

Western Riverside Council of Governments Public Works Committee

REVISED AGENDA

Thursday, December 12, 2024 2:00 PM

Western Riverside Council of Governments 3390 University Avenue, Suite 200 Riverside, CA 92501

Remote Meeting Locations:

March Joint Powers Authority 14205 Meridian Parkway, Suite 140 Riverside, CA 92518

County of Riverside Administrative Center 4080 Lemon Street, 8th Floor Riverside, CA 92501

> City of Calimesa 908 Park Avenue Calimesa. CA 92320

Committee members are asked to attend this meeting in person unless remote accommodations have previously been requested and noted on the agenda. The below Zoom link is provided for the convenience of members of the public, presenters, and support staff.

Public Zoom Link
Meeting ID: 898 5444 6476
Passcode: 391456

Dial in: 669 444 9171 U.S.

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act and Government Code Section 54954.2, if special assistance is needed to participate in the Public Works Committee meeting, please contact WRCOG at (951) 405-6706. Notification of at least 48 hours prior to meeting time will assist staff in assuring that reasonable arrangements can be made to provide accessibility at the meeting. In compliance with Government Code Section 54957.5, agenda materials distributed within 72 hours prior to the meeting which are public records relating to an open session agenda item will be available for inspection by members of the public prior to the meeting at 3390 University Avenue, Suite 200, Riverside, CA, 92501.

In addition to commenting at the Committee meeting, members of the public may also submit written comments before or during the meeting, prior to the close of public comment to lfelix@wrcog.us.

Any member of the public requiring a reasonable accommodation to participate in this meeting in light of this announcement shall contact Lucy Felix 72 hours prior to the meeting at (951) 405-6706 or lefelix@wrcog.us. Later requests will be accommodated to the extent feasible.

The Committee may take any action on any item listed on the agenda, regardless of the Requested Action.

- 1. CALL TO ORDER (Savat Kamphou, Chair)
- 2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
- 3. ROLL CALL

4. PUBLIC COMMENTS

At this time members of the public can address the Committee regarding any items within the subject matter jurisdiction of the Committee that are not separately listed on this agenda. Members of the public will have an opportunity to speak on agendized items at the time the item is called for discussion. No action may be taken on items not listed on the agenda unless authorized by law. Whenever possible, lengthy testimony should be presented to the Committee in writing and only pertinent points presented orally.

5. CONSENT CALENDAR

All items listed under the Consent Calendar are considered to be routine and may be enacted by one motion. Prior to the motion to consider any action by the Committee, any public comments on any of the Consent Items will be heard. There will be no separate action unless members of the Committee request specific items be removed from the Consent Calendar.

A. Action Minutes from the October 10, 2024, Public Works Committee Meeting

Requested Action(s):

1. Approve the Action Minutes from the October 10, 2024, Public Works Committee meeting.

6. REPORTS / DISCUSSION

Members of the public will have an opportunity to speak on agendized items at the time the item is called for discussion.

A. TUMF Nexus Study Maximum Share Policy

Requested Action(s): 1. Receive and file.

B. Energy Resilience Plan 2.0 Activities Update

Requested Action(s): 1. Receive and file.

C. LOS-based Traffic Studies under Senate Bill 743

Requested Action(s): 1. Receive and file.

D. VMT Mitigation Program Activities Update

Requested Action(s): 1. Receive and file.

7. REPORT FROM THE DEPUTY EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Chris Gray

8. ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS

Members are invited to suggest additional items to be brought forward for discussion at future Committee meetings.

9. GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Members are invited to announce items / activities which may be of general interest to the Committee.

10. NEXT MEETING

The next Public Works Committee meeting is scheduled for Thursday, February 13, 2025, at 2:00 p.m., in WRCOG's office at 3390 University Avenue, Suite 200, Riverside.

