# Solutions for Congested Corridors Program Land Use Efficiency & Prohousing Supplement

This supplement was developed by the California Transportation Commission in partnership with the California Department of Housing and Community Development\_and the Governor's Office of Planning and Research as a resource for applicants preparing project nominations for the Solutions for Congested Corridors Program. The purpose of this document supplement to provide information on about local land useland-use policies that can serve as indicators of the potential forto support efficient land use patterns. The presence of these policies in a project area can be used to help-demonstrate the a project's ability of a project to support the efficient land use co-benefit as described in Section 16.2 of the program guidelines.

This supplement also identifies new grant funding opportunities and online resources that are available to assist local and regional jurisdictions to plan and implement activities that promote efficient land use, including achieving indicators provided in Section II below.

For <del>purposes of the Solutions for Congested Corridors Program, applicants can demonstrate a project</del> will support and advance transportation efficient land use by meeting **either** of these two standards:

<u>Confirming projects meeting the "Efficient Land Use" co-benefit should support transportation efficient land use principles such as:</u>
<u>Infill development, and</u>

Mixed-use development with multimodal choices.

By integrating a greater mix of uses into congested corridors, efficient land use reduces vehicle-miles-traveled and congestion by placing more individuals within walkable distance to daily or regular destinations, such as jobs, services, retail, or transit.

In order to assist the development of project nominations' narratives relating to the "Efficient Land Use" co-benefit, this document includes:

I. Prohousing participation. The applicant may substantiate that the proposed project serves a local jurisdiction that has applied to the California Department of Housing and Community Development's Prohousing Designation Program and received email verification from the California Department of Housing and Community Development that the application meets at least one of the Prohousing criteria included below. These criteria can include Prohousing Policies or Enhancement Factors. This supplement describes 16 Prohousing criteria that promote infill development, location efficiency, and reduction of vehicle miles traveled. Verifying the adoption of local policies meeting these criteria confers benefits to local communities under the Solutions for Congested Corridors Program.

OR

- II. Providing narrative regarding efficient land use indicators. The applicant may describe and substantiate adopted local policies within the project area that support residential, mixed-use, and/or infill development with multimodal choices. The applicant must include a narrative response explaining these local policies. To help guide the development of this narrative, this supplement provides detailed descriptions and best-practices resources for eight indicators of efficient land use that may be consulted voluntarily. This supplement uses the same eight indicators that were used in the 2020 Solutions for Congested Corridors Program Guidelines.
- **Land Use Efficiency Indicator Descriptions:** Detailed descriptions, and best practices resources for eight indicators that may be consulted, on a voluntary basis, to help guide the development of the narrative regarding the project nomination's "Efficient Land Use" co-benefit. Use of these indicators in the project application is optional but encouraged if applicable.



## SECTION I. PROHOUSING

A project nomination can demonstrate that the proposed project supports efficient land use by substantiating that the project serves a community that has both:

- A. Applied for Prohousing designation under the California Department of Housing and Community Development's Prohousing Designation Program, and
- B. Received email verification from the California Department of Housing and Community

  Development that the local jurisdiction's application meets at least one of the Prohousing criteria included below. These criteria can include Prohousing Policies or Enhancement Factors.

If a local jurisdiction has not yet received the Prohousing Designation but has applied for it, the applicant may still satisfy the Efficient Land Use co-benefit by providing verification from the California Department of Housing and Community Development that the jurisdiction does meet one or more of the Prohousing criteria included below. In such an instance, the application should include a commitment from the local jurisdiction to continue to work with the California Department of Housing and Community Development to receive the Prohousing Designation. For verification purposes, the applicant must provide the confirmation email from the California Department of Housing and Community Development which includes the **Preliminary Checklist** substantiating that a local jurisdiction meets specific Prohousing criteria. Adopting local policies to meet these criteria confers benefits to local communities under the Solutions for Congested Corridors Program.

Local jurisdictions interested in participating in the Prohousing Designation Program can contact the California Department of Housing and Community Development at ProhousingPolicies@hcd.ca.gov. The California Department of Housing and Community Development will provide technical assistance to cities or counties to apply for Prohousing Designation and to any other public agencies working with cities or counties, including transportation authorities, transportation agencies, transit agencies, or regional agencies.

