finding the best alternative to solve transport and related problems *in a particular metropolitan corridor or sub-area.***
- **AA's are not studies to prove the “feasibility” of a single, pre-determined solution**



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# Alternatives Analysis Guidelines

1. Make sure that everyone understands the process from start. **Alternatives Analysis**
2. Identify the information needed for proper analysis; Collect it early
3. ***Understand the problems first***

# Symptom: Traffic Congestion

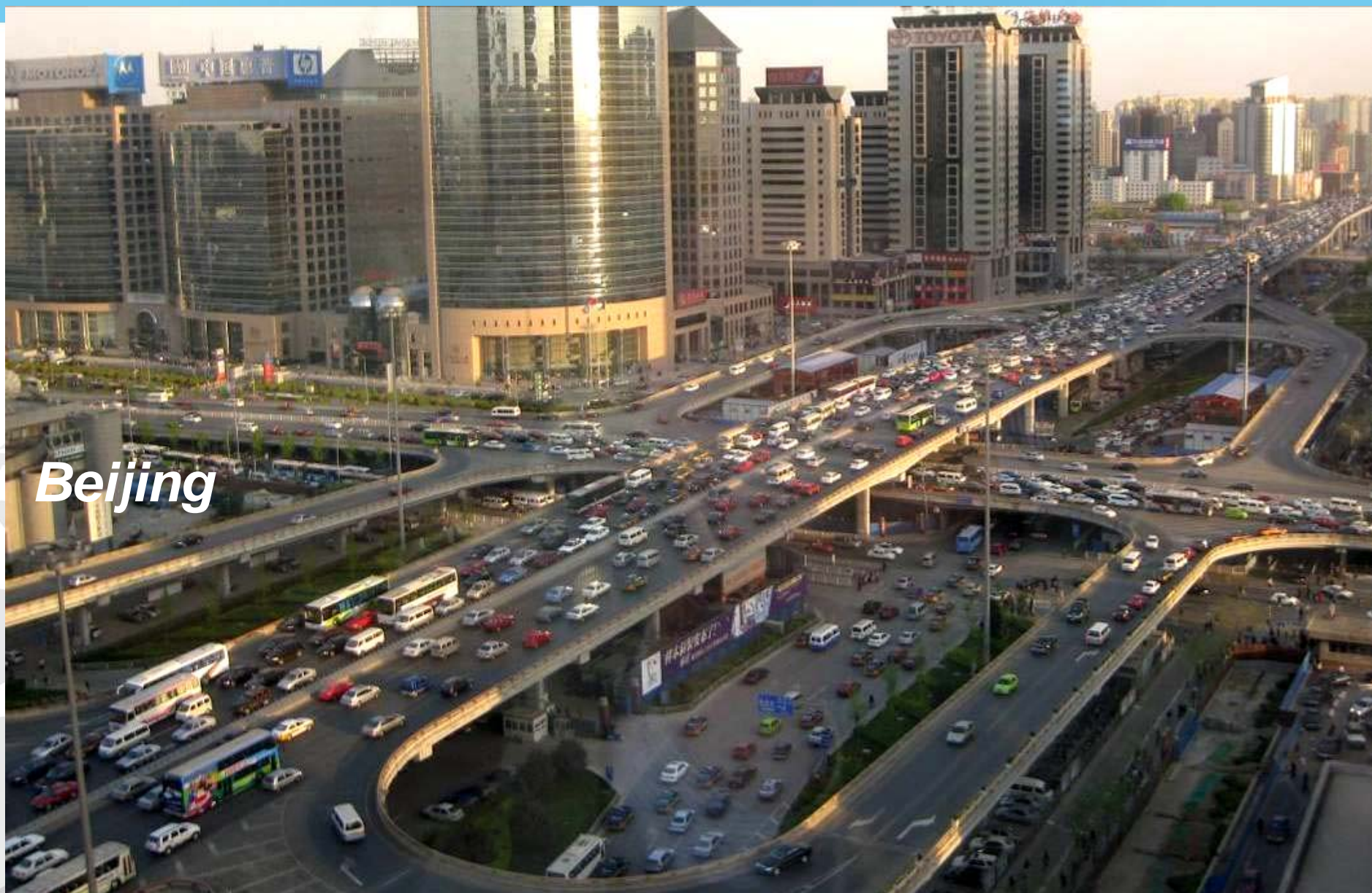


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# Is More Highway Capacity Needed?



*Beijing*

# Is Metro Enough?



Bangkok



Manila



# 4. Consider the right alternatives

- Not just huge single-mode investments
  - Significant new highway capacity
  - Metros, LRT and suburban rail
- Include:
  - better management and operations
  - lower cost investments
  - multimodal packages





# Rapid Transit



# The Missing MENA Alternative: BRT

- Flexibility and adaptability
  - Ability to serve variety of travel and land use patterns
  - Can work even if <100% ROW dedication
- Incremental development; Can easily upgrade vehicles, systems, running ways, extend dedicated running ways
- Speed of implementation
  - Simplicity
  - Experience with bus-based systems and highways
  - Procurement of vehicles and systems

