



ONE DAY AT A TIME

East Contra Costa County



Youth Transportation Justice Report December 2019

*Compiled by the ODAT
Transportation Justice Youth Team*
Supported by a grant from the San Francisco Foundation
and the Youth Leadership Institute

OUR TEAM

Why this project matters to us



ODAT Transportation Justice Youth Team

Top left to right: Assumpta Ikpeazu, Alondra Amaral, Diana Hidalgo, Aiko Garrido. Bottom left to right: Rubiel Cadena, A'lonnah Bautista. Missing from the photo: Jose Rodriguez

Our Vision:
*A World
Where
Youth
Are Safe,
Connected,
Self-Empowered,
Inspired and
Heard.*

Almost 30,000 public middle and high school students attend East Contra Costa schools in Bay Point, Pittsburg, Antioch, Brentwood, and Oakley. 56% of the students who attend these schools come from families who are economically disadvantaged. In some of these communities the percentage can be as high as 98%. Low income families, their children and young adults rely heavily on public transportation to get to: school, work, shopping, community resources and medical care. They deserve transportation services that are safe, convenient and which they can afford, so that they have the opportunity to live optimal lives.

The ODAT Transportation Justice Team has made a decision to serve as the voice for transportation justice and equity for those we represent. This report shares our findings and recommendations for how our local community bus transportation agency, Tri Delta Transit and BART (Bay Area Rapid Transit Authority) can make improvements that will assure greater justice and equity for our

“Public transportation is more than just a ride—it’s a route to opportunity.”

ODAT La Mesa Youth Leadership Council Member

How We Conducted Our Study

We implemented both a written and an online survey which could be done on a phone, to ask East Contra Costa youth and young adults about their experience with public transportation. We looked at three factors:

1. Safety
2. Convenience
3. Cost



Racial breakdown of survey takers:

