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# Irish Transport Research Network (ITRN) Annual Conference 2026

**Theme:** *Sustainable Transport Futures*

**Dates:** May 27th & 28th, 2026

**Venue:** IT3 Lecture Theatre, Library Building, Bishopstown, Munster Technological University, Cork



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## Conference Programme

**Day 1: Wednesday, May 27th**

Time	ITRN Opening IT3 Lecture Theatre
9:30-10:30	<b>Registration (IT3 Lecture Theatre)</b>
10:30-11:00	<b>Welcome and Opening Remarks (IT3 Lecture Theatre)</b> Jerry Buttimer, Minister of State at the Department of Transport and at the Department of Rural and Community Development and the Gaeltacht & President of MTU, Prof. Maggie Cusack (Video Message) Dr. Beatriz Martinez-Pastor (ITRN Chair); Dr. Cemal Ozturk (Conference Chair)

11:00-12:30	<p><b>Keynote Address 1 (IT3 Lecture Theatre))</b>  Dr Iris Cagatay, University of Liverpool  Title: Maritime &amp; port decarbonisation and data analytics: Insights from academic and industrial projects</p> <p><b>Keynote Address 2 (IT3 Lecture Theatre))</b>  Fergus Meehan, Transport Infrastructure Ireland (TII)  Title: Luas Cork</p>	
12:30-13:30	<b>Lunch Break</b>	
	<b>Track A</b>	<b>Track B</b>
13:30-15:00	<p><b>Session 1A: Public Transport &amp; Accessibility (LRC 0.14)</b>  <b>Chaired: Brain Caulfield</b></p>	<p><b>Session 1B: Freight &amp; Logistics (LRC 0.17)</b>  <b>Chaired: Amaya Vega</b></p>
	<p><i>Planning Inclusive Mobility Transitions under Uncertainty: Evidence from a Small-Town Public Transport Intervention in Ireland – Abhilash Singh, Dean Phelan, Maryb O'Leary, Madeleine Gan, Rachel McArdle, Zikang Ji, Brian Caulfield and Niamh Moore-Cherry</i></p>	<p><i>Sustainability and Road Freight Transport in Ireland – What are the challenges and opportunities in achieving sustainability in the Irish Road Freight Transport? – Brian Coughlan</i></p>
	<p><i>Modelling Public Transport Service Outrages – William Brazil</i></p>	<p><i>From Hierarchy to Practice: How Freight Firms Apply the Avoid–Shift–Improve Framework in Ireland – Saima Karim, Amaya Vega, Brian McCann and Trevor Cadden</i></p>
	<p><i>Assessing Bus Stop Environments through a Street View Imagery-Based CPTED Index: Evidence from Dublin – Apoorv Agrawal, Francesco Pilla and Anna Mølter</i></p>	<p><i>Effective Distance Under Institutional Disruption: Freight Corridor Responses to Brexit and Border Policy Change - Chethaka Gamage, Amaya Vega, Brian McCann, Trevor Cadden</i></p>
	<p><i>Cascading Failure Vulnerability of Urban Rail Transit Networks: An Improved Coupled Map Lattice Approach with Dynamic Management Interventions – Zhixiang Gao and Beatriz Martinez-Pastor</i></p>	<p><i>Incentives and efficiency in road freight transport with evidence from empty running – Kithmini Gamage, Amaya Vega, Trevor Clohessy and Bidisha Ghosh</i></p>

	<i>Is ebiking exercise or cheating? Can ebikes be promoted as healthier than scooters?</i> – James Green, Anna Barrero, Louise Foley, Aoife O'Shea and Megan Fraser	<i>A Systematic Literature Review: The Logistics–Economy–Environment Nexus</i> – Tianya Yuan
15:00-15:30	<b>Coffee Break</b>	
	<b>Track A</b>	<b>Track B</b>
15:30-17:00	<b>Session 2A: Active Travel &amp; Public Realm (LRC 0.14)</b> <b>Chaired: Cemalettin Ozturk</b>	<b>Session 2B: Policy, Appraisal &amp; Economics (LRC 0.17)</b> <b>Chaired: Beatriz Marteniz-Pastor</b>
	<i>What Shapes Urban Cycling Speed? Rider, Trip, and Environmental Factors Matter</i> – Abhilash Singh, Khashayar Kazemzadeh, Sacha Hlinka, Ahmadrza Fahigh-Imani and Audrey de Nazelle	<i>The influence of macroeconomic factors on international and Irish transport project outcomes.</i> – Matthew Wood
	<i>Modelling Idealized Cycling Uptake in Cork</i> – William Brazil, Karen Whitaker, Barry Colleary, Robert Egan, Abhilash Chandra Singh, Vishwajeet Kishore Verma and Brian Caulfield	<i>A Difference-in-Differences Analysis of the Impact of Luas Cross City on House Prices in North Dublin City</i> – Colm Bellew
	<i>CREDA: Cyclist and Road Environment Data Analytics</i> – Sonia Soubam and Anna Molter	<i>Well-being in Transport Appraisal</i> – Rory Duggan and Yeonjung Song
	<i>Perspectives on Active Travel Infrastructure: Insights from a Public Consultation in Ireland</i> – Muhammad Huzaifa Butt and Ross Higgins	<i>Sensitivity Analysis Methods for Multiple Criteria Analysis within the Transport Appraisal Framework</i> – Richard O'Shea and Conor Lenihan
	<i>Understanding and Overcoming Barriers to Implementing Pedestrianisation</i> – Hugh Carrigan	<i>Sustainable transport in Ireland: a case study of “drift” and “shift”</i> – Sadhbh O' Neill
17:00-18:00	<b>ITRN Committee Meeting (LRC 0.12)</b>	