#### **Policies**

- 1. Density bonus programs that exceed statutory requirements.
- Increasing allowable density in low-density, single-family residential areas beyond the requirements of state Accessory Dwelling Unit law (e.g., permitting more than one ADU or JADU per single-family lot).
- 3. Reducing or eliminating parking requirements for residential development.
- 4. Zoning allows for residential or mixed uses in one or more non-residential zones.
- 5. Modification of development standards and other applicable zoning provisions to promote greater development intensity.
- 6. Establishment of geographic areas for promoting workforce housing or sustainability, such as Workforce Housing Opportunity Zones defined in Government Code section 65620 or housing sustainability districts defined in Government Code section 66200.
- 7. The documented practice of streamlining housing development at the project level, such as by enabling a by-right approval process or by utilizing statutory and categorical exemptions as authorized by applicable law (such as Pub. Resources Code, §§ 21155.1, 21155.4, 21159.24,

- <u>21159.25; Gov. Code, § 65457; Cal Code Regs., tit. 14, §§ 15303, 15332; Pub. Resources</u> Code, §§ 21094.5, 21099, 21155.2, 21159.28).
- 8. Priority permit processing or reduced plan check times for Accessory Dwelling Units, multifamily housing, or homes affordable to lower- or moderate-income households.
- 9. Adoption of policies to reduce barriers for property owners to create Accessory Dwelling Units.
- 10. Measures that reduce costs for transportation-related infrastructure or programs that encourage active modes of transportation or other alternatives to automobiles. Qualifying policies include, but are not limited to, publicly funded programs to expand sidewalks or protect bike/micromobility lanes; creation of on-street parking for bikes; transit-related improvements; or establishment of carsharing programs.
- 11. Establishment of pre-approved or prototype plans for missing middle housing types (e.g., duplexes, triplexes, and fourplexes) in low-density, single-family residential areas.

#### **Enhancement Factors**

- 12. Policies that represent one element of a unified, multi-faceted strategy to promote multiple planning objectives, such as efficient land use, access to public transportation, affordable housing, climate change solutions, and/or hazard mitigation.
- 13. Policies that promote development consistent with the state planning priorities pursuant to Government Code section 65041.1.
- 14. Policies that go beyond state law requirements in reducing displacement of lower-income households and conserving existing housing stock that is affordable to lower-income households.
- 15. Rezoning and other policies that support high-density development in Location Efficient Communities.
- 4.16. Other policies that involve meaningful actions towards affirmatively furthering fair housing pursuant to Government Code section 8899.50.

# SECTION II. LAND USE EFFICIENCY INDICATORS

A project nomination can demonstrate that the proposed project supports efficient land use by describing local policies, in place or under development, within the project area, that support residential, mixed-use, and/or infill development with multimodal choices. This supplement's Land Use Efficiency Indicators (included below) guide such policies.

1. Is the project located in a jurisdiction(s) that has a by-right (nondiscretionarynon-discretionary) approval process, adopted or in development, for multifamily residential and mixed-use development?

By-right approval process means the review of a proposed development shall not require:

- A conditional-use permit,
- A planned unit development permit,
- Other discretionary, local-government review or approval that would constitute a "project" as
  defined by the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) (Public Resources Code section
  21100).

A by-right approval process does not preclude local planning agencies from imposing design review standards. However, the review and approval process must remain ministerial and the design review must not constitute a "project" as defined in Public Resources Code section 21100.

For example, a by-right approval process allows a hearing officer (e.g., zoning administrator) or other hearing body (e.g., planning commission) to review a project's design merits and call for a project proponent to make design-related modifications, but this process also prohibits the hearing officer or hearing body from deliberating on the project's merits or exercising judgment to reject or deny the "residential use" itself.

For purposes of To assessing the "Efficient Land Use" co-benefit under the Solutions for Congested Corridors Program, this indicator looks atconsiders whether the project is located in a jurisdiction that has adopted a by-right approval process in all zones permitting multifamily residential and mixed-use development. This by-right approval process may be an existing policy of the jurisdiction, or the by-right approval process may be actively in development with specific expectations that the process is adopted by a time certain.

2. Is the project located in, or adjacent to, an existing or proposed Specific Plan area, or <u>a</u> similar area, that allows streamlined plan-level environmental analysis for multifamily residential and/or mixed-use development?

