

# Transport of the Future

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Research Results of the Swiss Federal Roads Office

**Drivers and Potentials**

**Business Models and Scenarios**

# Transport of the Future

## Disruptive Drivers

**New Technologies**



**Urbanization**



**Climate Change**

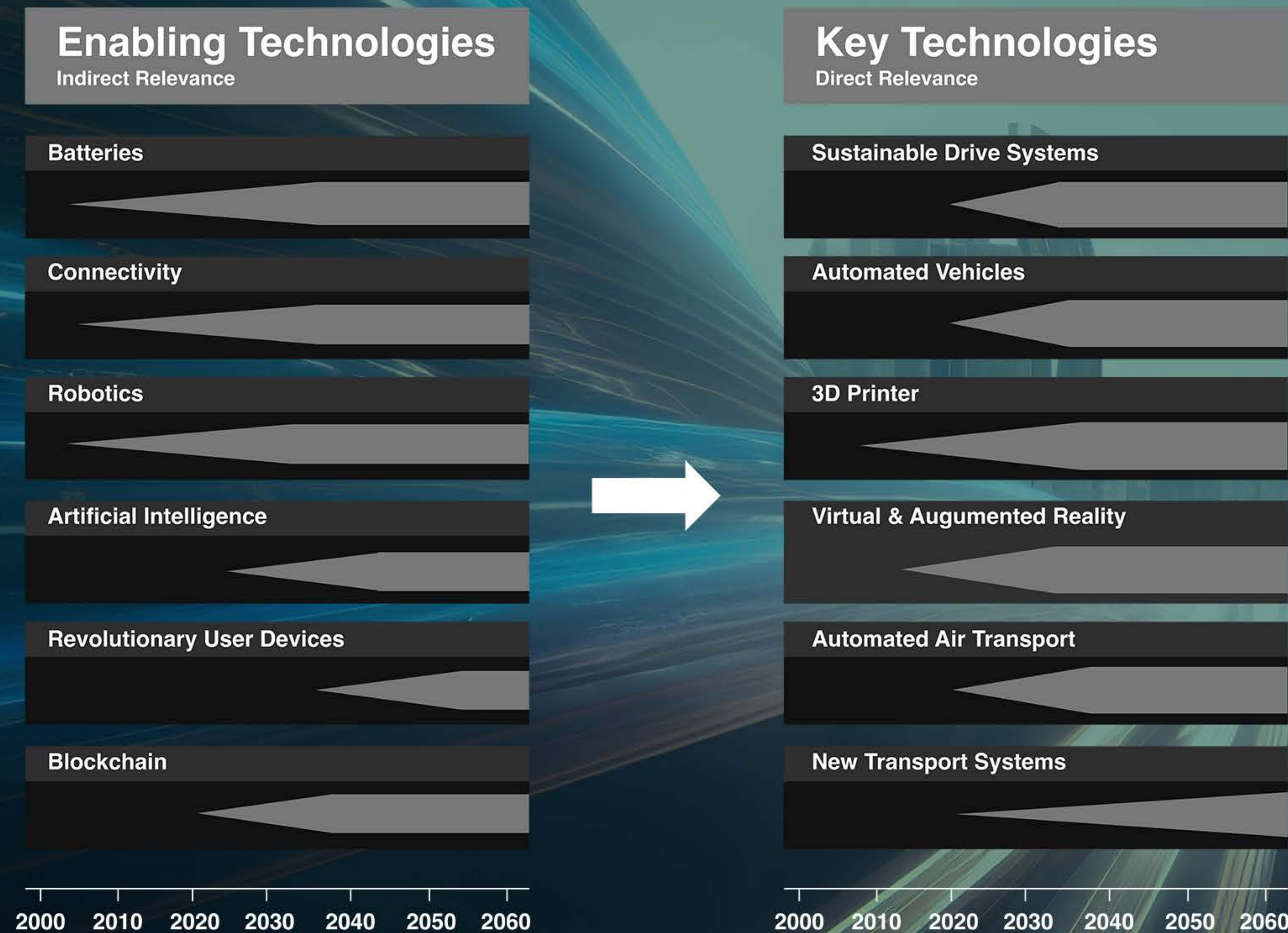


**Aging**



# Driver 1: New Technologies

There are enabling technologies and key technologies. Key technologies are the basis for the disruptive potential of future transport.



