



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

Brussels, 28.6.2022
C(2022) 4577 final

Dear President,

The Commission would like to thank the Bundesrat for its Opinion on the Communication from the Commission to the European Parliament, the Council, the European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions — A new EU framework on urban mobility {COM(2021) 811 final}.

This Communication forms part of a broader package of ambitious measures on green and efficient mobility adopted by the Commission in December 2021. The aim is to support the transition to safe, accessible, inclusive, smart, resilient and zero-emission urban mobility with a clear focus on active, collective and shared mobility underpinned by low- and zero-emission solutions.

The Commission welcomes the support of the Bundesrat for the initiative, in particular for the approach to clearly prioritise the sustainable modes of public transport, cycling and walking as well as zero-emission urban logistics in the European framework for urban mobility, thereby accelerating the transition to climate-neutral and clean urban mobility set out in the European Union's 2030 climate target plan. The Commission also notes the support to the requirement for 424 cities in the TEN-T network (urban nodes) to develop Sustainable Urban Mobility Plans in the context of the Commission's proposal on the TEN-T revision, as well as the Bundesrat's support for public transport being at the heart of sustainable urban mobility planning.

The Commission notes the interest of the Bundesrat in urban vehicle access regulations and would like to inform that it will launch, in 2022, an additional study to map the situation and analyse the possible options to make them more effective while respecting subsidiarity. The Commission reiterates the importance of the subsidiarity principle.

The Commission takes note of the comment regarding possible additional administrative and financial effort for cities, in particular linked with the implementation of Sustainable Urban Mobility Plans and the collection of the relevant data. The Commission would like to point out that support will be provided, covering both technical assistance to build

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sufficient capacity as well as financial support from the relevant European Union funding sources, complementing the necessary national support. In addition, in 2023 the Commission will launch a programme support action under the Connecting Europe Facility to support the collection of data for harmonised urban mobility indicators.

The Commission takes note of the concern expressed by the Bundesrat on the issue of transport affordability and the potential positive role played by the Social Climate Fund. The Commission agrees with the Bundesrat in considering mobility to be a prerequisite and core element of social participation and equity. The Commission recognises the importance of public transport in that regard. It will therefore work further on making it more attractive, inclusive, affordable, accessible and available (including for persons with disabilities and vulnerable groups), together with representatives of Member States, cities and other actors in the framework of the reformed Expert group on urban mobility. In this regard, the Commission will launch a study on defining and measuring transport poverty in the European Union, also considering the gender dimension.

The Commission hopes that the clarifications provided in this reply address the issues raised by the Bundesrat and looks forward to continuing the political dialogue in the future.

Yours faithfully,

*Maroš Šefčovič
Vice-President*

*Adina-Ioana Vălean
Member of the Commission*