



Tab 7

EQUITY INDEX

CTC Equity Roundtable Update

CALTRANS OFFICE OF RACE AND EQUITY

PLANNING & MODAL PROGRAMS

OCTOBER 2021



EQI PURPOSE AND USE CASES

Caltrans Equity Index* aims to:

- Identify communities that are underserved and/or burdened by transportation using environmental, accessibility, socioeconomic indicators
- Map, layer together, and weight the indicators to produce a transportation equity score that can be used in funding programs to prioritize projects in underserved communities
- Evaluate components of projects and project alternatives using indicators

**Caltrans Strategic Plan – Equity & Livability Goal, Strategy 1; Safety First Goal, Strategy 6*

INTERNAL EQI TASK FORCE

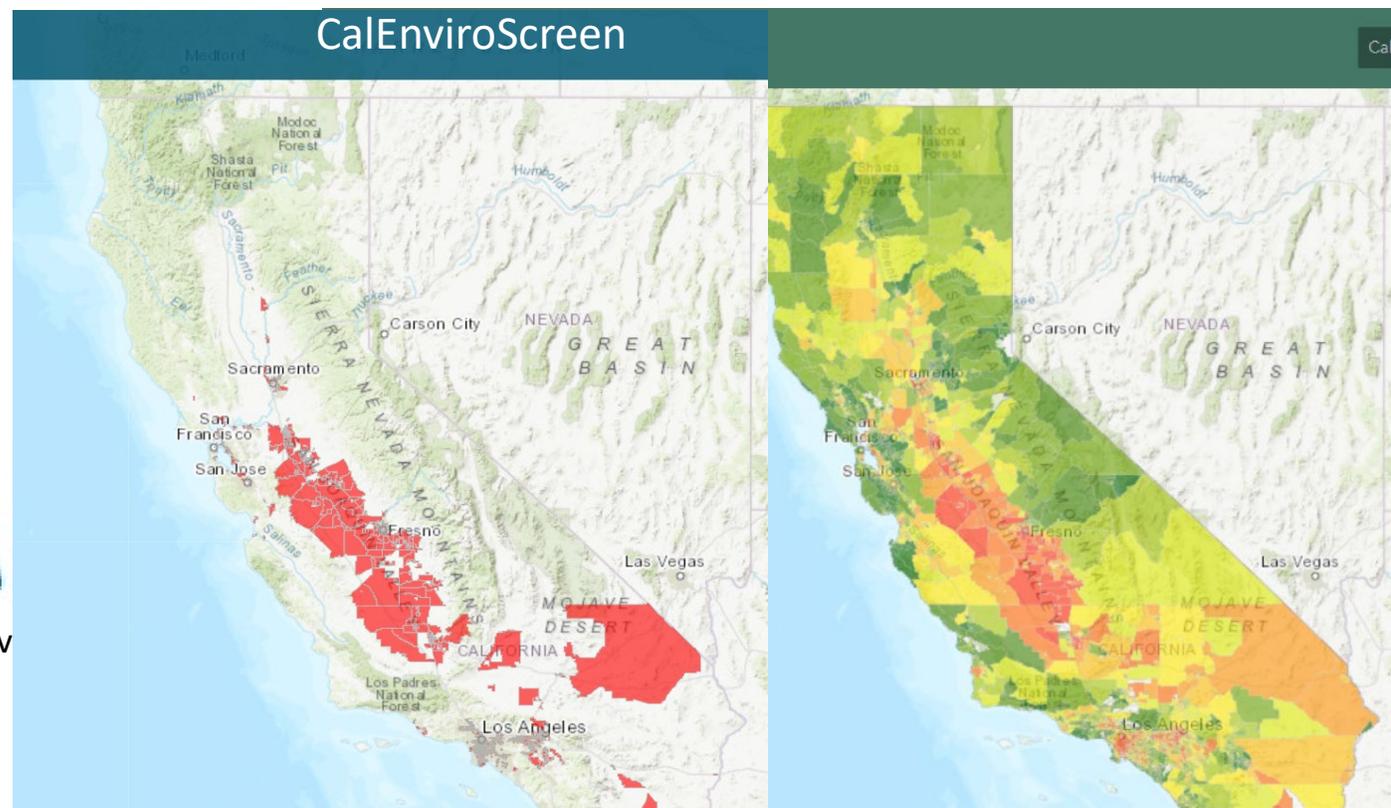
- Established June 2021, meeting bi-monthly
- 50 staff from participating from various divisions/districts
- Collaborating to identify EQI indicators and use cases



