

# AUNT-SUE

Accessibility and  
User Needs in  
Transport for  
Sustainable Urban  
Environments



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## Newsletter Edition November 2007, Issue 5

You are reading the AUNT-SUE newsletter. It contains updates on our research project, the aim of which is to develop and test sustainable policies and practices that will deliver effective socially inclusive design and operation in transport and the associated public realm.

## Inclusive Transport and Urban Design -

**Supporting Better Decisions for Whole Journey Environments**

13 February 2008: Friends House, Euston Road, London, NW1 2BJ

This is a one-day conference that has been organised by the AUNT-SUE research consortium with the support of EPSRC and in collaboration with Transport for London and the British Urban Regeneration Association.

Confirmed speakers include:

**Heather J Cruickshank**  
University of Cambridge - Chair

**Graeme Evans**  
Cities Institute at London Met  
AUNT-SUE (2004-9)

**Nigel Dotchin**  
Department for Transport -  
Central government's perspective on inclusive transport

**John McNulty**  
Transport for London -  
Best practice in interchange planning, design & operations

**Trevor Mason**  
Hertfordshire County Council -  
The benefits of AUNT SUE to local authorities

The event also features a walkabout in our King's Cross area and Somerstown "testbed", as well as detailed demonstrations of the tools that are being developed by AUNT-SUE in collaboration with our partner organisations.

Please visit our website for information about the tools. Further details about the walkabout and our speakers will be made available on our website (see below) shortly before the event.

A limited number of places is available, free of charge.

For further information or to book your place online visit [www.aunt-sue.info](http://www.aunt-sue.info).

For more information, please contact Antje Witting on 020 7133 3028 or by email [a.witting@londonmet.ac.uk](mailto:a.witting@londonmet.ac.uk)

## Workshop Series 2008/9

**Best practice in interchange planning, design and operation**

In collaboration with the British Urban Regeneration Association, there will be a series of small-group study tours to visit and discuss transferable best practice on interchange planning, design and operation.

Key themes will include: interchanges as inclusive and welcoming spaces; gateways to city centres and better urban design; reducing crime and fear of crime; the regional dimension.

The first workshop is scheduled for early summer 2008.

Please contact Emily Miller (BURA) on 020 75394030 to register your interest.

### Forthcoming article

Nastaran Azmin-Fouladi & Graeme Evans  
Accessibility and User Needs in Transport:  
Street Audit Toolkit'

In: Porta S., Thwaites K., Romice O.,  
Greaves M. (Eds.) *Urban Sustainability  
Through Environmental Design: Approaches  
to time-people-place responsive urban  
spaces*, Taylor & Francis (Dec 2007).

Further details about forthcoming  
conference presentations and papers are  
to follow on [www.aunt-sue.info](http://www.aunt-sue.info)

**EPSRC**

Engineering and Physical Sciences  
Research Council



## Investing in the Future

The AUNT-SUE project is a cross-disciplinary team of leading researchers in transport, design and social inclusion. Our consortium brings together the expertise of leading research centres in London Metropolitan University, Loughborough University and University College London. Much of the technical work on the emerging AUNT-SUE 'tool-kit' relies on the commitment and dedication of some younger team-members, who have just started to establish themselves in the research community. We would like to introduce them to you.

**Pete Davis (LU)** MEng is a Research Associate in the Department of Design and Technology at LU. He has joined us in 2007 to work on the HADRIAN/Journey Planner. Pete recently completed an MEng in Product Design and Manufacture. He chose transport accessibility as the topic of his individual project, for which he studied psychological stress and developed a journey planner concept. He has also gained a Diploma of Industrial Studies for a placement year as a designer with a street furniture company.

**Kamalasudhan Achuthan (UCL)** BE MEng is a Research Fellow in the CTS at UCL and has been working on the development of AMELIA. His qualifications include a Bachelor in Civil Engineering and a Master of Engineering by research, on pedestrian accessibility to buses using Geographic Information Systems (GIS). He has over four years of research experience in the areas of GIS, transport planning, traffic engineering and road safety.

