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DEPARTMENT OF CIVIL ENGINEERING TRANSPORTATION ENGINEERING DIVISION

# Transport Research Forum 2020



# Abstracts

# 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> December 2020 University of Moratuwa, Sri Lanka

Transportation Engineering Group Department of Civil Engineering University of Moratuwa

# Introduction

Transport Research Forum (TRF) is an annual conference organised by the Transportation Engineering Division of the Department of Civil Engineering, University of Moratuwa. The prime objective of this conference is to create a platform for researchers in the transportation field to build up their research career and to share their research findings with other colleagues and the industry. Practitioners, researchers and academics including a number of international experts in the areas of Highway Engineering, Transportation Engineering and Planning are the participants for this event. Representatives from the industry and the related government institutions are also invited every year.

Department of Civil Engineering conducted the first ever Sri Lanka Transportation Forum in 1983 and since late 90's the Transportation Engineering Group continued with Transport Research Forums and bi annual International Conferences. This is the 13<sup>th</sup> Transportation Research Forum conducted in consecutive years since 2010. Many of the research findings presented in Transport Research Forums have been put in to practice and the one of the main objectives of Transport Research Forum is to come up with solutions to address transport related problems in the country.

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# Message from the Conference Chair

# Prof. W.K. Mampearachchi University of Moratuwa



As the Chairperson of the research committee, I am delighted and honoured to bring this message to the Transportation Research Forum 2020.

This year has been significant, as we the Transportation Engineering Group, have decided to hold this prestigious conference as a virtual conference due to the COVID-19 pandemic situation.

I hope that this conference will allow the participants a productive discourse. Our technical program is rich and varied with several invited presentations from expertise in foreign countries and around 30 technical papers split between 2 parallel oral sessions. Some of the underlying issues in the transport sector in Sri Lanka will be covered in-depth in our conference, by our invited speakers and guest speakers. I extend my heartfelt appreciation to them.

As a conference chair, I know that the success of the conference depends ultimately on the many people who have worked with us, in planning and organizing the conference. I take this opportunity to acknowledge the support given by the Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Niranjan. Gunawardana and our Dean, Prof. Nalin Wickramarachchi, who have a very clear desire to upgrade research in the community in which we live in.

In particular, I thank the committee for their wise advice and brilliant suggestions for organizing the conference. All recognition should go to the committee members who have all worked extremely hard on the details of important aspects of the conference programs. A note of appreciation to the academia and industry partners for their thorough and timely reviewing of the papers.

Most of all, I thank you, the presenters, for enriching the conferences by your presence. As is a tradition with the conferences, I hope you will enjoy the content, new fellowships, get new ideas, and above all, have a great deliberation.

On behalf of the Conference Committee, we're looking forward to seeing you at the virtual conference.

# **TRF 2020 Organising Committee**

# **Conference Chair**

Prof W. K. Mampearachchi

# **Conference Secretary**

Dr H L K Perera

# **Committee Members**

Prof J M S J Bandara Dr H R Pasindu Dr G L D I De Silva

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