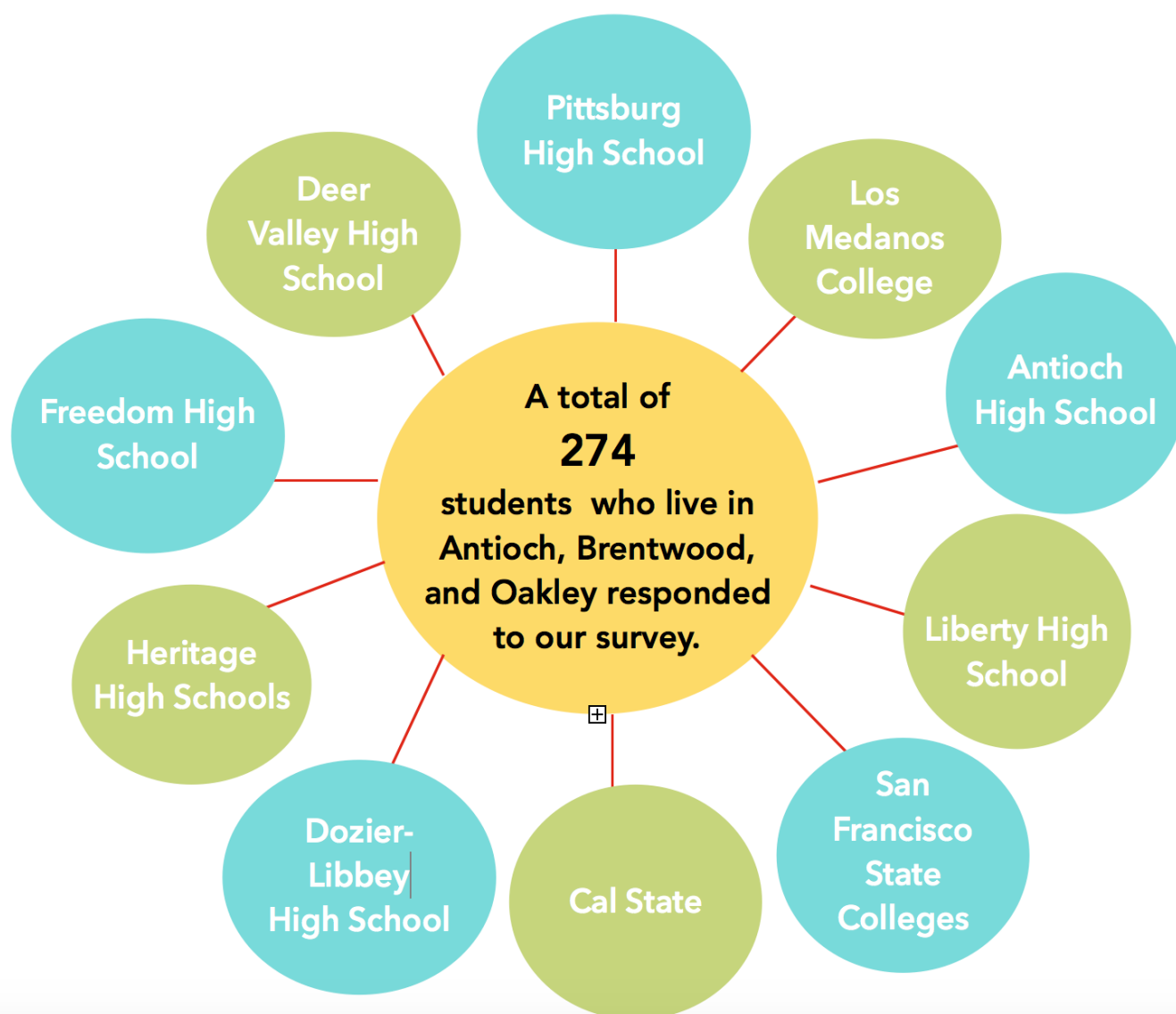
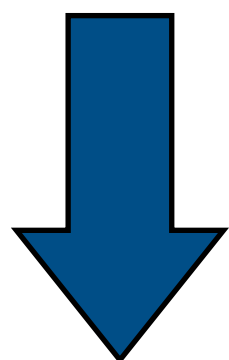
- *Black/African (45.6%)*
- *Latinx/Hispanic (43.1%)*
- *Other (11.3%)*

How survey takers utilize bus or BART:

- *34.2% to get to & from school*
- *29.3% to access community resources*
- *14.7% to get to and from work*
- *5.3% to get to medical care*

How often they use bus or BART per week:

- *1-3 days (70.2%)*
- *3-5 days (24.6%)*



11 people were interviewed face-to-face and by phone

OUR FINDINGS

Experiences of respondents feeling unsafe on bus or BART:

“A random guy tried to touch me sexually”

“On the bus an angry man pulled a knife on another man.”

“A man continuously made inappropriate remarks to me and followed me onto my next bus.”

“Being told by a homeless man on BART that he would kill us and put our bodies in his luggage and burn us all in it.”

“I saw a woman lighting up a foil and snorting it up her nose while I was on the bus.”



BART rider seen consuming illicit drugs

Safety



Due to Safety Issues, youth/young adults said that they DID NOT:

- Make it to school (**44%**)
- Be able to go shopping (**41.4%**)
- Access recreational and learning or community resources (**24.1%**)
- Make it to work (**12.9%**)
- Make it to medical appointments (**10.3%**)
- Find a job (**9.5%**)
- Keep a job (**6.9%**)



Definition of Transportation Justice & Equity

The right of every person to a safe, accessible, affordable, and healthy transportation system in their community.

Convenience/Comfort

40%

Did not find bus routes convenient

43.3%

Did not find bus schedules convenient

85.9% thought there should be posted prices, routes, and schedules at bus stops

64% did not find bus stops comfortable

49.4% did not find routes and schedules easy to find without help of technology

Convenience issues caused youth/young adults to NOT:

- Make it to school (**37.5%**)
- Be able to go shopping (**34.2%**)
- Access recreational and learning or community resources (**25.8%**)
- Make it to work (**19.2%**)
- Find a job (**11.7%**)
- Make it to medical appointments (**10.8%**)



Bus stop located with no lights, nearby buildings, cameras., or benches.

