

Santa Cruz County Rail Transit Study - Draft Report

Q1 In general, do you support or oppose the following current or possible future uses of the rail corridor?

Answered: 2,645 Skipped: 15

	Strongly support	Generally support	Support if infrequent	Support if on limited sections	Oppose	Strongly oppose	Unsure/don't know/no opinion	Total
Public Transit Service - as a way to get between locations	56.53% 1,481	16.56% 434	2.71% 71	3.32% 87	6.11% 160	13.74% 360	1.03% 27	2,620
Regional Trains - connecting to the Bay Area, Salinas, and other parts of the state	52.47% 1,371	17.37% 454	4.55% 119	3.75% 98	6.81% 178	13.24% 346	1.80% 47	2,613
Recreational or Excursion Trains - (e.g. beach, dinner or holiday tourist trains)	29.97% 782	21.04% 549	14.83% 387	9.20% 240	7.32% 191	14.87% 388	2.76% 72	2,609
Freight Trains – to move goods/materials by trains instead of trucks	23.47% 608	22.42% 581	17.75% 460	8.49% 220	8.84% 229	15.44% 400	3.59% 93	2,591
Bike/Walk Trail (also referred to as the Monterey Bay Sanctuary Scenic Trail Network/MBSST or Rail-Trail)	70.34% 1,850	17.26% 454	1.94% 51	3.88% 102	2.09% 55	3.16% 83	1.33% 35	2,630
Underground Utilities – such as internet cable, water, or electricity	49.69% 1,289	30.76% 798	2.62% 68	3.35% 87	1.50% 39	1.97% 51	10.10% 262	2,594

Q2 How important are each of the following when evaluating if passenger rail transit is possible in Santa Cruz County? Rate on a scale of 1 to 5, with 1 being not important and 5 being most important.

Answered: 2,546 Skipped: 114

	1 - not important	2	3	4	5-most important	Don't know/no opinion	Total	Weighted Average
Travel times: how long it takes to get places	6.43% 161	6.71% 168	20.06% 502	34.57% 865	30.98% 775	1.24% 31	2,502	3.78
Ridership: Increase number of people riding public transportation	8.04% 201	6.40% 160	15.23% 381	28.91% 723	39.98% 1,000	1.44% 36	2,501	3.88

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Transportation Options: Provide more options for how people get places	8.13% 203	6.73% 168	14.25% 356	26.82% 670	42.83% 1,070	1.24% 31	2,498	3.91
Non-drivers: Providing options for people who cannot drive	7.86% 197	7.35% 184	17.45% 437	28.86% 723	36.69% 919	1.80% 45	2,505	3.81
Cost: How much it costs to construct, operate and maintain rail transit service	5.06% 127	9.08% 228	22.54% 566	25.09% 630	36.44% 915	1.79% 45	2,511	3.80
Reduce traffic	6.39% 158	4.98% 123	11.33% 280	22.86% 565	52.83% 1,306	1.62% 40	2,472	4.13
Reduce need for parking and road expansion	10.36% 259	8.48% 212	15.75% 394	25.11% 628	38.50% 963	1.80% 45	2,501	3.74
Environmental benefits (e.g. reduce emissions from cars)	8.92% 223	6.28% 157	14.24% 356	24.08% 602	45.36% 1,134	1.12% 28	2,500	3.92
Environmental or public impacts (e.g. train noise, emissions, traffic impacts at intersections)	5.73% 144	8.99% 226	20.18% 507	25.31% 636	38.16% 959	1.63% 41	2,513	3.83
Economy: Provide access to jobs and businesses	8.00% 200	6.16% 154	19.17% 479	29.73% 743	35.25% 881	1.68% 42	2,499	3.79
Cost per Rider: Cost to operate train service compared to number of riders	5.02% 126	6.61% 166	23.93% 601	28.75% 722	32.10% 806	3.58% 90	2,511	3.79

Q3 As shown above, a variety of different service scenarios were evaluated in this study. The number of station stops, how often trains come, and how far trains travel vary under each scenario. Would you rather have fewer stops and faster travel times (express type service) even if it may mean you have to walk, bike, bus or drive farther to get to/from a station? OR - would you rather have more stops closer to your destinations, but slower trains?

