Transportation Planning Equity Assessment

March 8, 2021
Presentation Overview

Historical Context

Identify Equity Areas

Equity Assessment Process
Equity Assessment Origins

• Any agency that receives federal funds must adhere to Title VI requirements (and other federal non-discrimination authorities)

• Equity assessments have historically been used by the MPO but were not standardized

How can we do more?

How can the process be standardized?
Equity Assessment Overview

STEP 1
CONDUCT DATA & PEER AGENCY REVIEW

STEP 2
DEVELOP EQUITY AREAS

STEP 3
APPLY ASSESSMENT METHODOLOGY

STEP 4
EVALUATE RESULTS
Identify Equity Areas

What objectives should drive the methodology?

Objective 1: Use available and accessible data

Objective 2: Be flexible for MPO/local plans and programs

Objective 3: Be simple to use

Objective 4: Be objective

Objective 5: Be open-sourced
Identify Equity Areas

What demographic information should be included?

Race and Minority
  • Racial Minority

Low Income
  • Population below Poverty

Disability
  • Population with a Disability

Minority and National Origin
  • Ethnic Minority
  • LEP Population

Age
  • Youth (10-17 years)
  • Older Adults (65+ years)
Identify Equity Areas

Calculates composite “equity” score

Flexible geography

County, city, region, subarea

How does the “tool” operate?

- Excel-based
- Use Census/American Community Survey (ACS) data
- Flexibility in data and geography
  - Can “turn” indicators on/off
  - Block group or census tract level
- Statistically-driven calculation process (no user-assigned scoring) to identify equity score
Identify Equity Areas

- Output is the equity area score map
- **Is not** intended to be a definitive identifier of EJ/Title VI populations
- **Is** intended to be used as a guide
- Provides a consistent way to analyze demographic data
Equity Assessment Resources

- Broward MPO Webpage
  - “Resources” tab
- Technical reports
- Interactive map illustrating equity scores and data by block group
Application Methodology (Overview)

We have identified equity areas...now what?

It starts with.... Commitment 2045 (Metropolitan Transportation Plan)

Three scalable assessment levels

- Project/ System Concept
- Project Development
- Project Investment

BrowardMPO.org
Application Methodology (MTP)

1. Data & Analysis
2. Scenario Analysis
3. Hybrid Scenario
4. 2045 Needs
5. Project Priorities
6. Cost Feasible Plan
7. Ongoing Input from Public, MPO Committees, and MPO Board

Broward Metropolitan Planning Organization
BrowardMPO.org
Commitment 2045 Planning Factors

**Mobility**
- SOV Travel | VMT Reduction | Person Capacity | Peak Period Delay & Transit Travel Time

**Accessibility**
- Transit Ridership | Activity Center Access & Reliability | Multimodal Connectivity

**Safety**
- Multimodal Safety (Addressing existing high-crash locations and factors which adversely impact safety)

**Equity**
- Distribution of Transit Service Frequency* | Transit Service* | Travel Time Savings* | Multimodal Safety* | Community Impacts

**Environment**
- Sea Level Rise Mitigation | GHG and Precursor Emissions | Wetland/Natural Habitats | Cultural and Historical Resources

**Economy**
- Freight & Goods Movement | State of Good Repair | Economic Development
MTP Project Prioritization

Equity Planning Factor Criteria

- Distribution of Transit Service Frequency
- Transit Services within Equity Areas
- Multimodal Safety within Equity Areas
- Potential Community Impacts

Equity criteria provide for 8 out of 37 total points

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<th>Planning Factors</th>
<th>Assigned Weight</th>
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Equity Assessment
Other MPO Plans and Programs

- Complete Streets & Localized Initiatives Program
- Complete Streets Master Plan (next update)
- Mobility Hub Program
- Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)
Equity Assessment Partner Resources

• Equity Assessment Information Kit
  • What is equity?
  • What are equity areas?
  • What types of projects this applies to?
  • How equity can be considered?
    • Public outreach
    • Technical analysis
  • Available resources
Questions?