

Promoting Equity in Transportation: The SCAG Mobility Innovations and Pricing Initiative

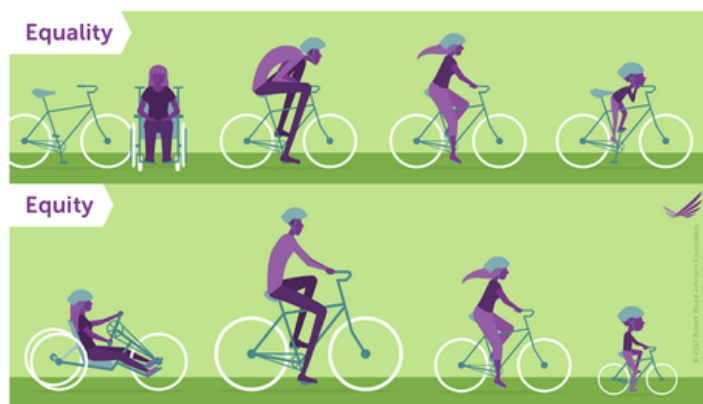
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What is the SCAG MIP Initiative?

The Mobility Innovations and Pricing (MIP) initiative, led by the Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG), focuses on addressing transportation equity through inclusive policymaking. It aims to create a fair and accessible transportation system for all residents in the six-county SCAG region.

Why Does It Matter?

Transportation policies impact everyone, but historically marginalized communities often bear the brunt of negative effects. The MIP initiative recognizes this and seeks to prioritize their concerns. A key aspect is the concept of Transportation Equity Zones (TEZs), which are areas facing socioeconomic, environmental, and transportation challenges.



MIP: Ensuring Equitable Transportation:

- **Empowering Communities:** MIP partners with local organizations to understand the needs of underserved communities and ensure their voices are heard.
- **Data-Driven Decisions:** Rigorous studies help MIP evaluate the impact of transportation initiatives on disadvantaged groups.
- **Targeted Solutions:** MIP addresses potential burdens of programs like road pricing through subsidies, incentives, and accessible payment options.
- **Prioritizing Equity:** Equity is central to MIP's pricing strategies, ensuring everyone benefits from transportation advancements.

What Does MIP Aim to Achieve?



Community Involvement:

Fosters engagement and ensures that diverse voices shape transportation policies.



Fair Outcomes:

MIP prioritizes equity and aims to achieve fair outcomes for all, regardless of background or socioeconomic status.



Positive Impact:

MIP seeks to alleviate transportation burdens and improve the well-being of historically underserved populations.

What are Transportation Equity Zones?

Transportation Equity Zones (TEZs) identify areas with limited transportation access, air pollution, and rent stress and target resources to address these disparities. TEZs guide the analysis of travel patterns and assess the impacts of mobility innovations, like road pricing, on marginalized communities.

How Were TEZs Identified?

- **Comprehensive Analysis:** The process began with thoroughly examining socioeconomic, environmental, and transportation burdens at the census tract level. This analysis helped pinpoint areas facing the most significant challenges.
- **Top 15% Focus:** The top 15% of locations with the highest intersection of these burdens were designated as TEZs. These zones represent communities that urgently need targeted interventions.

Why Do TEZs Matter?



Rent Stress: High rent burdens force families to allocate a significant portion of their income to housing, leaving less for transportation costs.



Air Pollution: TEZs are disproportionately affected by air pollution. Residents in these zones face health risks due to emissions from traffic and industrial activities.



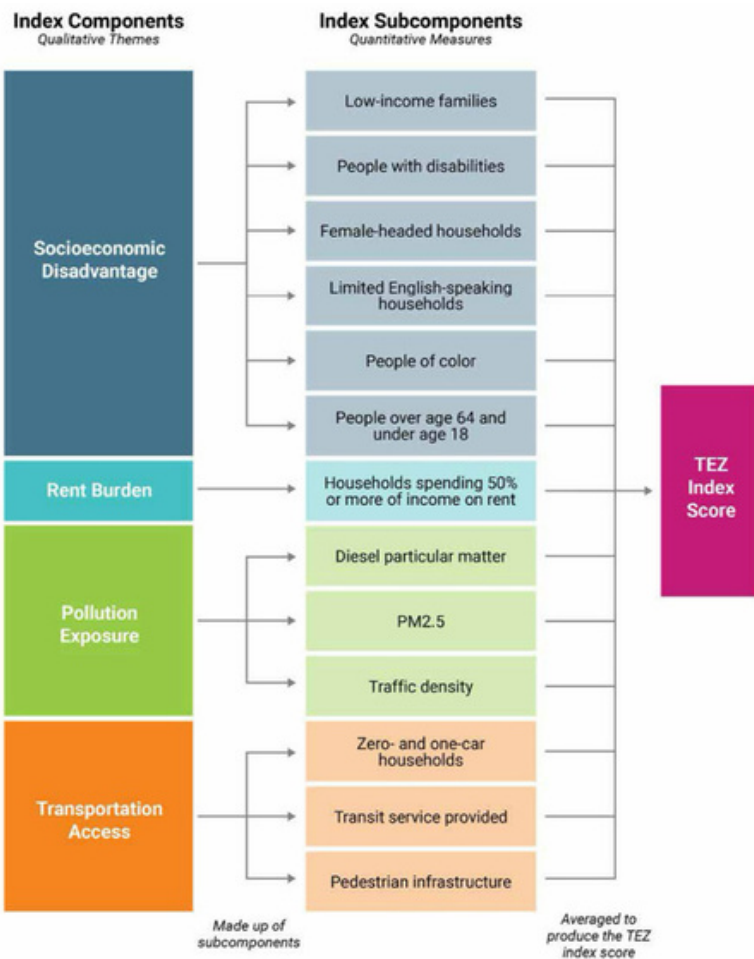
Limited Access: TEZs often lack reliable public transit, making it challenging for residents to reach essential services, jobs, and educational institutions.

How Do TEZs Empower Communities?

Tailored Policies: TEZs inform policy decisions. By understanding the unique challenges faced by these communities, policymakers can create targeted solutions.

Community Engagement: TEZs encourage community involvement. Residents' voices shape transportation policies, ensuring that decisions align with their needs.

Equitable Mobility: TEZs enhance mobility options. Residents gain better jobs, education, and healthcare access by addressing transportation gaps.



Continuous Implementation

Data-Driven Approach: Continuously update and analyze data to inform policy decisions, ensuring they are informed by the most recent and accurate information.

Community Engagement: Continue to foster community involvement through stakeholder engagement and technical analyses, amplifying diverse voices to inform transportation planning and policy decisions and tailoring solutions to meet their unique needs.

Equity Integration: Continue to prioritize transportation equity by integrating it into pricing strategies and policymaking, ensuring all communities can access affordable and reliable transportation options.

References

Southern California Association of Governments [SCAG]. (2022). MOBILITY INNOVATIONS + PRICING: An Initiative to Elevate Equity in Planning. Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG). Retrieved March 29, 2024, from <https://scag.ca.gov/mobility-innovations-and-pricing>