

Commute Trip Reduction Program Equity Study

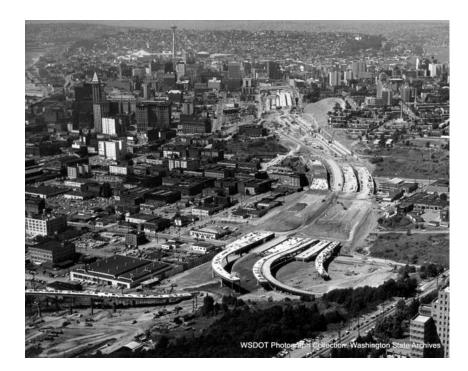
Katie Bunge, Data Analyst, WSDOT Public Transportation Division June 14, 2023

Context

Ongoing statewide and national renewed investment in environmental justice, remediating past harms

Recent state legislation directs state agencies to assess and understand the impacts of our state funds:

- HEAL Act
- Climate Commitment Act





Statewide Requirements

HEAL Act:

- Ongoing and meaningful engagement around WSDOT programs and actions
- Some WSDOT actions deemed "significant" may require environmental justice assessments of project benefits/burdens (begins July 1)
- Statewide goal to direct 40% of expenditures to environmental benefits for vulnerable populations in overburdened communities (<u>RCW</u> <u>70A.02.080</u>) (begins July 1)

Climate Commitment Act:

- Statewide goal to direct 35% minimum with a 40% target of CCA funds to environmental benefits for vulnerable populations in overburdened communities
- Goal of directing a minimum 10% of CCA funding to tribally sponsored or supported projects (<u>RCW 70A.60.230</u>)
- PTD receives CCA funding in the form of the Climate Transit Programs Account – CTR is **partially** funded through this source



CTR Equity Study – Draft Project Brief

Focus on TDM that:

- supports existing non-drive-alone transportation options, including those that eliminate trips
- motivates mode shift using incentives and disincentives
- lowers emissions for vulnerable populations

Develop guidance on:

- How the CTR program addresses equity in its current practice.
- How the CTR program will address equity in the future.
- How other TDM projects and programs can complement CTR to enhance equity.

Project deliverables will be achieved in part by a hired consultant.



CTR Equity Study

Goals:

- Provide analysis to support the development of equity strategies for CTR and TDM
- Inform how the Statewide CTR Program will comply with the HEAL Act and Climate Commitment Act
- Inform the equity components of 2029-2033 local/regional CTR plans

Outcomes:

- Understand effects of the current Statewide CTR Program on vulnerable populations in overburdened communities and tribes
- Identify any changes to be made to the Statewide CTR Program related to equity
- Identify strategies to better use TDM to support equity and inclusion



Final Report (Deliverable)

- a. Literature review.
- **b.** Tribal and stakeholder engagement.
- c. Equity performance assessment methodology that incorporates HEAL act methodology.
- d. Baseline performance assessment of the Statewide CTR Program.
- e. Proposed performance goals.
- **f.** Identification of unmet need and prioritized list of strategies to improve the Statewide CTR Program and improve or create other TDM programs from an equity lens.
- **g.** Identification of authorities, funding, and other resources necessary to deliver the strategies, including Legislative changes
- h. Guidance to incorporate equity into future state CTR plans (after 2025)



Partners and Stakeholders

- Community organizations representing vulnerable populations and overburdened communities
- TDM Technical Committee
- TDM Executive Committee
- Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPOs) and Regional Transportation Planning Organizations (RTPOs)
- Cities and counties
- Transit agencies
- Tribal governments
- CTR worksites and employees
- Business and economic development organizations including transportation management associations
- Legislative staff
- Riders and travelers
- Other interested parties as identified in <u>WAC 468-63-040 (Local CTR plan)</u>



Example Timeline

Task	Jul-Sept 2023	Oct-Dec 2023	Jan-Mar 2024	Apr-Jun 2024	Jul-Sept 2024
1. Literature Review					
2. Existing Conditions – Baseline Assessment					
3. Develop Recommendations					
4. Final Report					



Questions?

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