

# Free public transport in Tallinn and Estonia

Allan Alaküla  
Head of Tallinn EU Office

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# Basic facts of Estonia and Tallinn

- Population: Estonia 1 300 000,  
Tallinn 450 000

- Territory 45 000 and 159 km/2

2018 budgets 10 billion and  
700 million EUR



# Public transport in Tallinn



- Municipal company TLT fleet in ca 500 (bus, tram, trolley)
- Budget 67 mln EUR

2012 total tickets revenue 17 Mio €,  
5 Mio € from non-residents

Annual cost of free PT for residents:  
~12 Mio €



# Complex of measures before free ride

- Priority for PT: In summer 2012 expanded separated bus lanes network in city centre, total increase from 15 to 23 km
- Accountability: implementation of new PT contactless cards (from September 2012)

**Parking tariffs up! Now 1H in Old Town zone costs 6 EUR 24/7, in Centre 4.80 EUR/H**



# Why free?

## **Social aspects:**

- Guaranteeing mobility to all residents

## **Economic aspects:**

- Increasing labour mobility within the city limits
- Stimulating consumption of local goods and services

## **Green aspects:**

- Modal shift from cars to PT

# Fiscal demography

New residents: registered population in City of Tallinn grew since April 2012 ca 35 000 persons

Result: increasing municipal revenues from personal income tax; every 1000 residents bring ca 1 Mio € into city budget

Cost of FPT (12 Mio) covered with surplus

# Mixed results in mobility

Number of PT trips up by 10%

Decrease of car traffic in city centre down by 6%

But increase around city centre by 4%

# Estonia as free public transport nation

From 1st July 2018 in 11 counties (out of 15) bus lines started free for all

Current 70% subsidy grew to 100% (loss of ticket revenue 10 mln EUR, for adding frequency and new lines will be added 10 mln EUR extra)

Estonia became first Free Public Transport nation

If Harju county later joins the FPT Tallinn can not continue for a long with

‘free for residents only’ PT

July results: in full FPT counties usage up by 38%, in others by 16%



# International networking

Addressing FPT cities, movements/activists and researchers

2012, 2013 and 2018 May in Tallinn

2014 Zory (PL), Erkner/Berlin, Toronto

2015 Avesta (SE)

2016 Grenoble (FR)

2017 Brussels (BE)

2018 September Dunkerque (FR)



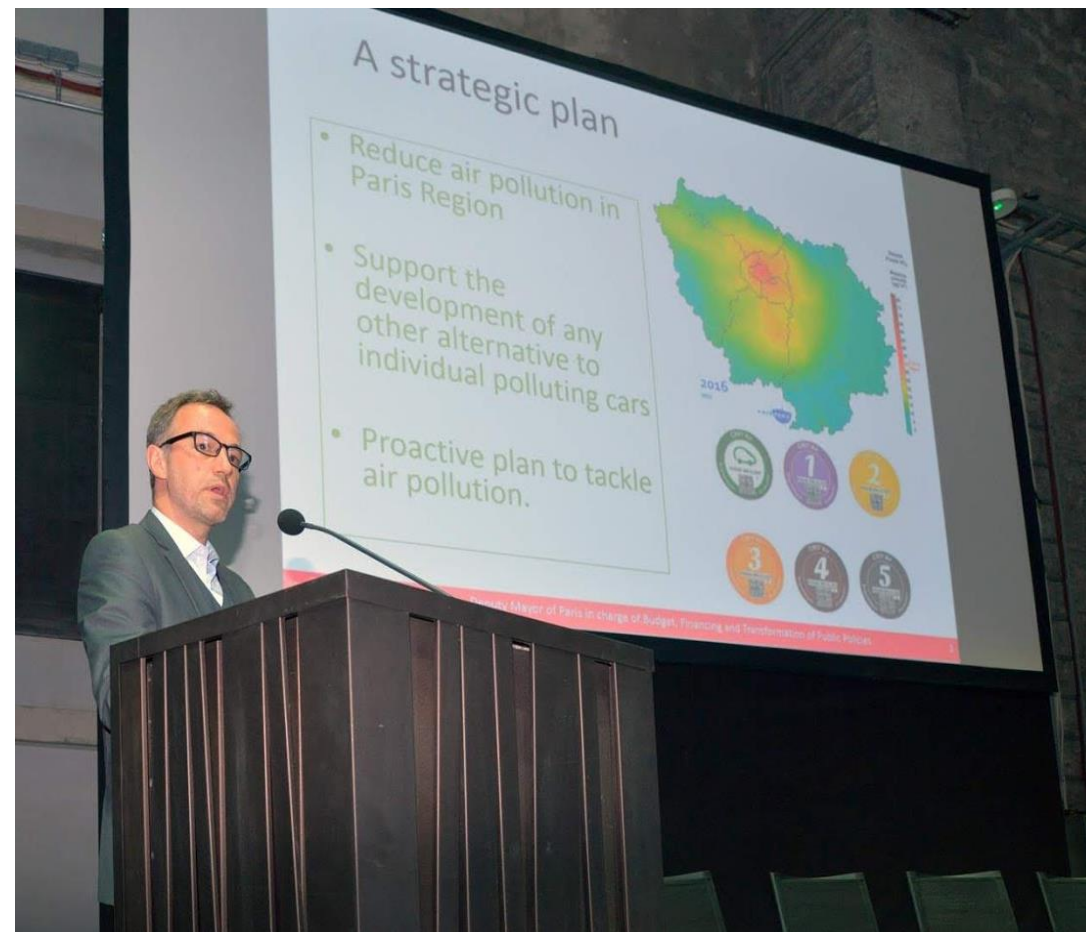
# Next FPT capitals in horizon

Torshavn, capital of Faroe islands (DK but not part of EU), has it already

German government named 5 piloting sites, incl former capital Bonn. Tübingen and Erfurt have indicated interest to become test sites.

Paris Mayor Anne Hidalgo opened discussions

Bucarest Mayor Gabriela Firea voiced intention



# Lobbying in EU



2017 September conference in European Parliament hosted by MEP Daniela Aiuto (IT)

Karima Delli (FR), chair of EP TRAN committee positively neutral

Estonia is first EU region with FPT

Wales TrawsCymru free weekends pilot (but Brexit)



# Focal points

France, Dunkeque, Aubagne, Paris

Germany, Rosa Luxemburg Foundation

Poland, Zory; Sweden, Avesta

Brasil (Movimento Passe Livre), China  
(Chengdu), UK (Wales Government)

Estonia, Tallinn and ministry of  
infrastructure&communications

[www.tallinn.ee/freepublictransport](http://www.tallinn.ee/freepublictransport)



# Thank You!



**Allan Alaküla**  
Tallinn EU Office  
[allan.alakyla@tallinnlv.ee](mailto:allan.alakyla@tallinnlv.ee)