

The Finnish Ministry of Transport and Communications' Call for Papers  
Seminar on fair and intelligent transport, January 2013

## **What type of a fair and intelligent road user charging system would be suitable to Finland?**

The Finnish state collects approximately EUR 5 billion per year in transport-related fees and taxes, mainly by fiscal criteria. In the future, the intention is to direct the collection of transport fees and taxes increasingly towards the "user pays", "beneficiary pays" and "polluter pays" principles.

At the start of 2012, Minister of Transport Ms *Merja Kyllönen* appointed a working group to examine whether nationwide road user charges could be adopted in Finland. The working group chaired by Mr *Jorma Ollila* comprises key experts from transport, taxation and central government.

During its two-year term, the working group is to explore different options for a road user charging system suitable to the Finnish conditions. The task of the group is to find out what type of a system would best promote the attainment of not only fiscal but also transport policy objectives.

In Finland, road user charges are interpreted as being taxes. The working group is to produce recommendations for the next Government proposing how to go forward with a national transport pricing system based on vehicle locationing.

**As part of the process, the Ministry of Transport and Communications will hold a seminar on 31 January 2013** for the purpose of consulting system suppliers about possible system solutions or subsystems.

We would like to hear your views on what type of a fair and intelligent road user charging system, linked to time, place and transport choices, would be suitable to Finland.



## Innovative pricing solutions as basis for fair and intelligent transport

The solution to be implemented must be EETS-compatible and it should exploit the opportunities of intelligent transport and intelligent vehicles in a versatile and unprejudiced way, in order to reach transport policy goals and ensure fairness. We are particularly interested in finding answers to **the following questions:**

### 1) Transport policy impacts

- What type of variation by region and time would the system allow?
- What type of variation associated to driving behaviour and transport choices would the system allow?
- What other services could be integrated into the system and made available to road users?

### 2) Privacy protection and supervision of the system

- How would the system observe privacy protection and the handling of personal data?
- What kind of technical solutions system has to offer for surveillance purposes?

### 3) Technology

- What would the overall architecture of the system be like? Which subsystems would it comprise?
- Which standardised technologies is the system based on?
- What measures will be taken to ensure that the system is easy to use?

### 4) Procurement and uptake

- What are the alternatives for procuring the system?
- How will its introduction be carried out? Will it involve a stage-by-stage process?



Minister of Transport **Ms Merja Kyllönen:**

"I have set up a working group to map out what measures need to be taken in Finland in order to introduce a road user charging system.

I consider exploring alternatives for a fair transport pricing system to be one of the top priorities of my term in office. With the help of technology, we strive towards fairer transport pricing for Finland of the future."

## 5) Costs

- What would the cost structure of the system be like? What is the breakdown between investment and operation costs?

## 6) Communications

- How can the project and the benefits it will bring be best communicated to parties involved in such a way as to ensure that the idea will gain public acceptability?

**In the seminar on 31 January 2013** a total of 30 minutes will be reserved for each presentation on the system or its significant subsystem, after which there will be time for questions and discussion. The seminar is confidential, and will be attended by members of the working group only.

The working group reserves the right to decide which of the papers submitted are chosen to be presented at the seminar in January.

**Please send your paper, comprising a maximum of five pages, to [callforpapers@lvm.fi](mailto:callforpapers@lvm.fi) by the end of November 2012 at the latest.**

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Ministry of Transport and Communications of Finland

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### Chair of the working group **Mr Jorma Ollila**:

" In developing transport systems for the future, it is essential that the solutions to be implemented are efficient and fair for the entire society. In this work, attention must be paid to the smooth functioning of transport, environmental questions and safety.

I now have the pleasure of inviting system suppliers to Finland to present solutions for a national road user charging system. We will welcome especially ideas based on the most recent and innovative technical solutions."





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