## Effects

Lower transport costs; Connection of infrastructure and vehicles and improved safety

## Preconditions

Access to data and regulation of automated vehicles

## Challenges

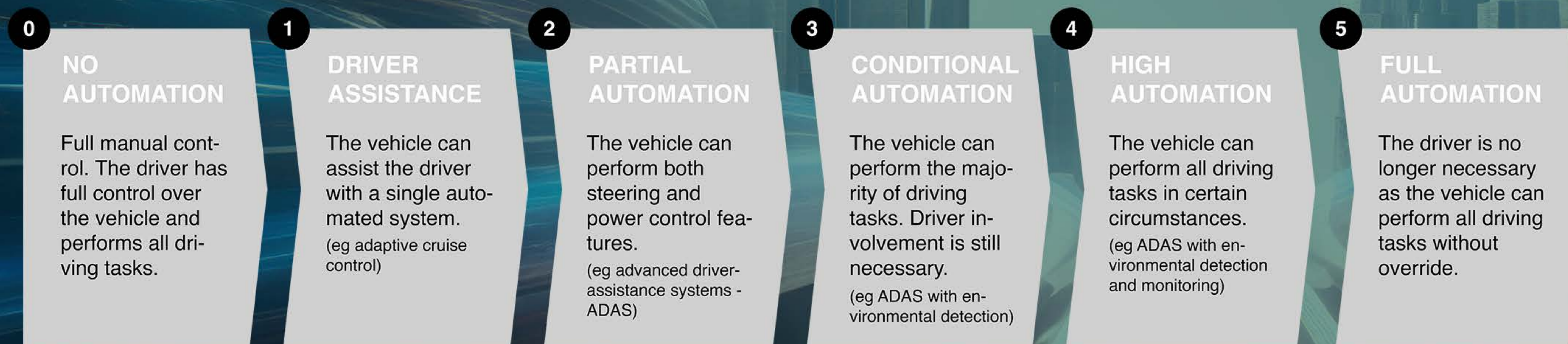
Long transition period towards full Automation; Induced traffic; Digital security

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# Automated Driving

Safety and convenience are improved at level 4. But only level 5, ‘full automation’ without drivers, allows the use of robotaxis and roboshuttles and leads to a significant reduction in transport costs.

## The 6 Levels of Automated Driving



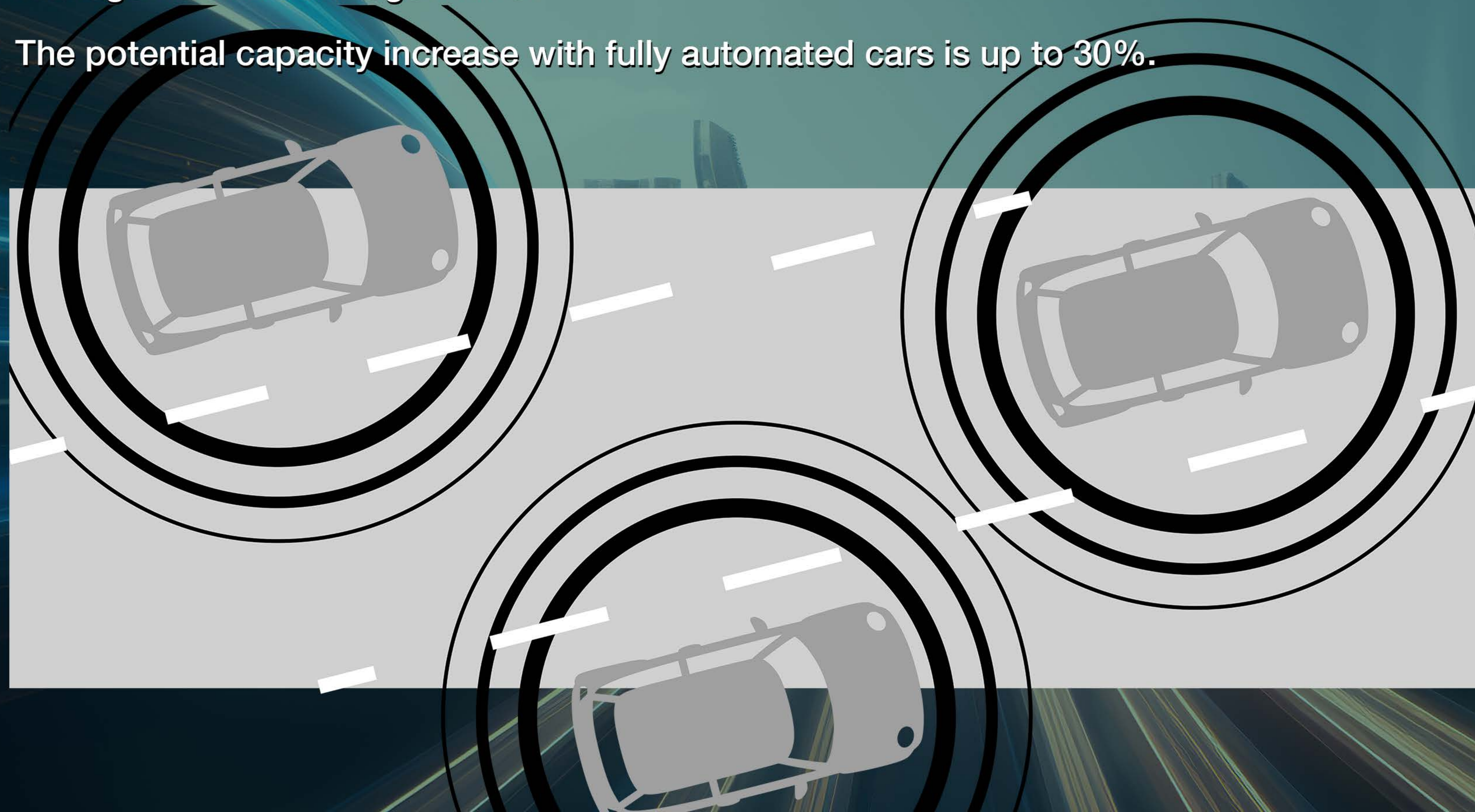
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# Integrated Traffic Management

