

ENVIRONMENT AND CLIMATE

INCREASES RIDERSHIP

Enhancing utilitarian transit environments with high-quality and immersive artwork is proven to increase ridership: Buenos Aires' transit ridership doubled after the infusion of art in their subway.¹ Studies of the art-in-transit programs in Naples, Vancouver, and New York reveal that artistically enhanced transit environments make people more likely to take transit.^{2 3 4 5} Increased use of public transit reduces pollution emissions per passenger-mile: for every person that is drawn out of a car each year, 4,800 pounds of carbon emissions are reduced. Transit-oriented development follows as ridership grows, providing additional emission reductions by reducing per capita vehicle travel.^{7 8}

REDUCES CONGESTION

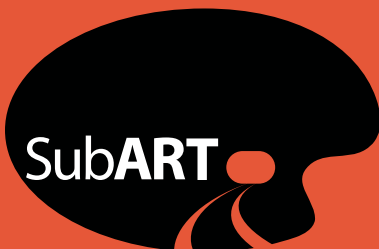
Trains offer an energy-efficient means to transport people en masse, reducing congestion on roadways and improving air quality for everyone.⁹



DECREASES GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS

Today's climate concerns demand that we find ways to slow climate change and improve air quality. In 2013, CO₂ was at an all-time high and will continue to grow until we effectively reduce emissions.¹¹ Public transportation use in the United States reduces our nation's carbon emissions by 37 million metric tons annually. This is equivalent to Washington, DC, New York City, Atlanta, Denver, and Los Angeles combined stopping using electricity.¹²

A single commuter switching his or her commute to public transportation can reduce a household's carbon emissions by 10 percent and up to 30 percent if he or she eliminates a second car.¹³ Trains are energy-efficient: train emissions of CO₂ per passenger/Km are, on average, approximately half that of travel by car.¹⁴ Moreover, public transportation use in the United States helps to reduce our dependency on foreign oil and saves 4.2 billion gallons of gasoline annually—the equivalent of 900,000 cars filling up every day.¹⁵



Taking Art Underground

IMPROVES AIR QUALITY

As travelers choose mass transit over cars, air quality will improve, making the area healthier and safer for all living things and even reducing pollution-related property deterioration.¹⁰

BUILDS ENVIRONMENTAL AWARENESS

Public art can be an effective tool in raising community consciousness. Many artists make environmental issues the central focus of their work; by using the transit environment as a platform, artists can help bring these concerns into the minds of viewers on a daily basis.



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