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: SANTA CLARA COUNTY

Transportation Investment Priorities	#	%
Increase the number of freeway lanes for carpoolers and bus riders	14	4%
Expand bicycle and pedestrian routes	40	13%
Extend commuter rail lines, such as BART and Caltrain	38	12%
Maintain highways and local roads, including fixing potholes	64	20%
Provide more frequent bus service	14	4%
Provide financial incentives to cities to build more multi-unit housing near public transit	28	9%
Fund traffic congestion relief projects, such as adding turn lanes on roads, or reconfiguring interchanges	25	8%
and on-ramps on highways		
Increase public transit service for low income residents who do not have access to a car.	22	7%
Invest in improving speed and reliability in major bus or light-rail corridors.	31	10%
Other:	38	12%

Comments on "Other" Cards -- Transportation Investment Priorities

	County	Comment
1	SantaClara	Provide more frequent bus service with feeder lines, for instance in Sunnyvale, more service on north-south lines to coordinate w/ route
		22 and 522
2	SantaClara	Invest in modern transit options (e.g. PRT) that cost far less to build & operate than traditional transit (e.g. CRT & buses)

3	SantaClara	Use gas taxes for roads only. Use bridge tolls for roads only.
4	SantaClara	We need more roads - good roads!
5	SantaClara	More transit (rail, high speed rail) lanes on highways
6	SantaClara	Provide financial incentives & funding for enhanced local transit services - connecting to regional transit service, etc.
7	SantaClara	Get all of the empty buses off the roads
8	SantaClara	New roads
9	SantaClara	Create more freeway lanes for cars
10	SantaClara	"Social Economics" = choice, incentive, success. "Social Equity" = failure, Marxism, redistribution
11	SantaClara	Use common gauge tracks on all rail transit - convert BART gauge to std!!! For intermodal
12	SantaClara	High performance passenger rail HSR / HSIPR Rail station's
13	SantaClara	More & better roads & highways
14	SantaClara	More roads & freeways for cars
15	SantaClara	Get bicycles off of roads
16	SantaClara	Invest in: bike sharing infrastructure (London & Paris); electric car sharing infrastructure. Use Clipper cards for both. Go to YouTube and
		see how it is done.
17	SantaClara	Build more street and road (freeway, etc) capacity to address directly the air quality impacts congestion causes.
18	SantaClara	Add more major roads/expressways
19	SantaClara	Add more freeways
20	SantaClara	Abolish HOV/Commuter lanes
21	SantaClara	Add more freeway lanes
22	SantaClara	Increase the number of freeway lanes (not for carpoolers & busses).
23	SantaClara	Re-open "commuter lanes" to public
24	SantaClara	Drill for oil in US!
25	SantaClara	Reduce regulations & fees for living here
26	SantaClara	Employment center with transit access - financial incentives (x2)
27	SantaClara	This process is rigged (x2)
28	SantaClara	Develop & implement a more stable & sustainable funding mechanism for Caltrain
29	SantaClara	Encourage (financial, regulatory, etc) development & implementation of electric vehicle charging network around the Bay Area
30	SantaClara	Add electric carpool lane
31	SantaClara	Reconsider BART from San Francisco to San Jose down/up Peninsula to replace Caltrain. I would like to see analysis comparing cost of
		electrification of Caltrain vs. BART extension.

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: SANTA CLARA COUNTY

Policies to Reduce Driving & Greenhouse Gas Emissions	#	%	
Encourage 'Smart Driving'	25	8%	
Complete the Regional Bicycle Network	35	11%	
Expand the Safe Routes to Schools/ Pedestrian Network	42	14%	
Increase Vanpool Incentives	11	4%	
Expand Electric Vehicle Strategies	36	12%	
Develop Commuter Benefit Ordinances	22	7%	
Increase Telecommuting	37	12%	
Institute Parking Surcharges	22	7%	
Freeway speeds at 55 mph	12	4%	
Other:	64	21%	