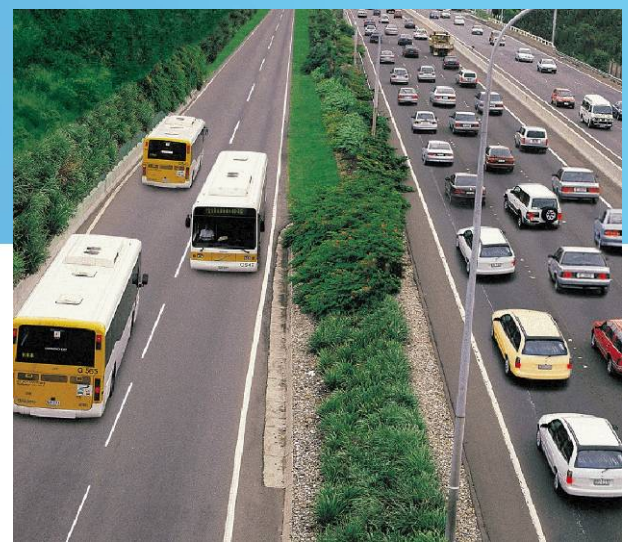


# BRT: Developing City Context

- BRT service attractive for competitive tendering
- Modest total cost, leaving \$ for more system, NMT, secondary street investments
- Can utilize local construction, operations expertise; More \$ stays in country
- Can fix initial problems at modest cost
- Sufficient capacity for all but busiest corridors in largest cities
- *Already significant amount of road space used for public transport buses, minibuses, shared taxis, etc.*



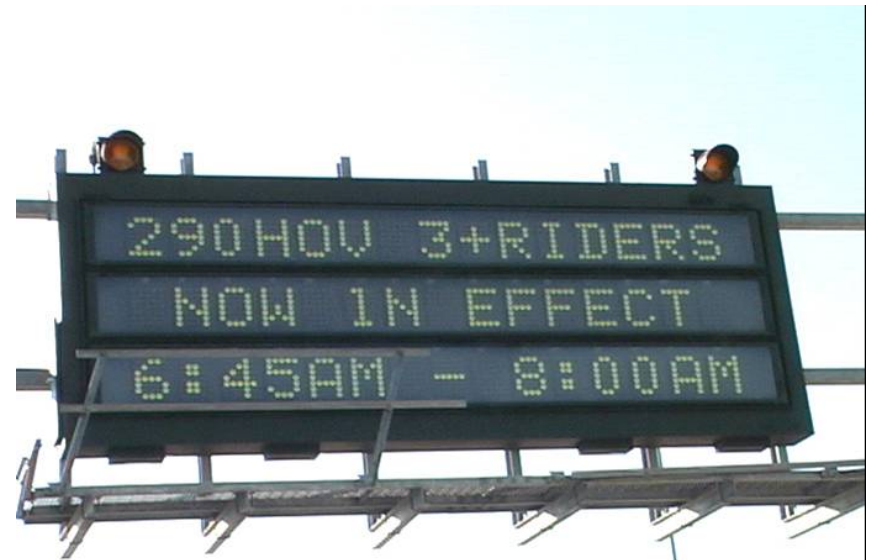
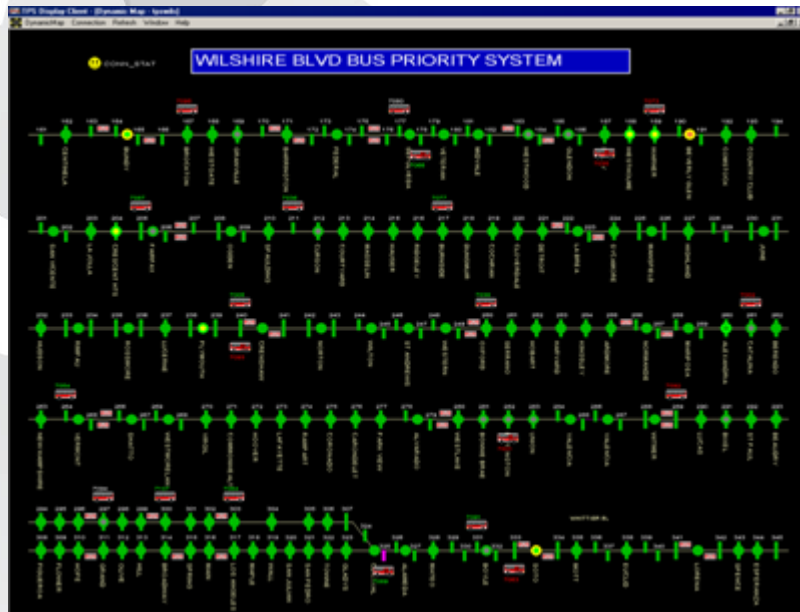




# Roads, NMT Streets



# Better Management



# 5. Develop complete, objective and reliable decision information

- Transport system performance and benefits
- Quality of life criteria
  - Air quality
  - Noise
  - Social equity
- Economic and financial



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# 6. Make the case: Support the decision

- Develop champions
  - Decision makers
  - Civil society
  - Citizens



# Summary

1. Make sure that everyone understands AA
2. Understand the problems needing solution
3. Consider the right alternatives
4. Develop complete, objective and reliable information to support decision making
5. Be prepared to make the case



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