INDICATORS

Pulling from existing indices in the following categories:

- Priority Population
- Transportation Burdens
- Transportation Benefits




The California Healthy Places Index (HPI)®
 public health alliance of southern california A Partnership for Healthy Places

Racial Equity GIS Hub

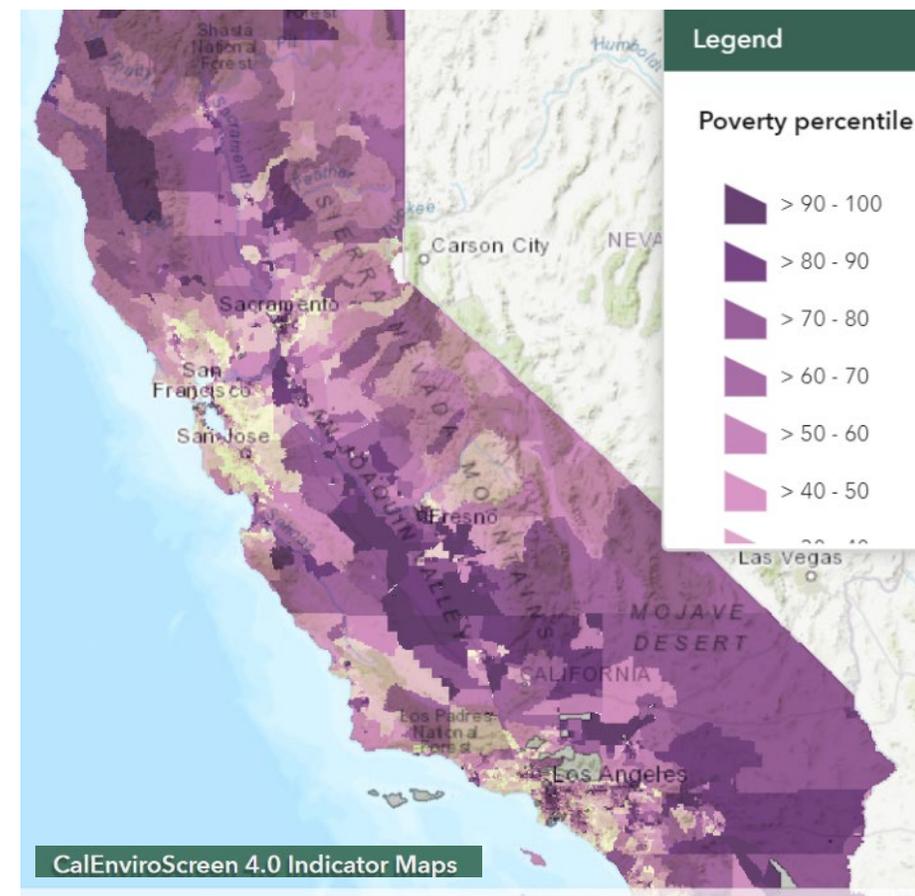


American Community Survey

TransitCenter

DRAFT INDICATORS

- Income or percent in poverty (ACS)
- Percent nonwhite and/or Hispanic (ACS)
- Percent income to housing + transportation (CNT)
- Incidence of asthma (Calenviroscreen)
- Diesel particulates (Calenviroscreen)
- Traffic density (Calenviroscreen)
- Noise (distance from freeway or arterial)
- Traffic fatalities and serious injuries (SWITRS/FARS)





What is diesel particulate matter?

Exhaust from trucks, buses, trains, ships and other equipment with diesel engines contains a mixture of gases and solid particles. These solid particles are known as diesel particulate matter. Diesel particulate matter contains hundreds of chemicals, many of which are harmful to health. Diesel particulate matter is most concentrated near ports, rail yards and highways.