61.2% of bus riders did not believe that bus stops had good lighting around them

46.9% of bus riders did not find bus stops in safe locations



Our Findings, Cont.

About a third of youth and young adults could not easily afford the cost of bus or BART.



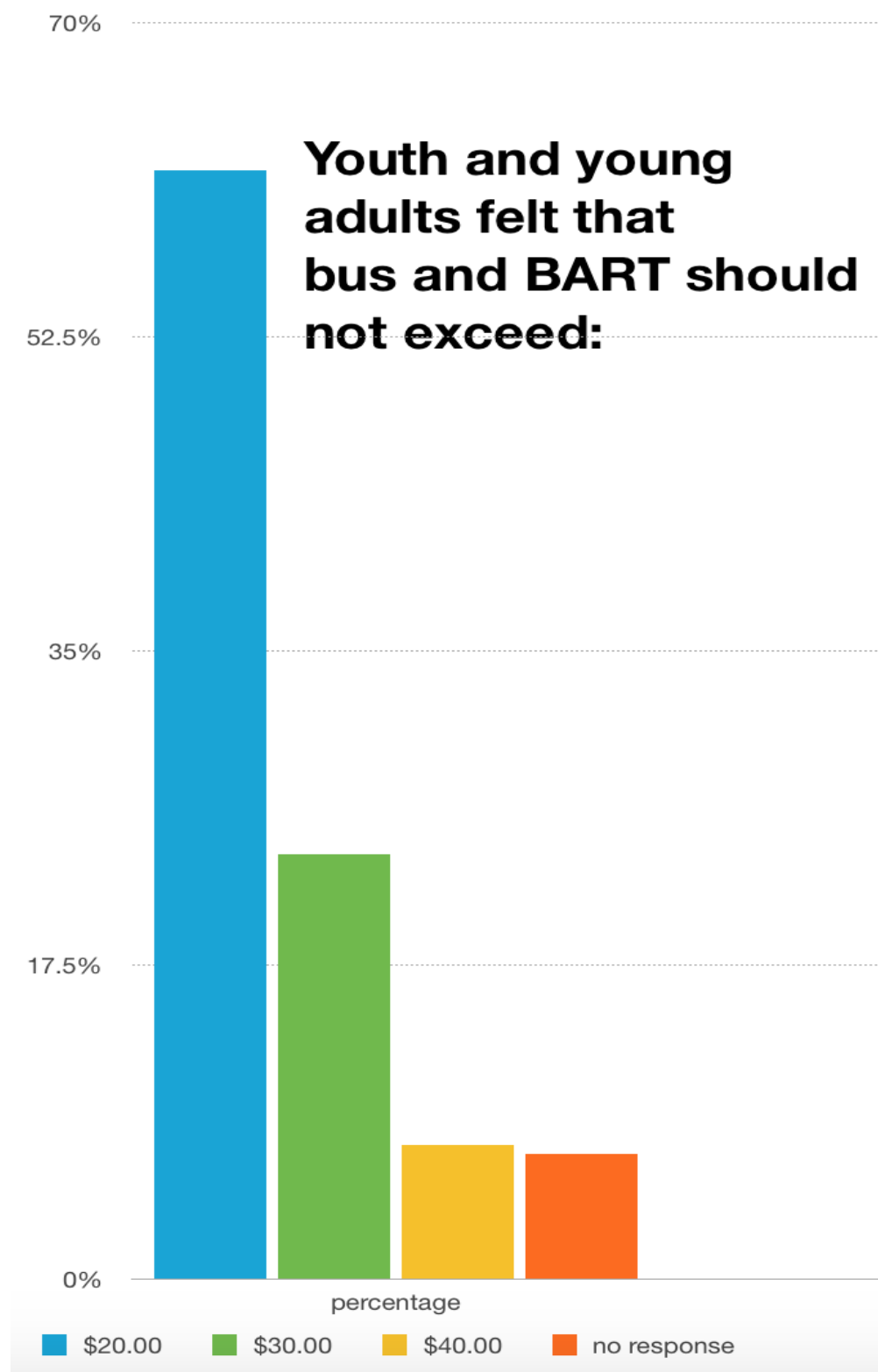
Respondents commented about the cost:

“Reduce BART prices.”