The California Planning and Zoning Law authorizes a city or county to adopt a Specific Plan, which is a comprehensive planning and zoning document designed to carry out the General Plan policies within a particular geographic area by providing a special set of development standards for that area (Government Code section 65450, et seq.). Special standards may include form-based code coupled with CEQA streamlining to help facilitate higher-density housing production and mixed-use development within core areas.

Prior toBefore adopting a Specific Plan, a city or county must prepare an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) pursuant according to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). To meet this requirement, the jurisdiction may adopt a "Program EIR" which facilitates CEQA streamlining by including project-level analysis and project-level mitigation measures that may account for and effectively cover future proposed projects within the Specific Plan area (CEQA Guidelines section 15168, et seq.).

Accordingly, Government Code section 65457 specifies that residential and mixed-use projects that are consistent with a Specific Plan, with a certified Program EIR, are exempt from CEQA. By adopting a Specific Plan, local jurisdictions can significantly help accelerate future approval and permitting processes for infill housing development projects and efficient land use.

For information and guidance on CEQA streamlining through Specific Plans, see the Governor's Office of Planning and Research's *CEQA Review of Housing Projects Technical Advisory*: http://opr.ca.gov/docs/20190208-TechAdvisory-Review of Housing Exemptions.pdf.

#### Examples of Specific Plans that Aallow Sstreamlined Pplan-Level CEQA aAnalysis include:

- The City of San Diego recently adopted two Specific Plans to rezone areas along trolley stations to facilitate the development of approximately 9,000 new homes, taking advantage of the planned Mid-Coast Trolley Blue Line Extension to promote transit-oriented development. Each Specific Plan includes a Program EIR, facilitating CEQA streamlining for future development by including project-level analysis and mitigation measures. The two Specific Plans include:
  - 1. The Balboa Station Specific Plan, which allows for an additional 3,508 housing units, over the 1,200 units allowed in the previous zoning designation, within a half-mile of the planned station. For more information, see: <a href="https://www.sandiego.gov/planning/community/specificplans/balboa-station">https://www.sandiego.gov/planning/community/specificplans/balboa-station</a>
  - 2. The Morena Corridor Community Plan, which allows for 5,630 additional housing units, over the 1,387 allowed in the previous zoning designation. For more information, see: <a href="https://www.sandiego.gov/planning/community/specificplans/morena-corridor">https://www.sandiego.gov/planning/community/specificplans/morena-corridor</a>

For purposes of To assessing the "Efficient Land Use" co-benefit under the Solutions for Congested Corridors Program, this indicator looks atconsiders whether

the project is located in, or adjacent to, a Specific Plan area, or similar area, that allows streamlined plan-level environmental analysis for multifamily residential and/or mixed-use development; or whether the project is located in, or adjacent to, an area for which the jurisdiction is actively developing a Specific Plan, or similar policy to allow streamlining, with specific expectations to adopt one by a time certain.



3. Is the project located in a jurisdiction(s) that has a density bonus ordinance, adopted or in development, whose allowable density increase exceeds the requirements of State Density Bonus Law?

#### Context: State Density Bonus Law

Under Government Code section 65915, State Density Bonus Law requires cities and counties to grant a "density bonus" to a housing development, in exchange for the housing development providing affordable units, or units for senior housing, student housing, or childcare facilities.

A "density bonus" means an increase of residential units over the otherwise maximum density allowed by the applicable zone. State Density Bonus Law requires each city and county to adopt an ordinance that specifies how its density bonus will be implemented.

- For a guide to California's State Density Bonus Law, visit <a href="https://www.meyersnave.com/wp-content/uploads/California-Density-Bonus-Law.pdf">https://www.meyersnave.com/wp-content/uploads/California-Density-Bonus-Law.pdf</a>.
- For information on recent updates to State Density Bonus Law, review "California's Density Bonus Law: 2019 Update" at <a href="https://www.meyersnave.com/californias-density-bonus-law-2019-update/">https://www.meyersnave.com/californias-density-bonus-law-2019-update/</a>.

### **Exceeding Statutory Requirements**

State Density Bonus Law requires cities and counties to adopt an ordinance defining the density bonuses available to housing developments. Typically, the exact amount of the bonus must be determined by a sliding scale (from <u>five5 percent</u> to 35 percent) <u>set forthoutlined</u> in Government Code section 65915. <u>AlseAdditionally</u>, developments that meet special criteria for affordability, or proximity to transit, are <u>also</u> entitled to higher density bonuses. In adopting their local ordinances, cities and counties have the *option*, but not the obligation, to also offer density increases <u>which-that</u> exceed these ranges required in state law.

