

DO WE HAVE TRANSPORTATION CHOICES?

The Challenge

Creating communities where driving is not the only option

We are driving more and more, paying more for transportation and emitting more pollutants and greenhouse gases.

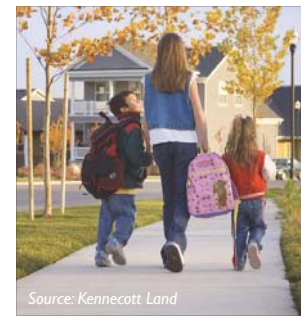
California 1980–2020 Trend



Vehicle Miles Traveled (VMT) in the San Joaquin Valley has been growing at twice the rate of population.



Source: flickr - (nz)dave



Source: Kennecott Land



Source: flickr - Rob Wrenn

EVERYTHING IS A DRIVE AWAY. We have been building communities that provide few real options to the car. This increases miles on the road and congestion. Between 1982 and 2005, costs associated with congestion in Fresno increased from \$16 million to \$127 million.

Source: Texas Transportation Institute, 2007

AIR QUALITY AND CLIMATE CHANGE IMPACTS. More driving means more air pollution and greenhouse gas emissions, impacting our health and our ability to meet strict federal and state standards.

TRANSPORTATION COSTS ARE RISING. Having few options to the automobile for most daily trips, many California families are being stretched thin by rising fuel costs.

What are our travel options?

CAN WE DESIGN COMMUNITIES WITH MORE TRANSPORTATION OPTIONS?

Californians are more dependent than ever on the automobile to connect them to jobs, services, and amenities. How we design our communities has a lot to do with the options we have for getting from place to place.



Travel distances in a typical suburban neighborhood (left) are generally longer because roads are less connected, requiring people to drive further to meet their everyday travel needs. Longer distances also make walking and biking options less likely. A richer mix of land uses in a compact land pattern (right) also means there are more things to walk to.

Suburban mothers spend 17 full days a year behind the wheel, more than the average parent spends dressing, bathing, and feeding a child.

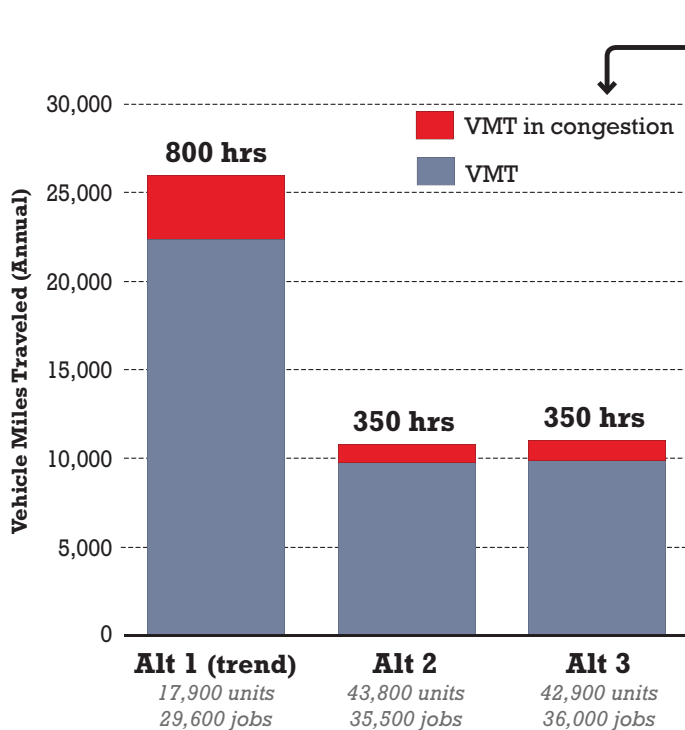
Source: Surface Transportation Policy Project



Source: Colliers Magazine, 1955

WE ARE SPENDING MORE ON TRANSPORTATION THAN EVER BEFORE. With rising fuel prices and operating expenses, getting around is more expensive than it used to be. We can significantly reduce transportation costs by designing communities where people can walk, bike, take a short drive, or get on transit for their everyday needs.

How can SEGA help?



Miles and Time Spent Driving per Household

SEGA Alternatives 2 and 3 significantly reduce vehicle miles traveled (VMT) by putting more jobs, schools, services, and amenities closer to where people live and work. This means less spending on transportation, less air pollution, and less dependence on the car for all trips.

Travel by Mode

There are more travel options in Alternatives 2 and 3 than in Alternative 1. This results in far fewer miles driven per household and more trips taken on foot, by bicycle, or by transit.

