



# WALCC

World Alliance for Low Carbon Cities

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## Responsible Cities, Hanasaari 30.9-1.10.2019



The world's cities continue to swell while climate change and a rapidly aging population bring great uncertainty. With the United Nations estimating urban settlement accounts for 55% of the world's population in 2018 and projected growth of another 5% over the course of the next decade, cities are quickly establishing their decisive, central role in dictating the progress of the planet. In response, the UN has set a goal of making cities inclusive, safe, resilient, and sustainable.

This increased focus on the sustainability and safety of cities creates a pressure on city decision makers to find solutions to the challenges facing them. This spring, the WALCC and the Nordic Urban Mobility Ecosystem (NUME) engaged in an intensive scenario process (Nordic Urban Mobility 2030) which explored one area of these challenges, namely those relating to transportation and mobility. This scenario process formed four visions of how mobility will evolve over the course of the coming decade, the results provide the foundation for the WALCC's Autumn Forum titled "Responsible Cities" to be organized on Hanasaari, Espoo at the end of September.

In their efforts to tackle the emissions resulting from the mobility sector, accounting for an estimated 25% of all city emissions, city authorities are exploring a wide range of solutions. They are introducing electric buses into their public transport systems, increasing the proportion of rail transport, restricting the use of emission-heavy vehicles

in their borders, and encouraging the use of different forms of light transport. This array of approaches reflects the complexity of the systemic, legal, and behavioral changes necessary to achieve a sustainable future..

This rising interest among the world's leading cities supports one of the key conclusions of our scenario process: cities can play a crucial role in the development of a sustainable future. Successful cities in the future must, therefore, be more than mere places of residence or enablers of change. They must take an active role in securing the safety and wellbeing of their residents by becoming "Responsible Cities". Based on the findings from the scenario process, the WALCC will explore what it means to be a "Responsible City" to consider the future of urban life from the perspective of the city as a holistic, evolving entity. One step is to engage with the cities on the West Coast of Finland at the SuomiAreena Forum in July to display, together, what measures these cities have taken to become more responsible.

This will form the foundation for the WALCC's coming Autumn Forum to be organized in Hanasaari (find more information on the reverse) which will invite a group of city leaders from major Nordic and Asian cities to discuss the challenges facing the world's cities in the coming decade.



## WALCC

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## What is the World Alliance for Low Carbon Cities?

The World Alliance for Low Carbon Cities (WALCC) is a non-profit, independently founded organization which supports the development of a low-carbon, sustainable future in its four focus areas: Urban planning, Urban transport, Green building, and Renewable resources.

The Alliance advances this goal by supporting research, development, and practical demonstrations, serving as a platform to bring businesses, research and educational institutions, and public sector operators together.

Founded in 2012 by its original members, the Tsinghua University's Shenzhen Graduate School and the Synocus Group, the Alliance's members now include a variety of public and private sector entities from Europe and Asia, among its premium members are China's largest residential property developer Vanke; world leading lithium-ion battery manufacturer Contemporary Amperex Technology Limited (CATL); Chinese energy and heating platform company Tus-Clean Energy; media, entertainment, and internet leader Tencent as well as Nordic's leading energy company Fortum and Valmet Automotive, the Finnish car and battery manufacturer.

The members of the board of the WALCC are Pasi Mikkonen, Vice President of Investments and City Solutions, Fortum, Chairman; Professor KONG Ying of the Graduate School at Shenzhen, Tsinghua University, vice-chairman; and Jyrki Nurmi, Senior Vice President, EV Systems, Valmet Automotive; and Pekka Sundman, Director, City of Turku. Jussi Hulkkonen, serves as the Deputy Secretary-General.

*Find more information on our website about the Alliance and how your organization can join our members in realizing a sustainable tomorrow!*



## On the agenda at the WALCC Autumn Forum

The World Alliance for Low Carbon Cities will hold its 17th bi-annual Forum at the Hanaholmen Culture Center in Hanasaari, Espoo, Finland. This year's Autumn Forum will address the theme of the Responsible City. The Forum will consider the implications of the growing impact of climate change and how cities govern, serve, and motivate their residents in their efforts towards a better urban life.

The Mayor's panel will address how city decision makers can make cities more responsible, whereas, the CEOs will discuss how large companies can more efficiently collaborate with cities. In addition, there will be panels focusing on innovation and policy. The Forum will engage participants through breakout sessions addressing three streams exploring Sustainability, Mobility, and

Wellbeing. The WALCC will also organize visits to select sites to introduce visitors to the Finnish companies and cities representing the leading edge in sustainable development.

Topics of the breakout sessions include use of city data in low-carbon development, ecosystems, and technologies in electric transport, the logic of care in city development, technology transfer platforms, public-private collaboration, and resident-centric wellbeing.

*Follow our website for updates on the agenda as it develops through the summer and fall.*