Answered: 2,403 Skipped: 257

Answer Choices	Responses
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Fewer stops and faster train travel times	26.72%	642
More stops but slower trains	53.27%	1,280
Don't know or No opinion	20.02%	481
Total		2,403

Q4 Headways: For most of the scenarios analyzed, trains would generally stop at stations every 30 minutes. In order for you to take a train, how often would trains need to operate? Check all that apply.

Answered: 2,465 Skipped: 195

Answer Choices	Responses	
30-minute frequencies are about right	48.64%	1,199
Trains need to be more frequent (every 15 minutes or less)	11.16%	275
(e.g. Monday to Friday 7am-9am; 3:30-6:30pm)	0.00%	0
Trains could be less frequent (operate hourly)	14.52%	358
Trains need to be most frequent during peak periods (e.g. Monday-Friday 7-9am; 4-7pm)	43.73%	1,078
Trains should operate on weekends	40.53%	999
It doesn't matter since I wouldn't ride the train	19.23%	474
Don't know	2.88%	71
Total Respondents: 2,465		

Q5 Providing us with an approximate idea of where you live will really help us with the study. What is your zip code and what neighborhood do you live in?

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Answered: 2,400 Skipped: 260

Answer Choices	Responses
Zip code	99.71% 2,393
Neighborhood	93.71% 2,249

Q6 The cost of each scenario varies depending on how often trains operate, how far they go, the number of stations, the cost of vehicles, and how fast they run. If the community decides to implement rail transit service, which approach makes sense to you?

Answered: 2,428 Skipped: 232

Answer Choices	Responses
Select the service scenario with the highest ridership, that serves more areas of the county, even if it costs more.	42.67% 1,036
Start small, with used trains, stopping at fewer stations, traveling shorter distances, thus having fewer riders and then expand and upgrade the tracks later if funding becomes available.	21.62% 525
Neither	10.87% 264
Don't know/not sure	8.77% 213
Other (please specify)	16.06% 390
Total	2,428

Q7 The cost to riders (fare) for potential train service have not be determined. One-way tickets, day passes, multi-ride passes (e.g. 7-day and 30-day passes), and discount fares for people with disabilities, seniors and youth would be available.How

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much would you be willing to pay for a one-way ticket?

Answered: 2,002 Skipped: 658

Q8 How important are the following factors to you when deciding whether to take transit?

Answered: 2,323 Skipped: 337

	Not at all Important	Not Very Important	Moderately Important	Very Important	Extremely Important	Total
Frequent service – e.g. every 30 minutes instead of only a few times a day	10.12% 231	6.92% 158	28.69% 655	34.30% 783	19.97% 456	2,283
Total travel time - how long it takes to get places	7.06% 161	6.79% 155	37.12% 847	31.99% 730	17.05% 389	2,282
Predictable travel times	6.30% 143	1.94% 44	15.15% 344	45.66% 1,037	30.96% 703	2,271
Fare (how much it costs me to ride)	6.85% 156	10.44% 238	42.65% 972	25.49% 581	14.57% 332	2,279
How close the stations/stops are to where I live (origin)	7.39% 169	6.52% 149	35.17% 804	32.63% 746	18.29% 418	2,286
How close stations/stops are to where I am going (destination)	6.24% 143	2.75% 63	28.46% 652	40.86% 936	21.69% 497	2,291
Ease and availability of other transportation services or facilities (buses/shuttles, sidewalks, bike paths) to get me from the station to my final destination	6.84% 156	5.79% 132	22.72% 518	39.82% 908	24.82% 566	2,280
Car parking at stations	13.55% 310	17.35% 397	28.06% 642	26.01% 595	15.03% 344	2,288
Bicycle racks at stations	13.74% 312	12.07% 274	21.59% 490	30.35% 689	22.25% 505	2,270
Amenities at stations (bathrooms, bike share/ rentals, car share/rental, bike lockers)	11.54% 263	19.69% 449	31.01% 707	24.30% 554	13.46% 307	2,280
Security at stations (lights, cameras, security guard)	7.03% 161	8.13% 186	25.73% 589	28.88% 661	30.23% 692	2,289

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Easy transfers to buses serving UCSC or Cabrillo College	19.93% 451	14.54% 329	24.83% 562	24.66% 558	16.04% 363	2,263
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Q9 How often you would ride a train to any of the possible stations along the Santa Cruz Branch Rail Line?

