

Contra Costa County — Monument Community Partnership

Plan Bay Area Community-Based Outreach

Outreach area:

Concord, California

Outreach description:

Outreach in April and May 2011 through their Service Network Team, several smaller meetings, and one community meeting on May 18, 2011

Participants: 78

(Note: Not everyone voted in all segments of the outreach.)

Priority Transportation Investment Strategies

Participants were given 21 options for investing future transportation funding and asked to select their top six priorities.

Rank	Strategy
1	Expand commuter rail services (BART, Caltrain, etc.)
2	Invest more transportation funds to support cities that build new housing near transit that is affordable for Bay Area residents with limited income
3	More transit service to connect housing and jobs
4	Add more bike paths/bike lanes
5	Widen freeways paid for with existing sources of funds
6	Widen major local roadways

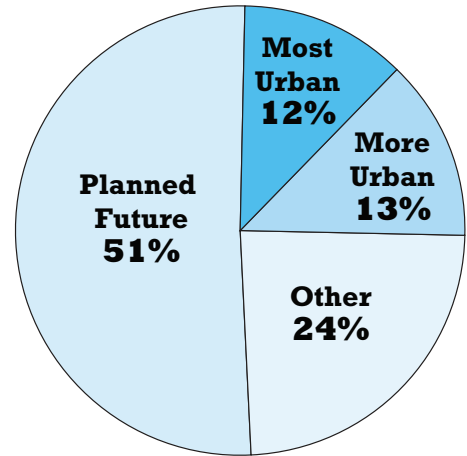
Priority Policy Initiatives

Participants were given six options for new policies that could be adopted (at the local, regional, state or federal level) and asked to select their top three.

Rank	Initiative
1	Changing driving habits to conserve fuel & reduce harmful emissions (e.g., reduce maximum speeds to 55 mph, educate drivers to drive at even speeds, remove heavy objects from trunks to save fuel and reduce harmful emissions)
2	Electric vehicles (e.g., subsidize the purchase/lease of electric vehicles and hybrids; increase availability of electric vehicle chargers)
3	New requirements for employers (e.g. allow employees to work from home one day per week; allow employees to pay for transit with pre-tax dollars, etc.)

How will we grow?

Participants were asked to choose a preferred scenario for future growth, with "Planned Future" (labeled "current Plans") reflecting adopted MTC and ABAG plans, and "More Urban" and "Most Urban" applying increasingly higher concentrations of housing and development.



Comments

Participants who took the survey were asked what one thing in their neighborhood (and in the Bay Area) they would like to see changed, and what one thing they would most like to keep. Some participants also submitted general comments on a separate comment card. Below are the most common responses and comments in no particular order.

- Need to focus on transportation and mobility needs of growing elderly population
- Increase transit services on the weekends
- Improve local transit amenities (covered bus stops, disabled pedestrian assistance)
- Need to improve community benefits like recreational facilities, lighting, more parks and open space, repairing city roads, lessening crime and violence, and reducing commercial vacancies
- If density is increased, also need to increase affordable transit, access to schools and education, and access to parks and recreation facilities

**PLAN BAY AREA — SPRING 2011 COMMUNITY-BASED OUTREACH COMMENTS
MONUMENT COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP — CONCORD**

Below are all comments received in response to the following question.

QUESTION 1

How should the Bay Area grow?

COMMENT

Need definition of "already urbanized areas"

Include cities (San Ramon, Concord, etc.)

More growth in our current model of expansion as needed

No, No, No

Limited options

Not enough detail in these choices to answer accurately

More suburban

Reasoned growth, constitutionally based

None of the above

Not enough detail on each choice to determine the best choice.

I want better roads! Do not take undeveloped lands as eminent domain! I have seen this happen and it affects me directly. I don't see something desirable here. I can't even get off #1 because it scares me. How to you plan to grow undeveloped lands? Agencies took Dougherty Valley from a multigenerational farming family. (sic)

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Below are all comments received in response to the following question.