11. ADJOURNMENT

Public Works Committee

Action Minutes

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting of the WRCOG Public Works Committee was called to order by Chair Savat Khamphou at 2:00 p.m. on Thursday, October 10, 2024, at the WRCOG office.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chair Khamphou led the Committee members and guests in the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. ROLL CALL

- · City of Banning Nate Smith
- City of Beaumont Dustin Christensen
- City of Canyon Lake Stuart McKibbin
- City of Corona Savat Khamphou (Chair)
- City of Jurupa Valley Manny Gonzalez
- City of Lake Elsinore Remon Habib
- · City of Menifee Nick Fidler
- · City of Moreno Valley Melissa Walker
- · City of Perris John Pourkazemi
- City of Riverside Gil Hernandez
- City of San Jacinto Stuart McKibbin
- · County of Riverside Dennis Acuna
- March Joint Powers Authority (JPA) Lauren Sotelo
- Riverside County Transportation Commission (RCTC) Jillian Guizado
- Riverside Transit Agency (RTA) Mauricio Alvarez

Absent:

- · City of Calimesa
- · City of Eastvale
- · City of Hemet
- City of Murrieta
- City of Norco
- · City of Temecula
- · City of Wildomar

4. PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments.

^{*}Arrived after Roll Call

5. CONSENT CALENDAR

RESULT:	APPROVED AS RECOMMENDED
MOVER:	San Jacinto
SECONDER:	Lake Elsinore
AYES:	Banning, Beaumont, Canyon Lake, Corona, Jurupa Valley, Lake Elsinore, Menifee, Moreno Valley, Perris, Riverside, San Jacinto, County of Riverside, March JPA, RCTC, RTA

A. Action Minutes from the August 8, 2024, Public Works Committee Meeting

Action:

1. Approved the Action Minutes from the August 8, 2024, Public Works Committee meeting.

6. REPORTS / DISCUSSION

A. TUMF Nexus Study Implementation

Action:

1. Received and filed.

B. Emerging Mobility Innovations

Action:

1. Received and filed.

7. REPORT FROM THE DEPUTY EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Chris Gray, Deputy Executive Director, reported that the December meeting will have a presentation on the CVAG Regional Intelligent Transportation Systems. WRCOG is currently working on a VMT Mitigation Program manual. Finally, WRCOG's Daniel Soltero will be providing an update on the Energy Resilience Plan.

8. ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS

Committee member Nick Fidler requested an update on Assembly Bill 98, which will require changes to circulation elements for truck routes.

Deputy Executive Director Chris Gray stated that WRCOG has hired a consultant to work on a guidebook for implementation, which will be presented at the December meeting.

9. GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were no general announcements.

10. NEXT MEETING

The next Public Works Committee meeting is scheduled for Thursday, December 12, 2024, at 2:00 p.m., in WRCOG's office at 3390 University Avenue, Suite 200, Riverside.

12. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 3:04 p.m.



Western Riverside Council of Governments Public Works Committee

Staff Report

Subject: TUMF Nexus Study Maximum Share Policy

Contact: Cameron Brown, Program Manager, cbrown@wrcog.us, (951) 405-6712

Date: December 12, 2024

Recommended Action(s):

1. Receive and file.

Summary:

WRCOG has updated its Transportation Uniform Mitigation Fee (TUMF) Program policy to address funding eligibility and ensure stability for projects between Nexus Study updates. Following the approval of the 2024 TUMF Nexus Study update, WRCOG has established a "grandfathering" provision to support local agencies facing funding shifts due to adjustments of eligible funding on projects. This provision aims to minimize disruption to projects by securing the maximum funding amount determined at the time of each project's initial allocation in the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP).

Purpose / WRCOG 2022-2027 Strategic Plan Goal:

The purpose of this item is to provide an update regarding the TUMF Nexus Study and funding availability for projects on the TUMF Network. This effort aligns with WRCOG's 2022-2027 Strategic Plan Goal #5 (Develop projects and programs that improve infrastructure and sustainable development in our sub-region).

Discussion:

Background

On September 9, 2024, the WRCOG Executive Committee approved the TUMF Nexus Study update. This Nexus Study establishes the relationship between the mitigation requirements of the TUMF Network and the fees needed to provide for those mitigations. This Study identifies projects that require mitigation due to new development, estimates project costs, and assigns fees to fund these projects. The list of eligible projects was analyzed and confirmed through transportation modeling.

