

Southern California's transportation infrastructure paves the way for economic recovery and job creation



Job growth from building the RTP infrastructure projects: average of 174,500 jobs per year

Over the 2012–2035 period, the RTP/SCS calls for the spending of over \$500 billion on transportation improvement projects. The economic analysis shows this will create an average of 174,500 jobs per year across SCAG's six county region. The main beneficiaries will be construction workers, placing an employment floor under this volatile sector. However, job increases will also include workers in professional, supply and service firms that support the effort. Further, workers throughout the economy will feel the impact as construction-related workers and firms increase their spending in sectors like retailing and consumer services.

Increases in economic competitiveness and efficiency from completion of the projects: an average of 354,000 jobs per year

When investments are made in the transportation system, the economic benefits go far beyond the jobs created building it. Today's regional economy would be impossible if routes like Foothill Boulevard, rather than the Interstate system, were the only way to move people and goods within Southern California or to the rest of the U.S. In addition, unlike spending to satisfy current needs, infrastructure delivers benefits for decades. The increased long term efficiency of the system is thus a crucial result, delivering higher economic activity and job creation from three sets of activities:

Reduced travel time. Whether it is a commuter, a truck driver, a tourist or a firm awaiting crucial goods, lost time due to congestion is a cost to the economy. Reducing congestion thus adds economic activity and jobs.

Increased labor access. Southern California is a huge geographic area. The friction of distance means employers in one sub-area cannot easily access workers living in another. A more efficient transportation system, with increased mass transit systems, will create a more efficient and competitive labor market and add economic activity and jobs into the economy.

Enhanced Transportation. Supply chain managers favor Southern California because of the speed and reliability that goods can be moved around the region and from it to the rest of the U.S. As the economy expands, congestion robs the area of this competitive advantage. Increasing the efficiency of throughput would maintain and enhance these advantages and create extra economic activity and jobs.

Amenities and infrastructure system operations: an average of an additional 64,000 jobs per year

Amenities. As the infrastructure system becomes increasingly completed, including its sustainable community provisions and pollution reductions, amenities such as lower health costs from improved air quality will add 46,000 jobs per year on average.

Operations. As investments are made in an enhanced Southern California transportation system, its operation will add an average of 18,000 jobs per year over the 2012–2035 period as transit systems come online and road maintenance and repair becomes necessary.

The model used to generate these job estimates was the REMI TranSight Model. For more complete information on TranSight please visit www.remi.com. All of this information is taken directly from SCAG's RTP released in 2012. For complete report and the economic analysis section please visit <http://rtpscs.scag.ca.gov>.