Connecting vehicle intelligence (in automated cars) and traffic management (by road operators) is essential to increasing road capacity.

This allows for optimal and harmonized speed, lane management and intersection management with AI algorithms.

The potential capacity increase with fully automated cars is up to 30%.



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# Connectivity and Revolutionary User Devices

Connectivity and revolutionary user devices that link roads, cars and personal data provide the basis for mobility as a service to use the whole transport supply chain.



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# New Logistics Systems

The Cargo Sous Terrain project aims to build an underground tunnel transport system for Switzerland. Initial drilling is underway. Cargo Sous Terrain is expected to be operational in the 2030s.

Cargo Sous Terrain follows a principle similar to that of an automatic conveyor system. Automated, driverless transport vehicles will operate around the clock in the tunnels, automatically picking up and dropping off loads from designated ramps and elevators. The vehicles, which run on wheels and have an electric drive with induction rails, travel at a constant speed of around 30 kilometers per hour in the triple-track tunnels.

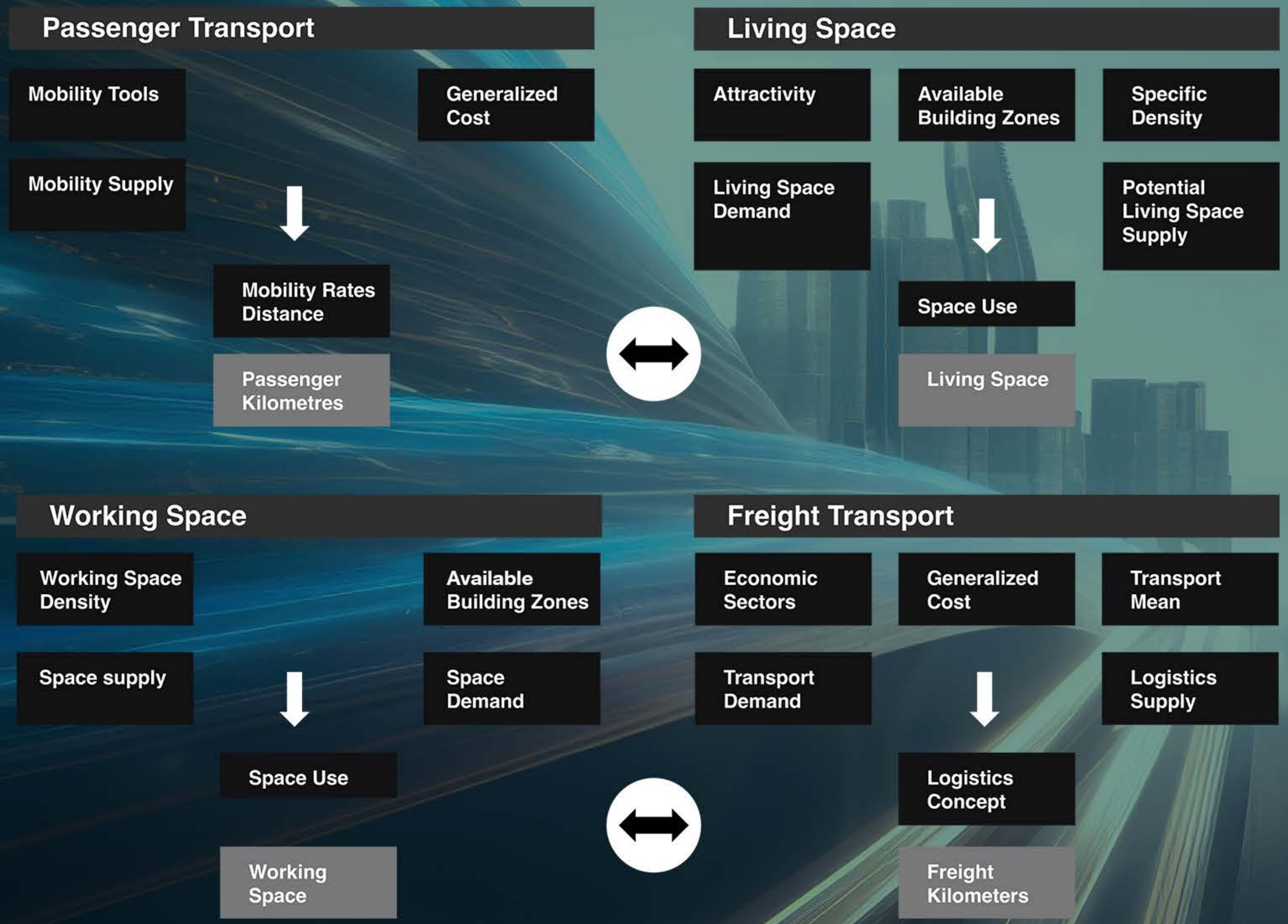


Source: Cargo sous terrain



# Driver 2: Urbanization

The interrelationship between spatial development and transport growth is crucial for exploiting economies of density in the transport sector.



## Effects

Density, increased demand and supply for integrated multimodal services

## Preconditions

Coordination of settlement and mobility

## Challenges

Density stress;  
Disaggregation of urban and rural transport policies: focus on agglomerations

