



Implementation of Senate Bill 743 in Alameda County

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Presentation to ACTAC
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Presentation Outline

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Background

What is SB-743?

- Changes criteria to analyze transportation impacts under CEQA
- Promotes reduction of GHG emissions
- Vehicle delay (LOS) not a significant impact
- New Metric: VMT
 - VMT/capita, VMT/employee, auto trips generated, etc.
- CEQA Amendment: December, 2018
- Requirement becomes mandatory on July 1, 2020.

Implications for Countywide Transportation Agencies (CTA)

- Provide consistent guidance to member agencies for the transition from LOS to VMT
- Statutory role on assessing land development impacts on the transportation system

Alameda CTC Activities to Date

Alameda CTC staff has worked closely with OPR, Caltrans, CTAs, and MTC as OPR developed the new metric.

- Formed the Alameda CTC SB 743 Working Group. We heard:
 - Keep land use and transportation projects separated
- Working to support jurisdictions through:
 - Disseminating relevant information
 - Developing VMT maps
 - Development of a VMT reduction estimator tool
- CTA Information Sharing Forum:
 - Information sharing on Bay Area CTA's efforts to transition to VMT,
 - discussion on various approaches taken by regional agencies.
- Engaged with Caltrans on their guidance development

Key Statewide Efforts

Development of VMT reduction estimator and other guidelines

- SANDAG
 - Excel-based, downloadable VMT reduction estimator tool (TDM strategies)
 - Determination of impact by project sponsoring entity or member agency
 - Tool provides guidance and can be customized by other agencies
- City of Los Angeles VMT Tool and VMT reduction strategy
 - Excel-based, downloadable
 - Project is evaluated for VMT impacts, if over 250 daily trips
- City of Pasadena
 - First city in the state to adopt VMT metric to evaluate projects under CEQA (2014)

Key Statewide Efforts

- CALTRANS three-pronged approach for review of local land use, transportation projects, and transportation impact analysis on State Highway System:
 - Transportation Impact Study Guide (TISG) for Caltrans review of land use projects
 - Transportation Analysis Framework (TAF) for transportation projects
 - Transportation Analysis under CEQA (TAC) to evaluate, determine significance, and mitigate transportation projects
- Webinar held on November 8, 2019
- Draft Guidelines. Please subscribe to sb743.implementation@dot.ca.gov to get updates.

Key Regional Efforts

- City of San Jose Evaluation Tool
 - Comprehensive Excel-based downloadable tool that estimates VMT for proposed land use projects and includes a menu of TDM strategies for VMT mitigation
- City of San Francisco
 - Adopted use of VMT metric in 2016
 - VMT Map-web based tool to visualize travel demand and trip patterns for development projects in San Francisco.
- VTA is following City of San Jose's model in developing an online platform for countywide application

Key Regional Efforts

- Other CTAs in the Bay Area region
 - Sonoma County Transportation Authority developed VMT maps from their model and Streetlight data
 - considering use of SANDAG's tool
 - Contra Costa Transportation Authority is developing VMT maps and a VMT tool
 - City and County Association of Governments in San Mateo County is developing a VMT tool based on the City of San Jose's Tool
 - Transportation Agency of Marin is looking at developing VMT tool
 - Napa Valley Transportation Authority and Solano Transportation Authority are updating their model and VMT maps

Key Regional Efforts

- MTC Developed a high level guidance for CEQA lead agencies to assist with the implementation of SB 743 requirements.
 - It includes main steps to follow to implement SB 743 requirements
 - Includes resources and useful links
 - Recently circulated to the Alameda CTC member agencies

Key developments in Alameda County

- City of Oakland
 - First jurisdiction in the county to adopt VMT as significance metric under CEQA analysis
 - Updated Transportation Review Guidelines, April 2017
 - Threshold for exemption is 50 trips/peak hour
- Cities of Fremont and Hayward received a MTC SB 743 Technical Assistance Grant for the implementation of guidelines to comply with SB 743 requirements
- City of Berkeley is currently developing VMT guidelines to evaluate projects under CEQA

Approach for Implementing SB 743 in Alameda County

Transportation projects:

