



Los Angeles County
Metropolitan Transportation Authority



DRAFT Countywide Sustainability Planning Policy

South Bay Council of Governments
Livable Communities Working Group
July 18, 2012

Policy Overview

Purposes of the Policy

Establish a framework to:

- Better **integrate** sustainability in Metro Planning Functions
- Complement and provide a framework to **build upon** Federal, state, regional and local policies and plans
- **Foster** collaboration and partnerships

Countywide Sustainability Planning Policy Outline

- I. Overview, Purpose, and Background
- II. Planning a Sustainable Transportation System
 - A. Principles and Priorities
 - B. Key Concepts
 - C. Planning Framework
- III. Planning Guidance
- IV. Policy Implementation and Impact
- V. Conclusion

Policy Development Process/Schedule



What does it mean to be Sustainable?

To meet the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.

How do we define Sustainable Transportation?

Principles and Priorities

	Society	Economy	Environment
Connect	Access	Prosperity	Green Modes
Create	Healthy Neighborhoods	Community Revitalization	Urban Greening
Conserve	Context Sensitivity	System Productivity	Environmental Stewardship

How do we achieve a Sustainable Transportation System?

Provide opportunities for more people to drive less and in more efficient vehicles, while reaching the places they need to go.



Lower VMT

Lowering VMT...

REDUCES...

- Vehicle, bike, and ped accidents
- Fuel use
- Traffic congestion, particularly during rush hour
- Emissions
- Respiratory ailments
- Greenhouse gas emissions (GHG)

INCREASES...

- Transit, bike and ped travel
- Physical activity
- Economic benefits through reduced transportation costs

Key Concepts

Essential to success:

- Transportation and Land Use Integration
- “**Bundling**” different types of strategies, including pricing and parking
- Network optimization to **maximize system efficiency**
- Both **regional** and **local** strategies

Planning Guidance

Planning Guidance: Strategies

- Actions that can **advance the sustainability planning principles and priorities** included in the Policy.
- **Many already in place** or under consideration
- **Significant overlap** with SCS and other efforts
- One size **does not fit all**
- Increased policy focus on **integrating land-use and transportation** (SB 375, New Starts)

Linking Strategies to Policy

Two policy components establish a basis for Metro's support of strategies

**Universal
Policies**

**Place-based
Policies**

Universal Policies

Universal Policies

Policies to guide Metro's activities countywide

- **Policy topics:**
 - SCAG RTP/SCS Consistency
 - Green Design
 - Vehicle Technology
 - Local Access
 - Performance Measurement
 - System Productivity
 - Complete Streets
 - Transit-Oriented Development
 - Virtual Access

Place-based Policies

Place-based Policies

Policies to guide Metro's activities in different place types, based on accessibility characteristics

Policy topics:

- Sustainable Transportation
- Local Government Planning
- Transit Services
- Street Operations

Policy addresses each topic for each of four accessibility clusters

Accessibility Clusters

Accessibility Cluster	Household Density	Job Centrality
A	High	Low
	Medium	Low
B	Low	High
	Low	Medium
	Low	Low
C	High	Medium
	Medium	High
	Medium	Medium
D	High	High

Implementation Activities

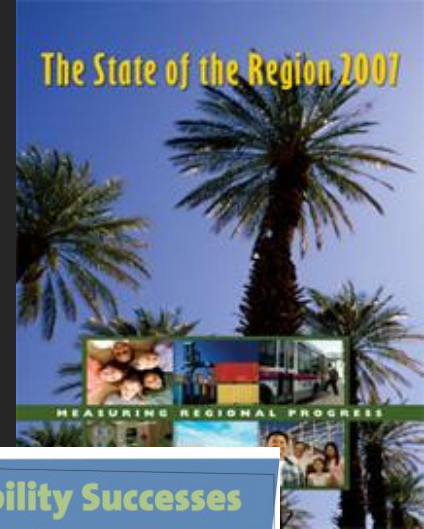
Policy Implementation

Implementation Plan

- Outline of **process for implementing policy** across planning functions in collaboration with regional partners
- Formulated with stakeholder input

Performance Metrics and Monitoring

Metrics		Connect	Create	Conserve	Measurement Interval
Program Metrics					
1	Action Completed on Implementation Plan	X	X	X	Annual
2	Projects Incorporating Strategies in Appropriate Accessibility Clusters	X	X	X	Annual
Countywide Performance Metrics					
3	Vehicle Miles Travelled	X	X	X	Annual
4	Accidents	X	X	X	Annual
5	Transportation Fuel Usage	X		X	Annual
6	Congestion	X		X	Annual
7	Emissions	X	X	X	Annual
8	Transit Ridership	X		X	Annual
9	Walking/Biking Trips	X		X	TBD
10	Environmental Enhancements		X	X	Annual
11	Jobs Adjacent to Transit	X	X		TBD
13	Population Adjacent to Transit	X	X		3-5 years
14	Transit Service in Clusters C, D	X		X	Annual
15	Population and Employment in Clusters C, D			X	3-5 years



10 Sustainability Successes

Here are 10 examples of some of the many accomplishments our community has made over the past decade

- 1. Santa Monica Bay**—Reduced dry weather pollution to the Bay by 95%
- 2. Less Waste**—over 1,000,000 tons of solid waste kept out of the landfill
- 3. Energy**—1st US city to buy 100% renewable electricity and cut greenhouse gas emissions by 6%
- 4. Less Chemicals**—toxic-free parks and public buildings
- 5. Water Savings**—over 328,500,000 gallons per year
- 6. Healthy Kids**—first locally grown, organic school salad bars in the nation
- 7. Big Blue Bus**—voted best bus line in the country and now a leader in clean air technology
- 8. Sustainable Businesses**—a growing group of business leaders helping the local economy, environment and quality of life
- 9. Quality Open Space**—additional and improved parks and trees
- 10. National & International Leader**—Santa Monica is recognized as a leader in community sustainability



Strategy Guide (Under Development)

Comprehensive
Initiatives

Individual
Strategies

Benchmarking
Tools

Funding Guide

Next Steps

- Stakeholder Workshop (6/25)
- Publicly Available for Comment (Released July 12)
- Metro TAC briefings
- COG briefings
- Comment period ends (Aug 15)

**Board Adoption
Fall 2012**

June

July

Aug

Sept

**Develop
Strategy Guide**

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