	Comments from "Other" Cards Policies to Reduce Driving & Greenhouse Gas Emissions			
	County	Comment		
1	Santa Clara	Greenhouse gasses are not a problem (x3)		
2	Santa Clara	Humans do not cause manmade global warming		
3	Santa Clara	Global warming is not the problem that politicians are making it		
4	Santa Clara	Congestion pricing		
5	Santa Clara	Increase mpg that car manufacturers need to adhere to		
6	Santa Clara	Coordinate & lobby for higher (state & fed) legislative support to encourage travel by alternative modes (e.g. Fed - commuter subsidy		
		allowances, etc.)		
7	Santa Clara	Do not want a nanny state - what is freedom!		
8	Santa Clara	Let us keep our money. Quit spending so much on micro planning our lives		
9	Santa Clara	Greenhouse gas is a phony issue. Eliminate carpool lanes & allow everyone to use		
10	Santa Clara	Introduce electric bike & scooter strategies (e.g. subsidies)		

11	Santa Clara	Increase city/employer subsidies for transit passes
12	Santa Clara	Develop a pedestrian matrix to allow more access to destinations by elderly baby boomers. (NYC developed its matrix in the 1850's
	Sarrea Ciara	and that allowed the subway system to be built). We need a comparable map.
13	Santa Clara	No HOV lanes - they cause congestion
14	Santa Clara	More Roads
15	Santa Clara	Get empty buses off the roads
16	Santa Clara	Invest in bike and electric car sharing infrastructure near stations and transportation hubs
17	Santa Clara	Use diesel fuel
18	Santa Clara	Have bike riders pay taxes to use roads
19	Santa Clara	Drill for oil in US & create jobs!
20	Santa Clara	High performance passenger rail electrification, signaling "core" to all transit
21	Santa Clara	This process is rigged
22	Santa Clara	Increase highway lanes for cars (x2)
23	Santa Clara	We need some kind of "benefit" to driving less - maybe tax credit
24	Santa Clara	1) Time the street lights so traffic moves. Make it mandatory for all municipalities. 2). Open lanes when accident happens or other
		stoppage.
25	Santa Clara	Support carshare services, like PATS Car Share in San Jose. For every car shared 9 - 15 cars are taken off the road.
26	Santa Clara	Encourage and promote casual carpooling
27	Santa Clara	More free parking
28	Santa Clara	Build more major roads
29	Santa Clara	Abolish HOV/Commuter lanes
30	Santa Clara	Build more freeway lanes
31	Santa Clara	Build more freeways
32	Santa Clara	Reduce driving and emissions by increasing public transit (in all forms) usability
	•	

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: SANTA CLARA COUNTY

Policies Regarding Public Transit	#	%	
Better-timed connections	22	9%	
More real-time information	22	9%	
Cleaner/new vehicles and cleaner stations	8	3%	
Standard fare policies across the region	17	7%	
Fixed-price monthly pass valid on all trains, buses and ferries	27	11%	
More frequent and faster transit service	45	19%	
Better on-time performance	20	8%	
More customer amenities such as WiFi on buses and trains	28	12%	
Other	51	21%	

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

1	Santa Clara	Policies to increase safety of existing systems (buses, transit, bicycle paths) - (police, maybe?) (x4)
2	Santa Clara	Increase highway lanes for cars
3	Santa Clara	High performance passenger rail HSR / HSIPR transit stations
4	Santa Clara	No public subsidies for public transit
5	Santa Clara	Easier car transit
6	Santa Clara	More freeways & major roads
7	Santa Clara	Not just better timed connections - but closer connections between modes of transport.
8	Santa Clara	Better connections from transit to actual final destinations (work, shopping centers) connections could be shuttles, pedestrian trails,
		etc.
9	Santa Clara	More affordable natural gas vehicles
10	Santa Clara	Increase bus & vehicle use with natural gas. For new vehicles use natural gas & for personal vehicles
11	Santa Clara	This process is rigged
12	Santa Clara	Free Parking. Fixed "discounted" monthly passes on trains, buses & ferries. Need more of an incentive?

