

EN

E-002618/2024

Answer given by Mr Tzitzikostas
on behalf of the European Commission
(23.1.2025)

1. The Commission has been supporting, through the Connecting Europe Facility (CEF), the development of new and the upgrade of existing parking areas to meet these standards. In total, CEF has so far co-funded 138 parking areas and around 16,113 parking spots with EUR 231,5 million. Further opportunities can be explored under the CEF 2024 call closing on 21 January 2025. Support for safe and secure parking areas (SSPAs) for heavy duty vehicles is also envisaged under the Member States Cohesion Policy Programmes 2021-27.

2. In order to guarantee access to adequate resting facilities for professional drivers, the revised trans-European transport network (TEN-T) Regulation¹ sets out a new requirement obliging Member States to deploy safe and secure parking areas on the core and extended network every 150 km on average by 2040. The Commission is currently carrying-out a study in order to better understand the current demand and supply of SSPAs and forecast future needs. These findings will be key to guide future private and public investment. Based on this study, the Commission will present in the first half of 2025 a report to the European Parliament and the Council on the availability of SSPAs and suitable rest facilities for drivers together with suggestions on how to reinforce and best support the development of SSPAs in the future.

¹ Regulation (EU) 2024/1679 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 13 June 2024 on Union guidelines for the development of the trans-European transport network, amending Regulations (EU) 2021/1153 and (EU) No 913/2010 and repealing Regulation (EU) No 1315/2013.