Complexity and Urban Systems

ESD.83 In Class Discussion

Lecture 7
Outline of the articles:

Innes & Booher – *Metropolitan Development as a Complex System*

- **Issues:** institutional, political and economic context is complex and fragmented
- **Approach:** complexity theory as a framework for developing toward a complex, self-organizing, adaptive, and sustainable system
- **Solution:** system indicators, consensus building, new approach to leadership

Cascetta – *Governance of Urban Mobility*

- **Concept:** internally complex system vs external systems and their interactions
- **Approach:** modeling and simulation, planning and decision making, integrated policies
Discussion Outline:

Concept:
   Approach an urban system or a transportation system as a complex system, or is it too complicated? Where are the boundaries? What are the components and characteristics identified for such a complex system?

Approach:
   What are the right approaches and methods to use? If we have a way to approach big issues like climate change as a complex system, should we also be able to have one for urban/transportation systems?

Solution:
   No matter what solutions we may find, are they even feasible to implement? What are the major obstacles?