

# Caltrans Transportation Equity Index (EQI)

EAC Data Implementation Subcommittee

*June 2026*



Director's Office of  
**Equity & Tribal Affairs (ETA)**





# Agenda

---

- 01** Advisory Request: EQI User Guide Testing
- 02** User Testing Overview
- 03** Overall Themes and Initial Observations
- 04** Feedback Received
- 05** Summary and Next Steps
- 06** Q&A

# Advisory Request: EQI User Guide Testing

## Objectives

- Test the EQI user guide to ensure it is clear, practical, and well-designed
- Provide actionable feedback to improve the guidance

## Outcomes

- Refine the EQI User Guide prior to publishing
- Improve the capability of Caltrans staff to integrate the EQI into their work
- Identify technical assistance gaps for internal and external users



# User Testing Overview

- **Participants**
- **Testing Method**
- **Evaluation Criteria**



# User Testing Overview

## Exercises Evaluated

1. Identifying Underserved Communities
2. Identifying Transportation Burden
3. Screening for SB 960 Eligibility
4. Interpreting EQI Analytical Tool Results



# Overall Themes & Initial Observations

- **Positive Themes**
- **Common Challenges**
- **Opportunities for Improvement**

# Feedback Received

## Exercise #1: Identifying Underserved Communities

**Objective:** Determine whether a project is located within an underserved community.

### What Users Were Asked To Do

1. Open EQI web map/tool
2. Locate project area
3. Apply underserved community layer
4. Interpret result

### Feedback Requested

- What worked well?
- Challenges observed?
- Opportunities for improvement?

# Feedback Received

## Exercise #2: Identifying Transportation Burden

**Objective:** Determine whether a project is located within an underserved community.

### What Users Were Asked To Do

1. Access transportation burden layer
2. Search project location
3. Interpret burden indicators

### Feedback Requested

- What worked well?
- Challenges observed?
- Opportunities for improvement?

# Feedback Received

## Exercise #3: Screening for SB 960 Eligibility

**Objective:** Determine SB 960 project eligibility based on proximity to underserved communities.

### What Users Were Asked To Do

1. Download the EQI Version 1.0 spatial data.
2. Open the data in ArcGIS Pro or other spatial analysis software package.
3. Use the SB 960 screening instructions to determine whether the project is within 500 meters (1,640 feet) of one or more underserved communities.

### Feedback Requested

- What worked well?
- Challenges observed?
- Opportunities for improvement?

# Feedback Received

## Exercise #4: Interpreting the EQI Analytical Tool Results

**Objective:** Understand how project components influence transportation burdens and benefits.

### What Users Were Asked To Do

1. Follow the user guide instructions to input a project in the EQI analytical tool.
2. Review relevant EQI indicators in the report
3. Identify equity impacts by the project components

### Feedback Requested

- What worked well?
- Challenges observed?
- Opportunities for improvement?



# Summary & Next Steps

- **Most Common User Requests**
- **Planned Improvements**
- **Timeline**

# Thank You!



[Caltrans Equity Index \(EQI\) | Caltrans](#)



[CaltransEQI@dot.ca.gov](mailto:CaltransEQI@dot.ca.gov)

