



**Keynote Session (Thu - 14:00-15:00)**

Jonas Eliasson is Professor of Transport Systems Analysis at the Royal Institute of Technology (KTH) and head of the division of Transport Planning, Economics and Engineering. Prof. Eliasson has a long involvement in analyzing, developing and applying transport policies and appraisal methodologies. He directed the design and evaluation of the Stockholm congestion charges, in operation since 2006, and has acted as expert advisor to many city leaders and national governments on strategic transportation issues, often involving sustainable transport planning, transport pricing and social and economic appraisal. He is a frequent advisor to the Swedish Government in transport policy issues, has chaired the national committee for analysis of the National Transport Investment Plan, and is a member of the standing expert advisory board to the National appraisal guidelines committee. His research interests include the use of cost-benefit analysis in applied planning, robustness of CBA results, wider economic impacts in CBA, transport modeling, transport pricing, public and political acceptability of transport policies, and valuation of travel time and reliability.

**Abstract**

Congestion charges were introduced in Stockholm in 2006, and they have been operational since then. The system has attracted worldwide attention worldwide, both because it achieved substantial congestion reductions, and because the system overcame fierce initial hostility, surviving a heated and complicated political and legal process, and eventually gaining support by more than 2/3 of the population and all political parties. This report summarises the story of the Stockholm congestion charges, pointing out experiences and lessons learnt. Among other things, I discuss forecasting effects, social benefits and costs, effects on travel behaviour and traffic, and the evolution and explanatory factors of public opinion.