



REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION ISSUES

In September 2017, the Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) released its annual analysis of Bay Area freeway locations with the most weekday traffic congestion. The analysis found that weekday congestion around the region has reached a new high and listed the southbound U.S. 101 from Mountain View to San Jose in the afternoon commute as the third most congested freeway corridor in the Bay Area. Santa Clara residents and businesses alike have been impacted by increasing traffic congestion. Businesses, in particular, have mentioned that traffic congestion in the area was one of their main concerns during retention visits.

The increase in traffic congestion is correlated with the growing need to rehabilitate roads and promote alternative modes of transportation. SB 1, the Road Repair and Accountability Act of 2017, was signed into law on April 28, 2017. The legislative package will invest \$54 billion over the next decade to fix roads, freeways and bridges in communities across California. These funds will be split equally between state and local investments and will go towards road rehabilitation, congestion relief, trade corridor improvements, and improved transit/rail travel. SB 1 was in danger of being repealed by Proposition 6 on the November 2018 ballot. If passed, Proposition 6 would have repealed any fuel tax increases that were enacted after January 1, 2017 and require voter approval for future fuel taxes and vehicle fee increases.

There have been local efforts to promote and provide funding for alternative modes of transportation such as the recent update to the City's Traffic Impact Fee program, the City's proposed Multimodal Improvement Plan, Bicycle Master Plan Update 2018, Pedestrian Master Plan, and Creek Trail Network Expansion Master Plan, and the VTA's BART Silicon Valley Extension. Some of these efforts have faced challenges, such as the Sharks' May and July 2018 lawsuits against the VTA's BART Silicon Valley Extension Phase II Project. The lawsuits have the potential to cause delay to the long-awaited BART project, which will eventually extend into Santa Clara.

City staff will continue to monitor and advocate for legislation and projects that will alleviate traffic congestion and promote alternative modes of transportation that benefit our residents and businesses and support the City's commitment to environmental sustainability.