Article continues >

## Young Practitioner Network

Our consortium is intending to set up a section of the AUNT-SUE network for students and young practitioners across different disciplines/professions.

The idea came about from discussions with senior staff in the research and higher education departments of professional bodies, including:

- The Royal Town Planning Institute
- The Royal Institute of Chartered Surveyors
- The Chartered Institute of Logistic & Transport
- The Chartered Institute of Architectural Technologists

All agreed in that inclusivity and accessibility in transport, together with the related public realm, are of growing importance, and that it will need new approaches and attitudes to deliver the necessary improvements. We would like to support the professional bodies by targeting young professionals as well as students and involving them in case studies/ projects.

Please contact Steve Shaw on [s.shaw@londonmet.ac.uk](mailto:s.shaw@londonmet.ac.uk) if you wish to get involved yourself or would like to recommend younger colleagues and/or students to join.

**Ben Calnan (London Met)** BSc, MSc has experience working for national research organisations, local government and the private sector. He has an BA in Geography and a MSc in Geographic Information Science from UCL. His research interests include developing spatial decision support systems, Internet mapping, sustainable urban planning and transport. He joined us in 2007 to work on the GIS based urban design tool (VISIT). The team also includes **Claire Ellul (London Met)** PhD. She recently completed a PhD at UCL, investigating the spatial relationships between three dimensional objects. Prior to commencing her PhD, she worked for 10 years as a GIS consultant, software developer and systems architect. Claire's interests include the use of technology in GIS, web mapping, spatial databases, 3D GIS and 3D Urban Environment modelling.

Please visit our website for more details about other members of our consortium and their contact details.

We would also like to use this opportunity to thank **Rana Imam (UCL)** and **Nick Tyler (UCL)** for their support in the first phase of AUNT-SUE. Thanks also to **Nastaran Azmin-Fouladi (London Met)**, whom we also like to congratulate on completing her PhD earlier this year.

## Most recent papers

- Mackett R.L., Achuthan K. and Titheridge H. (2007)** Overcoming the barriers to walking for people who are socially excluded. Walk21, Toronto, Canada, 1<sup>st</sup>-4<sup>th</sup> Oct 07.
- Evans, G. (2007)** Inclusive Transport, Regeneration and Community Safety. Design Against Crime Centre and DOCA (Designing Out Crime Association) seminar on 'Transport and Security: the Real Issues for 2025', London, 4<sup>th</sup> Sep 07.
- Titheridge H., Achuthan K., Mackett R.L. and Solomon J. (2007)** Assessing the Extent of Transport Social Exclusion among the Elderly. Access to Destinations, Minneapolis, 23-5<sup>th</sup> Aug 07.
- Titheridge H., Achuthan K., Mackett R.L. (2007)** Developing methods for measuring pedestrian accessibility. 10th International Conference on Computers in Urban Planning and Urban Management, Iguassu Falls, Brazil, 11-13<sup>th</sup> Jul 07.
- Titheridge, H., Solomon, J. (2007)** Benchmarking Accessibility for Elderly Persons. 11<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Mobility and Transport for Elderly and Disabled Persons (TRANSED), Montreal, Canada, 18<sup>th</sup>-22<sup>nd</sup> Jun 07.
- Tyler, N., Imam, R. (2007)** Increasing the Viability of Socially Necessary Transport Systems. TRANSED, Montreal, Canada, Jul 07.
- Mackett R.L., Achuthan K., Titheridge H. (2007)** Conflicts between macro level policy and micro level implementation - the case of social exclusion. World Conference on Transport Research, Berkeley, California, Jun 07.
- Solomon J., Titheridge H. (2007)** Transport Equity and the Elderly. 9th NECTAR Conference, Porto, Portugal, 9-12<sup>th</sup> May 07.

## NEWSLETTER OF THE AUNT-SUE CONSORTIUM

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Glossary: LU: Loughborough University; London Met London Metropolitan University, UCL: University College London