“Students should pay half price.”

“We pay taxes, it should be free.”

Cost



Due to cost issues, youth and young adults DID NOT:

Make it to school **(44.2%)**

Find a job **(7.5%)**

Keep a job **(8.3%)**

Make it to work **(10%)**

Access recreational and learning or community resources **(25.8%)**

Make it to medical appointments **(13.3%)**

OUR RECOMMENDATIONS

What youth and young adults would most like improved or changed with Bus or BART?

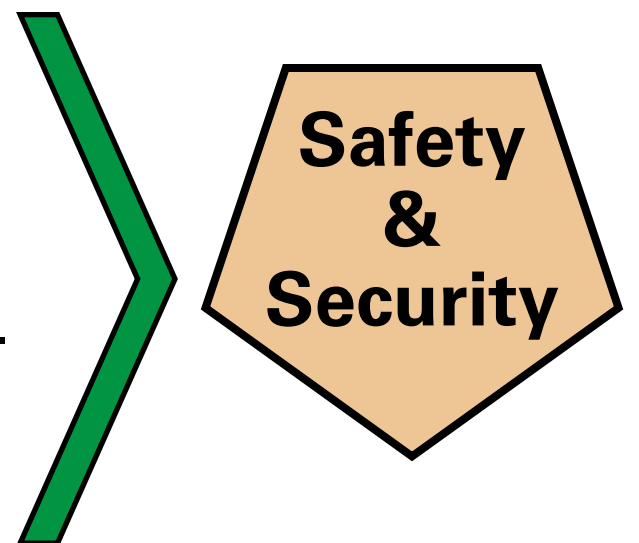
Convenience
50%

Safety Issues
59.1%

Cost
42.3%



- Eliminate drug use and weapons
- Ready for emergen-
- Create a safe environ-
- Handle situations that drivers cannot attend to



Convenience

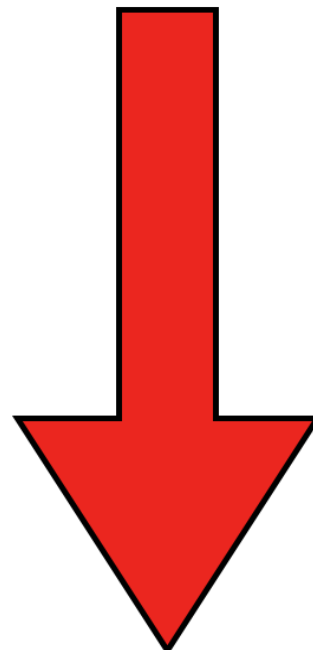
- Route info and time estimators at bus stops
- More Bus Benches and Shelters
- Improve Bus and BART apps
- Bus Routes aligned to school schedules better

Cost

- Even out prices for passes such as the Tri Delta Day Pass

Decrease
COST
for students
and
low income
families

\$





Our Mission

One Day at a Time (ODAT) provides youth with Hope, Support and Opportunity by building meaningful connections and relationships.

**331 Pine Street
Brentwood, California 94513
Phone: 925 240-1359**

Thank you to:

Antioch High Student Work base Learning Coordinator: Amber Martin

Pittsburg High Student Counselor: Kanika Jenkins

City of Antioch Youth Services Network Manager: Tasha Johnson

And the 274 respondents who participated in the survey for helping us with surveys, providing guidance to us with our project.