

THE CHINESE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG
DEPARTMENT OF GEOGRAPHY AND RESOURCE MANAGEMENT
SEMINAR



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Car Dependence and Housing Affordability in Greater London: An Emerging Social Deprivation Issue?

ABSTRACT

The research presented in this seminar investigates the combined problem of high car dependence and housing affordability, in view of likely continued volatility in oil prices (and hence higher petrol and diesel prices), and rising house prices. Household budgets are likely to be stretched where there are high levels of car dependency and housing unaffordability – with little flexibility for rising costs in either or both of these. A composite car dependence and housing affordability (CDHA) index is developed, using indices of oil vulnerability related to car travel and housing affordability. Greater London is used as the case study, with 2001 and 2011 data analysed at the level of Lower Super Output Areas, and presented using Geographic Information System and R statistical software. The findings reveal that there are high levels of composite car dependence and housing price vulnerability in many suburban areas across Greater London, adding to the previous areas of social deprivation found mainly in East London. The composite CDHA index illustrates where the most vulnerable areas are spatially. Many neighbourhoods may become less attractive for those on median or even relatively high incomes. The areas most affected may become much more expensive to live in, potentially leading to much greater pressure on travel and housing costs as people could be forced to live further from the centre of London, including beyond the Greater London boundary, which has further implications for travel. Failing to consider these emerging affordability issues represents an oversight in terms of transport planning in London.

LANGUAGE

English

DATE

26 Nov 2020 (Thu)

TIME

4:30 – 6:00 pm (GMT+8)

ZOOM MEETING

ID: 973 6037 5790

[https://cuhk.zoom.us/j/
97360375790](https://cuhk.zoom.us/j/97360375790)

(no password required)

ABOUT THE SPEAKER

Mengqiu (Matthew) Cao is a Senior Lecturer in Transport and Urban Planning at the School of Architecture and Cities, University of Westminster. He was awarded his PhD from the Bartlett School of Planning, University College London (UCL). He has worked in both academia and industry, specialising in an interdisciplinary research field, which is primarily a mixture of transport analysis and urban planning. In addition, he has now served as the UK Ambassador for the Association of European Transport.

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