QUESTION 2

What are your top transportation investment strategies?

COMMENT

Bicycles are important

No on widening freeways paid for with existing sources of funds

Re: financial incentives for preserving open space - who's "lands"? Private citizens?

Improve and expand current roads

Increase funding for most effective transit = BART

Use funds as designated; state is using for emergency purpose, which is not what (sic)

No new taxes of any kind

How are you planning increase funding?

Resurface 580 westbound

Transit should pay for itself

No new transit service to new destinations

No improvements to bicycle and pedestrian routes

No on financial incentives

No, No, No

No funds; no more taxing; disband

I wish there was something that deals with Senior transportation. As the Boomers age, there will need to be more door-to-door service.

It isn't clear if "increase funding" means increased taxes/fees or use more existing tax funds.

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Below are all comments received in response to the following question.

QUESTION 3

Which initiatives would you most support?

COMMENT

No on Pricing Parking

No on Other Pricing Strategies

Stagger working hours

Pre-tax dollars - how?

Reduce speed to 55 mph - good

Higher parking rates during busy periods - what do you mean? Please ask clear question

Fee based on number of miles - bad idea. So I have to spend more money for number of miles?

I'm really disappointed in these questions

None of these

No on Pricing Parking

No on Other Pricing Strategies

Get employers to schedule different starting times and when work hours ends. Stagger employment hours (start at 6 am or 7 am).

Less government

No on new requirements for employers, changing your driving habits to conserve fuel, electric vehicles, pricing parking and other pricing strategies. "Maybe" on economic strategies.

No other options appeal to me at all

All punitive measures; tax punishment

None of this - you can't force change

No on all of these (re: electric vehicles, where will the power come from?)

Lacks sufficient choices. I believe emissions would be reduced if traffic could flow on smoother, better maintained and wide-enough to keep traffic jams. (sic)

**PLAN BAY AREA — SPRING 2011 COMMUNITY-BASED OUTREACH COMMENTS
MONUMENT COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP — CONCORD**

Below are all comments received in response to the following two-part question.

QUESTION 4a

What is the one thing in your neighborhood or community that you would most like to keep ? What one thing in the Bay Area would you like to keep ?

COMMENT

BART

Buses

Mobility, ease of transportation

Love the transportation in Alameda County; BART and AC Transit work.

I would like to keep my home. Also vehicles, transportation. I would like to keep my job.

I would keep the transportation that is near my area.

Carpools - more promotions of that.

Apartments and condominiums complex. BART and transportation.

BART / transportation.

My car. My unalienable rights.

Rural feel. Do not take our farm lands/grazing lands.

Our American tradition, drive and goals.

The beauty of the parks and open space.

Keep all teens in school to make the good people and better future to the country. (sic)

Urban feeling to encourage people to move to our city.

Tree shaded streets, walking distance to stores and parks and schools. Keep BART.

I think the person who spoke, he or she not really know about our problem, about transportation, and I think if you can focus in this we have a good community. (sic)

The space between the houses and my private yard.

My neighborhood is safe - to walk, live, drive. I want to keep that. Bay Area - keep the multicultural atmosphere.

The number 8 bus that took people to the clinic.

Keep Monument Crisis Center. Keep BART.

My neighborhood is filled with owner-occupied single-family homes. I have a garden in my back yard and have taught my children the pleasures of home grown fresh vegetables. I know all of my neighbors and we look out for each other.

Public transportation between towns. Public transportation between cities. Keep it affordable.

Safer neighborhoods to live in and go to work in a manner without hardships.

I'd like to keep my property. I'd like to keep my job.

The Michael Chavez Center for Economic Opportunity. This should be a model for serving this community. BART (extend to Antioch and Livermore).

Open space.

Nothing

I would like my community to always be clean, so we don't pollute.

