

# Memorandum

**To:** CHAIR AND COMMISSIONERS

**CTC Meeting:** August 14-15, 2025

**From:** Tanisha Taylor, Executive Director

**Reference Number:** 1.13 Information

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**Published Date:** August 1, 2025

**Subject:** Interagency Equity Advisory Committee Updates

## **Summary:**

### **Subcommittee Meetings Update**

In May 2025, the Interagency Equity Advisory Committee (Committee) created three ad hoc subcommittees. Ad hoc subcommittees met in June and will meet again in August 2025. The following summary includes descriptions of each ad hoc subcommittee, and details of their June and August meetings.

1. Community Engagement Policies and Practices
  - a. The ad hoc subcommittee met on June 17, 2025. Member Randy Torres-Van Vleck was elected Chair. Members received a presentation from the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) Statewide Community Engagement Program Manager Sara Rosen and Program staff Marylou Taylor and provided feedback on the Caltrans Statewide Engagement Playbook.
  - b. The ad hoc subcommittee will meet again on August 18. Caltrans Advancing Community Engagement staff will return with Chapter 4 of the Statewide Engagement Playbook and further discuss Member feedback.
2. Transportation Planning and Program Guidance
  - a. The ad hoc subcommittee met on June 18, 2025. Committee Vice Chair Ana Gonzalez was elected ad hoc subcommittee Chair. California State Transportation Agency (CalSTA) Deputy Director of Equity and Workforce Allison Joe and Senior Advisor for Transit, Mobility Data and Performance Hunter Owens presented on the Transit Transformation Task Force.
  - b. The ad hoc subcommittee will meet again on August 25. Caltrans Office of Transit Planning staff will present on the Director's Transit Policy and future opportunities for Members to provide input on the implementation plan for the Transit Policy.

### 3. Data Implementation

- a. This ad hoc subcommittee met on June 17, 2025. Member Naomi Iwasaki was elected Chair. Caltrans Senior Advisor on Race and Equity Carolyn Abrams presented a preview of subcommittee advisory opportunities with a focus on the Caltrans Equity Index (EQI) use case development.
- b. The ad hoc subcommittee will meet again on August 19. Caltrans staff from the Director's Office of Sustainability and the Director's Office of Equity and Tribal Affairs will provide an in-depth, technical overview of the EQI tool.

Ad hoc subcommittees are anticipated to meet again in November 2025 and in February 2026. Interagency lead staff coordinate with ad hoc subcommittee Chairs to finalize ad hoc subcommittee meeting agendas.

The next full Committee meeting is scheduled to be held virtually on September 5, 2025. Meeting materials and links to join can be found at the following website:

<https://catc.ca.gov/meetings-events/equity-advisory-committee-2025-meetings>

### Committee Member Advisory Involvement in Commission Programs

#### *Vehicle Weight Safety Study*

In Fall 2025, Commission staff will present an update to Committee members summarizing the Task Force findings. Commission staff will return to the Committee with the Commission's draft report to the Legislature, likely in early 2026.

### Committee Member Update

Committee member Pualani Vazquez will provide a presentation on injury prevention, safety, and equity on roadways in San Diego. Member Vazquez serves as the Injury Prevention Specialist and Community Outreach Coordinator at Scripps Mercy San Diego in Caltrans District 11.

As a member of the trauma response team and in collaboration with community-based organizations, member Vazquez helps develop and implement a diverse array of evidence-based programs via public health outreach. Her primary objective is to diminish the frequency, severity, and fatality of unintentional injuries in San Diego, prioritizing safety and equity in her initiatives. Member Vazquez contributes to numerous regional, state and national task forces. She promotes trauma-informed care through authentic community engagement and collaborative efforts. Drawing from her background in transportation safety, she has dedicated her career to cultivating safe road practices for all users, with a special emphasis on high-risk drivers/behaviors and vulnerable road users.

Originally from Hawaii, she has found her home in San Diego, where she finds joy in advocating for comprehensive safety education alongside her family. Together, they strive to create a community where every individual can traverse securely and safely, fostering an environment of inclusivity and well-being.

**Background:**

The Committee is a priority for the Commission, Caltrans, and CalSTA. The Committee elevates diverse and historically marginalized voices to advise the three agencies on how to achieve meaningful outcomes in transportation equity, environmental justice, and equitable economic opportunities, especially as related to transportation planning and programming.