

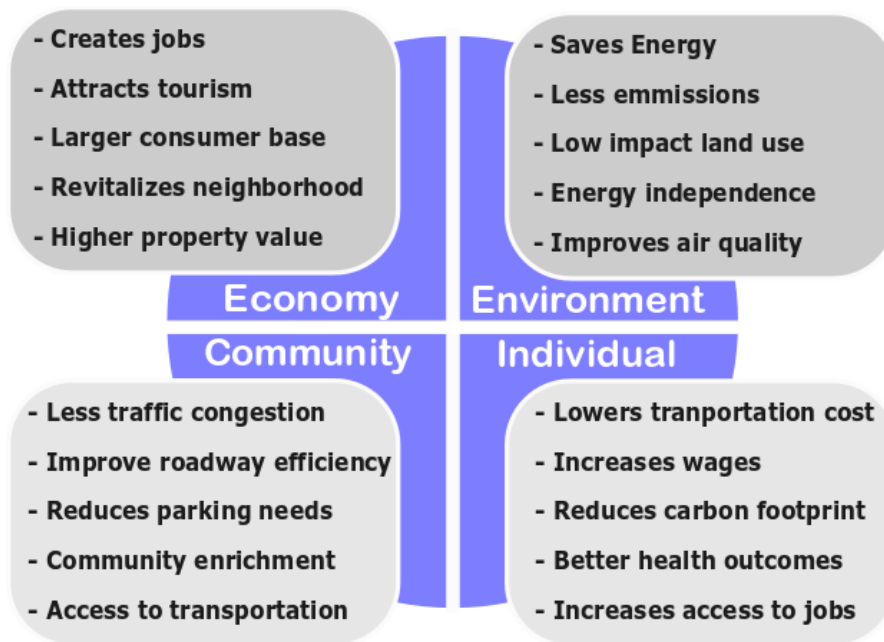


WHY TRANSIT MATTERS

JOBS AND THE ECONOMY

Want jobs and a strong economy? Support public transit

Investment in public transit creates widespread benefits for everyone. Customers use public transit to patronize new businesses, transit expands local tax bases, improves the standard-of-living, and brightens prospects for the future.² A summary of the broad social, environmental, and economic benefits is shown in the graph below.³



Total Economic Impact

Investment in public transportation infrastructure and services creates a more efficient economy that produces large returns. The graph below illustrates the difference in impact between the “base case” scenario and “higher transit investment” scenario, shown as a ratio per \$1 billion of added annual investment in public transportation.¹

Category of Economic Impact	Value of Economic Impact	Wage Equivalent	Job Equivalent	Corresponding Tax Revenue
<i>Investment Spending Effect</i>	\$ 1.7 billion	\$1.3 billion	21,800	\$432 million
<i>Long Term Cost Savings Effect</i>	\$ 2.0 billion	\$1.5 billion	28,931	\$310 million
Total Economic Impact	\$ 3.7 billion	\$2.8 billion	50,731	\$642 million

Jobs and Business

Investment in public transit not only provides employment for those who build it, but it also continues to pay dividends in the form of the new commerce it stimulates. Studies by Daniel Chatman and Robert Noland say that as more people cluster in a city, more qualified workers are available to employers, and economic activity and wages increase. “Whatever does happen in response to a transit investment is going to be concentrated,” says Chatman. “You’re going to have a different kind of urban form that springs up due to transit than due to the auto

Customers use public transit to patronize new businesses, transit expands the local tax bases, improves the standard-of-living, and brightens prospects for the future One CEO

put it succinctly: “Capital investment historically creates jobs in any industry, but it’s even more pronounced in public transportation because of the vast number of businesses directly impacted. Movement of a company’s number one assets – its employees, - is as critical of an investment as dollars spent on marketing to your customers. Investment in public transportation infrastructure and services creates a more efficient economy that produces large returns. Every \$1 invested generates a little less than \$4 in economic returns through increased wages, job creation, increased productivity and increased tax revenue. **The long term economic benefits from transit investment exceed almost any other policy area.**

Sources

1. Economic Impact of Public Transportation Investment, Weisbrod and Reno, prepared for American Public Transportation Association (APTA), May 2014.
2. Public Transportation Benefits, American Public Transportation Association, 2016.
3. Benefits of Using FAST, Graphic display of APTA Benefits of Public Transportation, Fayetteville Area System of Transit.