Take care of parks and recreational areas to improve air quality, especially state parks in the area. And maintain our reservoirs.

The peace of mind that not many cholos come near schools and parks for our children.

Everything is fine the way it is, except we need more traffic lights at busy intersections.

The peace of mind that not many cholos come near schools and parks for our children.

The peace of mind that not many cholos come near schools and parks for our children.

1. I would like to keep open space and the large parks. 2. The same open space and non-urbanized, like Martinez.

Peace of mind, and they should build a volleyball court and fix up the park so we can walk around the entire Cambridge park. Have the opportunity to be able to have housing within our income range.

Public services, for example lighting, water and garbage collection. Your projectors and growth. (sic)

I'd like to keep the cultural richness in the US and the ease in transportation.

Nice and honest neighbors.

Change is good. The status quo is no good. Everything can always improve.

Nothing

QUESTION 4a

What is the one thing in your neighborhood or community that you would most like to keep? What one thing in the Bay Area would you like to keep?

COMMENT

First of all I want to tell you that this is my second meeting where I participated where the information that I've received is not clear. On the questions from the public to the presenter, and no clear answers. They just sent us to a web site. We need clarity. Presenters that are well-informed about what is happening in my city. (sic)

**PLAN BAY AREA — SPRING 2011 COMMUNITY-BASED OUTREACH COMMENTS
MONUMENT COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP — CONCORD**

Below are all comments received in response to the following two-part question.

QUESTION 4b

What is the one thing in your neighborhood or community that you would most like to change ? What one thing in the Bay Area would you like to change ?

COMMENT

In my neighborhood, a shuttle to access BART

Closer freeway access

Repair roads

More affordable schools

Community focus

Plan for no funds! Disband commission.

Reducing commercial vacancies

Improved community safety

I would like all the counties to be uniformly accessible by public transportation. I travel from Oakland to Contra Costa and even into SF. It's often hard to navigate transportation into Contra Costa. I would also like to make the city more walkable.

In my neighborhood, I would like to change the population because there's too many people living in my area, but in different communities even more especially in SF. I would also like to change the violence and all the bad and messed up roads.

I would like it if BART would run longer and have buses expand their routes, and having the freeway and some parts of a city road fix. I would say less violence. (sic)

Affordable fee for public transit.

More routes more often.

Better streets conditions, with lights. Price in the public transportation. (sic)

Provide more affordable housing for lower income people.

Intrusive government no longer moored by the Constitution. (sic)

Use gas tax money to resurface roads, as it should

Stop illegal immigration and gangs.

I would like BART to extend their hours of operation on weekends. This would encourage people to take BART on weekend evenings.

Have better control of the apartment maintenance or fix the damage item from the apartments.

Get people (local residents and out of town people) to participate in getting involved. Reach out to churches, city clubs and. (sic)

More funding to maintain local streets and sidewalks; signalized intersections for pedestrian safety; more funding for bus lines and door-to-door transportation for seniors.

Better connection to job and shopping from my house. More bike paths.

I'd like to live where I could walk or bike to stores and restaurants. Bay Area - I wish it was easier to get from place to place, with better public transportation.

There are many bicycle riders on the Monument. They need a bike lane to ride in safety. An overpass people could walk over. More low-income housing is necessary.

More "personalized" transportation: senior citizens, disabled, young people. Updated information on activities, recreation, transportation schedules.

Apartment complexes filled with people who don't care about the property. While mass transit is good, we need a balance between mass transit and good public roads.

Come up with more activities for teenagers to keep them busy, out of the streets. Keep parks in a very attractive look to attract people. Keep druggies out of them (parks) so families can enjoy the outdoors.

Improve current transit - freeways, roads, bus service. Home to work BART hours. I work odd working hours - cannot take BART and get return service Saturday and Sunday. Part-time work in SF, must use car or pass on the work with price of parking. Must be available 24/7.

