

Transportation Justice Priorities for the Metropolitan Transit System 2020 Ballot Measure

Residents in environmental justice (EJ) communities are San Diego Metropolitan Transit System's (MTS) number one customers, but the system does not serve them the way it should. The potential MTS 2020 ballot measure could provide funding to transform inequitable, car-centric San Diego into a model region with an efficient mass public transit network. The San Diego Transportation Equity Working Group (SDTEWG), composed of community-based organizations, advocates for a successful 2020 MTS ballot measure that leads with transportation equity which:

- ✓ Connects EJ communities to jobs
- ✓ Makes it affordable to ride the bus and trolley
- ✓ Ensures San Diego meets regional climate goals
- ✓ Includes meaningful community engagement

EJ Communities Need Transit Services

EJ families are transit dependent: In the City of San Diego, families in EJ communities depend on transit three times more compared to the City overall¹.

66% of transit riders are low-income: According to MTS staff, low-income communities are their #1 customer².

Most jobs cannot be reached using transit: 70% of jobs are unreachable by public transit within 90 minutes in the MTS service area³.

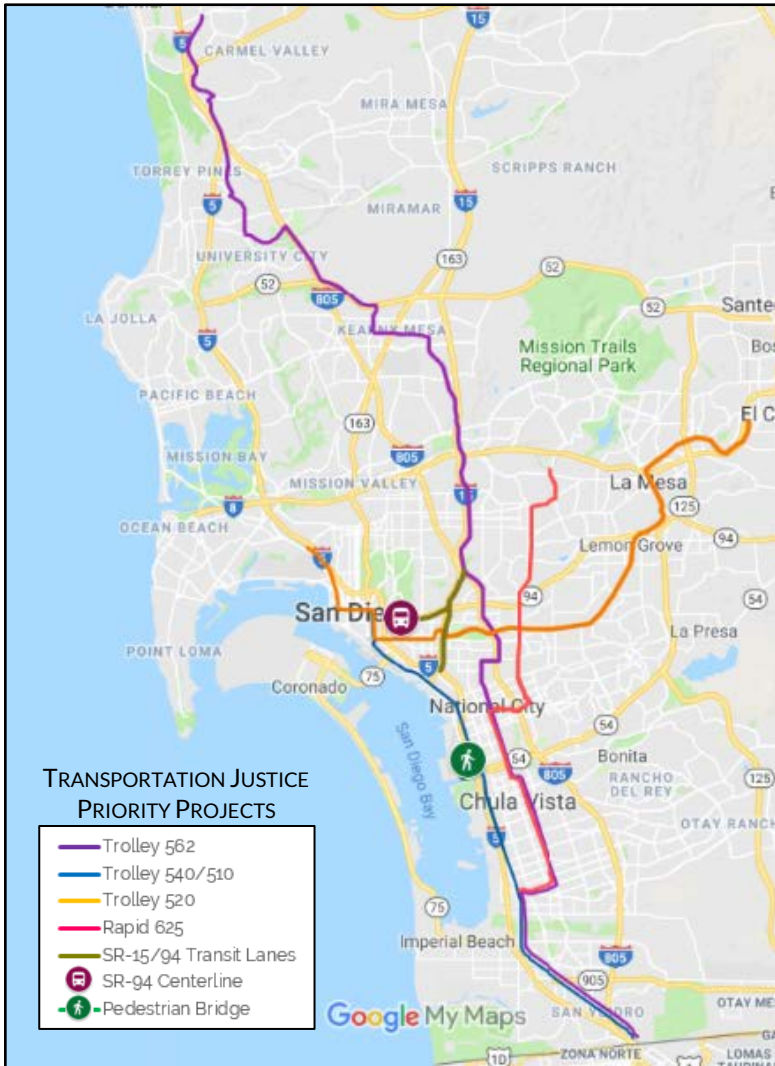
Transportation is expensive: The average family in San Diego spends \$10,552 on transportation⁴.

Mass public transit is the best solution to address climate change in the region⁵: Transportation represents 55% of greenhouse gas emissions in the City of San Diego⁶ and 65% in National City⁷.

Policy Recommendations

- **Define environmental justice** by the top 30% of CalEnviroScreen 3.0 in the state.
- **Ensure transit affordability** through Youth Opportunity Passes (no cost transit passes for youth up to 24 years of age) and reduced transit fares for seniors, disabled riders and veterans.
- **Ensure meaningful public participation** in the development of the ballot measure.
- Include a **participatory budgeting strategy** for the ballot measure's funds.
- **Expand late night hours** of trolley and bus routes.
- **Increase safety and comfort** at transit stations with solar-powered lighting.

Transportation Justice Priority Projects



Projects

Trolley: 562 Purple Line

San Ysidro to Kearny Mesa

Trolley: 540 Blue Line Express

San Ysidro to Downtown San Diego

Trolley: 510 Blue Line/Mid-Coast

Frequency Enhancements

Trolley: 520 Orange Line

Frequency Enhancements

Rapid 625

SDSU to Palomar Station via East San Diego, Southeast San Diego and National City

SR-15 and SR-94

Transit Only Lane Extensions into Downtown

SR-94

Centerline Station at 25th Street

24th Street Transit Station National City

Increase safety with a pedestrian bridge over I-5 & enhance walkability to Pepper Park

Zero Emissions Infrastructure

Invest in charging infrastructure for Zero Emission Buses



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¹ American Community Survey, Table B08141, 2016 5-year data.

² SANDAG Draft Title VI Fare Equity Analysis for Fare Change Proposed for 2019, 7, 2019.

https://www.sandag.org/uploads/meetingid/meetingid_4959_25000.pdf

³ Adie Tomer, Elizabeth Kneebone, Robert Puentes, and Alan Berube. 2011. "Missed Opportunity: Transit and Jobs in Metropolitan America." Appendix 5. Brookings Institution. http://www.brookings.edu/~media/research/files/reports/2011/5/12-jobs-and-transit/0512_jobs_transit.pdf.

⁴ "Consumer Expenditures For The San Diego Area: 2015-16 : Western Information Office : U.S. Bureau Of Labor Statistics". Bls.Gov, 2018, https://www.bls.gov/regions/west/news-release/consumerexpenditures_sandiego.htm ; <https://www.bls.gov/cex/2016/msas/west.pdf>

⁵ California Air Resources Board, "2018 Progress report: California's Sustainable Communities and Climate Protection Act," p. 13 November 2018.

⁶ City of San Diego Climate Action Plan; Chapter 2, p. 19, 2015. https://www.sandiego.gov/sites/default/files/final_july_2016_cap.pdf

⁷ National City Climate Action Plan, Chapter 2, p.5, 2011. http://www.ca-ilg.org/sites/main/files/file-attachments/climate_action_plan.pdf