This list of projects consists of all eligible segments, interchanges, bridges, and grade separations on the TUMF Network. The list establishes maximum amounts of funding, referred to as the "Maximum TUMF Share." This maximum share represents the possible amount of funding that a local agency can request on the TIP. The TIP sets forth how the TUMF funds can be reimbursed back to the local agencies.

Agencies establish reimbursement agreements based on funding allocated in the TIP.

Present Situation

As Nexus Studies are updated, the maximum shares for a project can change. There are three main reasons for these changes:

- 1. Changes in transportation modeling
 - Changes in demographics can affect traffic patterns, which may result in different eligibility determinations for projects in updated studies.
- 2. Changes in project costs
 - Costs for materials and labor fluctuate between updates. Cost to mitigate projects change for network improvements.
- 3. Mitigation of projects
 - Projects can be completed or partially completed between studies. This will change the funding available for these improvements.

WRCOG is establishing a new provision to deal with the changes in the Nexus Study. This provision aims to minimize disruption to projects by securing the maximum funding amount determined at the time of each project's initial allocation in the TIP.

The provision allows projects with an allocation in an approved TIP to retain their maximum funding share, even if subsequent Nexus Studies reduce this amount. For instance, if a project was assigned a \$10M maximum share in a prior study, but is reduced to \$8M in the latest update, WRCOG will honor the \$10M allocation for future funding. However, for projects with increased maximum shares, agencies may allocate additional funding up to the revised amount. This balance between retaining promised funds and allowing for increases provides agencies flexibility in planning and budgeting for essential transportation improvements.

WRCOG will make the following allowances:

- Projects with decreased maximum shares may request allocations up to the amount established in the Nexus Study in effect at the time of the original TIP allocation.
- Projects with increased maximum shares may request allocations up to the amount established in the updated Nexus Study.

WRCOG recognizes that local agencies depend on predictable funding levels to advance infrastructure projects. By maintaining previous funding levels for projects with decreased shares, the policy prevents budget shortfalls that could delay completion. This approach reaffirms WRCOG's commitment to supporting local agencies' ability to deliver critical projects under the TUMF Program, despite evolving costs and modeling updates. This policy will be documented in the updated TUMF Administrative Plan.

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None.

Financial Summary:

Funding for TUMF activities is included in the Fiscal Year 2024/2025 budget under the TUMF Program (1148) in the General Fund (110). 4% of all TUMF collections are allocated for administrative purposes.

Attachment(s):

None.



Western Riverside Council of Governments Public Works Committee

Staff Report

Subject: Energy Resilience Plan 2.0 Activities Update

Contact: Daniel Soltero, Program Manager, <u>dsoltero@wrcog.us</u>, (951) 405-6738

Date: December 12, 2024

Recommended Action(s):

1. Receive and file.

Summary:

To enhance infrastructure and assist communities with emergency events and outages, WRCOG is developing the Energy Resilience Plan (ERP) 2.0 to explore the feasibility of microgrids at key facilities and community resilience centers. Over the last year, staff have worked with member agencies to identify potential sites for feasibility studies, and identify the various factors that will help prioritize the sites with the most need for resilience improvements.

Purpose / WRCOG 2022-2027 Strategic Plan Goal:

The purpose of this item is to provide updates regarding candidate sites that could be considered for the ERP 2.0 feasibility studies, workshop updates, the recent Request for Proposals, and upcoming workshops. This item aligns with WRCOG's 2022-2027 Strategic Plan Goal #5 (Develop projects and programs that improve infrastructure and sustainable development in our subregion).

Discussion:

Background

In 2023, WRCOG was awarded an Adaptation Planning Grant through the Integrated Climate Adaptation and Resiliency Program administered by the Governor's Office of Land Use and Climate Innovation (LCI), formerly Office of Planning & Research (OPR). The \$471,000 grant is active through January 2026, and will fund the development of the WRCOG Energy Resilience Plan 2.0.

