

**Plan Bay Area
January 2012 Public Workshops**

Transportation Trade-Offs, Oral and Written Comments, submitted at the workshops

Station A: Transportation Trade-Offs

A number of potential transportation investments will be considered as part of Plan Bay Area. Not all of these items will be funded due to limited resources. At the workshop, participants who visited this station used tokens to "vote" on transportation trade-offs, or to provide their own ideas, in three areas:

- Transportation Investment Priorities
- Policies to Reduce Driving and Emissions
- Policies Regarding Public Transit

Below is the count that shows how participants ranked these potential transportation investment categories in these three areas, followed by the ideas/comments submitted via cards by participants using the "Other" option.

See the PDF titled "Workshop Written Comments" for additional comments submitted by participants for Transportation Trade-Offs.

TOKEN COUNT: SAN MATEO COUNTY

Transportation Investment Priorities	#	%
Increase the number of freeway lanes for carpoolers and bus riders	3	1%
Expand bicycle and pedestrian routes	36	14%
Extend commuter rail lines, such as BART and Caltrain	29	11%
Maintain highways and local roads, including fixing potholes	42	16%
Provide more frequent bus service	19	7%
Provide financial incentives to cities to build more multi-unit housing near public transit	34	13%
Fund traffic congestion relief projects, such as adding turn lanes on roads, or reconfiguring interchanges and on-ramps on highways	13	5%
Increase public transit service for low income residents who do not have access to a car.	19	7%
Invest in improving speed and reliability in major bus or light-rail corridors.	24	9%
Other:	37	14%

Comments on "Other" Cards -- Transportation Investment Priorities

County	Comment
1 San Mateo	Eliminate HOV Lanes (x2).
2 San Mateo	Drill for oil so gas is cheap to help the working class.
3 San Mateo	Let the public use catch up with public transportation before expanding it.

4	San Mateo	There is virtually no benefit or return to building bicycle facilities.
5	San Mateo	Stop using tax dollars to influence very few people to use subsidized transit services.
6	San Mateo	Government is not the answer.
7	San Mateo	Extend traffic turn lanes and lights for smoother traffic flow.
8	San Mateo	Remove HOV lanes. Tax payers have paid for them already. Multi-people in a car have the benefit of sharing the gas cost. They should not be given the reduced travel time since everyone paid for the HOV lanes. Too many cars idle while HOV moves along. More emissions generated by the slowed cars.
9	San Mateo	Abolish carpool lanes.
10	San Mateo	Build more major roads.
11	San Mateo	Build more freeways.
12	San Mateo	Direct funding to maintain Cal Train existing routes.
13	San Mateo	Strategies to support (subsidize) use of public transit by students, low income community members, seniors.
14	San Mateo	Secure dedicated funding for Cal Train, trunkline for Peninsula.
15	San Mateo	Make sure Cal Train has money to keep running! (and maybe even increase frequency).
16	San Mateo	Funding should be based on usage. Don't use car taxes for bikes and buses and trains.
17	San Mateo	Build more freeways and increase the number of single passenger car lanes on existing ones.
18	San Mateo	Increase gas tax to fund transit.
19	San Mateo	Encourage high speed – non- stop on demand transportation systems, like ULTRA (Heathrow) and Skytran of NASA Ames. Market based business models should be introduced.

Transportation Trade-Offs (continued)

Policies to Reduce Driving & Greenhouse Gas Emissions

A variety of strategies are being considered to encourage the reduction of driving and associated vehicle emissions. At the workshop, participants who visited this station used tokens to "vote" on a list of potential policies to reduce auto emissions, or provided their own ideas.

TOKEN COUNT: SAN MATEO COUNTY

Policies to Reduce Driving & Greenhouse Gas Emissions	#	%
Encourage 'Smart Driving'	12	5%
Complete the Regional Bicycle Network	35	14%
Expand the Safe Routes to Schools/ Pedestrian Network	33	13%
Increase Vanpool Incentives	7	3%
Expand Electric Vehicle Strategies	28	11%
Develop Commuter Benefit Ordinances	25	10%
Increase Telecommuting	21	9%
Institute Parking Surcharges	20	8%
Freeway speeds at 55 mph	9	4%
Other:	56	23%

Comments from "Other" Cards -- Policies to Reduce Driving & Greenhouse Gas Emissions

County	Comment
1 San Mateo	Make what we have now run better first. People won't consider mass transit until then.
2 San Mateo	Make what we have now run better first. People won't take mass transit until what is there now works flawlessly. It shouldn't take 2.5 - 3 hours to get to work via buses, etc.
3 San Mateo	People must have cars. Nothing in this plan should reduce their use. Green house gases are not real problems. It should not be the determinant.
4 San Mateo	Not everyone can telecommute.
5 San Mateo	Stop using carrot/stick strategies.
6 San Mateo	Let the market decide.
7 San Mateo	Let the market decide what benefits to offer.
8 San Mateo	Cities should decide parking strategies that work for them rather than being strong armed by the region.
9 San Mateo	Add additional road lanes without restrictions on HOV/EV/carpool/ etc.
10 San Mateo	Make commute times have more lines & lanes.

11	San Mateo	More free parking.
12	San Mateo	Abolish carpool lanes.
13	San Mateo	Build more major roads.
14	San Mateo	Build more freeways.
15	San Mateo	Make rapid transit pay for itself.
16	San Mateo	Synchronized traffic signals and systems.
17	San Mateo	Encourage employment opportunities with transit services.
18	San Mateo	Development disincentives for driving e.g., reduced parking requirements on office parks.
19	San Mateo	Use elevated transit and encourage biking/walking and improve safety for school students.
20	San Mateo	Build more roads and bridges.
21	San Mateo	Remove 1 lane of highway in each direction and replace with rail line.
22	San Mateo	Increase public transit (2 tokens).
23	San Mateo	Increase speed limits like Texas did.
24	San Mateo	Gas tax for transit to reduce driving (2 tokens).

