Technology seems to be the current answer to mobility and safety problems. However, too little thought is given to what urban mobility of the future will be like. The purpose of the paper is to discuss some probable evolution patterns in urban mobility and their implications for research and the development of adequate technology. Thus this is not a research paper, but a presentation of some hypotheses and of their probable effects and suggestions for further discussion.

Among the hypotheses presented, the following will be included:

- urban growth, densification and spatial and social diversity;
- the need for environmental protection (limiting global warming, reducing urban pollution) and its implications for traffic and vehicle use;
- the programmed end of fossil energy reserves, the ensuing increase in oil prices, and their effects on urban mobility and social inequality (with reference to a previous paper from the Pedestrian Quality Needs project);
- the development of new technologies ("automatic cars") or lack of (technologies addressing vulnerable road users, elderly people, etc.) and the possible safety problems involved.