Comparison of push measures

parking management

- well accepted
- quick implementation
- little investments

road pricing /
congestion charging

- political controversal
- mid term implementation
- high investiment

The fact is: Parking Management is key to managing urban mobility.

In the last two decades Parking Management (PM) has been universally recognised as one of the most important ways to manage car traffic in metropolitan areas. PM is essential to mobility management– both in the public and private sector – and can encourage the use of alternatives to car. If parking management is NOT introduced, this means more congestion, dissatisfied citizens, more inefficient use of public space, and a threat to the local economy, as valuable parking spaces are used by commuters instead of by shoppers.

After decades where it was considered a minor theme both in urban planning and transportation, nowadays parking is recognised as one of the most important and effective instruments to manage car use (Shoup, 2005; Litman, 2006; Ison and Rye, 2006).

Virtually every car trip ends in a parking space. Accordingly, managing parking spaces means managing the demand for car use and congestion.

Parking management can be driven not only by the desire to manage car use but also by the desire and need to revitalise city centres and to better use scarce urban space (Kodransky and Hermann, 2011). An efficient parking policy has usually four main aims (Mingardo et al, 2014):

1. To contribute to a better accessibility of and mobility in the urban area;
2. To contribute to a better quality of life in the city (mainly a better air quality and quality of the living environment);
3. To support the local economy.
4. To raise municipal revenue.

Compared to other transport policies aimed at managing car use, parking presents two clear advantages:

- Parking management does not usually require large investments, such as new roads or the extra public transport supply, and it can thus be implemented in a relatively short time;
- Some kind of parking management can already be found in almost all larger towns and cities in Europe. This makes the public acceptability of parking management much greater than new ways to manage car use, for example a congestion charging scheme.

References

- Shoup, D. (2005), The High Cost of Free Parking, American Planning Association, Chicago, Illinois.
- Litman, T. (2006), Parking Management Best Practices, American Planning Association, Chicago, Illinois.
- Kodransky, M. and Hermann, G. (2011), 'Europe's Parking U-Turn: from Accomodation to Regulation', Institute for Transportation and Development Policy, New York.
- Ison, S. and Rye, T. (2006), Editorial: Parking, Transport Policy, Vol. 13, pp. 445-446.
- Mingardo, G., Wee, van G.P. and Rye, T., Urban Parking Policy in Europe, 2014.