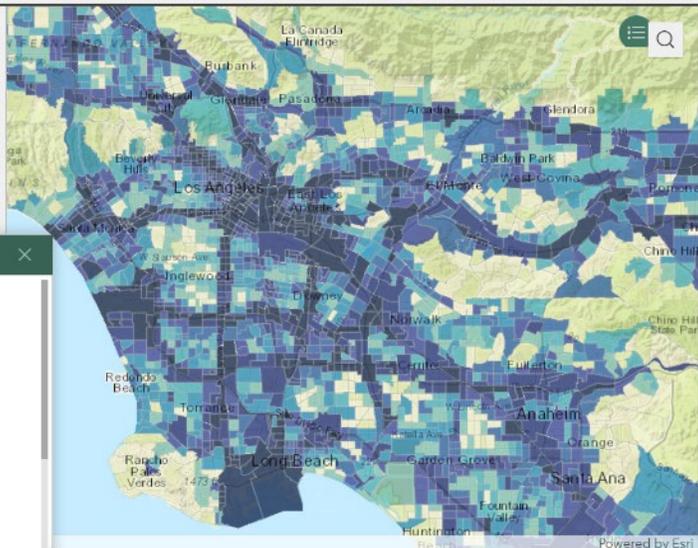
The particles in diesel exhaust can irritate the eyes, nose and throat and increase the risk of lung cancer. Children and people with asthma are especially sensitive to the effects of diesel exhaust.

More information can be found in the CalEnviroScreen 4.0 Technical Report, Chapter 4.

Legend

Diesel PM Percentile

- > 90 - 100
- > 80 - 90
- > 70 - 80
- > 60 - 70
- > 50 - 60
- > 40 - 50



What is Asthma?

Asthma is a disease that affects the lungs and makes it hard to breathe. Symptoms include breathlessness, wheezing, coughing, and chest tightness. The causes of asthma are unknown but many factors can be involved, including genetics, allergies, and air pollution.

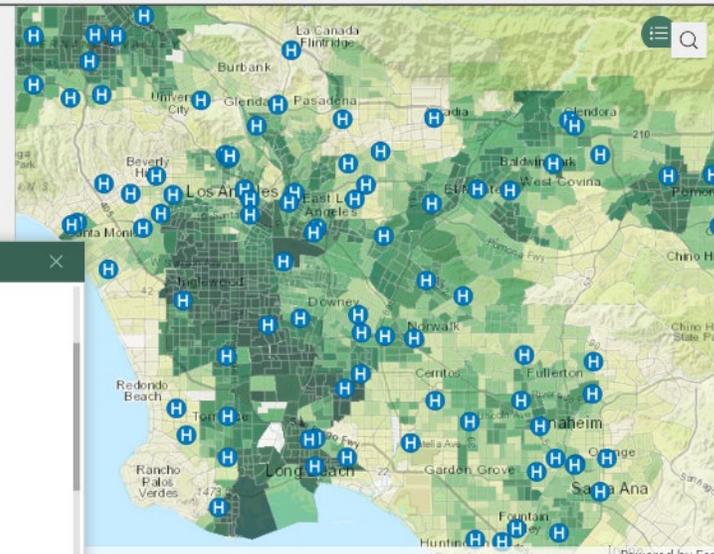
Five million Californians have asthma at some point in their lives. Asthma is especially susceptible to outdoor air pollution.

More information can be found in the CalEnviroScreen 4.0 Technical Report, Chapter 4.

Legend

Asthma Percentile

- > 90 - 100
- > 80 - 90
- > 70 - 80
- > 60 - 70
- > 50 - 60
- > 40 - 50



What are traffic impacts?

California has the biggest network of freeways in the country. Its cities are known for heavy traffic. Traffic density is a measure of the number of vehicles on the roads in an area.

