



EUROPEAN COMMISSION
DIRECTORATE-GENERAL FOR RESEARCH & INNOVATION

Directorate D - Clean Planet
The Director

Brussels,
rtd.d.2.(2021)1302841

Sent by email only
<mailto:alexthoma@gmail.com>

Dear Mr Thomas,

I would like to thank you for your message of 25 January 2021 sent to Commissioner Gabriel, who has asked me to reply on her behalf.

We very much appreciate your proposal to achieve congestion reduction in European cities by means of the AeroCab concept.

Urban mobility poses major societal challenges in terms of emissions and air quality, safety and, as you rightly mention, congestion. Indeed, in Europe, 64% of travel/km are made in urban areas and journeys made by vehicles in urban areas are expected to triple in 2050. In addition, congestion costs today represent 1% of the EU GDP, which is four times higher than in 1990.

The reduction of congestion in cities with the development of innovative transport concepts is of major interest to Europe, and as such it will remain a priority topic under the new EU funding programme for research and innovation, Horizon Europe, which was officially launched in February 2021.

Within Horizon Europe, there is a dedicated challenge on “Climate, energy and mobility” where innovation in the field of urban mobility will be supported. We anticipate that the first Horizon Europe calls for proposals will be launched in April 2021¹. You may also be interested to discover some of the collaborative research and innovation projects awarded funding under the previous programme, Horizon 2020².

Our calls will be opened to the participation of organisations established outside the EU, although Indian partners cannot be directly financed.

I hope this information is of help to you and your future activities.

Yours sincerely,

Rosalinde van der Vlies

¹ <https://ec.europa.eu/info/horizon-europe>

² <https://cordis.europa.eu/search/en?q=contenttype%3D%27project%27%20AND%20programme/code%3D%27H2020-EU.3.4.%27>