For as much as I pay in tolls and fuel taxes, I expect to be able to drive on well-maintained roads. When I've driven in other states, I'm amazed at how much better their roads are maintained. Our roadways are embarrassing and dangerous.

I would like to see more unrestricted funding available to non-profits that effect economic and educational change in the communities. Give abandoned properties to non-profits.

QUESTION 4b

What is the one thing in your neighborhood or community that you would most like to change ? What one thing in the Bay Area would you like to change ?

COMMENT

I want less laws in my neighborhood. I don't want the city towing my car out of the driveway because of expired tags. My poor car (which runs perfectly fine!) isn't hurting my neighbors or anyone - even if it can't pass smog. And I don't want people ratting me out for using my fireplace when it's freezing because of some local EPA law. People have been using fires for heat since caveman days. What's the big deal?!

There should be lighting and security.

I would like to change everything.

More public lighting. More security and the police should come sooner when called. There are two few police. We need more police at night.

I would like there to be more security for people and transportation, and there should be more security on the streets so there won't be so much crime and so many bums.

I would like to change the type of transportation and improve security on the streets, especially around schools.

There should be more protection or police to look for gangs in the Concord area, and keep the streets cleaner. Thank you.

I would like public transit to grow so we don't pollute.

Increase open space and protect existing open space. Maximize the use of eco-automobiles and fuels, like biodiesel.

Help schools. Increase security.

More security near schools and a street light on Monument and Lacy Lane. And more public lighting.

There should be more traffic lights at busy intersections to prevent accidents.

We would like to have a traffic light at Lacy Lane and Monument Blvd.

More security near schools, a traffic light at Monument and Lacy Lane, and more public lighting, and more traffic lights in the Monument community.

More security near schools, a traffic light at Monument and Lacy, more traffic lights in the Monument community, and more public lighting.

We want a traffic light at Monument Blvd. and Lacy Lane.

1. Public transit should have better schedules, for example, the bus comes by every hour and it takes an hour and a half to get to BART. Even though it's in the plans to extend BART to Antioch, it won't be complete for a long time.
2. There should be more bike lanes.

There should be more police near housing and parks. Would like to change so much youth in gangs and organize youth into sports or in jobs that attracts them.

Insecurity around my children's school, and I would like to have a traffic light at Monument and Lacy Lane.

In my community, parks, schools, streets, and the water drains. In the Bay Area, would like to improve jobs, rail transit and better stores.

I would like more security, more cleanliness, better appearance/upkeep of the streets, as well as neighborhoods, more employment, and more access to available services. In the Bay Area, more employment in general.

Change to better stores with better prices and more quality, and less pollution and better roads.

Public transit.

The bus schedule should improve so it is more frequent.

Everything.

1. Streets should be cleaner and there should be more security. 2. There should be more support for low-income people with Federal programs.

More parks and sports, and promote them. (sic)

More accessible education

**PLAN BAY AREA — SPRING 2011 COMMUNITY-BASED OUTREACH COMMENTS
MONUMENT COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP — CONCORD**

Below are all general comments received.

General Comments

COMMENT

You should not be advocating for citizens to be punished by legislative policies to get them out of their cars.

Say no to Agenda 21!

Why is it that only government asks this (race/ethnicity) question?

Inappropriate - ethnicity has nothing to do with poor planning.

How help special transportation needs, seniors (especially new baby boomers). More flexibility, more smaller units of transportation. Any regional studies or plans for more bicycle transportation? Jobs, stores.

Seems all you're asking is where we would like to see funds spent when things overran budget. You're not going to ask us where funds will come from - you're _____ tell us! Disband. State and federal are broke!

Please consider senior citizens in attending Sunday church services. Many don't drive and therefore can't get around. Our church is right next to John Muir hospital. Seniors went to church as young people. They obtain comfort by attending. It's mental health benefit. We hate waiting one hour or more in the rain for bus.