19:00	<b>Conference Dinner</b> <b>Location: Thompsons Restaurant &amp; Microbrewery. Unit D, Thompson House, MacCurtain Street, Victorian Quarter, Cork, T23 RR0C</b>
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**Day 2: Thursday, May 28<sup>th</sup>**

Time	Track A	Track B
9:00-10:30	<b>Session 3A: E-Mobility &amp; Energy Transition (LRC 0.14)</b> <b>Chaired: David Wall</b>	<b>Session 3B: Road Safety, Infrastructure &amp; Asset Management (LRC 0.17)</b> <b>Chaired: Brian McCann</b>
	<i>Affluence, Spatial Spillovers, and Inequality in Household Energy Transitions: Exploring the Determinants of Sustainable Technology Adoption in Ireland – Abhilash Singh and Brian Caulfield</i>	<i>Real-time Safety Related Traffic Information and how Road Authorities can benefit from it. – Niall Chamberlain and Ken Russell</i>
	<i>Personalised Cost and Carbon Savings as a Behavioural Nudge for Electric Vehicle Adoption in Ireland – Peter Lennon, Abhilash Singh and Brian Caulfield</i>	<i>RetreadLab - Completing the loop on circular tyre reuse – Niall O'Leary, Jack McCarthy, Colum Gibson, Safaa Al Tameemi and Adam Boland</i>
	<i>Spatial Suitability Analysis for EV Charging Infrastructure Planning – Maryam Roudneshin, Aisling Reynolds and Nadiya Saba</i>	<i>Towards Automated Material Identification in Pavement Core Logs Using Computer Vision and Deep Learning – Ibrahim Hassan Syed, David Power, Kelan Rafferty and Kieran Feighan</i>
	<i>EV-StructSim: A predictive Framework for Structural Load Stress and Resilience Corridor Design in Ireland's Electric Mobility Transition – Melusi Ncube and Upaka Rathnayake</i>	<i>Automated Road Marking Detection and Quality Assessment Through AI: A Study on Network-Level Condition Reporting – Viraj Aher, Syed Ibrahim Hassan, David Power and Kieran Feighan</i>

<b>Time</b>	<b>Track A</b>	<b>Track B</b>
	<i>Identifying effective Gamified Interventions to increase eBike uptake in the Workplace region</i> – Vishwajeet Verma, Nasim Eslamirad, Brian Caulfield and Francesco Pilla	
10:30-11:00	<b>Coffee Break</b>	
11:00-12:30	<b>Session 4A: Resilience, Emissions &amp; Networks (LRC 0.14)</b> <b>Chaired: Bidisha Ghosh</b>	<b>Session 4B: Travel Behaviour, Health &amp; Interventions (LRC 0.17)</b> <b>Chaired: Cemalettin Ozturk</b>
	<i>Dynamic and Stochastic Assisted Evacuation Routing for Floods</i> – Weiwei Sun and Istenc Tarhan	<i>Exploring the relationship between active travel and public health in Ireland.</i> – Christopher Quigley and Brian McCann
	<i>The Impacts of Electrifying Ferries for Island Communities</i> – Pierce McNulty, Nathan Gray, David Wall and Jerry Murphy	<i>Beyond Scheduling: University Timetabling as a Sustainable Transport Intervention</i> – Cemalettin Ozturk, Diarmuid Grimes and Ignacio Castineiras
	<i>Estimation of Real-World Emissions of Autonomous Vehicles</i> – Ranganatha Belagumba Ramachandra and Bidisha Ghosh	<i>The School Commute and Irish Weather - Observational Analysis of Morning Walking, Cycling and Rainfall in Midleton,</i> – James Rigney
	<i>Well-to-wake greenhouse gas assessment of synthetic e-fuels for maritime decarbonisation in 2050</i> – Asif Tanvir Bhuiya, Richard O'Shea, David M. Wall and Jerry D. Murphy	
	<i>Road freight patterns and light commercial vehicle electrification readiness: Spatial evidence from Ireland's polycentric subcentres</i> – Nadiya Saba, Aisling J. Reynolds-Feighan, Lisa Ryan and Maryam Roudneshin	

<b>Time</b>	<b>Track A</b>	<b>Track B</b>
12:30- 13:45	<b>Lunch Break</b>	
13:45- 14:45	<b>Closing Plenary -Sustainable Transport Futures LRC 0.14</b> Chaired: Dr. Beatriz Martinez-Pastor Panel: ITRN Committee	