13	Santa Clara	I do not agree with mandatory mass transit
14	Santa Clara	Universal pass for Caltrain/BART/Hrail (universal regional pass)
15	Santa Clara	Get empty buses off the roads
16	Santa Clara	More roads
17	Santa Clara	No HOV lanes - they cause congestion
18	Santa Clara	Investment in new technologies and research (maybe have a coalition of gov'ts to gain enough research funds)
19	Santa Clara	More feeder systems (small vans, zip-type cars)
20	Santa Clara	Unified/stable funding sources for ALL transit providers (e.g. unequal treatment of Caltrain v BART)
21	Santa Clara	Public transit doesn't work in all areas (cities). Use the money to fix pot holes, pave freeways & roads. Do not close lanes on El
		Camino for buses & bikes
22	Santa Clara	Not stack & pack apartments - we want single family homes
23	Santa Clara	Iron Man Suit
24	Santa Clara	PRT can provide on-demand, 24/7 service w/ no need for transfers (and Wi-Fi service)
25	Santa Clara	Policy to raise mpg we expect car makers to adhere to
26	Santa Clara	Free choice to people - don't provide what is not wanted
27	Santa Clara	Let the market dictate transportation and government provide what we want
28	Santa Clara	Leave the choice of autos, buses up to the people
29	Santa Clara	Leave people in their cars if they want to use them
30	Santa Clara	Mass Transit does not need frills
31	Santa Clara	No public subsidies for transit
32	Santa Clara	This is impossible to understand, since there are underlying solutions may not support. Example: Better on-time performance should
		be a "given" but the solution to hold up car traffic for a bus is not appropriate or one I support.
33	Santa Clara	What is social equity? How does it bear upon this process?
34	Santa Clara	Better service on feeder lines, e.g. in Sunnyvale better service on North - South lines to feed to 22 or 522 line

	Transportat	Fransportation Trade-Offs, Oral Comments		
	County	Comments		
35	Santa Clara	What are the costs for these investment choices?		
36	Santa Clara	Where is the industry analysis of choices?		
37	Santa Clara	Increase the number of freeway lanes this should be added as an option.		
38	Santa Clara	The plan must increase people's ability to move around in a car.		
39	Santa Clara	Thinking long term about sustainability, we are not going to achieve our goals unless we get more people out of cars or sharing cars.		
40	Santa Clara	Car-based transportation is not sustainable over the long term. Invest in public transportation.		
41	Santa Clara	Need more transit and multi-modal options to increase quality of life. Need clean water and air.		
42	Santa Clara	Need more roads. Keep bicyclists off the road to free up space for motorists.		

43	Santa Clara	Need better segregation of bikes from roads. Safety and education are critical.
44	Santa Clara	Plan Bay Area is an attempt to seize public property through eminent domain; put 24,000 units of affordable housing in San Francisco.
		The government is plotting to remove dams and rural residents.
45	Santa Clara	Need better cost controls, such as at BART.
46	Santa Clara	Light, electric vehicles are not mentioned.
47	Santa Clara	Need better bicycle facilities and connections.
48	Santa Clara	Increase freeway lanes for buses and carpools. There are gaps [in HOV network] in San Mateo County, especially along Route 101.
49	Santa Clara	Carpool lanes cause congestion; need to study this more before adding lanes.
50	Santa Clara	Promote plug-in hybrids and other fuel-efficient vehicles.
51	Santa Clara	Questions remain regarding disposal of EV batteries; needs more analysis.
52	Santa Clara	Voted all chips for safe routes for school because we need infrastructure for the increasing aging population.
53	Santa Clara	Supports facilities and investments for growing population.
54	Santa Clara	Personal rapid transit works for youngsters, oldsters and people with disabilities.
55	Santa Clara	Improve streets. I ride a long board and we need to fix the sidewalks.
56	Santa Clara	Regional transit network will have biggest impact; more convenient.
57	Santa Clara	Suggests a regional universal transit pass.