The ERP 2.0 will assist member agencies with improving facility and community resilience during emergencies and power outages by providing feasibility studies for microgrids and resilience centers. A microgrid is defined by the California Public Utilities Code as an interconnected, self-sufficient energy system within a clearly defined electrical boundary that can act as a single, controllable entity. Microgrids can connect to, disconnect from, or run in parallel to larger portions of the electric grid, and can be managed and isolated to withstand larger disturbances and maintain electrical supply to

connected critical infrastructure. A microgrid provides energy resilience by disconnecting from the larger electric grid during outages and providing power to buildings or multiple customers within the boundary of the microgrid, leveraging energy resources such as solar panels, batteries, generators, etc.

A community resilience center is defined by the California Strategic Growth Council as a neighborhood-level building with comprehensive building and infrastructure upgrades that provides shelter and resources during climate and other emergencies, as well as year-round services and programming that strengthen community connections and the ability to withstand disasters. The ERP 2.0 will identify existing agency-owned sites that can undergo a microgrid feasibility study, and dependent on the building type, the study can be upgraded to a community resilience center feasibility study.

Present Situation

In February 2024, WRCOG staff sent a request to member agency staff asking them to submit details, including potential sites that could benefit from a microgrid or serve as a community resilience center. Staff then analyzed the sites against known climate hazards and social vulnerabilities for the site's surrounding areas and populations served. Member agencies that participated in the initial ERP were asked to confirm, add, or remove sites from the list that was collected in 2021, and members that did not participate were asked to provide a list and details for each site to be considered for the feasibility studies. To date, 98 sites have been submitted for consideration for the ERP 2.0 (see Attachment 1).

Currently, staff are working on the second round of surveys which are gathering information on energy needs, energy infrastructure, equipment details, and availability of building plans and drawings for each candidate facility. As the second round of surveys are completed, staff will coordinate with each member agency to finalize the site selection for one site that will go forward for a microgrid and/or resilience center feasibility study.

A virtual workshop was held in August 2024 to inform member agency staff on the progress of the ERP 2.0, define microgrids and community resilience centers, and seek participants for the ERP Advisory Group (see Attachment 2). The Advisory Group's role is to provide feedback and input on the various strategies and decisions that will be taken throughout development of the ERP 2.0. Staff also hosted a goals and objectives-setting exercise which produced an updated list informed by workshop attendees (see Attachment 3). Finally, staff also provided information on the Request for Proposals (RFP) to solicit qualified consultants to conduct the microgrid and resilience center feasibility studies.

On November 8, 2024, staff released an RFP seeking a consultant to conduct up to 21 microgrid feasibility studies, of which nine will be upgraded to a community resilience center study. The RFP asks consultants to prepare a funding memo, identifying various types of funding for proposed projects and an implementation strategy to identify the steps necessary for member agencies to implement a microgrid or community resilience center. Overall, the consultant will be expected to work closely with member agency staff, and as such, member agency staff will be invited to participate in the RFP process to review bids, conduct interviews, and assist in recommending an award to a bidder. Staff will seek approval of the Executive Committee to award a contract to the bidder resulting from this RFP at a future Executive Committee meeting.

Staff are planning a second workshop with member agencies to present the findings of the full analysis of candidate sites and to finalize site selections. The scheduling of the workshop will be dependent on all member agencies' responses to the surveys, and the selection of sites for the feasibility studies, which

staff anticipate to be completed and the workshop to be held in Q1 2025. This workshop will help inform all participants of the types of sites that will be studied and provide information on the community workshops that are required by the grant. The community workshops will be applicable to the feasibility studies for resilience centers, since resilience centers typically provide year-round programming and training to improve community resilience, such as community emergency response team training, first aid trainings, and seminars on dealing with extreme heat. WRCOG staff plan to work closely with member agencies that select a community resilience center feasibility study and the community workshops that take place in their jurisdictions.

