Position Paper
December 2011

The Swedish ITS Council's

position on

Traffic management in major cities –

all modes of transport

1. Why Traffic management in major cities - all modes of transport?

Sweden's metropolitan areas are growing. In line with this, there are increased demands for sustainable transport (both goods and passenger transport), passenger safety, flexibility with regard to the use of street space and the need for passenger information.

ITS is important to ensure sustainable and future-proof growth of metropolitan areas. Traffic management, in which all modes of transport participate, is a key to both travellers and businessmen being able to get about safely and unhindered in metropolitan areas.

The assignment

The ITS Council has received a directive\(^1\) from the Government to work towards an increase in Swedish action within the area in the EU. The background is that the Government sees the opportunity to both accelerate and influence the introduction of various ITS services and also coordinate the services on European and international levels. In the long-term, this will benefit Swedish industry, not least with regard to our export companies.

The position papers describe on a general level the important aspects of how we act from a Swedish position in various EU contexts with regard to ITS matters. It should be possible for the document to be used by representatives from industry, public organizations, academia and its researchers as well as trade associations. Each position paper covers the multimodal perspective.

The following prioritized areas within "Traffic management in major cities - all modes of transport" were dealt with in the multimodal ITS strategy and the action plan\(^2\) developed by Vägverket (the Swedish Road Administration, now defunct) in 2010, on commission from the Government:

- Planning and cooperation between metropolitan areas. Development of ITS plans for multimodal traffic management,
- Identification of pilot projects within environmentally friendly city logistics and goods management.
- Climate-smart multimodal traffic management by means of evaluation and more active work with traffic signals


\(^2\) ITS strategy and action plan: [http://www.sou.gov.se/its/handlingsplan.htm](http://www.sou.gov.se/its/handlingsplan.htm)
On-going work
A number of projects aimed at achieving the goals in the multimodal ITS strategy and action plan have been initiated:

• A national Storstadsforum has been established in which a drafting committee works with content and definitions. The areas of focus are traffic management, passenger information and city logistics (within the scope of Logistikforum).
• The Swedish Transport Administration has begun work on developing a strategy for traffic management in major cities.
• Sweden is participating in the EU initiative Urban ITS Platform³. The work is linked with ITS Action Plan and the ITS Directive. The cooperation shall take place between the Member States and regional/local organizations in charge of transport with the aim of supporting the initiative within "urban mobility". The Action Plan for Urban Mobility offers support for ITS applications complement the ITS Action Plan (Action 20).
• A preliminary study on how traffic signals can be used more effectively has been initiated.

2. Prioritizations for the future
Within the position "Traffic management in major cities - all modes of transport", Sweden has chosen to focus on a few select areas which shall speed up the development in the area:

• Collaboration with various European initiatives⁴, such as UITP and Urban Expert Group. The aim is to take advantage of experiences gained in other major cities. The work includes evaluation of both economic and technical means of control.
• Evaluation and analysis of traffic signals as a tool to increase flexibility with regard to the usage of street space.
• Support for development towards a more sustainable transport system in collaboration with public transport actors.
• Publishing data and information from public actors concerning goods traffic; see the position paper "Publishing quality assured multimodal information".
• Collaboration with national initiatives within the area such as Logistikforum, Citylogistik, the Swedish Energy Agency (electric car development and the need for infrastructure for this area).
• Establish a hub for "Cooperative Systems" and the on-going work with vehicle-related ITS.
• Benchmarking with other European cities.

Standardization work related to the interface for public transport, e.g., payment solutions, passenger information, etc., with the aim of being able to meet future demands on a market with several actors.

3. The ITS Council's position paper

The following are the position papers currently available. They shall be dynamic in their nature and be successively updated. These documents are available on the ITS Council's website www.sou.gov.se/its.

- Publishing quality assured multimodal information.
- ITS Goods
- Vehicle-related ITS
- Attractive Transport Services
- Common payment system within public transport and the transport sector
- Traffic management in major cities - all modes of transport
- ITS and Traffic safety

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