

Community Focus Statement B: Enhance pedestrian safety and mobility along Mentone Boulevard (Highway 38).

Action Statement B.3: Coordinate with local transit agencies to increase mobility in the community through improved transit services.

B

Benchmark: Expansion of transit services through fixed-route or flexible services.

Champion: Volunteer group or person or can be identified by the community

Estimated Cost: \$50,000–\$100,000



Omnitrans bus in San Bernardino County.
Photo source: [Flickr Upload Bot](#)

Alternative transportation, including transit opportunities, can provide a number of benefits for local communities, including reduced traffic and congestion, reduced commute cost, and a host of environmental benefits in comparison to using personal vehicles. Additional transit opportunities could assist in better connecting residents along Mentone Boulevard within the community as well as to the surrounding areas. While bus route facilities exist along Highway 38 in Mentone, additional routes or increased service frequency may improve the convenience of the transit system to better serve local residents.

The addition of new transit services not only includes the addition of new transit vehicles, it can require additional infrastructure to support the transit operations, including benches and shelters, signage, and striping, and operational costs for transit employees and vehicle operation. In order to best understand the key transit needs in Mentone, a study should be completed to better understand the demand for transit in the community and to identify potential locations for transit facilities. Once this study is completed, transit infrastructure could be added to serve the community where needed. One existing opportunity is the bus stops already located along Mentone Boulevard through Mentone and Redlands via Omnitrans. The addition of new transit services would require coordination with the County, as well as regional transportation agencies such as Omnitrans, in order to provide improved local and regional services for residents.

Because of the existing facilities in the community, additional facilities would likely not be the driving cost consideration along Mentone Boulevard. Operational costs such as vehicle overhead costs and driver wages are a critical component to the financial viability of additional stops along the highway. A public transit study of the corridor could cost approximately \$50,000–\$100,000.



| Action | Action Leader | Timeline | Resources |
|---|---------------|-----------|--|
| 1. Organize a group of stakeholders from local nonprofits and advocate for the expansion of transit services and amenities. | Champion | As needed | San Bernardino County Community Service District http://www.sbcounty.gov/lafco/items/201004/item_9c.pdf |
| 2. Contact appropriate County and state departments (Caltrans) and local transit agency (Omnitrans). | Group | As needed | Caltrans – Transportation Concept Report (SR-38) http://www.dot.ca.gov/hq/tpp/corridor-mobility/D8_docs/TCRs/sr-38.pdf |
| 3. Develop a transit/mobility needs assessment for the community (if necessary). | Group | As needed | Omnitrans – Route Schedule Omnitrans travels through Mentone. The Omnitrans map shows that the longer trip intervals (1hr) occur in Mentone, while Redlands has shorter trip time intervals (30 min). http://www.omnitrans.org/schedules/route8/ |
| 4. Identify areas of improvement. | Group | As needed | |
| 5. Establish recommended improvements, and ensure cost estimate and implementation plans are in place. | Group | As needed | San Bernardino County Transportation Authority- http://gosbcta.com/ Mentone Senior Center http://www.sbclib.org/LibraryLocations/MentoneSeniorCenterandLibrary.aspx Federal Transit Administration – Provides resources for enhanced mobility of seniors & individuals with disabilities – Section 5310 https://www.transit.dot.gov/funding/grants/enhanced-mobility-seniors-individuals-disabilities-section-5310 |