

Accessibility and User Needs in Transport for Sustainable Urban Environments



www.aunt-sue.info

Dear Reader

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.

Kind Regards
The AUNT-SUE Team

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Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council



PROJECT UPDATE: HOW FAR HAVE WE COME?

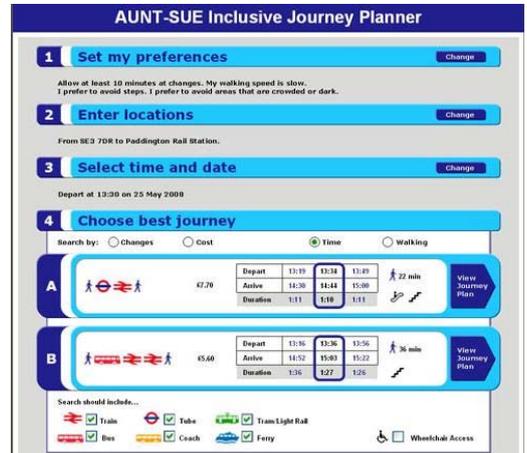
This year all teams started to pilot and refine their tools (AMELIA, HADRIAN, Street Design Index). Integration points have been identified and are being discussed between the teams.

AMELIA(UCL)

Development of the prototype version of AMELIA (A Methodology for Enhancing Life by Increasing Accessibility) is almost complete. Arrangements are being made to use it in the ConSEPT (Consulting Socially Excluded People about Transport) process in which people who are socially excluded will be asked about the barriers to accessibility that they perceive and how well AMELIA represents ways of overcoming them. The first group to be involved in this process will be elderly people.

Journey Planner (Lboro)

The journey planner 'package' is comprised two tools. Firstly, an Inclusive Journey Planner will show how internet journey planners could help people avoid needlessly difficult journeys. Secondly, the Journey Stress Calculator provides transport professionals with a new way to assess the accessibility of whole journeys. It models stress levels of 100 people in order to show which parts of the journey require improvement. Transport for London have taken an interest in this work and outcomes will be fed back to them to inform ongoing development of the TfL journey planner.



Picture: Inclusive Journey Planner concept design

VISIT (LMet)

Over the summer, transect or 'map-walks' were carried out to establish regular local walking routes and the use of public transport by Somerstown residents that public agencies consider 'hard to reach'. In particular, this community mapping technique was used to elicit their views on accessibility, personal security and on what might be done to improve the public realm. Thus, their views and preferences can be compared with those of the delegates to the AUNT-SUE conference, and presented to LB Camden, TfL and other decision-makers.

Further information and contact details of individual consortium members are available on: www.aunt-sue.info. Contact: Antje Witting (a.witting@londonmet.ac.uk)

AUNT-SUE Symposium

The AUNT-SUE consortium has decided to move the date of the next symposium to late 2009 which will be our closing event. You will receive further details about the exact date and venue in May 2009.

We are however still available for in-depth presentation meetings and workshops with interested network partners and end-users.

Contact details of individual consortium members are available on: www.aunt-sue.info/teamandpartners



Picture: AUNT-SUE Symposium, February 2008



Picture: Building Design Centre, LFA Exhibition, June 08

LFA 2008 Exhibitions

AUNT-SUE organised two exhibitions for practitioners wanting to reduce exclusion in transport and public spaces as part of the London Festival of Architecture. The exhibitions featured key findings and a video that not only provided a perfect introduction to the theme of inclusive transport and related public realm, but also demonstrated key elements of the AUNT-SUE tool-kit.

AUNT-SUE Network members can apply for a free DVD.
Contact: Antje Witting (a.witting@londonmet.ac.uk)

'Interdisciplinarity Prize' for AMELIA

Professor Roger Mackett, UCL was awarded the 'Interdisciplinarity Prize' for the ideas underlying AMELIA as part of the celebrations marking the 200th anniversary of the demonstration of a working steam engine by Richard Trevithick on the site currently occupied by UCL.

The award was made at a dinner to celebrate the anniversary in the presence of HRH The Duke of Gloucester. Please visit www.aunt-sue.info/tools or email Roger Mackett (rlm@transport.ucl.ac.uk) for details about AMELIA.

Share Links with AUNT-SUE

If you are interested in finding out more about transport and/or social disadvantage issues, you may wish to visit www.aunt-sue.info/links. We included this feature following several requests from network members.

If you believe that your website or portal should be included or if you wish to include our web details, please contact Antje Witting (a.witting@londonmet.ac.uk).

NEWSLETTER OF THE AUNT-SUE CONSORTIUM

London Met. University, 277-281 Holloway Rd, London N7 8HN, Email: trac@londonmet.ac.uk
Glossary: Lboro: Loughborough University; LMet: London Metropolitan University, UCL: University College London

Dockland Map-Walk Findings

Steve Shaw presented the AUNT-SUE project at the annual conference of the National Register of Access Consultants at the Museum in Docklands. The delegates were then invited to participate in a 'mapwalk' session of accessibility and inclusion, the outcomes of which will be used by museum, Docklands Light Railway and Thames Clipper ferries.
Contact: Steve Shaw (s.shaw@londonmet.ac.uk)

Making the Connection to Obesity

AUNT-SUE considers walking or cycling as crucial transport modes. Barriers not only stop people from accessing key destinations, such as employment, shopping and leisure opportunities, but also from the health benefits from regular walking and cycling.

In September 2008 Graeme Evans (LMet) and colleagues from City University of New York and London and New York senior Public Health officials (Mayor's Offices) met over 2 days to discuss barriers to pedestrian access, such as poor design, community safety and childhood obesity. Graeme presented AUNT-SUE findings from the Somerstown testbed.

Conferences & Papers

Mackett R L, Achuthan K and Titheridge H (2008) AMELIA: Making streets more accessible for people with mobility Difficulties. *Urban Design International, Volume 13*, p. 80-89.

Mackett R L, Achuthan K and Titheridge H (2008, October) *Costing increases in walking accessibility for people who are socially Excluded*. Paper at the 9th International Conference for Walking, held in Barcelona.

Ellul C., Calnan B. (2008, August) *Modelling Street Safety*. Paper presented at the Royal Geographical Society, RGS/IBG Annual Conference, London.

Case, K., Porter, J.M., Marshall, R., Sims, R.E., Summerskill, S.J. and Davis, P.M. (2008, August) *Digital human modelling for virtual fitting trials*. Paper at the 40th Annual Conference of the Nordic Ergonomics Society (NES2008), Reykjavik, Iceland.

Davis, P.M., Case, K., Porter, J.M., Marshall, R., Gyi, D.E., Sims, R.E. and Summerskill, S.J. (2008, August) *The psychological stress perspective - a unifying view of accessibility in public transport and beyond*. Paper at the 40th Annual Conference of the Nordic Ergonomics Society (NES2008), Reykjavik, Iceland.

Shaw S. (2008) *Inclusive Journey Environments: Principles into Practice*. *Access by Design: Journal of the Centre for Accessible Environments, Issue 115*, p.18-20.

Forthcoming publications

Titheridge H., Achuthan K., Mackett R., Solomon J. (2009) *Assessing the Extent of Transport Social Exclusion among the Elderly*. *Journal of Transport and Land Use* (forthcoming).

Titheridge H., Solomon J. (2009) *Setting Accessibility Standards for Social Inclusion: Some Obstacles*. Paper at the 41st Annual Conference of the UTSG, UCL.