

Agenda

Draft as of July 6

8:30 Registration & coffee

9:00 Opening Session
GOVERNANCE AND POLICY BLOCK

9:00 Welcoming remarks
Jānis Lange, Executive Director, City of Riga

9:10 City experience
Tampere, Finland

9:30 National perspective on smart city development
Ministry of Environmental Protection and Regional Development (TBC)

9:45 Innovation policy and support instruments for businesses
Ministry of Economics (TBC)

10:00 Innovations in public sector
Jānis Kīnasts, State Chancellery Innovation Lab

10:20 Panel Discussion
URBAN TRANSFORMATION, GOVERNANCE MODELS, AND SCALING INNOVATIONS

Cities across Europe have strategies, pilots and innovation frameworks — yet the gap between ambition and implementation remains stubbornly wide. What does it actually take to move from a governance model that enables innovation on paper to one that delivers it in practice? And what can Baltic and European cities learn from each other about making that shift?

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- **Jānis Lange**, Executive Director, City of Riga
- **Priit Lello**, City Secretary, Tallinn City Office
- **Dalius Kazlauskas**, Chief Technology Officer, City of Vilnius
- **Representative from City of Tampere**
- **EU expert (TBC)**

Moderator: **Viesturs Celmiņš**, Executive Director, VEFRESH

11:20 Coffee break

11:50 Session
EIT URBAN MOBILITY BLOCK

11:50 EIT Urban Mobility network and opportunities
Willem-Frederik Metzelaar, Regional director of Innovation Hub West & North, EIT Urban Mobility

12:05 Innovation ecosystem development
Viesturs Celmiņš, Executive Director, VEFRESH

12:20 EIT Urban Mobility for Cities: Outcome case studies
Medium-sized city representative (TBC)
Small-sized city representative (TBC)

12:45 Financing and capacity-building instruments for cities
Adriana Pacheco, City Partnership Manager, EIT Urban Mobility

13:00 Lunch & Networking & Pitches
Expo zone opens

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14:30 Parallel Discussions

I. Digital Challenges for Baltic region/ Data

From city data to practical solutions. Explore how EDICs, Local Digital Twins and interoperable digital services help municipalities transform data into practical tools for better decision-making and scalable urban solutions.

II. Urban Air Mobility and Emerging Technologies

Presentations and discussions on drone technologies, remote sensing, and urban air mobility use cases from European cities.

15:50 Coffee Break

16:00 Afternoon Session INNOVATION ECOSYSTEM

16:00 Innovation procurement: how cities define challenges
Estonian Cleantech Association or Estonian Business School representative (TBC)

16:10 City & Startup Collaboration Case Study
Forum Virium representative

16:20 Turning Projects and Pilots into Export Products
Voima Ventures representative (preliminary confirmed)

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16:30 Panel Discussion
- THE CONVERSATION BEFORE THE PILOT
17:20

Good collaboration between cities and innovators rarely fails at the technology — it fails at the conversation nobody had before the pilot began. Is this problem specific enough, painful enough, and realistic enough to be worth solving together? And if the pilot works, who decides what happens next — and is there actually a path from a successful test to scale?

- **Gunita Deksnē**, Director of Innovation and Accelerations Centre, University of Latvia
- **RTU representative** (TBC)
- **Forum Virium representative**
- **Agnese Buša**, Head of Smart City Development Division, City of Riga
- **Startup or SME founder** (TBC)

Moderator: **Viesturs Sosārs**, Program Director of Pre-accelerator, Startup House Riga (preliminary confirmed)

17:20 Wrap-up keynote
Viesturs Celmiņš, Executive Director, VEFRESH