

NEW RESEARCH HIGHLIGHTS PUBLIC TRANSPORT'S IMPORTANCE FOR RESIDENTS OF GLOBAL CITIES AND WIDESPREAD DEMAND FOR EXPANSION

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In late August and early September, ClearPath Strategies worked with C40 to conduct a survey research study of 2,000 adults across five global cities: Jakarta, Indonesia; Johannesburg, South Africa; London, U.K.; Milan, Italy; and Phoenix, U.S.A. The results of the survey reinforced the importance of public transportation as a critical service that provides access to work, educational opportunities, and social services; and can be part of the solution for city residents' biggest concerns. The survey also found that there is tremendous support for increasing capacity, investing in zero emissions public transport, and prioritizing public transport funding within government COVID-19 relief packages.

Perhaps most importantly, however, our research found that people do not merely support public transport because it's a way of getting themselves from point A to point B. Rather, they support public transport because they view it as a public good – one which provides extraordinary value to *society*, more-so than personal benefit to them as *individuals*. People appreciate public transport even if they might not use it themselves, because they recognize that it's vital to their cities and local communities as a whole.

These research findings underscore the importance of expanding access to safe, frequent, affordable, and easy-to-get-to public transport, so that cities can fully deliver on public transport's societal value. We must work to expand public transport to provide equitable and fair transportation for all, while strengthening our coalition-building by involving supportive city residents and local groups.

Public Transport is a Critical Service That Is Valuable to Society:

- A 56% majority of respondents say public transit is “extremely valuable” *to society*. This is 20 percentage points higher than the 36% who say public transportation is extremely valuable to them *personally*.
- Accessibility and economic opportunity are what makes public transport valuable to society. 85% say public transport in their city helps connect workers to their jobs, 84% say it is accessible, 80% say it is convenient, and 77% say it helps connect residents to economic opportunities.

Public Transport Can Be Part of the Solution to City Residents' Most Pressing Problems:

- 57% globally say the economy is one of their top concerns. Public transport provides economic opportunity by providing access to jobs and education, as well as by creating new jobs in the transportation sector.

There's Tremendous Support for Expansion and Investment:

- Roughly 9 in 10 are supportive of their city increasing the capacity of public transport, investing in sustainable zero-emissions public transport, and doubling the number of rides on public transport – all by 2030.

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- There's urgency around increasing funding for public transport on both the local and national levels. More than three-quarters believe their local city should have more funding available for public transport, and 87% believe national governments should make public transport investment a priority within their pandemic economic recovery and stimulus packages.

Public Transport Usage Expected to Rebound Post-Pandemic:

- While usage has declined during the COVID-19 pandemic, city residents expect to resume using public transport at similar pre-pandemic levels once the pandemic is over:
 - Buses: 46% used pre-pandemic, 42% expect to use post-pandemic
 - Subways: 39% used pre-pandemic, 37% expect to use post-pandemic
 - Light Rail: 17% used pre-pandemic, 18% expect to use post-pandemic
 - Trams: 13% used pre-pandemic, 14% expect to use post-pandemic

Involving City Residents and Local Groups Strengthens Coalition-Building:

- The public wants transport funding to come from local (67%) *and* national governments (55%), but they want local leadership on planning. 71% think local and city governments should be responsible for planning public transport in their city, while 32% think voters and citizens should also be responsible.
- A majority (61%) say they would be "much more" or "somewhat more" willing to support their local government if their city was doing more to support public transport.
- Residents are most likely to trust bus drivers/transportation workers (35%), citizen groups/passenger organizations (32%), transportation unions (30%) and local and city elected officials (30%) on public transportation issues.

Survey Methodology & ClearPath Blurb:

ClearPath Strategies conducted the *2021 Global Green Transport Survey* among 2,000 adults across Jakarta, Indonesia; Johannesburg, South Africa; London, U.K.; Milan, Italy; and Phoenix, U.S.A. The survey was fielded online between August 24th and September 5th, 2021. Quotas and weights were set to ensure geographies were evenly distributed and sample proportions by age, gender, education, and district mirrored the population distribution within each geography.

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