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# Smart City

The Smart City approach will integrate transport demand into general digital services.



**ZÜRICH SMART CITY** **SMART zürich** Startup SME Ecosystem

Smart City Zürich digitalswitzerland

SMARTCITY ALLIANCE

Central data center infrastructure  
Fibre optic network (zürinet)  
Open Data Platform  
ICT for schools (KITS for kids)  
Citywide LoRa WAN

SEC [www.smartecocity.com](http://www.smartecocity.com)

Source: Zurich Smart City, Alliance, DigitalSwiss

The infographic features a grid of 30 logos for various startups and SMEs, including: TRADELUMID, nexiot, ramicro, GEO TRAVENT, dq, n, IRsweep, eaternity, vlot., ELEKTRON, and SWISS TRAFFIC.

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# Driver 3: Climate Change

A global demand for sustainable transport is decarbonizing the transport sector. At the same time, rising temperatures and unstable weather conditions will change lifestyles and transport behavior.



## Urban Areas



Strong demand for and increase in bicycle transport, negative safety impacts



## Rural Areas



Searching for cool areas: Increase in leisure mobility demand and traffic peaks



Increased infrastructure cost (damage, heat resistant materials)



Pressure on rural areas, city escape, multiliving (summer, winter)



## Mountain Areas



Positive impacts on day tourism, but winners and losers

### Challenges:

Increased resilience of infrastructure;  
Electricity production (e.g. using roads to produce solar energy)

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# Cool City – Sponge City 🌡️

Water is the main cooling element for roads and squares in cities. This is resulting in new construction designs for road infrastructure and public places.



