

PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION



Public transportation provides a valuable service to the community by offering alternatives to driving alone in a car.

The purpose of this questionnaire is to request participant input regarding public transportation: the types, routes and location that residents would prefer, desire or believe would best suit the Chico area.

For what purposes do you use public transit (i.e., work, shopping, school, etc.)?

The majority (approximately 75 percent) of workshop participants stated they do not currently use public transit in Chico. Those who do utilize public transit primarily use it to get to school. Several people stated that they use it to get to work, and a few stated that they use it to get to Oroville or other area in Butte County. Only one person indicated that he/she utilizes public transit to get to Chico's commercial areas for shopping.

Where would you take public transit to if there was a route available?

Suggestions included routes between downtown and most areas of Chico, including California Park, Otterson Drive, the airport, and various residential areas.

If you do not use public transit, what factors discourage you from using it (e.g., time, location of transit stop, quality of transit stop, etc.)?

The most common factor that workshop participants raised that discourages them from using public transit was not enough frequency of buses, with long delays between pick-ups. Other factors listed included too much time between stops, not enough bus stops, difficulty figuring out bus route times, not enough benches at bus stops, and buses not running late enough in the day.

What one change would encourage you to use public transit (e.g., more frequent trips, quicker trips, etc.)?

Most workshop participants were split between two very inverse answers, with approximately half stating that more stops, perhaps located every block or two, would encourage them to utilize public transit. The other half stated that more direct routes between major destinations with less stops would encourage them, because it takes too long to get places with stops every 2-3 minutes. Most agreed that the frequency of buses should be increased to reduce waiting time at the stops. Approximately 20 percent said that nothing could be done to encourage them to use public transit in Chico because it's easier to drive, walk, or ride a bike.

What destinations would you like to see additional commercial airline service to?

Destinations listed included primarily Southern California, especially Los Angeles. Other suggested destinations included Sacramento, Seattle, Las Vegas, Reno, Oakland, and Portland.

Are there forms of transportation, transit or goods and materials movement that do not currently exist within the City of Chico that you believe are appropriate, feasible and desirable for the City to consider?

Answers listed included a light-rail service within the City and better transportation services that can link Chico to other cities.