Realizing the Future of Mobility: Toyota Mobility Foundation Launches First Pilot Program in Thailand

Program Supports Foundation's Global Mission to Advance Solutions for a More Mobile Society

Tokyo, Japan (April 22, 2015) – More people everywhere are about to get moving. Toyota Mobility Foundation (TMF) today announced that it is launching its first pilot program. The program, which will be in Bangkok, Thailand, reflects the Foundation's philosophy of combining Toyota's knowledge with the expertise of partners to enable more people around the globe to move safely, efficiently and enjoyably.

Established in August 2014, TMF partners with non-profit organizations, research institutions and other organizations to apply Toyota's technological, safety and environmental expertise to mobility issues around the world. This includes addressing urban transportation challenges, expanding personal mobility for all people and inspiring the next generation of mobility solutions.

"The launch of the pilot program in Thailand brings us closer to our goal of advancing a true mobile society by helping people move, grow and explore in a world that is comfortable, safe and clean," said Akio Toyoda, Chairman of the Board of TMF and President of Toyota Motor Corporation. "As global mega-trends like urbanization, strains on resources and population shifts impact mobility, the Toyota Mobility Foundation aims to help communities evolve and people adapt to these changes."

In Bangkok, Thailand's most populous city, TMF and Toyota Motor Thailand (TMT) will partner with Chulalongkorn University (Chula) in parallel with existing efforts led by the World Business Council for Sustainable Development to launch a comprehensive traffic and congestion management project that targets the heavily-congested Sathorn Road. The project, which will take an estimated year-and-a-half to complete (April 2015 – December 2016) and a 110 million Thai baht (approximately 400 million Japanese yen) investment, will create a road map to manage traffic control and flow by focusing on four areas:

- Developing sustainable shuttle bus and park and ride schemes, as a measure of traffic-demand control;
- Designing information systems to quantify the benefits of multi-modality (or the regular use of multiple modes of transportation) to encourage people to change their behaviors;
- Identifying bottle necks and evaluating measures by utilizing a traffic simulation model; and
- Optimizing traffic signal operations by partnering with local police who now manage them manually.

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