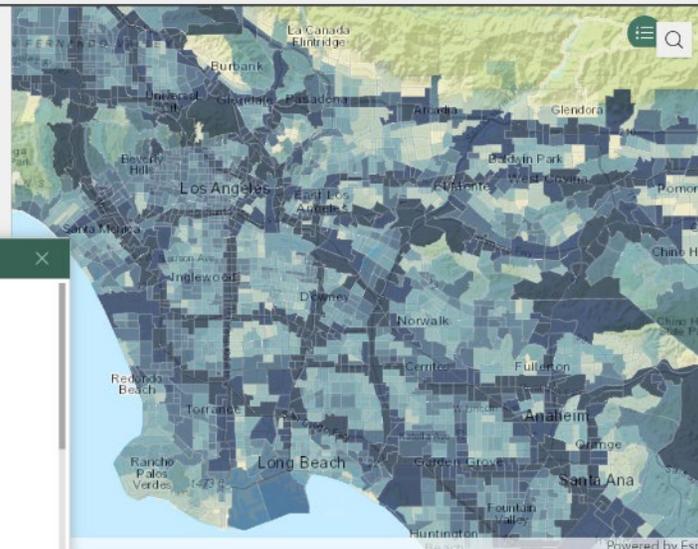
While California has the most freeways, it also has the most exhaust from cars and trucks. This exhaust contributes to air pollution in many of the most densely populated neighborhoods. Children and people with asthma are especially sensitive to the effects of diesel exhaust.

More information can be found in the CalEnviroScreen 4.0 Technical Report, Chapter 4.

Legend

Traffic Impacts Percentile

- > 90 - 100
- > 80 - 90
- > 70 - 80
- > 60 - 70
- > 50 - 60
- > 40 - 50



What is poverty?

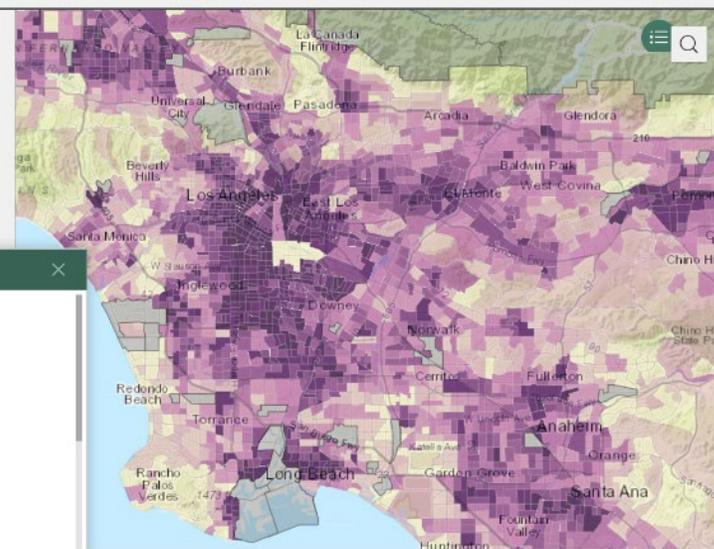
The U.S. Census Bureau determines the federal poverty level each year. The poverty level is based on the size of the household and the age of family members. If a person or family's total income is below the poverty level, the person or family is in poverty. Many studies have found that people living in poverty are more likely than others to be exposed to air pollution.

More information can be found in the CalEnviroScreen 4.0 Technical Report, Chapter 4.

