



Infrastructure transformations of Bologna's Metropolitan Area

Over the coming years, Bologna will undergo substantial infrastructural changes aimed at greatly improving accessibility, competitiveness and thus the territory's overall appeal. Total investments in Bologna shall exceed 4.9 billion euros. This total is about 20 billion euros if we consider national infrastructural projects.

PROJECTS OF NATIONAL RELEVANCE

Important infrastructural works aimed at cutting travel times on both rail and motorway networks are currently underway in Italy, and will affect Bologna directly. Thanks to its strategic position, Bologna's connections with the country's main North-South routes will be greatly enhanced.



High speed-high capacity railway lines (TAV)

Work is underway to complete the High Speed Turin-Milan-Bologna-Florence-Rome-Naples railway. The **Bologna-Milan section** of the High Speed-High Capacity line **will be inaugurated in December 2008**, and will allow travel between the two regional capitals in **less than 60 minutes**. Work on the **Bologna-Florence section will be complete in 2009**, and travelling to the Tuscan capital will take **less than 30 minutes**. The forecast volume of investments for the sections passing through Bologna is estimated in over 13 billion euros.

Enhancement of the Bologna-Verona railway line

The connection between Bologna and Verona on the railway line leading to the Brenner Pass will be doubled by 2010. Its enhancement will allow larger numbers of trains to circulate (up to 220 per day), thus reducing travel times.

The Valico variant

Within the context of general improvements to the A1 Milan-Bologna-Rome-Naples motorway, the Valico Variant has considerable strategic significance for travel between the North and South of Italy along the Apennine section between the Emilia-Romagna and Tuscany regions. **The Valico Variant is nearly 63 km long** and has an overall cost of more than 3.1 billion euros. Thanks to the addition of lanes in each direction and the construction of new stretches, **it will greatly improve driving conditions and reduce travel time between Bologna and Florence**, thus providing comfortable and safe journeys to those travelling for both leisure and work.

Infrastructure projects

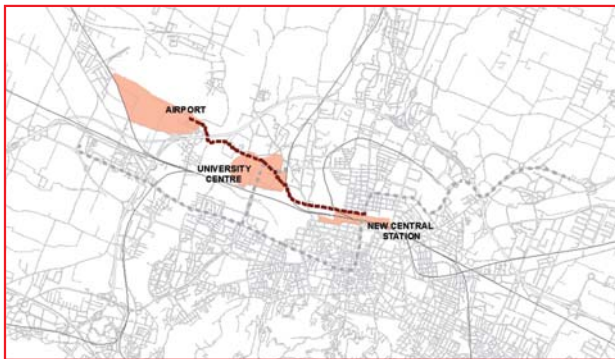
LOCAL INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS

Many changes will affect internal mobility in Bologna's metropolitan area. The strategy pursued by the local authorities is to enhance the public transport system, streamline road traffic on the A1 and A14 motorways with the construction of a new Northern Motorway Bypass and to create an efficient system for integrating the various forms of public and private transport by means of enhancing and creating new interchange points.

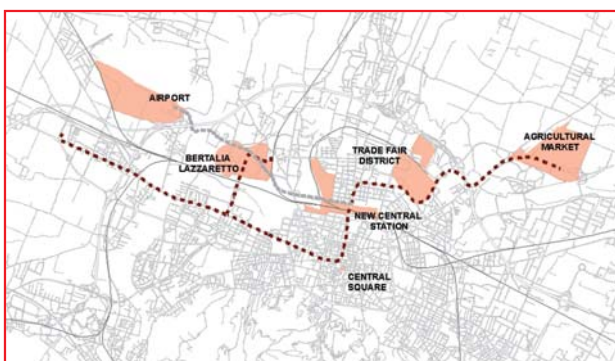
BolognaSystem



The **Northern Motorway Bypass** is one of the most significant local infrastructural projects of national importance. It is a **new 40 km 6-lane motorway with four new exits**, for an estimated total investment of 1.4 billion euros, which will reduce the traffic congestion of Bologna's current motorway system from 17% to 2%, with a 26% reduction in travel time in the Bologna section of the system. The preliminary project has been drafted. The European Union is currently assessing the feasibility of entrusting the management of the infrastructure to Società Autostrade per l'Italia.



In terms of urban mobility, one of the most important projects is the **People Mover**, a **modern raised monorail transport system** which will connect the G. Marconi International Airport with the Central Railway Station in less than 10 minutes, making a single stop in the new residential-university district of Bertalia-Lazzaretto. The bid for project financing has closed and the winner will be announced by the summer of 2008. The project, which has a cost of around 100 million euros, is due to be inaugurated in 2011.



With the aim of further enhancing public transport, following the completion of the definitive plan, the call for tenders for the executive design of the **metropolitan tram-subway** connecting the suburbs with the historical centre, with stops in key commercial, administrative and business districts such as the Trade Fair of Bologna, the Central Station and the Maggiore Hospital, for a total distance of 12 km, 6.5 of which through tunnels, is due to be published soon.

Among the public transport projects, the **SFM (Sistema Ferroviario Metropolitano - the Metropolitan Railway System)** is a rail-based transportation system that will provide a fast and regular service between the provincial territory and the city centre, with 87 stations and a frequency of 30 minutes on all sections. The SFM will transport up to 120/160 thousand passengers daily.



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