

Inserting **health and equity indicators** into California's climate change and regional transportation planning process



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With the goal of reducing greenhouse gas emissions, SB 375 (2008) requires that each of California's 18 Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPOs) prepare a Sustainable Communities Strategy (SCS) as part of their Regional Transportation Plan (RTP).

The SCS process is an opportunity to improve the health and equity of all communities in the state, truly ensuring our sustainability



MPOs use a variety of performance measurements (or “metrics” or “indicators”) to assess different scenarios for land use and transportation changes.

The type of metrics used will determine which scenarios perform the best.

Example metric	Potential result
Automobile Level of Service (LOS)	MPO plans will focus on making driving more convenient (not good for health)
Premature Mortality due to Traffic-Related Pollution	Plans likely to decrease traffic-related pollution by promoting alternate forms of transportation (good for health)

- Measurable over time
- Evidence-based
- Geographically scale-able (measured at various scales, like local and regional, and at scales useful to those using them)
- Understandable/accessible to policy-makers
- Can be stratified by race, ethnicity, place, income
- Relevant to health and equity
- Relevant to Sustainable Communities Strategy

- Safety
- Access to Goods, Jobs & Services
- General Transportation
- Future Growth
- Economic
- Environmental Pollution
- Equity

Safety

Map annual number of pedestrian and bicycle collisions per capita by fatality and injury

Access to Jobs, Goods & Services

Proportion of households that can walk or bike (10 minutes) to meet at least 50% of their daily needs

General Transportation

Daily amount (in minutes) of work-trip and non-work trip related physical activity

Environmental Pollution

Premature mortality attributed to traffic-related ambient PM 2.5

Equity

Measure and stratify all indicators by race/ethnicity, income, geography, age, disability

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