Legend

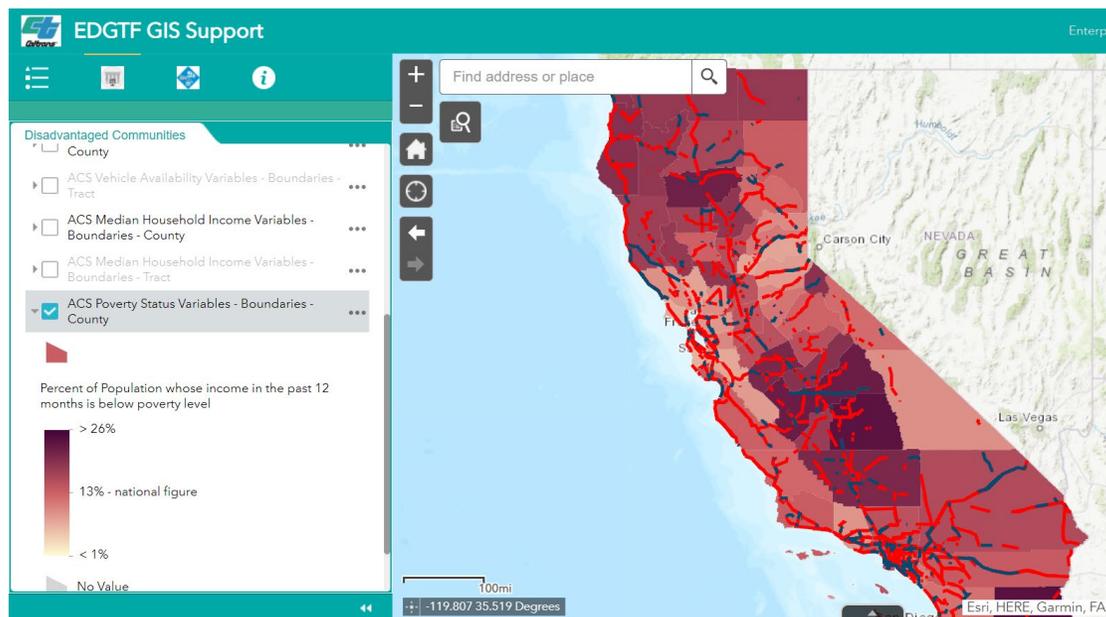
Poverty percentile

- > 90 - 100
- > 80 - 90
- > 70 - 80
- > 60 - 70
- > 50 - 60
- > 40 - 50

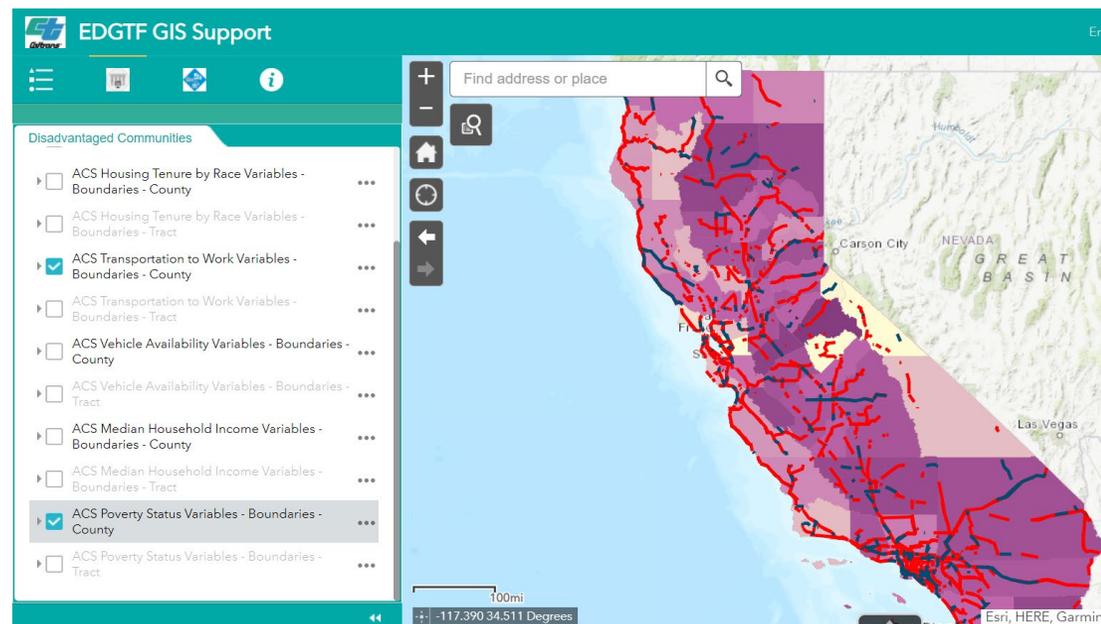


USE CASE: PROJECT EVALUATION

Layer EQI with project location using DOTP PID shapefile



Poverty by County

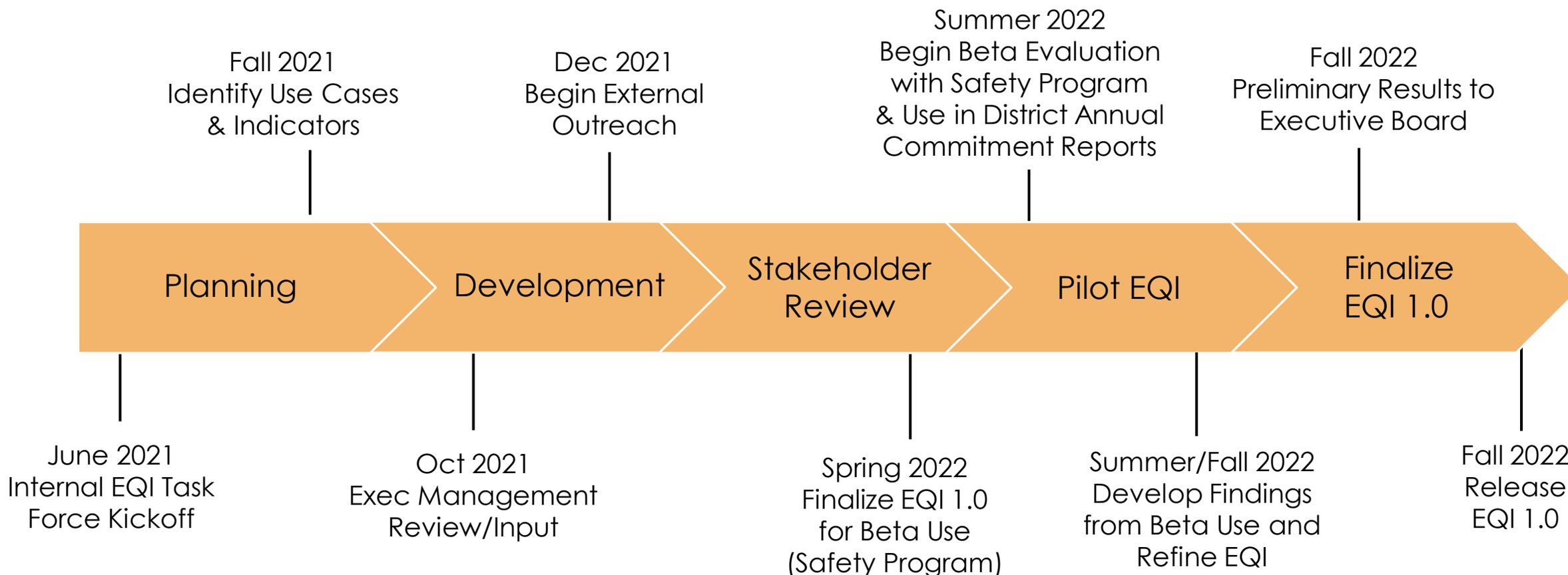


Transportation Commute (SOV) by County

EXTERNAL ENGAGEMENT