Prior Action(s):

<u>August 7, 2023</u>: The Executive Committee 1) accepted the ICARP Adaptation Planning Grant award; 2) authorized the Executive Director to execute the Grant Agreement, substantially as to form and subject to legal counsel's review and approval, with the Governor's Office of Planning and Research; and 3) authorized the Executive Director to execute the Partnership Agreement, substantially as to form and subject to legal counsel's review and approval, with GRID Alternatives Inland Empire.

Financial Summary:

Activities related to the Energy Resilience Plan 2.0 are included in the Fiscal Year 2024/2025 Budget under Program code 2250 in the General Fund (110).

Attachment(s):

Attachment 1 - Candidate sites

Attachment 2 - Workshop #1 presentation slides

Attachment 3 - Goals and objectives

<u>Attachment</u>

WRCOG ERP 2.0 - Candidate Sites

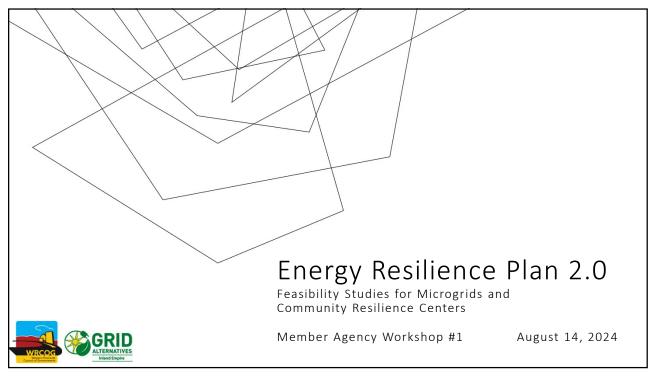
Site Name	Building Type	Type of Study
Banning National Guard Armory	Community/Recreation Center	Community Resilience Center
Beaumont Senior Center	Community/Recreation Center	Community Resilience Center
Beaumont Police Station	Public Safety	Microgrid
Beaumont Fire Station	Public Safety	Microgrid
Beaumont Wastewater Treatment Plant	Water/Wastewater	Microgrid
Beaumont Mesa Lift Station	Water/Wastewater	Microgrid
Beaumont Upper Oak Valley Lift Station	Water/Wastewater	Microgrid
Beaumont Lower Oak Valley Lift Station	Water/Wastewater	Microgrid
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Moreno Valley Senior Center	Community/Recreation Center	Community Resilience Center
	Banning National Guard Armory Beaumont Senior Center Beaumont Police Station Beaumont Fire Station Beaumont Wastewater Treatment Plant Beaumont Mesa Lift Station Beaumont Upper Oak Valley Lift Station Beaumont Lower Oak Valley Lift Station Beaumont Four Seasons Lift Station Beaumont Noble Creek Lift Station Beaumont Marshall Creek Lift Station Beaumont - San Timoteo Repeater Beaumont - Seneca Springs Lift Station Beaumont - Fairway Canyon Lift Station Corona - Lester Water Treatment Plant Corona - Chase Booster Pump Station Riverside County Administrative Center Riverside County Western Emergency Ops Center Riverside County - Perris Sheriff's Station Riverside County - Lakeland Village Community Ctr	Banning National Guard Armony Beaumont Senior Center Beaumont Police Station Public Safety Beaumont Fire Station Public Safety Beaumont Wastewater Treatment Plant Water/Wastewater Beaumont Lower Oak Valley Lift Station Water/Wastewater Beaumont Lower Oak Valley Lift Station Beaumont Lower Saesons Lift Station Water/Wastewater Beaumont Lower Saesons Lift Station Water/Wastewater Beaumont Noble Creek Lift Station Beaumont Noble Creek Lift Station Water/Wastewater Beaumont Marshall Creek Lift Station Beaumont Fair Mimote Repeater Beaumont - Sain Timoteo Repeater Beaumont - Fair Mimote Repeater Beaumont - Fair Saesons Lift Station Water/Wastewater Beaumont - Fairway Carryon Lift Station Water/Wastewater Water/Wastewater Water/Wastewater Water/Wastewater Corona - Lester Water Treatment Plant Water/Wastewater Water/Wastewater Corona - Chase Booster Pump Station Water/Wastewater