# Examples of Local Density Bonus Ordinances which Which Exceed the Requirements of State Law

- The City of San Diego's density bonus program allows certain housing developments to receive a density increase that is 15 percent above the range set by State Density Bonus Law, for a maximum density bonus of 50 percent. This special increase is available to housing developments for low-, very low-, and moderate-income households. For a description of San Diego's density bonus program, see Municipal Code Article 3: Supplemental Development Regulations Division 7: Affordable Housing Regulations:
  - https://docs.sandiego.gov/municode/MuniCodeChapter14/Ch14Art03Division07.pdf.
- The City of Fresno's municipal code exceeds statutory requirements by offering a density bonus for transit-oriented development projects that can be combined with the density bonus required by State Density Bonus Law. Fresno's program provides a maximum density bonus of 100 percent of the underlying zone's typical density. For a description of the Fresno's density bonus program, see City of Fresno Municipal Code, Article 21 (Transit-Oriented Development Height and Density

Bonus) and Article 22 (Affordable Housing Density Bonus): <a href="https://www.fresno.gov/darm/wp-content/uploads/sites/10/2016/11/Complete Code March 2017.pdf">https://www.fresno.gov/darm/wp-content/uploads/sites/10/2016/11/Complete Code March 2017.pdf</a>.

- Sonoma County's density bonus program exceeds statutory requirements by allowing a by-right
  100-percent increase in density for rental housing developments that provide 40 percent of the total
  units as affordable to households with incomes at 50 to 60 percent of AMI. For a description of The
  countySonoma's 's website promotes the density bonus ordinance-, includingby providing a
  description of its purpose, applicability, permit requirements, and summary of provisions, visit. See:
  https://sonomacounty.ca.gov/PRMD/Regulations/Housing/Density-Bonus-Program/.
- The City of Santa Rosa has adopted a supplemental density bonus, used in addition to State Density Bonus Law, within certain areas of the city. Housing developments within these areas may receive, if they qualify, a supplemental density bonus of up to 100 percent above the General Plan's residential density limit depending upon a number of several factors. Those factors are the project site's General Plan land use designation, its proximity to transit and schools, and its location within a housing opportunity site or a historic preservation district. For a description of the Santa Rosa's density bonus ordinance, including the supplemental density bonus, see: visit https://srcity.org/2555/Density-Bonus.
- The City of Ontario's municipal code allows a density bonus that exceeds statutory requirements, within a program specifically for senior housing developments. In addition to the general sliding scale of potential density bonuses jurisdictions are required to offer (from 5-fivepercent to 35 percent), State Density Bonus Law also creates a special type of density bonus for senior housing developments, requiring local jurisdictions to offer a bonus of up to 20 percent for qualified senior housing developments. The City of Ontario meets and exceeds this requirement by offering a 30-percent density bonus for senior housing developments. For a description of Ontario's density bonus program, see: Municipal Code Section 5.03.360 Senior Citizen Housing Development at <a href="https://www.ontarioca.gov/sites/default/files/Ontario-Files/Planning/Documents/chapter 5.0-zoning and land use 20180501.pdf">https://www.ontarioca.gov/sites/default/files/Ontario-Files/Planning/Documents/chapter 5.0-zoning and land use 20180501.pdf</a>.

For purposes of To -assessing the "Efficient Land Use" co-benefit under the Solutions for Congested Corridors Program Solutions for Congested Corridors Program, this indicator looks atconsiders whether the project is located in a jurisdiction with an ordinance whose allowable density increase exceeds the requirements of State Density Bonus Law. This ordinance may be an existing policy of the jurisdiction, or the ordinance may still be actively in development with specific expectations that the ordinance be is adopted by a time certain.

4. Is the project located in a jurisdiction(s) that has an ordinance or other policy, adopted or in development, allowing reduced parking requirements for all sites zoned for multifamily residential or mixed-use development?

The Government Code authorizes local jurisdictions to set the number of parking spaces required for each residential unit being developed. However, for projects that qualify for a density bonus, the State Density Bonus Law limits these requirements. In general, State Density Bonus Law limits parking requirements for these developments to not exceed the following (Government Code section 65915[p][1]):

- Two to three bedrooms: two onsite parking spaces.
- Four and more bedrooms: two and one-half parking spaces.
- If the development is located within one-half mile of a major transit stop, inclusive of handicapped and guest parking, 0.5 parking spaces per bedroom.
- Senior housing, or special needs housing, with either paratransit service or unobstructed access, within <u>a</u> one-half mile to fixed bus route service that operates at least eight times per day: 0.5 parking spaces per unit.