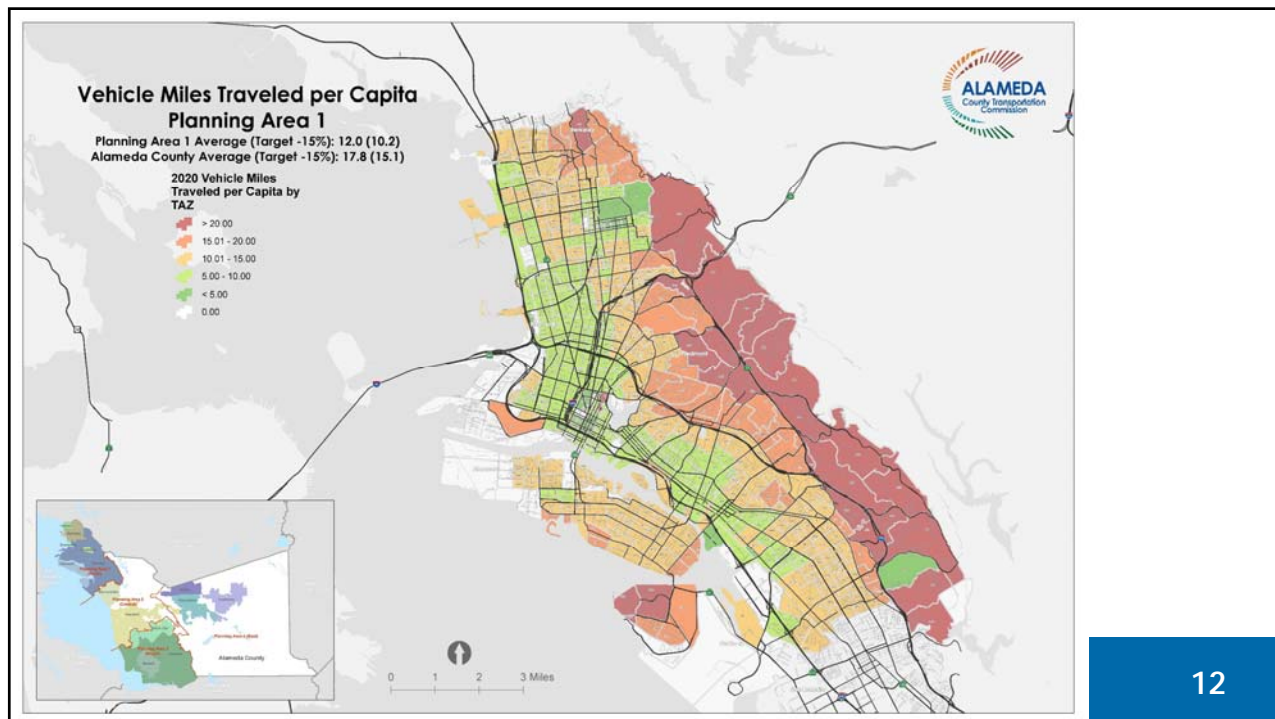
- Follow Caltrans approach for evaluating transportation projects:

