

Elevate SD 2020: Barrio Logan Community Forum – Executive Summary

Date: Tuesday, July 30, 2019
Location: San Diego Continuing Education – Cesar Chavez Campus
Attendees: 39

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. Low-cost fares (41)
 - Includes one for no cost youth, and one seniors ride free with SS
2. More frequent service (22)
3. Reduce greenhouse gas emissions/improve environmental health (22)
4. Mobility solutions for senior and disabled citizens (21)
5. Connect directly to more destinations (21)
6. Faster service (13)
7. Access to jobs/education (13)
8. Provide viable alternatives to a car (10)
9. Other (9):
 - Safety (8) – Everyone/general (6) and students (2)
 - Bus shelters
10. Reduce traffic congestion (6)
11. Improve roads and highways to support transit (2)

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. The following themes emerged among the six small groups:



- As reflected in the values activity, low-cost fares were a top priority for attendees. All six small groups discussed low/no-cost fares (target rider groups varied), with four of the groups citing it as a top three takeaway.
- Increased frequency, including expanded span of service, was also discussed by all six small groups, with half of the groups citing it as a top takeaway for MTS.
- Five of the six groups also discussed security; with four small groups wanting increased safety and security measures, and two groups citing a desire for improved/changed security practices.
- Four of the groups also discussed various customer amenities, from bathrooms and shelters to drinking fountains and bike lockers.

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.

- Low/no-cost fares (4):
 - Free fares for all
 - Lower fares
 - Low-cost fares (youth/seniors)
 - Lower fares (youth free; seniors/low-income)
- Increase frequency (3)
 - More frequency
 - Frequency
 - Frequency
- Senior/disabled rider accessibility (2):
 - Accessibility (listen to needs of senior/disabled riders, waiting for SDM riders to board)
 - Improve facilities for ADA riders/amenities (shelters)
- Security (2):
 - More security
 - Too much security/need training
- More direct service (faster)
- Bathrooms at stations
- Expand outreach process to include/prioritize other ideas
- Reducing GHGs/environmental considerations
- Destinations
- Viable alternative to the car
- Mobility hubs (shuttles, bike lockers)
- Free fare on Chicano Park Day and shuttle services from Park & Ride locations

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

Round-Table 1
Affordable fares across the board (all age ranges) - incentive to drive less
Free fares for low income (3)
Pay attention to needs of seniors/riders with disabilities
Higher frequency service (2) - ex: National City Route 968
Circulating routes (Trolley)
Introduce a time-based fare (ex: 3-hours unlimited transfers)
More direct service to 2- and 4-year colleges (including for binational commuters)
Make easier access to reduced fare passes (where to buy)
Electric buses
First/last mile (reduce walking to destinations)
Better amenities (shelters, lighting)
Safety & security at stations
Top Three Takeaways:
1. Free fares for all
2. More direct service (faster)
3. Accessibility (listen to needs of senior/disabled riders, waiting for SDM riders to board)
4. Free fares, again
Round-Table 2
More frequency
Lower fares (lower incomes, students, seniors, add more years to free youth passes)
More security
Late-night service
More Trolley connections between North and South County
More shelters
Advertisements about social services
Wider and more comfortable seats
More bigger buses
Bathrooms at main stations
More weekend service
Top Three Takeaways:
1. Lower fares
2. Bathrooms at stations
3. Tie between more frequency and more security
Round-Table 3
Reduced fares (free for students)
Discounted/free passes for children (over age 6 can pay adult rates)
More security presence on vehicles/stations

Faster/frequent service
Introduce smaller vehicle fleet
Different training for security (from checking fares to enforcement)
Collaboration with SDSU social workers for behavioral outreach (mental health assessments/recommendations)
Improved facilities maintenance (clean/wash/sanitize stations)
More partnerships with community for Chicano Park Day
More schedules posted on stations
Reduction on fare evasion policing
Top Three Takeaways:
1. Expand the outreach process to include/prioritize other ideas
2. Improve facilities for ADA riders/amenities (shelters)
3. Free fare on Chicano Park Day and shuttles services from Park & Ride locations
Round-Table 4
Reducing congestion
Alternative to cars
Reducing GHGs/environmental considerations (building. Materials), (3)
Helping seniors with mobility
Low-cost fares (youth/seniors) (3)
Space for cargo
Bay ferry okay, but Bay needs cleanup
Build green the first time
Increasing frequency/span/updated study
Too much security; need training
Skyways - problematic
Mobility hubs - scooter issues, charging for other devices
EV charging not a priority
Accommodation for pets
Bikes - electric/fat tire
Drinking fountains
Top Three Takeaways:
1. Reducing GHGs/Environmental Considerations
2. Low-cost fares (youth/seniors)
3. Too much security/need training
Round-Table 5
Buses need to go where people want to go
Need faster Trolley
More frequent/faster/better service
More destinations