- EQI Task Force Engagement Team compiling external partner contact list, including:
 - ❖ State, regional, local agency partners
 - ❖ Tribal Communities
 - ❖ Community Based Organizations
 - ❖ Others
- External partner engagement planned for Dec 2021 – Spring 2022

UPDATED TIMELINE





THANK YOU

Questions or comments? Please contact:

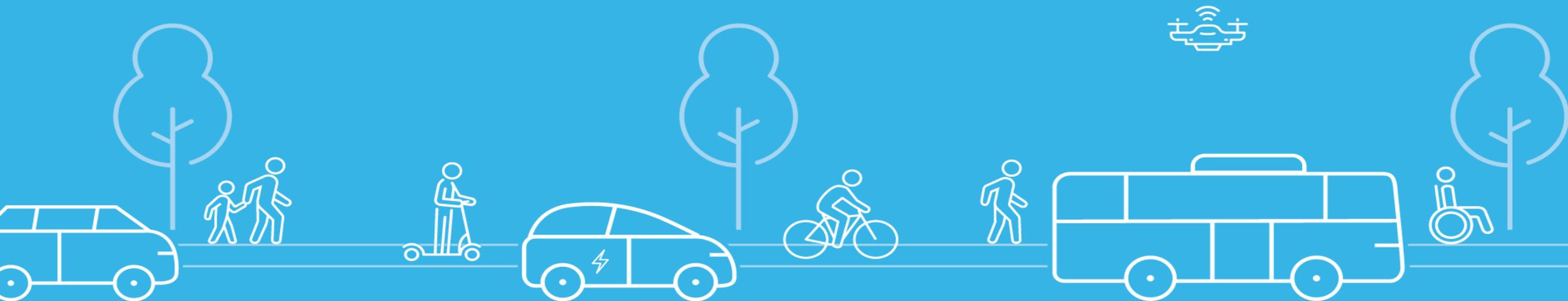
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Statewide Community Listening Sessions

