

From: [Beckysue](#)
To: [Clerk of the Board](#)
Subject: Public Transit Experiences
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I am 64 and have lived in walkable neighborhoods for most of my life, both in San Diego and Boston, MA, Schenectady NY., Fort Meyers Fla and El Cajon CA and I walked a lot for groceries, social and recreational events and sometimes to get to work by walking to a bus stop or trolley station

I did not own a car until I was thirty and managed between buses, trolleys, a lot of walking and once in a blue moon a cab ride to have a life but it works way better in urban environments than here in semi rural East county where I live now- and did not always work for commuting to work in San Diego unlike the east coast cities.

Riding a bike to work is dangerous as the bike paths are often right next to 2000 pound vehicles, some speeding, some texting, some drunk or stoned.

Also having to pack clothing and keep it from getting wrinkled and the bike rider from getting stinky (does anyone really want to take a shower at work?)seems cumbersome as well as less than optimal weather or getting dark early making for a rugged commute.

Bus or trolley are ok as long as there is a quick route with two maximum transit changes. For instance when I worked downtown and lived in Point Loma I took a bus that was ten blocks from my house, ran every half hour, let me off five blocks from the office and even if the bus broke down the walk home was only five miles so I wasn't stranded, just started walking That was great!

When I lived in the same Point Loma apartment but had a job in Kearny Mesa on Balboa Ave it would have involved two or three route. changes for an 11 mile one way commute time spent daily an hour and one half to two hour commute twice a day added on to the work day is gone 12-13 hours a day and hungry and really having to pee when you get home! The commute with a car was twenty five to forty five minutes twice a day with the option of getting groceries returning a library book etc to get max use out of the car trip.

Also have had when I did not own a car to strictly limit my employment options or apartment options based on the commute between work and home

I am retired now and use the trolley if I go downtown but so few buses run out of Jamul where I live now that I do need to drive to the trolley station and if I am going anywhere not near the trolley within a twenty minute walk I don't take the trolley as it involves waiting for buses that are not synchronized well with the trolley and I am spending probably at least two hours each way to get to spend an hour or two at the beach or social function down in San Diego.

Trolley is dangerous at night and the parking lot around them

Rural Routes are useless. I thought about taking a bus to Borrego Springs for recreation. One bus a week that leaves on a Thursday afternoon and returns the next morning early so I can't figure out what it could be used for when the stay is only 14 hours and eight are dark. Should have daily buses or what use is it? None of the rural Routes seem to allow conveniently for either recreation or commuting.

Also ride shares. Good idea to avoid DUI but if you are transporting pets or do messy stuff like gardening, or landscape painting with oil paints maybe people might not want to share a car with you and I know I would not get in a car with Febreeze in it. Instant migraine!

Best solution thus is little electric cars for most purposes and charging stations all over the place

When one is near a trolley or bus that involves only max one change of transit form- such as Park and Ride to trolley or commuter bus, or a bus one can walk to that lets off near work or social events and runs at half hour intervals the core urban stuff works but for a variety of reasons having a car seems to work best in most cases albeit it smaller and electric

I am out of the rat race and don't commute anymore, in fact leave my car parked, most days often carpool, and when I do drive combine several errands in one trip to get max use out of my gas efficient car My next car will hopefully be electric with the CA state rebate but unless everyone is willing to be part of the "teeming masses" in urban cores (don't blame me I didn't have kids but that is another topic) CA will need to plan for cas-, but smaller and electric- as well as the public transit stuff

Also why I live out in the sticks I am allergic to laundry fumes so apartments don't work for me, can't breathe. There are reasons people don't live in Cities and we still need to get around

Rebecca Neary
Jamul CA