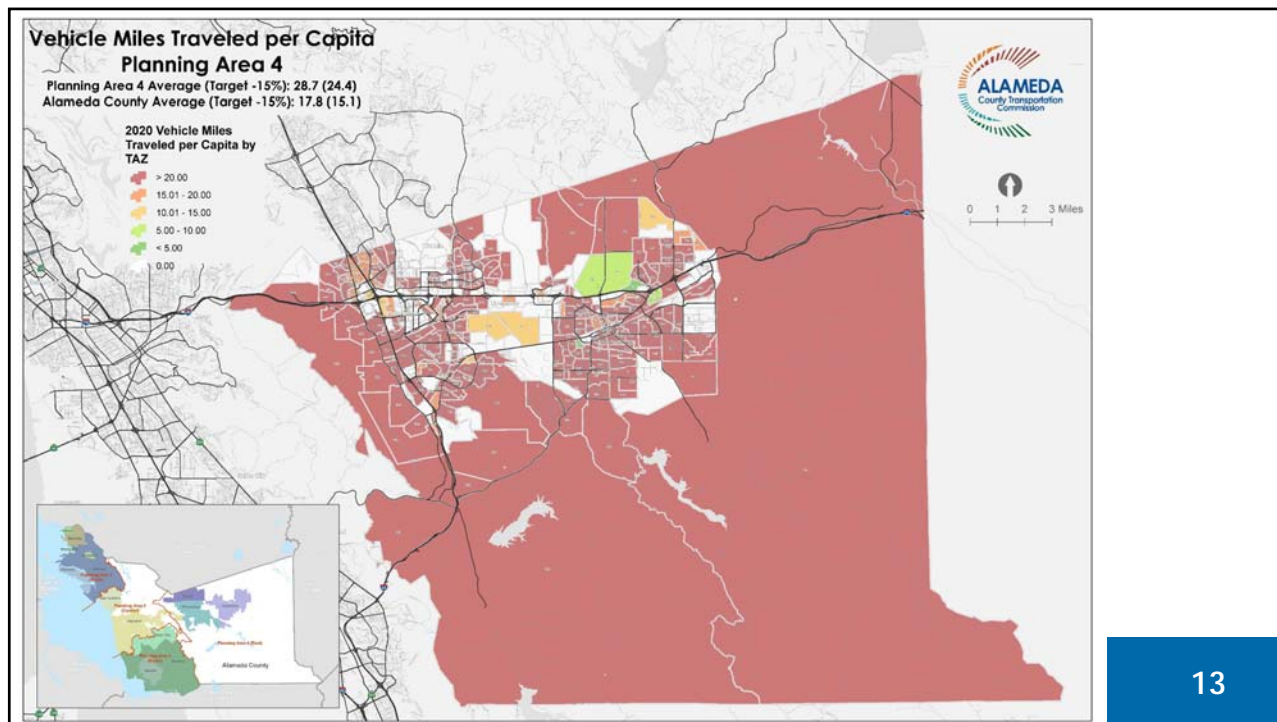
Land use projects:

- Update VMT maps by planning area, county, and regional averages for project screening.
 - Project exempt – process ends here
 - If project not exempt, use Alameda CTC VMT Reduction Estimator
- Develop the Alameda County VMT Reduction Estimator based on SANDAG's tool
 - Develop user guide for VMT tool
 - Best practices to streamline local process
- Other supportive local processes based on Fremont and Hayward efforts

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Developing the Alameda County VMT Reduction Estimator

Why customizing SANDAG's VMT Reduction Estimator Tool?

- Downloadable Excel-based tool developed with Caltrans Planning Grant
- Calculates VMT reduction resulting from application of various transportation demand management (TDM) strategies
- Resource to member agencies for evaluating impacts of the implementation of TDM strategies for project review and transportation analysis
- Tool operates at two geographic levels
 - 1) Project/Site: Parcel, employer, development level strategies
 - 2) Community/City: Neighborhood, corridor, entire municipality level strategies
- Mobility Management Strategy Guidebook complements this tool
- Tool Design Document
 - Details tool inputs and formulas

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Developing the Alameda County VMT Reduction Estimator

SANDAG Mobility Manager VMT Reduction Estimator Tool

- Provides a simplified approach focused on VMT reduction estimation
- The tool has been reviewed with CTAs' modeling staff
- Reduction strategies used in tool are tested by reasonable and most recently available research in the industry
- Can be customized for local conditions, project type, and TDM strategies

Developing the Alameda County VMT Reduction Estimator – Scope of work Highlights

Reviewed by Alameda CTC SB 743 WG. Staff is currently working with Alameda CTC on-call consultants

1. Tool Review and Data Collection
2. Develop/Customize Tool and Sensitivity Tests
3. Update Tool Design Manual
4. User Guide and Tool Maintenance
5. Project time period – Six months

Next Steps

Closely working with the Alameda County SB 743 WG and periodical presentation to ACTAC

- Develop VMT maps per capita and per employee
 - County level
 - Planning area level
- Develop the VMT Reduction Estimator Tool
 - Enter into contract with on-call consultant—February, 2020
 - Tool Development: February to August, 2020.



Questions?