Public comment for
Friday March 15
Sandag transportation committee

Start:
By a show of hands who of the board members uses public transit a minimum of three times a week?

I am here to report from the field.
I am a public transit user enthusiast.
I use public transit
day
Night
morning
weekends

My comments are designed to augment your own report:
/in the last 10 years your policies have achieved a 10% increase in transit use at the same time the population has grown 9.3%

Effectively the last 10 yr plan (TransNet) achieved flat line results.

Even if we were not ALSO facing a climate crisis,
That’s unsatisfactory to SD citizens.

This body’s transit decisions have
converted a 15 minute car ride into a 1 hour transit ride....
Often requiring 3 connections—
With too many opportunities to miss trolly/bus connections.

I am here to ask the board to take bold action:
Reverse this ratio

Turn every 1 hour point to point transit ride into a 15 minutes transit solution
For every San Diegan

How? Focus on a point to point transit solution.

I offer 3 recommendations:
1 -high frequency lanes
2 -consistency
3 -last quarter mile
Point 1-high frequency lanes
No cars should ever access highway high frequency lanes- make this exclusively for bus and trolly use.
And
Create dedicated traffic lanes on local streets for uninterrupted bus/trolly traffic movement.

High frequency lanes prioritize public speed over private speed

Point 2-consistent service
All bus snd trolly service deserves to be 7 days a week/ 24 hours
With
10 minute frequency

People live their lives 24 hours.
Public transit point to point solutions need to address
Work/ play/ quality of life.

Point 3-the last quarter mile
Public Transit must penetrate neighborhoods
To make
Pick up /drop off
convenient to where people live.

The lasts quarter mile solution is modeled in Mexico City.
At the location of each trolly stop
And
Near each bus stop,
A network of
Bikes are offered for 45 minute free service
To penetrate the neighborhoods.

In Mexico City
This is called
Ecobici
(Website)
https://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/EcoBici_(Mexico_City)

A single transit card integrates
Bus
Trolly
Bike
With a mobile device app to tell you
Where bikes are located for pick up and return.

This ecobici point to point transit solution was built in
30 minute concentric circles of transit coverage
Which
won riders immediately, neighborhood by neighborhood
Ps
Ecobici was funded with a private/public partnership

In summary
Point to point transit solutions win ridership with
1-high frequency lanes
2-consistency
3 last 1/4 mile

The cost of inaction on this point to point transit solution can only be compared to the alternative cost of an un-livable San Diego
Due to
Lost work time
Lost quality of life
Not to mention the elephant in the room:
Devastation of our planet

San Diego deserves to be a World class smart city

End

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