There are only three important points that your planners should be getting across at these meetings: 1) SB375 requires regional planning to reduce GHGs; 2) the only way we can meet the mandates is to drastically reallocate development; 3) this means X, Y & Z (more development, less development, etc.) for [insert city name]. When Tea Party plants are purposefully trying to derail your meetings, you need to be concise, organized and clear. None of these points were clearly made tonight, making this meeting useless and confusing. Drop the confusing background info, have speakers more in control of the audience, and remove disruptive participants here to ruin your meeting. Otherwise you're leaving out the actual community members who have a right to know about the impacts of SB375 on their communities. *Also, ABAG used to use a bunch of great charts explaining their projections and tying them to GHG emissions (they were showing these to cities a couple of years ago to explain the importance of reallocating RHNA numbers after SB375). The public should be seeing those charts at these meetings. Good Luck! Super excited to see how it all comes out in the SCS.

I've been playing volleyball at Cambridge Park for almost ten years. I hate to destroy the grass on the area we play, but we have fun with the kids, the wife and other families having these kind of activities. My suggestion is to make a volleyball field or court at this part to keep families like mine having fun and exercising at the same time. Please build a volleyball court at Cambridge Park. Thank you.

Thank you for this opportunity. The survey appears biased, to get us to appear to validate the high density housing at transport centers concept currently in vogue. I am concerned that that concept is today's good idea that becomes tomorrow's tenements and housing projects - victims of the "tragedy of the commons." Common areas deteriorate because they belong to everyone and no one. There is no pride of ownership. Then public transit is not utilized. People don't want to ride it. Next the stacked housing appears to be failing. Building in El Cerrito can't seem to fill the retail stage at street level. Next jobs and housing rarely occur in proximity. Lastly, the survey suggests we punish drivers with fees and taxes. Thanks for listening. I'll get more involved with positive suggestions. I'd appreciate a response.

1) Given the love affair that Americans have with their automobiles, how can you practically get from 10% mass transit ridership to most people riding mass transit without draconian measures? 2) If we don't accept GHG as a problem (and there has been a lot of faulty and fraudulent calculations to support it being a problem), then these planning sessions are being based on an unstable foundation. Driving less and restricting housing thus are limitations on our individual freedoms. Why should we go along with your plans?

The questions are skewed to support Agenda 21 and ICLEI which are supporting One World Government. The SCS plan is terrible. We want to keep our private property rights.

The form should have the comment section under each question, instead of a separate sheet.

I think we should leave people alone to build where they want. As long as no one is doing anything illegal or hurting anyone, who cares? We should be like Houston. I saw this amazing study where cities like Houston - which has almost no zoning laws - have the lowest taxes and highest prosperity. While cities like Stockton - which has excessive zoning laws, planning commissions and areas owned by public agencies - are the worst for businesses and are always in the red. Besides, there are two urban housing developments in downtown Concord - one on Clayton Road and one on Willow Pass by Safeway - which aren't even filled to capacity and they were built years ago. I met a realtor at the Willow Pass one and she said she couldn't move any of these units to save her life! (sic)

I think global warming is made up by the group of people that want to control the general public.

Bus service to church services on Sundays.

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Below are all general comments received.

General Comments

COMMENT

Thank you for coming to the Monument/Concord community to ask for the opinion of the people who use public transportation who will be affected by the changes. A lot of people would not have participated without this meeting. For my family as well as my community, it's more important to protect the environment than a small increase in taxes or in tolls.

I like the meeting a lot which gave the community the opportunity to express our needs. I would really like a traffic light at Monument and Lacy Lane.

We support the plan. There should be more public transportation, one, because it's cheaper than owning a car. Gas is expensive, and because of global warming. I also think BART's a little expensive. Also need a traffic light at Oak Grove School because there's been accidents.

I would like more homes for elderly where they can live independently without the need to end up in a convalescent home or some other institution by force. Priority: fix roads and highways in and out of the city because they're disastrous.