Turbinenplatz, City of Zurich



# Driver 4: Aging

Future changes in demographics will have a major impact on transport design and demand.

## Switzerland will grow (2020-50):

**Increase in population: + 22%**

**Increase in share of population older than 65: 18% -> 29%**

**Increase in share of foreign nationals in population: 24% -> 35%**

Basis: Official Forecast 2050 Swiss Federal Statistical Office

## Effects

Increased demand in leisure traffic;  
Early adopters of automated driving and multimodal services

## Preconditions

Change of designs in traffic planning: Access and services for disabled persons

## Challenges

Expectations for traffic planning and safety

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# Aging and Transport Design

There are five major new transport service elements for the aged population:

- 1. Institutionalized transport and escort services:** Transport offers aimed at people with disabilities, pick-up services for seniors, and transportation escort services.
- 2. Accessibility of vehicles and related areas:** Disabled access, driver assistance systems, safe, step-free and weatherproof areas, visible and simple guidance systems.
- 3. Integral offers:** Specific mobility packages for seniors (journey, pick-up service, tariff, ancillary services).
- 4. Courses, training and campaigns:** To ensure adequate driving ability, the use of digital interfaces in public transport and the use of the various services.
- 5. Inclusive design:** Aims to develop transport services and settlements (cities) in a way that takes into account all groups of people. Today, the focus is primarily on the working population.

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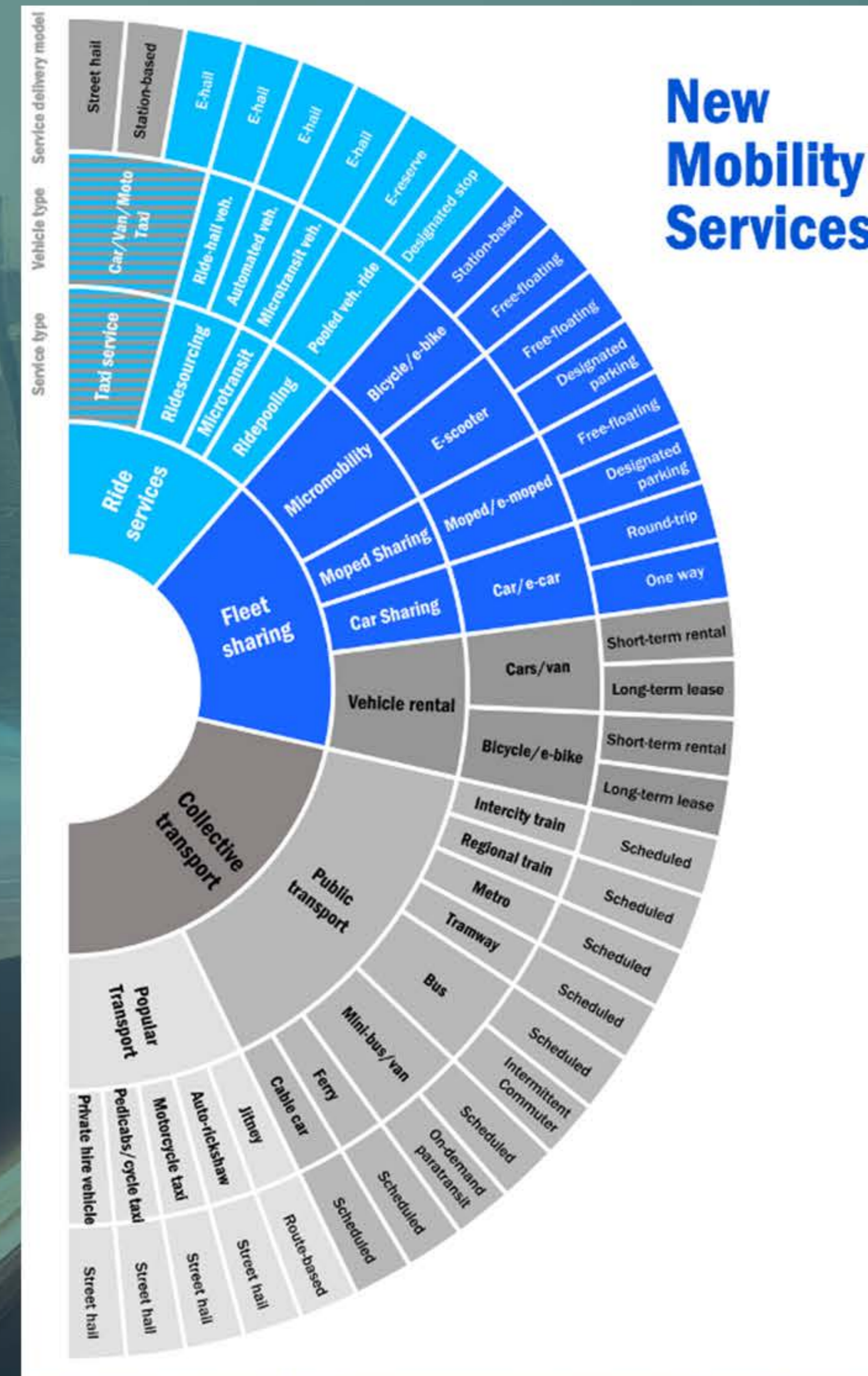
- Business Models
- Scenarios
- Challenges



