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# Memorandum

- TO: Policy Advisory Council Equity & Access Subcommittee DATE: February 7, 2018
- FR: Mallory Atkinson, Programming and Allocations
- RE: 2019 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Investment Analysis

# What is the TIP?

The Transportation Improvement Program, or TIP, is a comprehensive four-year regional spending plan — required by federal law. A major milestone occurs when a highway, transit or other transportation project is added to the TIP. A project may not receive federal funds or receive other critical federal project approvals unless it is included in the TIP. The TIP signifies the start of implementation of the programs and policies approved in the Bay Area's long-range transportation plan. It does this by identifying specific projects over a four-year timeframe that will help move the region toward its transportation vision. Locally funded transit operations and pavement maintenance are generally not included in the TIP.

# **Investment Analysis Conducted on Each TIP**

To address the equity implications of proposed investments, MTC conducts an investment analysis. The Investment Analysis focuses on the equity implications of transportation investments included in the regional TIP. The purpose of the analysis is to understand if lowincome, minority, and other potentially disadvantaged populations are sharing equitably in the region's near-term financial investments, as included in the TIP. Information on the TIP as well as results of the Investment Analysis of the 2017 TIP can be viewed on MTC's website at: www.mtc.ca.gov/our-work/fund-invest/transportation-improvement-program

# The Council Reviews and Comments on Proposed Approach & Methodology for the TIP Investment Analysis

This memo provides an overview of the upcoming 2019 TIP Investment Analysis approach and methodology. It includes a timeline for the work as well as a summary of the analytical approach used in the 2017 TIP. MTC staff is seeking feedback to further improve upon the approach and methodology for the 2019 TIP Investment Analysis.

# Timeline

During the development of the previous TIP Investment Analysis, it was requested that staff engage members of the Policy Advisory Council earlier in the development of the analysis to provide sufficient opportunity to review and comment on the proposed approach and methodology. Staff has developed the following timeline to reflect that request.

Month	<b>Committee / Council Meeting</b>	Purpose
February	• Equity & Access Subcommittee	Present overview and seek feedback on the framework and analytical approach
April	<ul><li> Equity &amp; Access Subcommittee</li><li> Policy Advisory Council</li></ul>	Discuss feedback received and present proposed methodology
July	Policy Advisory Council	Present the results of the draft 2019 TIP Investment Analysis

#### Background

As the federally-designated Metropolitan Planning Organization for the Bay Area, MTC is required to ensure that the region's long-range planning process complies with applicable equity and environmental justice requirements. The legal, regulatory, and policy framework for addressing those issues includes:

- Title VI of the Civil Rights Act: states that no person shall be subject to discrimination based on their race, color or national origin under any federally-funded program.
- Federal Guidance on Environmental Justice: requirement that federal programs and funds do not result in disproportionately high and adverse impacts on minority and low-income populations.
- MTC's Environmental Justice Principles: adopted principles that affirm MTC's ongoing commitments to:
  - Create an open and transparent public participation process that empowers disadvantaged communities to participate in decision making that affects them, and
  - Collect accurate and current data essential to defining and understanding the presence and extent of inequities, if any, in transportation funding based on race and income.

MTC satisfies its requirements for equity and environmental justice requirements and policies primarily through the Plan Bay Area 2040 Equity Analysis, Public Participation Plan, and MTC's broader Title VI program. To further build upon MTC's commitment to equity, the TIP Investment Analysis provides the public with an additional opportunity to assess the region's transportation investments, with a specific focus on the equity implications of near-term transportation investments, as included in the TIP.

#### **TIP Investment Analysis**

The TIP is a comprehensive list of near-term transportation projects, programs and investment priorities for the nine-county Bay Area. The TIP includes all transportation projects that are federally funded, require a federal action, or are considered regionally significant for air quality conformity purposes. In reviewing TIP investments as a whole, it is important to keep in mind that most transportation projects are local, in both scale and funding, and these projects are typically not reflected in the TIP. These projects include pavement maintenance, transit operations, planning efforts, and minor complete streets improvements.

The TIP Investment Analysis is an assessment of TIP investments through an equity lens, specifically focused on the Bay Area's disadvantaged populations. The analysis has been completed as part of the development of each new TIP since 2008. The TIP is generally updated every two years, and can also be amended in between updates to reflect project or funding changes.

#### **Analytical Approach**

The 2017 TIP Investment Analysis (<u>https://mtc.ca.gov/sites/default/files/Final\_2017\_TIP\_Investment\_Analysis.pdf</u>), included the following components:

- **Population Use-Based Analysis:** This analysis compares the estimated percent of investments included in the TIP that benefit low-income and minority populations, as well as seniors, to the percent of these populations' relative usage of the transportation system, for both roadways and transit.
- *Disparate Impact Analysis*: This analysis compares TIP investments per capita for racial or ethnic minority populations, as a percentage of per capita investments identified for nonminority populations, to investigate whether disadvantaged persons in the region are receiving an equitable share of the benefits from TIP investments on a per capita basis.
- *Mapped Projects Analysis*: For the mapped projects analysis, projects in the TIP are mapped over the region's Communities of Concern and census tracts with concentrations of disadvantaged populations that are above the regional average. This analysis provides the public with an opportunity to visualize the distribution of projects planned in the near-term in relation to geographic concentrations of disadvantaged groups to identify any systemic exclusion of groups or imbalances in investments.
- *Supplemental Information:* Given the limitations of the data available, a quantitative analysis of TIP investments in relation to the transportation of persons with disabilities has not been included in this analysis in the past. However, the 2017 TIP Investment Analysis did provide a qualitative discussion of regional investments and planning initiatives that support transportation by seniors and persons with disabilities.

In previous analyses, a frequent topic of discussion has been the age of data itself. For the 2019 TIP, staff anticipates using the latest available travel and demographic data, including the 2013 Household Travel Survey, 2012-2017 Transit Passenger Surveys, and the 2016 American Community Survey.

MTC strives to employ best practices in metropolitan planning, and we constantly seek to refine and improve the analytical work that supports our various planning processes. In keeping with MTC's efforts, staff welcomes any additional feedback to further improve upon the approach and methodology for the 2019 TIP Investment Analysis.

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