



# Neighborhood Shuttles



*Pacific Beach shuttle  
Source: City of San Diego, 2023*

## PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS



**Estimated Initiation Timeframe**  
3-5 years



**Implementation Cost**  
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### Potential Funding Sources



- » Community parking districts (or similar locally-raised sources)
- » General Fund
- » Federal, state, and regional grants

### Leading Department

Sustainability and Mobility



### Collaborating Entities

SANDAG, other City departments, partner agencies, public-private partnerships

### Relevance to Mobility Master Plan Goals

Goals 1, 2, 5, 9, 10



### Relevance to Climate Action Plan

Actions 3.1f, 3.1 SA-24, 3.2 SA-1, 2.3a

### Incorporating Community Engagement

The community identified intra-neighborhood mobility solutions as a top mobility need.



Residents want safe and functional access to schools, medical facilities, shopping options, and job centers. A neighborhood shuttle program offers an opportunity to fill this gap in the transportation system.

A neighborhood shuttle program offers shuttle services within a community, using either a fixed-route or zone-based structure. Fixed-route shuttles follow a set path, while zone-based shuttles provide door-to-door service within a designated area. These programs connect residents to key destinations like shopping centers, schools, medical services, and local attractions. When partially funded through neighborhood sources, such as community parking district revenue, these shuttles can be financially self-sustaining. From July 2023 through October 2024, the City of San Diego and SANDAG ran a pilot neighborhood electric vehicle (NEV) shuttle service in Pacific Beach, providing a sustainable way for residents and visitors to reach beachside destinations. Since August 2016, the FRED service has offered a similar NEV option in Downtown San Diego. The City's experience with the Beach Bug pilot and ongoing FRED service has informed new contract options for expanding neighborhood shuttle services. Programs like these can be launched in other San Diego communities, enhancing mobility and bridging gaps in public transportation.



*Menlo Park shuttle  
Source: City of Menlo Park, 2019*

## PROGRAM IN ACTION

The City of Menlo Park, CA provides a free shuttle service that provides access to local community destinations and job centers. This program consists of three fixed-route shuttles and one door-to-door shuttle, the Shoppers' Shuttle, that must be reserved in advance. All shuttles are wheelchair accessible and operate Monday-Friday, with the exception of the Shoppers' Shuttle that is available seven days a week. More information can be found at: <https://menlopark.gov/Government/Departments/Public-Works/Transportation-Division/Shuttle-services>