For more information, see Government Code section 65915: <a href="http://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/codes\_displayText.xhtml?lawCode=GOV&division=1.&title=7.&part=&chapter=4.3.&article.">http://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/codes\_displayText.xhtml?lawCode=GOV&division=1.&title=7.&part=&chapter=4.3.&article.</a>

For purposes of To assessing the "Efficient Land Use" co-benefit under the Solutions for Congested Corridors Program, this indicator looks atconsiders whether the project is located in a jurisdiction that imposes parking requirements, throughout the area of the jurisdiction, that are is less than, or can be reduced to below, the parking requirements specified in Government Code Section 65915(p)(1). These parking requirements may be an existing policy of the jurisdiction, or they may still be actively in development with specific expectations that they be adopted by a time certain.

5. Is the project located within a half-mile of a major transit stop, as defined by Public Resources Code section 21064.3; or a high-quality transit corridor, as defined by Public Resources Code section 21155?

Proximity to transit is one of the best indicators of location efficiency. Improved access to transit stops can serve as an effective solution for congested corridors by encouraging alternative modes of transportation.

### Major Transit Stops

Public Resources Code section 21064.3 defines a major transit stop as "a site containing an existing rail transit station, a ferry terminal served by either a bus or rail transit service, or the intersection of two or more major bus routes with a frequency of service interval of 15 minutes or less during the morning and afternoon peak commute periods."

#### **High-Quality Transit Corridors**

Public Resources Code section 21155 defines a high-quality transit corridor as "a corridor with fixed route bus service with service intervals no longer than 15 minutes during peak commute hours."

For purposes of To assessing the "Efficient Land Use" co-benefit under the Solutions for Congested Corridors Program, this indicator looks atconsiders where the project is located within a :

Whether the project is located within a half milehalf-mile of a major transit stop, or

Whether the project is located within a half mile of a high-quality transit corridor.

In collaboration with the Governor's Office of Planning and Research, HCD the California Department of Housing and Community Development is developing an online mapping tool that will show areas of the state where housing projects may qualify for CEQA exemptions or streamlining. In this tool, major transit stops, high-quality transit corridors, and average per capita vehicle miles traveled will be mapped. Accordingly, applicants are encouraged to utilize this tool when determining whether their project areas or sites may qualify under Indicator #5 and Indicator #7. The tool is estimated to be available in 2020. For more information, contact -please-email-Natalie.Kuffel@opr.ca.gov.

6. If the project is a transit stop or station, is it substantially surrounded (75 percent or more) by parcels developed for residential, commercial, public institutional, transit or transportation passenger facility, or retail use, or any combination of those uses?

State law encourages development on infill sites (Government Code section 65041.1). Infill sites are typically defined as areas that were previously developed or are substantially surrounded by qualified urban uses. (See Public Resources Code Sections 21061.3, 21099, 21094.5, 21159.25, and CEQA Guideline 15332.) "Qualified urban uses" are defined as "any residential, commercial, public institutional, transit or transportation passenger facility, or retail use, or any combination of those uses" (Public Resources Code section 21072).

By placing transportation investments in these infill areas, projects can facilitate future infill development.

For more information and guidance on infill developments, see the Governor's Office of Planning and Research's CEQA Review of Housing Projects Technical Advisory: <a href="http://opr.ca.gov/docs/20190208-TechAdvisory-Review">http://opr.ca.gov/docs/20190208-TechAdvisory-Review</a> of Housing Exemptions.pdf.

For purposes of To assessing the "Efficient Land Use" co-benefit under the Solutions for Congested Corridors Program, this indicator looks atconsiders whether the project is substantially surrounded (75 percent or more) by parcels developed for residential, commercial, public institutional, transit or transportation passenger facility, or retail use, or any combination of those uses.

# 7. Is the project located in an area with per capital household vehicle travel that is 15 percent below regional or city average?

In addition to proximity to transit, the per capita vehicle miles traveled of an area, as compared to a regional or city average, is a good indicator of location efficiency.

