

## PRESS RELEASE

The Municipality of Thessaloniki is a partner of the European funded project <u>MOMENTUM</u> (Modelling Emerging Transport Solutions for Urban Mobility). The goal of MOMENTUM is to develop a set of new data analysis methods, transport models and planning support tools to capture the impact of new transport options, such as MaaS (Mobility as a Service), CAVs (Connected Automated Vehicles), new shared mobility services and demand responsive transport, on the urban mobility ecosystem, in order to support cities in the task of designing the right policy mix to exploit the full potential of these emerging mobility solutions.

MOMENTUM has a total budget of  $2.928.125 \in$ , and its <u>consortium</u> consists of highly respected research institutions and local administrations from four different European countries. In order to discuss the progress and the scientific results of the project, on 12 and 13 of November 2020, the 4<sup>th</sup> Consortium Meeting took place. The meeting was originally planned to be held at Thessaloniki, but eventually was held online for the participants' safety, due to the COVID-19 pandemic and the prevention of its spread.

The mayor of Thessaloniki, Mr. K. Zervas, addressed the consortium and stressed the importance of the expected outputs of MOMENTUM, as emerging mobility solutions are of high importance, not only for Thessaloniki, but for all cities that face similar problems.

Some of the key findings of the meeting were:

- The Artificial Intelligence and Data Analytic tools developed for obtaining, analyzing and comparing mobility patterns fulfill the needs of the cities with





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regards to achieving a better understanding of the habits and preferences of the citizens towards new mobility services.

- The innovative modeling framework that will be developed will allow cities to have better insights about the operation of new mobility services
- The decision support tool that will be delivered as an output of the project will be of high utility to cities to select the right mobility schemes and accelerate the planning of the implementation and operation, making them more resilient to disruptions of any nature. The tool is being developed by the Center for Research and Technology Hellas Hellenic Institute of Transport and will be first implemented and tested in Thessaloniki to serve as an example for the other cities, and where suitability of on-demand and sharing mobility services in the city will be assessed.

You can get more info regarding the project from its official <u>webpage</u> and from the municipality's portal <u>here</u>. You can also stay updated by following the project via its social media accounts (<u>twitter</u>, <u>linkedin</u>).

Below you can view a photo of the online meeting.