Caltrans Office of Race and Equity

October 2021



Recap

- Partnership between Caltrans, CTC, and CalSTA in contract with ICF Consultants
- Equity-focused sessions to be held in early 2022
 - Geographically focused with priority populations
 - Six virtual sessions
- Outreach:
 - Partner with community-based organizations
 - Individuals will be directly invited to participate
 - Limit to 30 participants to create intentional space for dialogue

Timeline

August: Develop project timeline

September: Update CTC, CalSTA, and Caltrans staff about workplan

October: Develop outreach plan

November – December:

- Hold facilitation training for CTC, CalSTA, and Caltrans staff.
- Schedule listening sessions
- Develop workplan for listening sessions
- Host one-on-one meetings with CBOs
- Conduct marketing & outreach

January – February:

- Conduct listening sessions
- Collect & organize listening session data
- Hold debrief meetings

March – May:

- Develop listening session summary reports
- Complete ADA compliance for each report

Ongoing: *Hold biweekly meetings with ICF and CORE*

Focus Areas

Geographic locations:

- East Bay (Richmond)
- Kern County (Arvin/Lamont)
- Imperial Valley (Calexico/El Centro)
- Inland Empire (San Bernardino)
- Los Angeles Portside (Wilmington)
- Lake County (Lakeport/ Kelseyville)

Participation encouraged from:

- Black, Indigenous, Communities of Color (BIPOC)
- Youth and older adults
- Tribal governments/sovereign nations
- People with disabilities
- People experiencing homelessness; housing advocates
- People formerly incarcerated or system-impacted

Listening Session Participation

Facilitators: ICF Consultants and CORE Staff

Participation: Approx. 30 community members per session

Other Attendance

- Representatives from Caltrans, CTC, and CalSTA. These individuals will attend to listen, observe and demonstrate commitment to this work by using this information to inform future policy and program updates.
- Live Viewing: Representatives from MPOs, TPAs, and other government officials.

Platform:

- Cisco WebEx (offer both online and dial-in capabilities)
- YouTube live stream

Agency Representation

Caltrans

- Deputy Director for Planning and Modal Programs
- CORE Program Manager
- Priority Populations Program Manager
- Exec. Director or Deputy Exec. Director
- District Director
- Lead District staff

CTC

- Commissioners
- CTC Exec. Director or Deputy Exec. Director
- Associate Deputy Director of Equity and Engagement

CalSTA

- Secretary or Undersecretary
- Deputy Secretary for Transportation Planning

Opportunities for Engagement

- One-on-one meetings with CBOs
- Coordination with MPOs and TPAs
- Coordination with Tribal governments (this work will be informed by the CORE Native American Liaison Branch)
- Site visits (currently exploring options)
- Virtual listening sessions
- Debriefs with facilitators and agency representatives at the beginning, mid-point, and conclusion of listening sessions

Equity Advisory Roundtable

Requested Feedback:

- CBO partnerships
- Site visits (purpose and approach)
- Listening session content and delivery
- Maximum number of participants
- Guidance for engagement on a larger platform (beyond the listening sessions)

Partnership Efforts

Wood Street (West Oakland, District 4)

- Engaging with stakeholders to outline Caltrans' plans for the area
- Addressing concerns raised in the letter to the Governor
- Responding to requests for a listening session
- Hosting three convenings to facilitate communication:
 - Pre-planning session
 - Information session
 - Engagement session

Thank You

Questions or comments? Please contact:

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