The Governor's Office of Planning and Research and the California Air Resources Board have determined that focusing development in areas that are 15 percent below the regional or city average will help the state meet its climate goals.

These are also the areas of the state where housing, jobs, and amenities are in close proximityproximity. With the right infrastructure investments, citizens could use alternative forms of transportation to access their daily needs, removing personal vehicles from the road and alleviating congestion.

For purposes of To assessing the "Efficient Land Use" co-benefit under the Solutions for Congested Corridors Program, this indicator looks atconsiders whether the project is in an area with per capita household vehicle travel that is 15 percent below the regional or the city average.:

Whether the project is located in an area with per capita household vehicle travel that is 15 percent below regional average, or

Whether the project is located in an area with per capita household vehicle travel that is 15 percent below *city* average.

In collaboration with the Governor's Office of Planning and Research, the California Department of Housing and Community Development HCD is developing an online mapping tool that will show areas of the state where housing projects may qualify for CEQA exemptions or streamlining. In this tool, major transit stops, high-quality transit corridors, and average per capita vehicle miles traveled will be mapped. Accordingly, applicants are encouraged to utilize this tool when determining whether their project areas or sites may qualify under Indicator #5 and Indicator #7. The tool is estimated to be available in 2020. For more information, contact-please email Natalie.Kuffel@opr.ca.gov.

# 8. Does the project further the forecasted development pattern of the applicable Regional Transportation Plan's Sustainable Communities Strategy?

Federal legislation requires each Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) to develop an Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) as part of its transportation planning process (23 U.S.C. 134[g] and 49 U.S.C..U.S.C. 5303[f]). The RTP must cover a minimum 20-year horizon, include long- and short-range strategies and actions, and describe the ways the region intends to invest in the transportation system (23 CFR §450.322).

In 2008, California Senate Bill 375 required each MPO to develop and adopt, as part of its RTP, a Sustainable Communities Strategy (SCS). The SCS must demonstrate how the RTP meets regional targets for reducing greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions through the planned transportation network, a forecasted development pattern, and transportation measures and policies within the RTP. Specifically, SB 375:

- Requires the California Air Resources Board to develop regional GHG reduction targets for cars and light trucks for each of the 18 MPOs in California.
- Requires each MPO, through its respective planning processes, to prepare an SCS that will specify how the GHG reduction targets for 2020 and 2035 can be achieved.
- Provides sStreamlinesing of California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) requirements for specific residential and mixed-use developments that are consistent with an SCS or APS that has been determined by Air Resources Board to achieve the regional emissions reduction target.
- Synchronizes the Regional Housing Needs Assessment (RHNA) process with the RTP process.

Under state law, the SCS must set forth a forecasted development pattern for the region, which when integrated with the transportation network, and other transportation measures and policies, will reduce the region's GHG from cars and light trucks (Government Code Section 65080[b][2][B]). This forecasted development pattern must be designed to achieve, (if there is a feasible way to desepossible), the GHG reduction targets approved by the California Air Resources Board.

Additionally, state law requires the SCS to:

- Identify the general location of uses, residential densities, and building intensities within the region.
- Identify areas within the region sufficient to house all the population of the region, taking into
  account considering net migration, population growth, household formation, and employment
  growth.
- Identify areas within the region sufficient to house an eight-year projection of the regional housing need for the region. Identify a transportation network to service the transportation needs of the region.
- Gather and consider the best practically available scientific information regarding resource areas and farmland in the region.
- Consider state housing goals.
- Utilize the most recent planning assumptions, considering local general plans and other factors.
- Provide consistency between the forecasted development pattern and RHNA.

• Allow the RTP to comply with Section 176 of the federal Clean Air Act (42 U.S.C. Section 7506)



#### III. OPTIONAL PRE APPLICATION TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE:

If prospective applicants would like clarification on any requirements or guidance associated with the "Efficient Land Use" co-benefit, questions submitted prior to Friday, February 21, 2020, will be considered for response in a Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) section of the SCCP website located at: https://catc.ca.gov/programs/sb1/solutions for congested corridors-program. Multiple FAQs may be released if questions are submitted throughout the project application development period, and applicants are encouraged to regularly check the website for review of FAQs that may be relevant to their application.

Additionally, to assist with any questions about the "Efficient Land Use" co-benefit, land-use experts with the California Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD), in partnership with the California Transportation Commission, are available to prospective applicants. Prospective applicants interested in a pre-application meeting or teleconference with HCD specialists to discuss questions about the "Efficient Land Use" co-benefit, may request an optional meeting by emailing Josh Rosa, HCD Policy and Program Support Manager, at josh.rosa@hcd.ca.gov.