Answered: 2,159 Skipped: 501

Answer Choices	Responses
4+days/week	11.02% 238
1-3 days/week	27.42% 592
A few times/month	28.76% 621
A few times/year	19.55% 422
Never	16.58% 358
Total Respondents: 2,159	

Q10 Have you ever taken a local bus or paratransit vehicle operated by Santa Cruz Metropolitan Transit District (METRO)?

Answered: 2,399 Skipped: 261

Answer Choices	Responses
Yes - the bus	66.61% 1,598
Yes - Paratransit (ParaCruz)	2.46% 59
No	32.14% 771
Not sure	0.96% 23
Total Respondents: 2,399	

Q11 How often do you ride a METRO bus?

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Answered: 1,651 Skipped: 1,009

Answer Choices	Responses	
3 or more days/week	7.63%	126
1-3 times/month	11.51%	190
A few times a year	27.68%	457
It has been over 1 year	47.06%	777
Never	6.12%	101
Total		1,651

Q12 The Monterey Bay Sanctuary Scenic Trail Network (MBSST) Master Plan shows that a 32-mile bicycle and walking multiuse “rail-with-trail” can be built next to the railroad tracks. 25% of the rail-with-trail (in miles) has already been funded and will be constructed as soon as final design engineering is completed. How often do you plan to walk or bike on this trail and for what purposes? (mark all that apply)

Answered: 2,357 Skipped: 303

	4+ days/week	1-3 days/week	A few times/month	A few times/year	Never	Total Respondents
Walk - to get between places (e.g. work, school, stores, friends houses, to get to bus, etc)	15.65% 351	18.28% 410	25.14% 564	19.62% 440	22.56% 506	2,243
Walk - just for health, fitness, or recreation (not for transportation)	21.12% 487	27.10% 625	25.80% 595	19.08% 440	7.76% 179	2,306
Bike - to get between places (e.g. work, school, stores, friends houses, to get to bus, etc)	22.14% 503	19.50% 443	18.22% 414	11.93% 271	29.18% 663	2,272

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Bike - just for health, fitness, or recreation (not for transportation)	17.72% 409	25.39% 586	22.23% 513	14.51% 335	20.67% 477	2,308
Skateboard, rollerskate, etc - to get places	2.92% 64	2.83% 62	3.65% 80	5.75% 126	85.26% 1,869	2,192
Skateboard, rollerskate, etc -- just for health, fitness, or recreation (not for transportation)	3.06% 67	3.28% 72	4.06% 89	8.39% 184	81.76% 1,793	2,193

Q13 There are a variety of reasons that some people are concerned about adding train service on the Santa Cruz Branch Rail Line. How concerned are you about each of the following? Rate on a scale of 1 to 5, with 1 if you are not concerned to 5 for your greatest concern.

Answered: 2,340 Skipped: 320

	1-not concerned	2-slightly concerned	3	4	5-extremely concerned	Don't know/ no opinion	Total	Weighted Average
In some locations the adjacent bike/walk trail will be narrow or new bridges will need to be built.	28.01% 646	18.95% 437	14.22% 328	11.88% 274	24.41% 563	2.52% 58	2,306	2.85
Costs-capital and ongoing operating costs	13.64% 315	18.80% 434	18.93% 437	13.64% 315	33.17% 766	1.82% 42	2,309	3.35
Public funds are spent on transit	40.76% 940	13.66% 315	13.62% 314	7.76% 179	22.12% 510	2.08% 48	2,306	2.56
Stations are not close enough to my destinations	21.71% 496	20.35% 465	20.00% 457	17.20% 393	16.63% 380	4.11% 94	2,285	2.86
Noise from trains	29.74% 689	19.81% 459	13.34% 309	10.53% 244	25.68% 595	0.91% 21	2,317	2.82
Traffic at railroad crossings	24.62% 567	22.67% 522	16.89% 389	12.33% 284	22.23% 512	1.26% 29	2,303	2.85
Trains are too slow	34.26% 780	21.65% 493	17.44% 397	11.77% 268	11.64% 265	3.25% 74	2,277	2.43
Parking near train stations	21.37% 488	21.58% 493	19.05% 435	16.73% 382	19.22% 439	2.06% 47	2,284	2.91

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Growth or increased density near stations	40.77% 936	18.77% 431	15.42% 354	8.06% 185	14.72% 338	2.26% 52	2,296	2.36
Rail transit could compete for funds with local road, highway, bus, bike or pedestrian projects	24.30% 563	21.06% 488	14.42% 334	10.88% 252	27.32% 633	2.03% 47	2,317	2.96
Environmental impacts from trains	27.53% 634	20.50% 472	16.46% 379	11.07% 255	22.45% 517	2.00% 46	2,303	2.80

Q14 There are a variety of reasons that some people support adding train service on the Santa Cruz Branch Rail Line. Do you agree with the following statements? Rate on a scale of 1 to 3, with 1 if you disagree and 3 if you strongly agree.

