Basic information

1995/2318(COS) COS - Procedure on a strategy paper (historic)	Procedure completed
Citizen's network: fulfilling the potential of public passenger transport in Europe. Green paper **Subject** 3.20.05 Road transport: passengers and freight	

Key players

European Parliament

Committee responsible	Rapporteur	Appointed
TRAN Transport and Tourism	WIJSENBEEK Florus A. (ELDR)	23/05/1995

Committee for opinion	Rapporteur for opinion	Appointed
ECON Economic and Monetary Affairs, Industrial Policy	FRIEDRICH Ingo (PPE)	31/01/1996
ENER Research, Technological Development and Energy	GRAENITZ Ilona (PSE)	11/12/1995
REGI Regional Policy		
ENVI Environment, Public Health and Consumer Protection	MYLLER Riitta (PSE)	11/12/1995
FEMM Women's Rights	MANN Thomas (PPE)	21/03/1996

Council of the European Union

Council configuration	Meetings	Date
Transport, Telecommunications and Energy	1937	1996-06-18

Key events

Date	Event	Reference	Summary
29/11/1995	Non-legislative basic document published	COM(1995)0601	Summary
15/01/1996	Committee referral announced in Parliament		

18/06/1996	Debate in Council		
30/09/1996	Vote in committee		Summary
30/09/1996	Committee report tabled for plenary	A4-0289/1996	
27/11/1996	Debate in Parliament		
28/11/1996	End of procedure in Parliament		
16/12/1996	Final act published in Official Journal		

Technical information

Procedure reference	1995/2318(COS)
Procedure type	COS - Procedure on a strategy paper (historic)
Procedure subtype	Commission strategy paper
Legal basis	Rules of Procedure EP 148
Stage reached in procedure	Procedure completed
Committee dossier	TRAN/4/07392

Documentation gateway

European Parliament

Document type	Committee	Reference	Date	Summary
Motion for a resolution		B4-0466/1996	12/04/1996	
Committee report tabled for plenary, single reading		A4-0289/1996 OJ C 347 18.11.1996, p. 0004	30/09/1996	
Text adopted by Parliament, single reading		T4-0651/1996 OJ C 380 16.12.1996, p. 0015-0065	28/11/1996	Summary

European Commission

Document type	Reference	Date	Summary
Non-legislative basic document	COM(1995)0601	29/11/1995	Summary

Other institutions and bodies

Institution/body	Document type	Reference	Date	Summary
EESC	Economic and Social Committee: opinion, report	CES0705/1996 OJ C 212 22.07.1996, p. 0077	30/05/1996	Summary
CofR	Committee of the Regions: opinion	CDR0042/1996 OJ C 337 11.11.1996, p. 0020	12/06/1996	

Citizen's network: fulfilling the potential of public passenger transport in Europe. Green paper

1995/2318(COS) - 30/05/1996 - Economic and Social Committee: opinion, report

The Committee welcomes the Commission's Green Paper as a first step towards ensuring and improving the mobility desired by citizens - and for many people providing it for the first time. For the Committee, the idea of a Citizens' Network represents an alternative for the future. Its aim must be: to provide a link between transport flows, carriers and modes at local level; to link up with regional and long-distance services; and to give priority to public passenger transport. The Committee also regrets that the Green Paper lacks a coordinated overall approach. It is not enough merely to string separate topics together. What is needed is to apply the basic idea of interconnection even more forcefully to the relevant policy areas and measures.

Citizen's network: fulfilling the potential of public passenger transport in Europe. Green paper

1995/2318(COS) - 28/11/1996 - Text adopted by Parliament, single reading

Parliament adopted the report by Mr Florus WIJSENBEEK (ELDR, NL) on the Commission's Green Paper on the citizens' network. Noting that more than three quarters of all journeys in the European Union are currently made by car, the EP proposed, in line with the Green Paper's objectives, a scenario conducive to the functional and rational use of a public network for citizens. Referring to the Union's special competence in relation to the trans-European networks and particularly the coordination of national infrastructures, the resolution addresses the following topics: - financing: the operation of public transport services should essentially be paid for by the travelling public. Each Member State should envisage a system of road pricing in order to achieve the objectives of the trans-European and Citizens' networks; - intermodality: it is important to promote public transport such as (where possible electric) taxis or car sharing, to expand facilities for the use of bicycles (cycle paths) and to establish integrated park-and-ride interchange points; - planning: the EP considered it important not to establish new residential areas, business estates or recreation areas except in conjunction with transport facilities. It drew attention to the need to locate more transport facilities underground and in multi-level configurations, and to promote measures discouraging the use of private cars in towns (parking policy; reserved lanes for public transport; better infrastructure for cyclists and pedestrians; road safety; access to public transport facilities for disabled people). With regard to public transport, the resolution focuses on: effective and on-going training of public transport staff in the use of new technologies and in providing services; adoption of the system of contracting out local and regional public transport, whether at network level or at line level; support in the restructuring of small scale services in rural areas; guarantee of universal service provision; access to public transport taking into account the needs of physically disabled travellers, the security requirements of women, and of part-time or shift-workers; the setting out of quality standards; provision for transporting bicycles on public transport; the upgrading of the various types of rail transport and waterways in urban and semi-urban environments; links with the outermost and island regions; a single fares and payment system on the various networks. The resolution also encourages research into environment- and health-friendly modes of transport (using alternative energies, biodiesel-fuelled and electric-powered cars), as well as greater use of information technologies and telematics (ticketing systems, smart cards). In conclusion, the Commission was called upon: - to publish a White Paper containing specific proposals and a coordinated directorate plan on the Citizens' network and to organize an information campaign thereon; - to fund a series of pilot projects to meet the long-term objectives of the Citizens' network, in conjunction with the Member States.

Citizen's network: fulfilling the potential of public passenger transport in Europe. Green paper

1995/2318(COS) - 29/11/1995 - Non-legislative basic document

OBJECTIVE: the Commission's Green Paper seeks to open a public debate on the best way of promoting public transport in the European Union. CONTENT: the Commission's aim in this Green Paper is to promote the use of public transport as part of an integrated approach which aims to extend the choice available to users and resolve congestion problems by making full use of technical developments and adopting fairer and more efficient fare-pricing principles. The Commission suggests several improvements to make public transport more attractive: - improving access to public transport networks: improving the rolling stock, providing interchange points, links between residential areas and standard destinations, accessibility for people with mobility problems, improving safety, comfort and quality; - better integration of the various means of transport: improving operational coordination between the various means of transport (bus, tram, underground, railway); - better integration of transport policy in other fields of action: research into the global impact of improved public transport on society, application of regional planning rules in order to improve access to the workplace and to services. The Commission recognizes that it is up to the national, regional and local authorities to draw up these strategies but considers that it has a role to play, especially in the following four areas: 1. Promoting exchanges of information and sharing best practices by encouraging the dissemination of innovative initiatives taken at local level (e.g. prizes awarded to particularly deserving towns for the quality of their transport system). 2. Research and development: the Commission will refocus RDT actions in order to place greater emphasis on work to promote public transport. 3. Financing mechanisms: improving the use of financing mechanisms which already play a role in promoting public transport (e.g. within the framework of trans-European network projects). 4. Legislation: re-evaluating Community provisions which impact on public transport (rules on public procurement, environmental protection and transport equipment) in order to make them more conducive to the development of public transport.