

# TRAMS FOR OXFORD?

## A workshop at UCL

Cruciform, B404 lecture theatre 2. Gower Street, London WC1E 6BT

March 12th 2015 2.00-6.00pm



The workshop will bring together an invited group of practitioners and policy makers to discuss the feasibility of using a new generation of trams to connect the historic centre with new housing and other developments. The outline programme is set out below with the aim of a series of short (ten minute) presentations, followed by questions, to scope out what a feasibility study might examine. A report will be circulated afterwards.

Despite the positive experience of using modern trams to boost the quality of life, accessibility and prosperity of many European cities, little work has been done on their application to historic cities such as Oxford or York that have congested centres and pressures for new housing. In August 2014 URBED won the prestigious 2014 Wolfson Economics Prize for their proposals for Uxcester Garden City. Their feasibility study showed how new

local infrastructure such as a tram could be funded from the uplift in land values from developing new housing on the edge of Oxford. The Oxford Futures workshop brought out the need for radical solutions to cope with a rapidly expanding city, and used the example of Oxford's twin city Grenoble in France to illustrate the potential.

### Draft programme

2.00	Registration and coffee	4.00	Where will the money come from? Findings from the Oxford garden city feasibility study (Dr Nicholas Falk and Pete Redman, Trade Risks)	5.30	Next steps, and drinks
2.30	Introductions and opening remarks (Dr Nicholas Falk, founding director URBED)	4.30	Quantifying costs and benefits – does the current appraisal approach help? (Dr Robin Hickman, UCL, EU Sintropher project)	6.00	Close.
2.45	What can we learn from Europe about trams in smaller cities? (Dr Chia-Lin Chen and Charles King, UCL, EU Sintropher project)	5.00	How could we apply the lessons from Europe? Roger Harrison, Chairman Tramlink and the Light Rail Transit Forum)		
3.15	Where might a tram fit into Oxford? (Peter Headicar, OBU and Fiona Ferbrache, Keble College, Oxford)		Discussion on possible funding and organisational options		

### Interested ?

If you are interested please sign up on our [eventbrite page](#) as soon as possible as places will be strictly limited to maximise discussion.

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