Answered: 2,312 Skipped: 348

	1- disagree	2 - agree	3 - strongly agree	Don't know/ no opinion	Total	Weighted Average
More funds should be invested in transit, and less in infrastructure for the automobile.	30.67% 702	21.14% 484	43.47% 995	4.72% 108	2,289	2.13
Rail service can reduce sprawl by focusing population growth (new housing, retail and/or jobs) near transit stations.	27.44% 628	29.71% 680	33.99% 778	8.87% 203	2,289	2.07
Given our current traffic challenges and state mandates to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, we need to add rail transit to give people more options to get places without their cars.	23.93% 550	18.02% 414	55.87% 1,284	2.18% 50	2,298	2.33
Rail transit can support economic vitality by making it easier to get to jobs, stores, restaurants, etc.	24.04% 551	24.48% 561	47.47% 1,088	4.01% 92	2,292	2.24
Construction and maintenance of almost all forms of transportation (roads, highways, airports, buses, sidewalks, bicycle lanes, trails) are publicly funded through taxes. Rail transit should also be publicly funded.	18.48% 422	27.10% 619	50.09% 1,144	4.33% 99	2,284	2.33
Rail transit provides mobility options to people who do not drive due to age, physical ability or income.	17.68% 405	28.90% 662	50.20% 1,150	3.23% 74	2,291	2.34
Rail transit should be pursued in order to provide more transportation choices for people who do not want to drive for environmental or other reasons.	23.65% 542	22.29% 511	51.75% 1,186	2.31% 53	2,292	2.29
Because of the historical role of rail in the formation, development, uniqueness and charm of cities and towns along the coast, passenger rail service should be provided.	31.32% 714	22.37% 510	38.51% 878	7.81% 178	2,280	2.08

Q15 Taking into consideration the information in the Passenger Rail Feasibility Study, do you think it makes sense to expand public transportation in Santa Cruz County to include rail transit?

Answered: 2,341 Skipped: 319

Answer Choices	Responses	
Yes	64.89%	1,519
No	27.47%	643
Not sure/don't know	7.65%	179
Total		2,341

Q16 How much of the Draft Report for the Passenger Rail Feasibility Study have you had a chance to review? (the report is online at: <http://www.sccrtc.org/rail>)

Answered: 2,361 Skipped: 299

Answer Choices	Responses	
None	25.50%	602
Executive Summary	24.57%	580
Skimmed the summary charts	23.72%	560
Read more than 2 chapters	12.54%	296
Read full report	13.68%	323
Total		2,361

Q17 Would you like to receive information and updates from SCCRTC on this study and other activities on the rail line? If you would like to receive periodic updates, please provide a valid email address.

Answered: 2,315 Skipped: 345

Answer Choices	Responses	
Yes	36.20%	838
No	35.85%	830
I already receive emails on rail projects directly from the SCCRTC.	27.95%	647
Total		2,315

Q18 What is your age?

Answered: 2,319 Skipped: 341

Answer Choices	Responses	
17 or under	0.47%	11
18 - 29 years old	5.82%	135
30 - 39 years old	11.82%	274
40 - 49 years old	17.64%	409
50 - 59 years old	22.51%	522
60 - 69 years old	28.16%	653
70 - 79 years old	11.17%	259
80 years old or older	2.41%	56

Total	2,319
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Q19 What is your employment status? Are you:

Answered: 2,322 Skipped: 338

Answer Choices	Responses
Employed full-time	50.39% 1,170
Employed part-time	13.31% 309
Not currently employed	1.89% 44
Permanently unable to work	0.95% 22
Homemaker	3.70% 86
Retired	28.08% 652
A student	3.36% 78
Something else	3.96% 92
Total Respondents: 2,322	

Q20 What is your gender?

Answered: 2,319 Skipped: 341

Answer Choices	Responses
Male	48.38% 1,122
Female	48.04% 1,114
Other/ Decline to state	3.58% 83
Total	2,319