



## **TRANSPORTATION ISSUES**

### Overview

The City of Santa Clara believes that a robust transportation network, and related infrastructure, is a critical element to a successful and thriving community. The City works with the federal government, state government, and regional stakeholders to ensure that residents and businesses have access to traditional modes of transportation and promote alternative modes to alleviate traffic congestion and pollution. Additionally, it is important for the City's transportation network to continue to evolve to best serve the future needs of the community. To that end, local efforts are underway to promote and secure funding for alternative modes of transportation included within, the City's Multimodal Improvement Plan, Bicycle Master Plan, Pedestrian Master Plan, Creek Trail Network Expansion Master Plan, Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Self Evaluation and Transition Plan, Silicon Valley Hopper All-Electric Rideshare Program with the City of Cupertino, and Vision Zero Action Plan. Additionally, City staff is working with other transportation agencies to support their significant regional projects, including BART Phase II (VTA), and the High Speed Rail project.

### Guiding Principles

The City of Santa Clara's guiding principles for legislative advocacy include and are not limited to:

- Support the League of California Cities and National League of Cities positions on priority bills that benefit Santa Clara.
- Protect local revenue sources and prevent unfunded mandates.
- Protect and/or increase funding for specific programs and services.
- Protect and/or increase local government discretion.
- Advance approved policies such as the City's Statement of Values, the General Plan, or the Climate Action Plan.

### Legislative Advocacy Position

To ensure that the City and greater region are able to meet the current transportation needs of the community and plan for future needs, the City is advocating for the following-positions:

- Support legislative, regulatory, funding, and regional efforts to reduce the amount of traffic congestion on area freeways and County expressways and reduce vehicle miles traveled.
- Support legislation and efforts that provide funding for diverse transportation projects, such as local streets and roads improvements, shuttle programs, public transit, railroad crossing improvements, bicycle and pedestrian projects, intelligent transportation system improvements, corridor capacity and traffic safety improvements, and highway interchange improvements.
- Support legislation and efforts to ensure accountability and fairness during the adoption and implementation of regional transportation ballot measures.
- Support efforts that will alleviate traffic congestion and promote alternative modes of transportation that benefit Santa Clara residents and businesses and that support the City's commitment to environmental sustainability.

- Support efforts to integrate fare payments, schedules, transfers, and technology across multiple transit agencies to enhance regional transit service connectivity.
- Support efforts to ensure financial stability for local public transit operators.
- Support legislation that promotes the safe operation of e-bikes, including requirements for safety training, helmets and safety equipment appropriate for the class of e-bike being operated, and age-appropriate restrictions for certain classifications of e-bikes.
- Support efforts to provide protections to the public (all roadway users: pedestrians, drivers, and cyclists) that prevent conflicts and promote safe autonomous vehicle operations on Santa Clara roadways.
- Monitor state and local efforts to place regional transportation funding measures on the ballot for consideration by voters.
- Monitor legislation related to local operations and regulation of municipal roadways, shared mobility uses in municipalities, and how municipalities study traffic congestion or vehicle miles traveled to measure transportation impacts of projects.
- Oppose efforts to reduce the City's representation on regional transportation planning agencies.
- Oppose efforts to reduce local government access to SB 1 local streets and roads funding.