Transportation Trade-Offs (continued)

Policies Regarding Public Transit

A variety of strategies are being considered to improve the customer experience on public transit and to operate our existing public transit system more efficiently. At the workshop, participants who visited this station used tokens to identify four policies important to them to improve public transit. Participants also were able to provide their own ideas under the "Other" category.

TOKEN COUNT: SAN MATEO COUNTY

Policies Regarding Public Transit	#	%
Better-timed connections	23	12%
More real-time information	12	6%
Cleaner/new vehicles and cleaner stations	13	7%
Standard fare policies across the region	16	8%
Fixed-price monthly pass valid on all trains, buses and ferries	24	12%
More frequent and faster transit service	57	29%
Better on-time performance	17	9%
More customer amenities such as WiFi on buses and trains	8	4%
Other	28	14%

Comments from "Other" Cards -- Policies Regarding Public Transit

County	Comment
1 San Mateo	Need to prove that current systems can be operated profitably and efficiently without continually robbing the customer's wallet without adding more transit. Also, how do we know the population predicted will happen given the economy today. Projects in the Bay Area are notorious for costly overruns. What happens when money runs out when the project is not done.
2 San Mateo	Need to prove that current systems can be operated profitably and efficiently without continually robbing the customer's wallet without adding more transit. Caltrans and VTA are not.
3 San Mateo	Make car transit easy.
4 San Mateo	Lots of free parking at shopping centers.
5 San Mateo	No high density housing villages.
6 San Mateo	Leave neighborhoods alone.
7 San Mateo	Repair highways and freeways to improve gas mileage.
8 San Mateo	Improve freeway signage to make it quicker to get to destination.
9 San Mateo	Raise fares so that public transportation pays for itself.

10	San Mateo	You can not legislate public transportation success!! It is a black hole for tax dollars.
11	San Mateo	There is not a public transportation system in California that sustains itself. Solve that problem first.
12	San Mateo	Why would you increase public transportation frequency, capacity , etc. if it is economically unsustainable.
13	San Mateo	Public private partnership of transit. Reduce tax subsidies and use innovative transit systems like Skytran.
14	San Mateo	Public transportation should be paid for by users.
15	San Mateo	Rapid transit bus systems (Real).

Transportation Trade-Offs, Oral Comments

	County	Comments
16	San Mateo	Concern for Bay Bridge not surviving next earthquake; no talking about building a new Bay Bridge.
17	San Mateo	Regarding transit: it's important to focus on alternatives to cars; didn't agree on fixing potholes.
18	San Mateo	Took a balanced approach to question; for workers it's important to have good commute options.
19	San Mateo	Drives the freeway everyday but would prefer to take public transit (e.g. Caltrain), but the service is infrequent and inconvenient; need more frequent service.
20	San Mateo	More investment around mass transit; more bike and pedestrian infrastructure.
21	San Mateo	Bike improvements are not being made in a safe way; need to focus on safety for bicyclists.
22	San Mateo	Raise fuel taxes then use those for public transit.
23	San Mateo	Improve the bicycle network, but we also need to teach drivers to share the road. Create more policies to keep bicyclists safe.
24	San Mateo	Expansion of safe routes to school has safety consequences. Could reduce congestion if parents didn't have to drive children to school.
25	San Mateo	Increase public transit in Pacifica; the school bus is Samtrans.
26	San Mateo	Increase public transit on the coast
27	San Mateo	Using public transit is great, but need east-west connectivity. Use jitneys, etc. to get people to transit.
28	San Mateo	Standard fares and fixed prices would make public transit user-friendly.
29	San Mateo	This activity is grandiose theater.
30	San Mateo	We have to figure out what we have before we can vote.
31	San Mateo	Does not support carpool lanes.
32	San Mateo	Keep Caltrain running and include funds for Caltrain.
33	San Mateo	How will we know we will be able to support transit?
34	San Mateo	What are the population numbers needed to support a transit system?
35	San Mateo	Keep Caltrain running.
36	San Mateo	More frequent bus service.
37	San Mateo	More pedestrian routes.
38	San Mateo	Concern that roads are left in disrepair and people will be forced out of their cars.
39	San Mateo	Needs to travel via car to work; feels forced out of car by this plan.

40	San Mateo	Some people can't get out of their cars.
41	San Mateo	Concern that there is enough parking near shopping yet people circle the parking lot, wasting gas and emitting smog.
42	San Mateo	Let people with cars use their cars.
43	San Mateo	We need more places to park.
44	San Mateo	Cars emit less pollutants than before. There have been many improvements to gas efficiency. Suggests a comparative analysis with modern technology versus older cars.
45	San Mateo	What is the impact of GHG on the environment?
46	San Mateo	Ultimately we need to move to electric vehicles. That is how we can remedy the GHG issue.
47	San Mateo	Supports transit systems, especially the Dumbarton commuter rail.
48	San Mateo	Extend commuter rail lines.
49	San Mateo	Think about transportation in both ways: using transit and using the car.
50	San Mateo	Electrify Caltrain and increase dedicated funding for Caltrain.
51	San Mateo	Remove high-occupancy vehicle (HOV) lanes.
52	San Mateo	There is no public transit system that is financially sustainable.
53	San Mateo	We need a more sustainable transit system for people to use it.
54	San Mateo	Expand safe routes to school. This will help the obesity crisis among youth and reduce GHG emissions.
