

# The 3<sup>rd</sup> Low Carbon and Contamination Earth Summit-2013

*Theme: Breathing New Life into Green Challenges*

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## The Contribution of Mobility to Low-Carbon Cities

*(proposed)*

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### ***Abstract***

Achieving low-carbon cities includes social and economic factors as well as environmental factors that make cities attractive and liveable.

What sorts of transport systems are appropriate for a low-carbon city, seen from each of these points of view? Achieving an integrated low-carbon urban mobility concept could include some of the following components:

- Decoupling progression of income from increase in energy use by citizens.
- Encouraging life styles favouring human-scale clusters relying on non-motorised transport (walking and cycling), therefore reducing the consumption of fossil fuel, while increasing the population density.
- Assessing the health effects of a switch from motorised transport to non-motorised transport.
- Optimising the use of each transport mode and interconnecting transport modes. That means ensuring effective rail networks, networks of tram and bus rights-of-ways, convenient intermodal hubs, easy use of bicycles and availability of rented bicycles and taxis.
- Implementing synergy between the supply of public transport and restraint on the use of the car in the city.

The paper includes examples of integrated sustainable mobility.

### ***Biography***

Pierre Laconte is an international expert in urban and transport planning, and their links with environmental issues. He has Doctorates in Laws and in Economics from the Louvain University and is Dr h.c., Edinburgh Napier University. P. Laconte was one of the three planners in charge of the Louvain University "Groupe Urbanisme Architecture". This team was entrusted in 1969 with the planning and architectural coordination of the new university town of Louvain-la-Neuve, along the model of the historic town of Louvain. The land (ca 1000 ha, bought as agricultural land) remains property of the university and is developed through long term leases. It is today a major urban growth pole south of Brussels. It includes a new underground railway station and numerous ecologic features such as separation of storm water and sewage water and heating by natural gas, and its centre is entirely pedestrian. Laconte is former Vice-chair of the European Environment Agency Scientific Committee, Honorary Secretary General of the International Association of Public Transport - UITP, past-president of the International Society of City and Regional Planners (2006-

2009) and president of the Foundation for the Urban Environment. About his publications see [www.ffue.org](http://www.ffue.org).