

Elevate SD 2020: El Cajon Community Forum – Executive Summary

Date: Thursday, June 13, 2019
Location: El Cajon Library
Attendees: 9

Overview:

In addition to presentations from MTS marketing and planning staff, attendees were asked to participate in two interactive elements: a values priority activity, and small group discussions. The following summarizes the feedback provided from those activities.

Top Values:

Participants were given five stickers, and asked to identify their top values that should help shape the future of transit. Below are the results:

1. Provide viable alternatives to a car (7)
2. Connect directly to more destinations (7)
3. More frequent service (5)
4. Faster service (5)
5. Mobility solutions for senior and disabled citizens (5)
6. Reduce greenhouse gas emissions/improve environmental health (4)
7. Low-cost fares (2)
8. Reduce traffic congestion (2)
9. Access to jobs/education (1)
10. Improve roads and highways to support transit (1)
11. Other (1)
 - Skyway/tram downtown/to airport

Round-Table Summaries:

Participants also broke up into small groups for a round-table discussions facilitated by MTS staff. They were asked to share what their transit priorities were, and what values/projects were most important to their communities. There were two small groups at the El Cajon forum, and the following ideas were identified by both:

- Both groups identified safety and security as a priority
- Both groups also identified electric vehicles/environmental benefit as a priority
- Both groups discussed greater service coverage in the area, with one group discussing need for better first-mile/last-mile solutions

Top Three Takeaways:

At the conclusion of the round-tables, each group was asked to identify their 'top three takeaways' for MTS based on their group's discussions (i.e. of everything discussed at the event, identify what the three most important priorities/ideas were). Below is a summary of those priorities.

- Safety/security (2)
- Environmental benefit/electric vehicles (2)
- First-mile/last-mile solutions (mobility on demand, smaller vehicles, neighborhood circulators)
- More frequent service
- Skyway/monorail

A full report of the small group discussions, and open comment is included below.

Round-Table 1

More frequent service
Connecting seniors to health care centers
Travel time
Connecting Lakeside to downtown
More service coverage
Safety - more staff/security
Environment
Top Three Takeaways:
1. Safety/security
2. More frequent service
3. Environmental benefit

Round-Table 2

Mobility on demand - neighborhood services/circulators, smaller vehicles
Skyways
First-mile/last-mile solutions (mobility hub with autonomous vehicles)
Transit-oriented developments (low-cost)
TOD with restaurants at stations
Better connections to airport
Better amenities at bus stops (benches and shelters)
Reduce greenhouse gas emissions, use of electric vehicles
Security (and better training)
Top Three Takeaways:
1. First-mile/last-mile solutions (mobility on demand, smaller vehicles, neighborhood circulators)
2. Skyway/monorail
3. Safety
4. Electric vehicles

Open Comments

Connections from transit centers to precise destination (e.g. place of work, airport) with fleet of self-driving smart cars. I love the idea of a skyway, especially in "tourist" areas (e.g. Port of San Diego, MB/PB, Balboa Park, etc.) Also love the ferry idea (not just to naval base, but possibly to Oceanside Pier?) Seems it would be more cost efficient to use touring vans for most local bus routes.

I think that if people don't have time to eat a meal before they leave to their destination or after they should have a restaurant transit stations.

1. Please put your "safety" officers through extensive sensitivity training - I have seen some of them grab passengers (who may not have a ticket) and stand over them as if they had nabbed an enemy. Ex-mariners need extra training. All people need to be treated with respect. 2. Students need to ride free, as they do in several cities. 3. Change to electric buses as fast as possible - "natural" gas is a fossil fuel = not clean. 4. Can huge railroad-car trucks be phased out? Before they hit our freeways, could their content be transferred to smaller (electric, preferably) trucks and thus avoid some major accidents. 5. During the day, I see buses with 2 or 3 passengers. Could urban areas use small vans to get people to buses/Trolleys? 6. Don't take over uber or lyft - they belong to huge companies, their workers are "contractors," thus have no rights, are paid poorly, have no health insurance or pensions, and we end up with more cars, more greenhouse gases. Local taxis should have preference. Let them do some of the Uber/Lyft work. 7. In Lima, Peru + Mexico City, individual cars drive the same routes as the buses, but take on and drop off passengers anywhere along the route, take up to 5 passengers at a time and charge fees slightly higher than buses. 8. Support low-cost housing near public transit. 9. Make the freeway fast lanes available for Rapid transit at times. 10. Work with SANDAG's vision for the future.