

DRISI

CALTRANS DIVISION OF RESEARCH,
INNOVATION AND SYSTEM INFORMATION

TRANSFORMING IDEAS INTO SOLUTIONS

Research

Notes

Planning, Policy
and
Programming

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Project Title:
Equity Concerns Related to
Inducted Travel

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Equity Concerns Related to Induced Travel

Developing Methods and Guidance for VMT Mitigation Actions

WHAT IS THE NEED?

In 2020, Caltrans implemented Senate Bill (SB) 743. SB 743 works with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) to prioritize development and transportation projects that get people out of cars and into carpools, transit, biking and walking. By doing so, SB 743 helps reduce transportation's impacts on the environment. Under SB 743, these impacts are now measured according to the miles that people drive (known as vehicle-miles-traveled (VMT), because of their surroundings. Because mitigation activities are not guaranteed to occur in the same area that impacts are felt, more information is needed on how to assess the impacts of VMT on communities. Also needed are recommendations on ways to equitably distribute benefits of mitigating investments.

This study will assist Caltrans in ensuring that statewide VMT reduction efforts address transportation needs in a fair way, and do not worsen conditions in communities of concern.

WHAT ARE WE DOING?

This work will be comprised of four main efforts: (1) review literature, 2) develop recommendations, 3) develop final report, and 4) conduct a webinar on safeguarding equity in VMT mitigation.

WHAT IS OUR GOAL?

The goal is to develop methods and guidance to evaluate who benefits and who is impacted from highway expansions and VMT mitigation actions, to ensure that Caltrans and its partners design projects and VMT mitigation that reduce disparities in communities of concern.



DRISI provides solutions and
knowledge that improves
California's transportation system



WHAT IS THE BENEFIT?

The project will assist in determining who benefits and who is negatively impacted by highway expansions and VMT mitigation efforts. In addition, the project seeks to provide Caltrans and partners alternative designs for projects and VMT mitigation actions that reduce disparities in communities of concern.

WHAT IS THE PROGRESS TO DATE?

The kick-off meeting was held on July 21, 2023. Began literature review on the relationship between equity, inducted travel and VMT, and obtained and compiled list of mitigation measures. The next step is to identify participants and develop plan for stakeholder interviews or workshop. The next Panel meeting was held on November 2, 2023.

IMAGES



Image 1: Hyperlocal Air Quality Map of West Oakland

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