

# Dongsheng He

Email: [D.He@leeds.ac.uk](mailto:D.He@leeds.ac.uk) Tel: (+44) 7562837477

Personal website: <http://www.hedsh3.com/>

Address: 4F, Nexus, Discovery Way, Leeds, LS2 3AA, United Kingdom

## EDUCATION

### Degree

2021-2025, PhD in Urban Planning and Design, The University of Hong Kong, Hong Kong (HKU)

**Supervisors:** Prof. Chris Webster and Dr. Guibo Sun

2021, MPhil in Architecture and Urban Studies, University of Cambridge, UK

**Supervisors:** Prof. Ying Jin

2020, B.Eng. in Urban and Rural Planning, Sun Yat-sen University (SYSU), China

### Academic exchange

2025.1-2025.6, Visiting PhD student, Institute of Transportation Studies, Luskin School of Public Affairs, University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA), U.S

**Faculty sponsors:** Prof. Michael Manville and Prof. Adam Millard-Ball

## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

2026.01-now, Research fellow at the Department of Geography, University of Leeds

**Line manager:** Prof. Nik Lomax

2025.10-2026.01, Postdoc research fellow at Department of Urban Planning and Design, The University of Hong Kong

**Line manager:** Prof. Chris Webster

## RESEARCH INTERESTS

**Research interest:** Impacts of transport infrastructure intervention (e.g., metro system and greenway) on mobility, Longitudinal mobility impact of transport policy (e.g., work from home policy), built environment on daily behavior and health, Transit-oriented development (TOD) in high-density Asian cities

**PhD thesis topic:** A market-based value capture approach to providing volumetric urban design of transit-oriented development in China

## SELECTED RESEARCH OUTPUTS

### Published referred journal articles

(note: \* represents corresponding author)

### **Transport intervention and travel behaviors**

**He, D.**, An, Z., Hu, Y\*. How a new metro line influences traffic crashes: A natural experiment in China (accepted by *Transport Policy*)

**He, D.**, Sun, G\*, De Vos, J., & Webster, C. (2022). The effects of metro interventions on physical activity and walking among older adults: A natural experiment in Hong Kong. *Health & Place*, 78, <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.healthplace.2022.102939>

**He, D.**, Lu, Y.\*, Xie, B.\*, & Helbich, M. (2021). Large-scale greenway intervention promotes walking behaviors: A natural experiment in China. *Transportation research part D: transport and environment*, 101, <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.trd.2021.103095>

Choe, E. Y., **He, D.**, & Sun, G. (2023). Trading-off transit and non-transit physical activity among older people: evidence from longitudinal accelerometer data of a natural experiment study. *Journal of Urban Health*, 100(2), 408-417. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s11524-022-00709-4>

### **Built environment intervention, daily behaviour, and health outcomes**

**He, D.**, Lu, Y.\*, Xie, B.\*, & Helbich, M. (2022). How greenway exposure reduces body weight: a natural experiment in China. *Landscape and Urban Planning*, 226, 104502. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.landurbplan.2022.104502>

**He, D.**, Miao, J., Lu, Y., Song, Y., Chen, L., & Liu, Y\*. (2022). Urban greenery mitigates the negative effect of urban density on older adults' life satisfaction: Evidence from Shanghai, China. *Cities*, 124, <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.cities.2022.103607>

Yang, H., **He, D.\***, Lu, Y.\*, Ren, C., & Huang, X. (2021). Disentangling residential self-selection from the influence of built environment characteristics on adiposity outcomes among undergraduate students in China. *Cities*, 113, <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.cities.2021.103165>

### **Transit-oriented development in high-density cities**

**He, D.**, Sun, G\*. Measuring volumetric urban design: multi-level connectedness, compression, and functional mix in transit-oriented developments in Hong Kong (Accepted by *Environment and Planning B*)

**He, D.**, Wang., J, & Sun, G\* (2025). Ambiguity in state-owned land property rights increases transaction costs in China's transit-oriented development projects *Land Use Policy*, <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.landusepol.2025.107501>

**He, D.**, Sun, G\*, Li, L., & Webster, C. (2024). New metro and housing price and rent premiums: A natural experiment in China. *Urban Studies*, <https://doi.org/10.1177/00420980231208560>

### **Working papers**

**He, D.**, Manville, M. Work from home, city-level travel behavior changes, and modal shift in the post-pandemic era (working paper)

Liu, Y., **He, D.\***, Theorizing transit value capture: A regional-historical comparison of institutionalization in East Asia (working paper)

## **TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

Teaching assistant and tutorial lecturer, URBP7006 GIS and Smart Technology in Spatial Planning Development, Spring semester, 2023

Teaching assistant, CCGL9026 Think Global, Act Local: You, Hong Kong and the World, Spring semester, 2024

## Funding

Additional Funding from the Research Grant Council for Supporting HKPFS Awardees in 2022 40,000 HKD

