Vehicle Miles Traveled Mitigation Program and Nexus Study

City of Fresno

Kick–Off Workshop December 9th, 2021
Background – Senate Bill (SB) 743

- Passed in 2013
- CEQA Transportation Impact Metric
  - Vehicle Miles Traveled (VMT)
  - Replacing delay and Levels of Service (LOS)
- In effect – July 1, 2020
- Better promote statewide policies
  - Reduce GHG Emissions;
  - Encourage infill development and diversity;
  - Promote multi-modal transportation networks; and
  - Promote transportation safety.
Senate Bill (SB) 743

- Projects subject to SB 743
  - Development Projects
  - Redevelopment/Infill Projects
  - Transportation Projects
  - Land Use Plans (General Plans/Specific Plans)
City of Fresno – Available VMT Analysis Tools

- City’s VMT Analysis Guidelines, adopted June, 2020
  - Screening criteria
  - Evaluation Methodologies
- Screening Tool
City of Fresno – Available VMT Analysis Tools

- VMT Calculator Tool
- Fresno COG Activity Based Model (ABM)
City of Fresno – Project Evaluation

- **Evaluation methods**
  - *Screening criteria*
  - *VMT methodology*
  - *Mitigations (if required)*

- **Dependent on Project Type**
  - *Applicable Metric*
  - *VMT Thresholds*
  - *Impact when project VMT > threshold*
City of Fresno – Project Evaluation (Example LU project)

- Land Development Project
  - Single family 200 dwelling units
  - Location: S Armstrong Ave and E Church Ave

- Analysis Tool - VMT Calculator Tool
- Significant Impact - Yes
- Identify Mitigation Measures

![Graph showing VMT per Capita comparison](image)
City of Fresno Approach to VMT Mitigation

• Site Specific Improvements (Urban Design Calculator)
  – Design features e.g., intersection density
  – Land use mixes, densities

• Off-site Improvements (Fee Program)
  – Active transportation improvements
  – Transit improvements
  – Other improvements such as ITS, TDM measures, safety, and broadband infrastructure
VMT Mitigations - Challenges

- **Current data sources**
  - *California Air Pollution Control Officers Association (CAPCOA) Manual*
  - *California Air Resources Board (CARB) Research publications*

- **Inadequate local context in CAPCOA**

- **Additional local data/analysis required as substantial evidence to determine efficacy of mitigation measures**
VMT Mitigation Program - Task Overview

- VMT Mitigation Program
- Urban Design Calculator
- Nexus Study
- Stakeholder Outreach
- Planning Commission and City Council Meetings
VMT Mitigation Program

- Identification of Applicable Mitigation Measures
- Quantification of Mitigation Measures
- Cost Estimates for the Mitigation Measures
- Prioritization of Mitigation Measures
- VMT Mitigation Program Report

Deliverables:

- *Prioritized list of selected mitigation measures and documentation of prioritization methodology*

- VMT Mitigation Program Report
VMT Mitigation Program – Example Applicable Mitigation Measures

- Trails
- Sharrows
- Bike Facilities
- Improved Bus Stop

[Images of trails, bike facilities, and improved bus stop]
Site Specific Improvements – Urban Design Calculator

- Review and Update of the Urban Design Calculator
- Review the associated VMT reductions
- Update with local data if available
- Upgrade calculator based on additional data and VMT reduction measures
- Possible recommendation about continuing data collections and periodic updates

Deliverables:

- Updated Urban Design Calculator
Off-Site Improvements – Fee Program

- Identify Mitigation Measures
- Develop Cost Estimates
- Prioritize Mitigation Measures
- Prepare Nexus Study
VMT Mitigation Program – Cost Estimates for Mitigation Measures

- Cost estimates being provided by City/FAX
VMT Mitigation Program – Mitigation Location and Prioritization

• Greatest cost benefit ratio
• Dense/urban areas
• Existing Low VMT locations
• High activity areas for biggest benefits
• Fill-in existing gaps (active transportation improvements)
Nexus Study

- Development of Nexus for the Mitigation Measures
- Development of VMT Mitigation Fees
- Nexus Study Report

Deliverables:

- Development of mitigation fees based on the Nexus and costs for identified mitigation measures
- Nexus Study Report
Stakeholder Outreach

- Project Branding
- Stakeholder Engagement

Deliverables:

- Project Branding (Program name and logo)
- Two Stakeholder Meetings/Workshops
Next Steps

Ongoing Coordination

• Kick-Off Meeting (completed)
• Bi-weekly Technical Advisory Committee Meetings (on-going)
• Second Stakeholder Workshop

Planning Commission & City Council

• One workshop with Planning Commission and City Council
• Public Hearings – One Planning Commission and One City Council Meeting
Project Schedule

**TASK 0: PROJECT MANAGEMENT**
- 1.1: Identification of Applicable Mitigation Measures
- 1.2: Quantification of Mitigation Measures
- 1.3: Development of Cost Estimates for the Mitigation Measures
- 1.4: Prioritization of Mitigation Measures
- 1.5: VMT Mitigation Program Report

**TASK 1: VMT MITIGATION PROGRAM**
- 1.1: Identification of Applicable Mitigation Measures
- 1.2: Quantification of Mitigation Measures
- 1.3: Development of Cost Estimates for the Mitigation Measures
- 1.4: Prioritization of Mitigation Measures
- 1.5: VMT Mitigation Program Report

**TASK 2: URBAN DESIGN CALCULATOR**
- 2.1: Review and Update of the Urban Design Calculator

**TASK 3: NEXUS STUDY**
- 3.1: Development of Nexus for the Mitigation Measures
- 3.2: Development of VMT Mitigation Fees
- 3.3: Nexus Study Report

**TASK 4: STAKEHOLDER OUTREACH**
- 4.1: Project Branding
- 4.3: Stakeholder Engagement

**TASK 5: PLANNING COMMISSION AND CITY COUNCIL MEETING**
- Kick-Off Meeting
- Weekly Project Meetings
- Stakeholders Meeting
- Draft Deliverable
- Final Deliverable
- City Council Workshop
- Planning Commission/City Council Meetings
VMT Mitigation Fee Program Projects

- Contra Costa Transportation Authority (CCTA)
  - Vehicle Miles Traveled (VMT) Mitigation Program

- City of San Diego
  - Mobility Choices – Active Transportation In Lieu Fee Nexus Study
Questions