



Planning for Urban Resilience

Cities to take the lead when transformation needed

The year 2020 has forced cities to adapt to disruptions and simultaneously take the lead in moving forward. Covid-19 is perceived as a local phenomenon as each of us can follow how the pandemic plays out city by city, day after day. As business has slowed down and people work from home, the urban pattern is changing. This forces cities to consider what is temporary and what will be the permanent impact of the ongoing crisis.

We already know that the impact of the public sector on businesses will be increased for years to come, due to the governmental support provided to companies both on EU and national levels. It is also very probable that remote work for white collar workers will increase. This will reduce commuting. It is also evident that when more public money will be spent, longer term objectives such as reducing carbon emissions will be high on the agenda. All these factors impact how cities must reconsider their role in the society.

Traditionally, many cities have seen themselves as enablers, relying on market forces and active citizens

to show the direction for future development. The uncertainty and need for concerted public and private action now force city managers to take a more proactive stance. Nonetheless, as things are changing all the time, there is a need to learn as you go.

The World Alliance for Low Carbon Cities wants to actively co-create the new practices of urban planning as they unfold, and support cities prepared to take the lead in guiding the changes. We expect to devote the majority of our efforts to these activities in 2021 to deepen our understanding of this important phenomenon.

Our upcoming Annual General Meeting will be organized in this spirit with a highly insightful group of experts providing their view of the ongoing transformation. This will then kick-off the WALCC's intent to become a transformative ecosystem contributing to resilience and intensifying the efforts to drive the transition towards a low-carbon society

Integrating urban infrastructures

The WALCC aims to start a new initiative seeking means of integrating two mission-critical urban systems: the transport system and the energy system, due to the electrification of transportation.

The interface connecting these two systems is the charging of vehicles, from small-scale applications such as bikes to large ones like ferries. This new initiative will support the development of new technologies, systems, and business models that meet the emerging needs of connectivity and control systems which place increasing demands on distributed power grids.

Through its partners in the Nordic Urban Mobility Ecosystem, the WALCC will support companies and cities throughout the Nordics in addressing the challenges of

de-carbonizing their transportation systems. The joint initiative will design pilot and demonstration projects in cities across Finland and the Nordics.

Together with the WALCC, ABB and Unieke will take the lead in exploring the potential for a demonstration project on autonomous charging for public transit fleets. This project will serve as a showcase for leading-edge technology facilitating the operation of an electric bus fleet in cities

13.10.2020
13:00-17:00h EET

Annual General Meeting



WALCC
World Alliance for Low Carbon Cities

WALCC Annual General Meeting

On October 13th (13-17 EET) the World Alliance for Low Carbon Cities will host its Annual General Meeting in the form of an expanded, virtual event (via Zoom) inviting both members and those interested in learning more about the Alliance. The afternoon will introduce leaders in the fields of clean energy, green urban planning, and urban transport who will share their insights on the benefits of ecosystems like the Alliance in realizing ambitious emissions reduction efforts. Register now to hear how the Alliance is driving innovation in sustainability!

Preliminary program for the Annual General Meeting

13:00 – 13:05	Welcome and opening words: Pasi Mikkonen, Fortum
13:00 – 14:00	Urban energy transformation Ulf Wikström and Per Ytterberg, Stockholm Exergi Discussion based upon presentation by Stockholm Exergi
14:00 – 15:00	Carbon neutral by 2025 Milla Bruneau and Elina Ojala, City of Lahti Discussion based upon presentation by the City of Lahti
15:00 – 16:00	Integrating mobility and energy infrastructures Danel Turk, ABB, and Jenny Gustavsson, Telia Discussion based upon presentations by ABB and Telia
16:00 – 16:50	Transformative ecosystems Jussi Hulkkonen, WALCC and Johan Wallin, WALCC Keynote presentation by Minna Arve, Mayor of City of Turku Discussion on the World Alliance for Low Carbon Cities 2021 Action Plan
16:50 – 17:00	Concluding discussion

Nordic Future: Vanguard of Sustainability

The WALCC will, together with key partners, collaborate with Nordic forerunners in sustainability by developing a publication demonstrating how the Nordics are already transforming urban practices. Through this publication, the WALCC will further support leading Nordic organizations that intend to be vanguards of sustainability.

Featuring articles from key partners in the private and public sectors, the publication will provide a view of how energy, communications, mobility, and urban planning contribute to a low-carbon, sustainable world in the post-Covid-19 context.



WALCC
World Alliance for Low Carbon Cities

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