## HONORS, FELLOWSHIP, & AWARDS

2025	Winner of UK Royal Town Planning Institute (RTPI) Tony Crook Award for Early Career
2025	International Association China Planning (IACP) Travel Award
2024	HKU Foundation First Year Excellent PhD Award
2023	Finalist of UK Royal Town Planning Institute (RTPI) Early Career Researcher Award
2021	Hong Kong PhD Fellowship (HKPF)
2021	HKU Presidential Fellowship
2019	1st Prize in National Urban Design Contest of Urban Planning Major
2018	3rd Prize in National Urban Transportation Innovation Contest of Urban Planning Major
2018	Excellent Work in National Social Practice Research Contest of Urban Planning Major
2019	Second-class Excellent Student Scholarship, SYSU
2018	Third-class Excellent Student Scholarship, SYSU
2019	Academic Innovation Scholarship, SYSU
2019	Excellent Student Scholarship, School of Geography and Planning, SYSU
2020	Excellent Student Scholarship, School of Geography and Planning, SYSU

## ACADEMIC ACTIVITIES

### Invited Talk

“From association to causality: Causal effects of urban transport infrastructure intervention in China based on natural experiment approach”, Institute of Transportation Studies at HKU, September 2025

“A market-based value capture approach to providing urban design of transit-oriented development in China”, Institute of Transportation Studies FED Talk, Los Angeles, California, April 2025

“From association to causality: Causal effects of urban transport infrastructure intervention in China based on natural experiment approach”, City plus online forum talk, April 2025

### Referred Conference Participation

*Measuring volumetric urban design: multi-level connectedness, compression, and functional mix in transit-oriented developments in Hong Kong*, 19<sup>th</sup> International Association China Planning (IACP), Xiamen, China, July 2024

*How a new metro line influences traffic crashes: A natural experiment in China*, 2025 Pacific Southwest Region UTC Annual Congress, Berkeley, US, March 2025

*New metro and housing price and rent premiums: A natural experiment in China*, 18<sup>th</sup> International Association China Planning (IACP), Hangzhou, China, July 2024

*How land property rights issues lead to high transaction costs in Rail plus Property development of TOD projects in China*, 18<sup>th</sup> Planning, Law, and Property Right Association (PLPR), Munich, Germany, March 2024

*New metro and housing price and rent premiums: A natural experiment in China*, HKU-USI Inaugural Conference, Hong Kong, China, Jan 2024

*The effects of metro interventions on physical activity and walking among older adults: A natural experiment in Hong Kong*, 17<sup>th</sup> International Association China Planning (IACP), Tianjin, China, July 2023

*New metro and housing price and rent premiums: A natural experiment in China*, 17<sup>th</sup> Planning, Law, and Property Right Association (PLPR), Ann Arbor, US, May 2023

*How greenway exposure reduces body weight: a natural experiment in China* 15<sup>th</sup> International Association China Planning (IACP) (online) 2021

### **Workshop participation**

PhD workshop of 18<sup>th</sup> Planning, Law, and Property Right Association (PLPR) Annual Conference

PhD workshop of 17<sup>th</sup> Planning, Law, and Property Right Association (PLPR) Annual Conference

### **Seminar organisation and coordination**

“Transport and Wellbeing” by Dr. Jonas De Vos from UCL, HKU NURSS seminar (online), November 2022

“A Transaction-Cost Theory of Development Management” by Dr. Sina Shahab from Cardiff University, HKU NURSS seminar (online), June 2024

## **ACADEMIC SERVICE**

### **Academic journal referee**

Lancet Healthy Longevity, Sustainable Cities and Society, Transportation research part D: Transport and environment, Transportation, Building and Environment, Landscape and Urban Planning, Cities, Health & Place, Habitat International, Transportation, Urban Forestry & Urban Greening, Journal of Transport & Health, BMC Public Health, Environment and Planning B: Urban Analytics and City Science, Travel Behavior and Society, Journal of Urban Planning and Development, BMC Geriatrics

### **Professional affiliation**

Member of World Society for Transport and Land Use Research (WSTLUR), 2025-

Member of Planning, Law, and Property Right Association (PLPR) (<https://plpr-association.org/2024/04/02/meet-our-members/>), 2023-

Member of International Association China Planning (IACP), 2023-

Member of International Society for Urban Informatics, 2022-

## REFeree

Dr. Guibo Sun ([guibo.sun@manchester.ac.uk](mailto:guibo.sun@manchester.ac.uk)) - Lecturer in planning at The University of Manchester

Prof. Chris Webster ([cwebster@hku.hk](mailto:cwebster@hku.hk)) - Chair Professor in urban planning at the University of Hong Kong

Prof. Ying Jin ([yj242.cam.ac.uk](mailto:yj242.cam.ac.uk)) - Professor in urban modelling at the University of Cambridge

Prof. Adam Millard-Ball ([adammb@ucla.edu](mailto:adammb@ucla.edu)) - Professor in transport planning at UCLA

Prof. Michael Manville ([mmanvill@ucla.edu](mailto:mmanvill@ucla.edu)) - Professor in transport planning at UCLA