

How Does Transit Impact Jobs?

Overwhelming evidence demonstrates that transit projects create more jobs, and recent **evidence suggests that they create almost twice the amount of jobs as do highway projects.** Recent research on this topic demonstrated that for federal dollars spent on transportation projects, public transportation (transit) projects generated 19,299 job-months per billion dollars while highway infrastructure projects generated only 10,493 job-months per billion dollars.¹ This same research, which analyzed federal spending on transportation projects, demonstrated that this fact can be attributed to three main things: public transportation projects generally require less money spent on land acquisition, they are more complex, and require buying and maintaining vehicles.¹ As such, transit projects allow more money to be spent on job creation rather than capital investments such as land acquisition, and they have components that lead to longer-term job creation when compared to highway projects.

In addition, transit helps with job creation, because it increases mobility (please refer to the factsheet regarding transit and mobility), which allows everyone to have greater access to education and jobs. Functional transit systems provide **non-discriminatory mobility to all members of a community**, which in turn allows everyone to have equal access to jobs, job training centers, educational facilities, and other job-enhancing facilities.

To improve the local economy in San Diego, we must increase the number of jobs available and ensure fair and reliable access to jobs and job-enhancing facilities. Support the Urban Area Transit Strategy to help promote job creation in San Diego!!!

¹ Center for Neighborhood Technology, Smart Growth America, and the U.S. Public Interest Research Group. 2010. *What we learned from the stimulus*. Available at: <http://www.smartgrowthamerica.org/stimulus2009.html>