

**SOME RESULTS FROM A RESEARCH STUDY INTO THE  
SUCCESS OF IMPLEMENTING PUBLIC TRANSPORT POLICY  
OBJECTIVES IN SOUTH AFRICA BETWEEN 1996 AND 2006**

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- **The most recent National Transport Policy White Paper (1996) contains policy objectives for public passenger transport**
- **Have these objectives been realised?**
- **Research study carried out at Johannesburg University (2009) to investigate this**

Objective : Support the goals of the RDP in addressing user needs for safe, reliable and affordable bus transport

Finding : Objective only partially met

Objective : Promote the use of public transport

Finding : Little success – at best only partially achieved  
Chronic inadequacy of public transport facilities  
mainly because of funding inadequacies.

Objective: Set up effective institutional structures for efficient planning and regulating of bus services

Finding: Only partially achieved with similar hindrances to previous objective

Objective: Integrate public transport planning with land use development for corridor densification and effective land use urban structures towards reducing commuter travel time

Finding: A dismal failure

Objective: Secure dedicated and sustainable funding for bus services

Finding: At best, only partially achieved

Dept.of Finance felt that provinces and local authorities are not doing enough to reduce burgeoning demand

Objective: develop and introduce tendered subsidised contracts for bus services

Finding: Only partially – “no progress since 2001”

Hindrances – intransigence of labour unions  
- lack of capacity and expertise in authorities

Objective: Foster human resource development and professionalism in management of bus transport

Finding: Diverse viewpoints – modal view is partially, however viewpoints are widely scattered

Objective: Promotion of fair labour practices in the industry

Finding: No clear opinion, somewhere between partially and adequately

Objective: Promote environmentally sensitive and energy efficient bus services

Finding: Not adequately achieved – somewhere between “not at all” and partially.

Little attention paid to this by transport authorities

# OVERALL ASESSEMENT

## POLICY OBJECTIVES NOT REALISED DURING PERIOD 1996–2009

### Contributory factors

- Too optimistic and unreliable policy proposals
- Institutional inadequacies for implementation
- Inadequate attention to, or understanding of implementation phase
- Lack of leadership and capacity
- Political involvement or interference
- Significant and complex challenges to implementation