



TRANSPORTATION ISSUES

Overview

The City of Santa Clara believes that a robust transportation network, and related infrastructure, is a critical element to a successful and thriving community. The City works with the federal government, state government, and regional stakeholders to ensure that residents and businesses have access to traditional modes of transportation and promote alternative modes to alleviate traffic congestion and pollution. Additionally, it is important for the City's transportation network to continue to evolve to best serve the future needs of the community. To that end, local efforts are underway to promote and provide funding for alternative modes of transportation, such as updates to the City's Traffic Impact Fee program, the City's Multimodal Improvement Plan, Bicycle Master Plan Update 2018, Pedestrian Master Plan, and Creek Trail Network Expansion Master Plan. Additionally, City staff is working with other transportation agencies to support their significant regional projects, including BART Phase II (VTA), Caltrain Electrification and Caltrain Business Plan, and the High Speed Rail project.

Guiding Principles

The City of Santa Clara's guiding principles for legislative advocacy include and are not limited to:

- Support the League of California Cities and National League of Cities positions on priority bills that benefit Santa Clara.
- Protect local revenue sources and prevent unfunded mandates.
- Protect and/or increase funding for specific programs and services.
- Protect and/or increase local government discretion.
- Advance approved policies such as the City's Statement of Values, the General Plan, or the Climate Action Plan.

Legislative Advocacy Position

To ensure that the City and greater region are able to meet the current transportation needs of the community and plan for future needs, the City is advocating for the following-positions:

- Support legislative, regulatory, funding, and regional efforts to reduce the amount of traffic congestion on area freeways and County expressways and reduce vehicle miles traveled.
- Support legislation and efforts that provide funding for diverse transportation projects, such as local streets and roads improvements, shuttle programs, public transit, railroad crossing improvements, bicycle and pedestrian projects, intelligent transportation system improvements, corridor capacity improvements, and highway interchange improvements.
- Support efforts to ensure accountability and fairness during the implementation of regional transportation ballot measures.
- Support efforts that will alleviate traffic congestion and promote alternative modes of transportation that benefit Santa Clara residents and businesses and that support the City's commitment to environmental sustainability.
- Support efforts to integrate fare payments, schedules, transfers, and technology across multiple transit agencies to enhance regional transit service connectively.

- Monitor efforts to place regional transportation funding measures on the ballot for consideration by voters.
- Monitor legislation related to local operations and regulation of municipal roadways, shared mobility uses in municipalities, and how municipalities study traffic congestion or vehicle miles traveled to measure transportation impacts of projects.
- Oppose efforts to reduce the City's representation on regional transportation planning agencies.
- Oppose efforts to reduce local government access to SB 1 local streets and roads funding.