GOAL

Maximize the social benefit of mobility innovations through research and policy development, serving as the leading public health research authority and working with a diverse range of partners to facilitate change that will save lives, reduce injuries, improve mobility and promote health equity.

THE THREE INTERSECTING PRIORITIES OF THE INITIATIVE ARE:

Safety is the essential prerequisite for progress. An appropriate mobility system should serve community needs without contributing to injury risk. The Initiative will identify new mobility deployment models that meet social needs while reducing transportation-related deaths and injuries.

Technology is the means for progress. The Initiative will guide technology development by demonstrating how new and improved technologies can address the needs of entire communities and vulnerable populations, and will work with public officials to deploy and evaluate applications.

Equity is the key to a sustainable mobility system. The Initiative will conduct research and work with communities to identify access needs, test innovative applications of new mobility products and services, and develop policy models for replication.

CONCEPT

Emerging mobility innovations are reshaping our transportation system. Fundamental changes such as automated vehicles (AVs) and the Safe System approach to road safety will bring efficient new mobility options, while improved diagnostic tools including new data systems and driver monitoring methods will facilitate the transition. Together, these new techniques have the potential to transform communities, improving both mobility and safety, saving lives, reducing injuries, and promoting health equity. Public health leadership, research, and policy development will guide the transformation and ensure that critical social goals are achieved.

The Johns Hopkins New Mobility Initiative (Initiative) is the focal point to stimulate and guide this new era of mobility innovation. The Initiative brings together a broad-based team of public health and transportation safety experts with a track record of successful partnerships and forward-looking ideas that can facilitate implementation of emerging mobility innovations to maximize the benefits of safety, technology, and health equity.

FOCUS AND APPROACH

While transportation is essential to the health of individuals and communities, motor vehicle crashes remain a leading cause of death and disability for people around the world. Emerging mobility innovations promise to vastly improve safety and provide more equitable access to key health determinants such as education, economic opportunity, medical care, and nutritious food. However, to realize this potential these innovations need to be strategically deployed in communities of need in ways that integrate with local culture, institutions and legacy mobility systems.

The Initiative will collaborate with public officials and technology and transportation system partners to evaluate deployment strategies for new mobility innovations and translate findings into policy models for dissemination and replication. Leadership provided by the Initiative will guide transportation innovations, prioritize safety and equity, enhance public health engagement in road safety, and accelerate the realization of societal benefits from new mobility products and services.
CAPABILITIES

The Initiative is led by the Johns Hopkins Center for Injury Research and Policy at the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health. For over 30 years, the Center has been an authoritative and independent source of research, guidance, and tools for mobility innovations and transportation safety. The Center is joined in this effort by colleagues at the Whiting School of Engineering and the Applied Physics Laboratory.

The Initiative’s cross-university partnership and multi-disciplinary faculty, staff and students provide unique depth of knowledge and experience in each of the Initiative priority areas. The Center has established successful and productive partnerships to advance the vision of the Initiative.

The Johns Hopkins Center for Injury Research and Policy is one of nine centers for excellence in injury research, practice, and education in the United States. Made up of two dozen injury researchers with multi-disciplinary expertise, the Center helps people to live in a society that is safe, where all are free from the burden of life-altering injuries.

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Bioethics  
Built Environment  
Epidemiology  
Health Promotion & Communication  
Implementation Science  
Public Health Law  
Public Policy  
Systems Science  
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