# Multimodal Business Models

There will be cohesion between individual, private and public transport. Automated vehicles such as robotaxis and roboshuttles will significantly reduce the cost of services.

- \_Private Use
- \_Sharing (on demand)
- \_Riding (on demand)
- \_Public Transport (on demand)
- \_Public Transport (classic)
- \_Mobility as a Service



Source: adapted from SAE (2021)



# Business Models: Automated Car Sharing

With a greater proportion of automated cars, car sharing will involve: accessing to robotaxis (individual, for long distances) or roboshuttles (collective use, for short distances).

- ✓ Access at home
- ✓ Flexible fleet
- ✓ Low Cost

Do I still need my own car?





# Scenario 1: Evolution without disruption

'Everything is getting a little easier'

'I still love driving my own car: no more traffic jams and parking hassle'

'For short distances, I have my e-bike'

'Public Transport is still the backbone, especially in urban areas'

'Decarbonized, but no revolution: a car is still a car'

'Noise barriers are solar power plants'

'Track-guided e-buses: a new element'

'There are several highway sections reserved for cars with high levels of automation'

'Mobility assisting systems are always with me'

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# Scenario 2: Revolution in Individual Mobility Services

'My car is my castle, what a convenience'

'All highway sections are reserved for cars with a high level of automation'

'Do not disturb: time to recline the seat'

'Robotaxis have taken over, especially in urban and rural areas'

'It's great how the road operator is guiding my car through the jam, but I'm still working'

'Yes, I have my own fully automated car, but via my service package with my fleet operator'

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# Scenario 3: Revolution in Collective Mobility Services

'I let myself driven and serviced'

'Mobility, a full-service package with all possibilities'

'Finally, road traffic is fully efficient, with high occupancy rates'

'Intelligent mobility service providers think multimodally'

'Space efficiency with roboshuttles'

'Less traffic, less jams'

'No more car at home, but access to a full range of mobility services'

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# Scenario Model Results (2060)

2020-2060	Scenario 1 Evolution	Scenario 2 Revolution in Individual Services	Scenario 3 Revolution in collective Services
Transport Cost	- 20 %	- 60 %	- 80 %
Passenger km	+ 30 %	+ 35 %	+ 40 %
% collective transport (today: 27%)	29 %	25 %	49 %
% rail (today: 22%)	16 %	15 %	21 %
Vehicle km Passenger Cars	+ 37 %	+ 95%	- 9 %

- No scenario is a target vision
- Disruptions will lead to lower costs and induced traffic
- Only a revolution in collective services will reduce vehicle kilometers
- Rail might lose market share



# Trade-offs and Challenges

**Road - Rail:** Motorized transport wins thanks to convenience potential and cost reduction through automation. Will collective mobility win?

**Ownership - Service:** How rational is mobility behavior? Is it possible to significantly reduce the ownership of the means and tools of mobility?

**'Me' or Technology:** Do I accept artificial intelligence? Do I want to ride with others? Is it possible to develop intelligent and reliable control systems?

**Safety vs. Capacity:** What is the potential of smarter connected vehicles and infrastructure? Do they reduce the need for infrastructure expansion?

**Economies of Scale - Local vs. Global Players:** The optimal degree of competition: how much power should global data and mobility providers have?

**Price Reductions and Rebound:** Is it possible to deal fairly and socially with the resultant productivity effects?

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