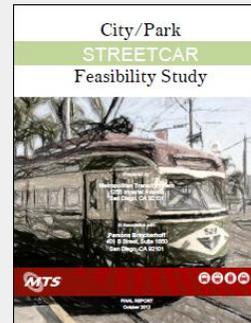




Feasibility Study for Use of Streetcar Technology for a Link Between Downtown and Balboa Park

San Diego Metropolitan Transit System

Community-Based Transportation Planning
FY 10-11 Grant Cycle
District 11
Grant Award Amount: \$105,000



Project Summary:

This study served as the first step to completing the vision to unite Downtown San Diego and Balboa Park with a strong transit link. The study evaluated the feasibility of an electric streetcar line that would provide improved access for visitors, park employees, and residents, including low income and disadvantaged populations who are heavy users of Balboa Park.

Community Outreach

- To guide the study process, the San Diego Metropolitan System (MTS) convened a steering committee of local stakeholders, held three meetings, and conducted several outreach efforts.
- A community outreach meeting was held in June of 2011 and was attended by approximately fifty people. For those who could not attend in person, there was an online survey which received almost one hundred responses.
- Additionally, MTS used bilingual flyers, online multimedia tools, and press opportunities to advertise and inform the community about the public meeting and online survey.

Project Outcome

- The City/Park Streetcar Feasibility Study represents a partnership effort by the San Diego MTS and the many stakeholders who live, work, and play in Downtown San Diego and Balboa Park to determine the feasibility of a transit project connecting the two communities.

Successes & Next Steps

- San Diego MTS plans to move forward and implement the City/Park Streetcar. Next steps consist of: detailed planning, conceptual engineering, environmental document preparation, funding analysis and financing strategy, and public outreach.
- Streetcar service in the Downtown and Mid-City communities has been identified in the 2050 Regional Transportation Plan.
- The preliminary implementation timeline for the project is an optimistic five years.