



San Francisco Bay Chapter

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20 September 2015

Chair Scott Haggerty and Members
Alameda County Transportation Commission
Suite 800
1111 Broadway
Oakland CA 94607

Via S. Suthanthira ssuthanthira@alamedactc.org

Re: 2016 Alameda Countywide Transportation Plan (CTP)

Dear Chair Haggerty and Members:

The Sierra Club is following the progress of the 2016 CTP and asks when the Alameda County Transportation Commission (ACTC) will be issuing a draft Environmental Impact Report as it proceeds with development of the 2016 CTP.

For your reference, here are four greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions targets from Plan Bay Area and Governor Brown's Executive Orders which seek to achieve in chronological order:

- 1) By 2020, a reduction in vehicle miles traveled per capita of 7%;
- 2) By 2030, a reduction of GHG emissions to 40% below 1990 levels;
- 3) By 2035, a reduction in vehicle miles traveled per capita of 15% %; &
- 4) By 2050, a reduction in GHG emissions to 80% below 1990 levels.

The current CTP (adopted in 2012) states that by 2035 vehicle miles traveled (VMT) will increase by 46% and that the county's population will increase by 28%. This means that VMT per capita will *increase by 14%*, not decrease by 15%. The 2013 Plan Bay Area has two VMT per capita targets relative to 2005—a 7% reduction by 2020 and a 15% reduction by 2035. Will the 2016 CTP lead to achieving these two targets?

Governor Brown issued Executive Order B-30-15 earlier this year. A part of the Executive Order states, "IT IS HEREBY ORDERED THAT 1. A new interim statewide greenhouse gas emission reduction target to reduce greenhouse gas emissions to 40 percent below 1990 levels by 2030 is established in order to ensure California meets its target of reducing greenhouse gas emissions to 80 percent below 1990 levels by 2050." Will the 2016 CTP lead to achieving the 2030 target?

Regarding the 2050 greenhouse gas emissions target, Governor Brown issued Executive Order B-16-2012 three months before the 2012 CTP was adopted. A part of this Executive Order states, “IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that California target for 2050 a reduction of greenhouse gas emissions from the transportation sector equaling 80 percent less than 1990 levels.” Will the 2016 CTP lead to achieving the 2050 target?

A July 16, 2015 memo to the ACTC Board about the 2016 CTP states the the 2016 CTP will “include components to address climate change responding to the Sustainable Communities and Climate Protection Act (SB 375), land use and transportation integration with the Priority Development Areas (PDA) and Priority Conservation Areas (PCAs), and Complete Streets policies.” What opportunities will there be for public input about addressing climate change and the Sustainable Communities Strategy with the 2016 CTP?

Caltrans’ draft California Transportation Plan 2040, on related matters, contains information about the policies and strategies that may be required to meet the 2050 greenhouse gas target. Receiving mention—by no means an exhaustive list—are:

- Doubling transit service and speeds;
- Making transit fares free;
- Prioritizing transit and high-occupancy vehicles over single-occupancy vehicles;
- Creating incentives for drivers of zero emission vehicles to add to their numbers;
- Aggressively expanding active transportation; &
- Avoiding the funding of projects that add road capacity & increase maintenance costs.

Will these sorts of policies and strategies that are set out in the draft California Transportation Plan 2040 be considered as the 2016 CTP is developed?

The July ACTC memo also notes, “State legislation mandates that the CTPs form the basis for the Regional Transportation Plan/Sustainable Communities Strategy and that the CTPs should consider the most recent RTP/SCS.” This makes it clear that the 2016 CTP will need to be more than an update to the 2012 CTP.

If you have any questions about this letter, please contact me at mwillia@mac.com. I look forward to receiving your response. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Matt Williams
Chair, San Francisco Bay Chapter Transportation and Compact Growth Committee

cc: Association of Bay Area Governments
Metropolitan Transportation Commission
Chair, Chapter Executive Committee
Northern Alameda County Group
Southern Alameda County Group
Tri-Valley Group