

2011/SOM1/EWG/WKSP3/011 Agenda Item: V1-1

Green Transportation in China: New Policy and Practice

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APEC Cooperative Energy Efficiency Design for Sustainability - Energy Efficient Urban Passenger Transportation San Francisco, United States 14–16 September 2011













China road infrastructure development

• Road infrastructure: during the 11years(1995-2006), the total length of paved roads increases to 241,351km from 130,308 km, the total area of paved road to 4,114.47 million square meters from 1,181.81million square meters, and the number of constructed bridges to 54,643 from 321,23. The growth rates are85.2%, 248% and 70.1%

• Traffic management facilities By 2006, the total length of marking lines added is 185,000km, and the number of traffic signs added is 160,000; for more than 400 cities, the rate of making lines added climbs to 95% from less than 70%, number of traffic sign to 23 for each kilometer from 9, and the rate of intersection channelization in center urban area to 95.5% from 43%.

• More advanced traffic management tools: by 2006, in 568 cities of China, traffic control center builds up, which offer functions of alarm responds, information selection, traffic control and so on. "greed wave "signal control is realized in 394 cities, and the number of intersection under signal control is 32,695 and the total number of television monitors reaches 10081.



New change and challenge (1)

New Constraints for urbanization

(1) Energy

Since 1993 China became a net importer of oil, the share of global demand for oil keeps growing. In 2003, the share is more than 40%, while more than 60% demand is dependent on foreign oil. Among all industries, transportation has the fastest growth in demand for oil, and nearly consumes 40%-50% of the oil each year.

(2) Land

In the extensive urban expansion mode, the growth of urban land scale in China cannot match the growth of population scale. From 1990 to 2004, the total area of urban land climbs to 34,000 square kilometers from 13,000 square kilometers. And for 41 cities of China, the growth rate of urban land scale exceeds 50%.

(3)Environment

Vehicle pollution has become the NO.1 in urban air pollution in place of the traditional soot pollution. In large cities as Beijing, the share of motor vehicle for CO, NOx, HC emissions is 88%, 51% and 49%, and the share for concentration of pollutants is as high as

92%, 64% and 51%.

New change and challenge (2)

New relationship between land use and urbanization: the structural adjustment

• While the urban population scale develops rapidly, however, the urban population density decreases and land use expansion accelerates. After nearly ten years of urban land use expansion, we have to face the problems in the field of transportation, environment, and urban activity organization, which prompting the governments and policy-makers to reconsider the sustainable urban spatial development mode.



New change and challenge (3)

Travel demand in different level

The urbanization in China is the largest population migration in the world. The urbanization increases by one percent per year and we forecast that in 2015, the urban population will exceed the rural population for the first time, and the urban population scale will keep growing. Under this forecast, the income gap between different classes will also keep growing and their requirement for transit service are also different. So urban travel demand will present multi-level and multi-type features.



New change and challenge (4)

Traffic congestion: the "normal" situation

Since the 1980s, in urban area of China, the average speed of motor vehicle during peak hours has fallen to 20km/h and even 8-10km/h for some large cities, from 40km/h. In peak hours, for some big cities, the traffic stays in the situation of saturation, or "half-paralyzed". With the popularity of motorization, traffic congestion is spreading from big cities to large cities and even medium-sized cities. And traffic congestion is a "normal" situation for the current China.





New change and challenge (5)								
Structural change in travel modes								
At the end of 2008, the share of public transit is around 25% for big cities in China, and only 10%-15% for the average city Share of public transit in different cities								
		Beijing	Shenyang	Wuhan	Shijiazhuang	Chengdu	Foshan]
	Year	2008	2008	2008	2008	2008	2009]
	Share	28.8%	20%	23.4%	13.7%	20.7%	8%	
Nix ride								









New Policy and Action

(1) Establish the Goal

August 2010: State Development and Reform Commission launched the project "National Low-carbon Experimental City"

>2010-2011: Ministry of Transportation issued "on the construction of low-carbon transport system", "low carbon transport system guidance," "building a low carbon transport system," at the same time being raise the overall framework, make clear of the objectives, tasks and measures of China's construction of low-carbon transport system.

>2010:The Twelfth Five-Year Plan propose to "establish a green, low carbon development concept, to focus on energy conservation, improve the incentive and restraint mechanisms, accelerate the construction of resource-saving and environment-friendly production and consumption patterns, and enhance capacity for sustainable development, improve the ecological level of civilization".

>February 2010: China puts forward the "Eco-city", "Low-carbon city" and other ecodevelopment mode as urban development goals in more than 259 cities, which makes up 90.2% of all cities in China.























New Policy and Action

(7) Reasonable guide policy on car travel and encourage P&R

>In 2010, Ministry of Housing, Ministry of Public Security, and States Development and Reform Commission release management guidance on parking facilities planning and construction.

≻In 2010, Beijing government introduces 28 regulations or guidance in order to ease the traffic congestion. (commonly known as "Beijing 28 clauses")

>In 2011, Beijing implements the policy of "draw number" to limit the number of motor vehicle licenses.

>In 2011, Beijing implements the new parking fee policy. (15RMB per hour in the center urban area)

Beijing constructs 26 large hubs and correspondent setting to encourage Park and Ride.
The "Five day ride(each motor vehicle available for five days for one week)" policy limits the ride days of motor vehicle in Beijing.

≻Taiyuan, Guangzhou and other cities introduces measures. (similar to Beijing 28 clauses)

Conclusion During renovating old cities or building new cities, seize the opportunity to lower the traffic load for cities. Construct green transportation systems, public transit as the main travel mode. Promote public transit priority policy and accelerate the legalization processes. Construct reasonable road network and improve traffic facilities to ensure the smooth and safe flow of urban traffic. High-tech management tools can improve management efficiency and safety level. Regulation of travelers behavior is important to solve urban transportation problems and also long-term task. How to properly solve the parking problem is an urgent task currently. How to solve transportation problems for a city is also a question in the field of system engineering.

