

Action Week for Transit Justice

Budget Hearings, June 14-17 2022

Coordinated by Sonoma Transit Riders United (SoTRU) and Sunrise Sonoma County

OUR GOALS FOR JUNE...

- Increase public awareness of Transit Justice and its importance to a just transition to zero carbon.
- Raise Transit Justice & Transit Funding to high visibility and public discussion during County Budget Hearings June 14-17 2022.
- Get County Supervisors to choose a side - make statements of support or opposition to using general funds for transit in the future.

~ ACTION CHECKLIST ~

TODAY

- **Send a letter to the editor:** use our easy [Letter-to-the-Editor Guide](#).
- **Sign the [coalition letter](#)** and get your organization(s) to fill out this simple [sign-on form](#).
- **Share this** list with your friends, email lists, networks, and social media.
- **Email and call your [County Supervisor](#)** (or all the Supervisors) to tell them you support doubling investment in transit ASAP..
- **Sign up for June 13 & 14 actions** (see below)

JUNE 13

- Join the **chalk art party** on the evening of June 13 at the County Board of Supervisors offices (575 Administration Dr, Santa Rosa.) Chalk messages will greet the Supervisors when they arrive the next morning. [<< Sign up >>](#)

JUNE 14

- **Attend budget hearings in person with the visual impact team!** We'll have signs to distribute, banners to be held and chalk for sidewalk art outside the building. We need more hands to make this happen! [<< Sign up >>](#)
- **Attend budget hearings to make public comment in person or by zoom** (sign up to get notified once agenda/timing is released and text alerts when public comment time is coming) Sign up [<< Sign up >>](#)
- We also need volunteers who can join Zoom to play a recorded comment from a transit rider who can't make it to the meeting.

ONGOING

- Calling all storytellers, people who like to talk with others and document their stories! Help us record stories and public comments from bus riders. We need to uplift the stories of transit riders.
- Join the SoTRU team to help planning/coordination of communications, art, and more.

WHY INVEST IN TRANSIT?

- **We need to invest in safe, affordable, reliable, zero-carbon public transportation for all!** It's about opportunity, mobility, freedom of movement, a liveable planet, and self determination!
- Transportation accounts for about 60% of our activity based carbon emissions.
- To reach zero carbon by 2030, we need to shift most of our trips from car to transit and active transportation (walking and biking.) Switching all drivers to electric vehicles is not feasible in this time frame, nor equitable because it does not help people who are not able to drive.
- We have an unequal system. People who don't drive have to waste hours of their week waiting for infrequent buses. Transit riders lose out on many educational, economic, and social opportunities. Investing in transit will help working class people, youth, elders, and people with disabilities who rely on the bus by reducing their daily expenses.
- We have a dangerous system. Those who can drive choose to opt out of public transportation, thereby contributing to a host of public health threats: greenhouse gas emissions, crowded roads, unhealthy air, and increased traffic casualties.
- Sonoma County is [far behind](#) on its equity commitments, [far behind](#) on addressing the climate emergency, and [far behind](#) on its Vision Zero traffic safety goals. And yet our leaders are still failing to properly invest in the one thing that would help us make rapid progress with all three of these important goals -- our Public Transportation System.
- Read more details in the [coalition letter](#).

The time has come to change course. An equitable, resilient, and prosperous Sonoma County is only possible if our leaders decide today to invest in the obvious solution:

Safe, affordable, reliable public transportation for all!

MORE WAYS TO GET INVOLVED

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- **Join SoTRU!** : Join Sonoma Transit Riders United at whatever level you can, from occasional foot soldier to core planning member. Sign up here.
- **Transit pilot funding** : Help us this summer as we push for the County to use its Climate Resiliency Fund to pilot transit improvements.
- **Rider Outreach** : Help us gather stories and recruit more riders to the cause.
- **Bike and Pedestrian Campaigns** : Join campaigns for complete streets and low-stress bike networks Bikeable Santa Rosa & Roseland Safe Streets & Safe Streets Petaluma

CONTACT

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Contact for more info: emmett@climatemobilization.org