More frequency (2)
Viable alternative to car (2)
Local service vs. regional/longer trips
Accessibility
Fare reductions - students, SDM, youth
Coordinated signals
Free transit days
Fast implementation
Updated fare system
Public outreach of changes/impacts
Dedicated guideways
Top Three Takeaways:
1. Frequency
2. Destinations
3. Viable alternative to car
Round-Table 6
More direct service
Mobility hubs - shuttles - instead of parking include bike lockers
Reduce congestion
Lower fares - youth free; seniors/low-income
GHG reduction
Time competitive
Customer amenities - shelters, bike lockers
Frequency to help overcrowding; longer span, 24/7 service
Security- late-night
Partner with developers for passes
Rail projects
Top Three Takeaways:
1. Lower fares (youth free; seniors/low-income)
2. Mobility hubs (shuttles, bike lockers)
3. Frequency

Open Comments

Hope you will really take the community's suggestions into account even when they don't fit into your categorization of projects and priorities.

Free passes for youth/young adults and senior. Reduce fare for low-income families. More routes and faster transit. Transition to zero emission equipment. More ADA accessibility, more space in general for people with more cargo like carts, bikes and strollers. Also, we do not want more Trolley "officers." they harass more than help. Not being able to afford a \$2.50 fare shouldn't result in \$100 fines. Focus accessibility for low-income and environmental justice communities, drinking water access and bathrooms as well. No aerial cables...Bay ferry only a good idea if Bay was cleaned up. I really like the idea though. We don't want rental scooters either.
More frequent trips for vehicles. All electric vehicles. Raising the tax to 2 cents. Free fare.
Speed of transport. Frequency/how often transport goes. Free fare. Accessibility for disabled people. Safety in stops (not police but from weather)
Free passes for youth/young adults, reduce fare for low income families. More routes and faster transit. Transition to zero emission equipment. More ADA accessibility, more space in general for people with more cargo like carts, bikes, strollers. Focus accessibility for low income and environmental justice communities. We do not want more Trolley "officers." They harass more than help. No aerial cables/skyways. No ferry without cleanup of bay. No rental scooters/bikes. No harsh fines for fare violations.
Projects: build green! It is easier to build green than transition later. Pet friendly transportation. Priorities: Displacement/gentrification. That any mobility hubs constructed do not displace folks from their homes.
Increased RAIL! I want rail to be our predominant mode of transportation in the city (period!) Free fares! Get everyone riding! It's the only way to meet CAP goals and SAVE THE PLANET! Electric buses! NOW! High frequency bus and rail routes! More convenient, faster, more enticing to ride!
The Rapid routes are not fast please make the routes more direct and less stops do not want to cover much territorial distances (translated from Spanish)
Free passes for students. Safety.
Free passes for students
Lower or make free passes for students under 18 (high school, middle and maybe 6th too!) Students who are homeless need free passes. A solutions for solar! Solar panels are done with use are known as a bio-hazard so we need to find a way to exterminate them without harming the environment. Safety spot for students! (No adult above 18+) Students are harassed, sexually and verbally every single day! Safety at bus stops, shelter at stops as well! Homeless filtration (drugs, alcohol, and more) Bus cleanups! Seats need to be clean. Better safety procotion (sp?) as far as police (no police!) (less cameras)
Security training. Free passes for low-income students. Drinking fountains at all transportation stations.
Security
26th & National bus stop Barrio Logan

Provide more discounts for the youth and find a way to lower the price of Compass Cards for adults. There are many adults that cannot drive or afford a car especially in a low-income community. Many risk getting a ticket in order for them to get to work and some kids need to find a way to get to school as well. We the people are always fighting to make sure taking the bus and Trolley becomes affordable, so hopefully we can finally be heard. If not then we will keep fighting for what is right.

South Bay BRT pretty low ridership to start. Not sure how it is doing now. I am guessing that when SANDAG was doing surveys everyone wanted to go to downtown SD. Not the case anymore. Especially with no Rapid on Hwy 94. MTS should immediately start running every other bus leaving the border to go to I-15 and El Cajon Blvd. There are many more jobs in North City/County, people could transfer to express buses going north. If you need to perform survey do it as quickly as possible. Don't waste time like SANDAG.

Find ways to help those who have mental health issues as well because more people start having issues with them. Questions should be allowed and not just "if we have time." Senior was first and the ones that more people wanted were last. Actually listening to us and cares about our ideas and opinions.