

THE BENEFITS OF U.S. PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION

Public transportation is part of the fabric of our nation and a cornerstone of our transportation system. President Trump’s budget proposes deep cuts to public transit funding. Doing so will harm communities that are currently supported by public transportation—and will take our nation in the wrong direction when it comes to making public transportation accessible to more people in communities of all sizes.

Public transportation supports local jobs, reduces traffic and air pollution for everyone, stimulates local and national economic activity, and helps communities thrive. The bottom line is clear—public transit benefits everyone, including those who do not ride. We cannot afford to gut funding for this critical infrastructure.

Voices for Public Transit is a nationwide movement of citizens who support improving and expanding America’s public transportation infrastructure—and we believe the federal government should increase, not cut—public transit funding. Here’s why:

<p>JOBS</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Investment in public transportation leads to greater job growth than other infrastructure spending. • Every \$1 billion invested in public transportation supports or creates more than 50,000 local jobs. • The American public transportation industry directly employs more than 400,000 people. • Public transit expansion and improvement could help create an estimated 480,000 jobs in business clusters by 2040.
<p>ECONOMIC BENEFITS</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A \$1 billion investment in public transportation provides a \$3.7 billion economic boost over a 20-year period. • Commuting by public transportation saves the average American household more than \$9,700 annually, and indirectly reduces commuting costs for those who drive by reducing congestion and time lost in traffic, as well as improving overall safety. • Access to public transit is the top factor for lifting Americans out of poverty. • Regions of all sizes benefit economically from investments in public transportation. • Home values perform 42 percent better when properties are located near public transportation.
<p>HEALTH & SAFETY</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Public transportation makes traveling safer, reduces injuries from accidents, and saves lives. Overall, riding public transportation is 10 times safer per mile than traveling by car. • Public transit riders are less likely to suffer from obesity, diabetes, heart disease, and other conditions related to inactivity. • Transportation is safer in regions with strong public transit systems for all people, including those who do not use public transportation.
<p>CONSERVATION & THE ENVIRONMENT</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Every day, public transportation saves the equivalent of 900,000 gas tank fill-ups, enabling our nation to save 4.2 million gallons of gas annually. • Public transportation annually reduces our nation’s carbon emissions by 37 million metric tons. • Cleaner air contributes to lower incidence of asthma, lung cancer, and other diseases.

“Public Transit Is Worth Way More to a City Than You Might Think,” by Eric Jaffe, 2013, The Atlantic. | “Economic Impact, Public Transportation Investment,” by Glen Weisbrod et al., 2014, American Public Transportation Association. | “December Transit Savings Report,” by Chad Chitwood, 2016, American Public Transportation Association. | “CDC Recommendations for Improving Health through Transportation Policy,” 2010, Centers for Disease Control. } “The Hidden Traffic Safety Solution: Public Transportation,” 2016, American Public Transportation Association. | “Public Transportation Benefits,” 2017, American Public Transportation Association. | “Public Transportation Matters,” Voices for Public Transit.