

Metropolitan Detroit Transportation System Data

- Detroit once had a world-class public transportation system consisting of the Detroit Street Railway system with streetcars arriving every 90 seconds during peak periods. Almost everyone used the system, while a few people drove private cars.
- Presently Detroit has two bus systems and only 2.9 miles of light rail (the people mover). The Detroit Department of Transportation (D-DOT) is the city system. The other system called SMART (Suburban Mobility Authority for Regional Transit) is the suburban system that also serves downtown. The two bus systems have not worked together for many years.
- A number of years ago, Detroit lost almost a billion dollars in federal transit money because people could not agree on how to spend the money.
- Every year Detroiters use 248 million gallons of gasoline while stuck in traffic jams.
- Detroit is the nation's third-worst congested metropolitan region.
- Detroit is the nation's largest metropolitan area without a rapid mass transit service.
- A large 2001 survey conducted by SEMCOG indicated a high level of interest in a regional transportation system that includes rapid mass transit.