

FUT Symposium 2012-10-01

Urban Freight for Livable Cities:

-How to deal with collaboration and trade-offs.

A. Sharing the Urban Space

The role of freight traffic in the urban areas

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Although the recent economic turmoil around the world has slowed the growth of freight flow across the U.S., experts predicts that the movement of freight will continue to grow in the long term. Combined with the slowdown or even decrease in the passenger vehicle miles due to the increased fuel cost and awareness of the sustainability issues, the role of freight traffic in the urban areas is expected to increase even more rapidly in the future. As such, policy makers at federal, state and regional arenas have begun to address freight issues in the earnest.

This presentation will strive to frame the conflicts between movement of goods and people in urban settings by examining the major flow of consumer goods in the U.S. and identify key points of conflict where the movements of freight and people result in congestion or unsafe environment. Possible solutions to mitigate the conflicts will be discussed using some examples, some from the U.S. and some from abroad. Due to the built environment that has been designed accommodate larger vehicles and large lots of houses and greater focus on efficiency over sustainability, the experiences in the U.S. often differ from those in Europe or Japan.