#### IV. AVAILABLE RESOURCES:

Local jurisdictions and regional jurisdictions may access new resources to support the development or implementation of activities to help meet the indicators listed above. These resources include new one-time grant funding and technical assistance.

#### **Grant Funding**

The Regional Early Action Planning Grants of 2021 (REAP 2.0) Program provides grants to regional agencies to fund planning and implementation activities that *both* accelerate infill housing development and reduce vehicle miles traveled. REAP 2.0 provides grant funding to 1)

MPOs, with an expectation that MPOs will subgrant a portion of the funds to eligible entities (cities, counties, transit/transportation agencies) in their metropolitan region; and 2) counties and tribal entities in non-MPO regions.

REAP 2.0 funds transformative planning and implementation activities that may include, but are not limited to, accelerating infill and affordable housing development; supporting residents through realizing multimodal communities; shifting travel behavior through reducing driving; and increasing transit ridership, walking, and biking as primary modes of transportation.

REAP 2.0 funds can be used to develop and/or adopt local policies meeting the Indicators described in this Land Use Efficiency Supplement.

For more information about REAP 2.0, visit Regional Early Action Planning Grants of 2021 (REAP 2.0) (ca.gov).

New funding is available to assist local jurisdictions and regional jurisdictions in starting or completing planning activities necessary to meet the indicators listed above, including, but not limited to, developing or adopting:

- A Specific Plan that allows streamlined plan-level analysis for multifamily residential and/or mixed-use development (Indicator #2)
- An ordinance or other policy allowing reduced parking requirements for all sites zoned for multifamily residential or mixed use development (Indicator #4)

• A by-right (nondiscretionary) approval process for multifamily residential and mixed-use development (Indicator #1)

New funding to assist with the development and adoption of these policies, and/or other policies that support efficient land use, is available through the Early Action Planning Grants Program. Established by legislation in 2019, this new planning grants program provides one-time over-the-counter funding to local and regional jurisdictions for activities that accelerate the production of affordable housing, including:

- Technical assistance
- Preparation and adoption of planning documents
- Process improvements

The Early Action Planning Grants Program is administered by the California Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD), which plans to issue a Notice of Funding Availability and begin accepting applications in early 2020. For additional information, please email EarlyActionPlanning@HCD.ca.gov.

#### Additional Resources

- For questions about the Prohousing Designation Program, contact the California Department of Housing and Community Development at ProhousingPolicies@hcd.ca.gov. The California Department of Housing and Community Development will provide technical assistance to cities or counties to apply for Prohousing Designation and to any other public agencies working with cities or counties, including transportation authorities, transportation agencies, transit agencies, or regional agencies. To learn more about the Prohousing Designation Program, visit https://www.hcd.ca.gov/community-development/prohousing/index.shtml.
- To For assist with questions about a local jurisdiction's zoning policies, municipal codes, and zoning codes, visit—can be found at Municode; at <a href="https://library.municode.com/ca">https://library.municode.com/ca</a>. This resource can also assist applicants in to identifying information to address Indicators #1 through #4.
- To assist with To identifying local jurisdictions with an adopted or proposed by-right (non-discretionary) approval process, review the California Streamline Approval Open Data Map (also known as the Interactive SB 35 Determination and Housing Element Open Data Map) which identifies local jurisdictions subject to a streamlined approval process for residential developments. This resource (also called the Interactive SB 35 Determination and Housing Element Open Data Map) can also assist applicants in identifying information for Indicator #1. Hosted by the California Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD), this resource can be used by prospective applicants to identify areas where Indicator #1 (Nondiscretionary approval) would apply.
  - Streamline Approval Open Data Map:
     <a href="http://cahcd.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=29fd695819064f38afee">http://cahcd.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=29fd695819064f38afee</a>
     6c9880c30ae3
  - Mapping Webinar: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wH4DY-OteLc&feature=youtu.be
  - Mapping Webinar Presentation: <a href="http://www.hcd.ca.gov/community-development/housing-element/docs/SB 35 HE OpenDataMappingWebinar.pdf">http://www.hcd.ca.gov/community-development/housing-element/docs/SB 35 HE OpenDataMappingWebinar.pdf</a>