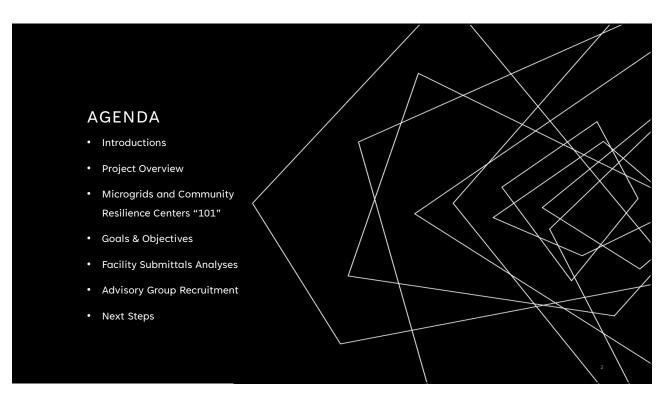
Member Agency	Site Name	Building Type	Type of Study
Murrieta	Murrieta Fire Station #2	Public Safety	Microgrid
Murrieta	Murrieta Fire Station #1	Public Safety	Microgrid
Murrieta	Murrieta Fire Station #3	Public Safety	Microgrid
Murrieta	Murrieta Fire Station #4	Public Safety	Microgrid
Murrieta	Murrieta Senior Center	Community/Recreation Center	Community Resilience Center
Murrieta	Murrieta Community Center	Community/Recreation Center	Community Resilience Center
Murrieta	Murrieta Police Department	Public Safety	Microgrid
Murrieta	Murrieta Youth Center	Community/Recreation Center	Community Resilience Center
Norco	Norco City Hall & Sheriff's Substation	Public Safety	Microgrid
Norco	Riverside County Fire Station 47	Public Safety	Microgrid
Norco	Riverside County Fire Station 57	Public Safety	Microgrid
Norco	Norco Community Center	Community/Recreation Center	Community Resilience Center
Norco	Norco Senior Center	Community/Recreation Center	Community Resilience Center
Norco	Norco Public Works Maintenance Yard	Operations Center/Emergency Operations Center	Microgrid
Norco	Norco Facilities & Maintenance Building	City Hall/Government Administration	Microgrid
Norco	Norco - George Ingalls Equestrian Event Center	Fairground/Event Center	Community Resilience Center
Norco	Norco Animal Shelter	Animal Services	Microgrid
Norco	Norco - Riley Gymnasium	Community/Recreation Center	Community Resilience Center
Perris	Perris - Cesar Chavez Library	Library	Community Resilience Center
Perris	Riverside County Fire Station 90	Public Safety	Microgrid
Perris	Riverside County Fire Station 101	Public Safety	Microgrid
Perris	Perris Emergency Operations Center	Operations Center/Emergency Operations Center	Microgrid
Perris	Perris Senior Center	Community/Recreation Center	Community Resilience Center
Perris	Perris City Hall	City Hall/Government Administration	Microgrid
Perris	Perris - Bob Glass Gym	Community/Recreation Center	Community Resilience Center
Perris	Perris Public Works	City Hall/Government Administration	Microgrid
Perris	Perris City Council Chambers	City Hall/Government Administration	Community Resilience Center
Riverside	Riverside ""Atherton"" Sewer Lift Station	Water/Wastewater	Microgrid
Riverside	Riverside Janet Goeske Senior Center	Community/Recreation Center	Community Resilience Center
Riverside	Riverside Utility Operations Center	Operations Center/Emergency Operations Center	Microgrid
Riverside	Riverside Utilities Operations Center #2	Operations Center/Emergency Operations Center	Microgrid
Temecula	Temecula/Riverside County Fire Station 12	Public Safety	Microgrid
Temecula	Temecula Facility Operations Center	Operations Center/Emergency Operations Center	Microgrid
Temecula	Temecula Mary Phillips Senior Center	Community/Recreation Center	Community Resilience Center
Temecula	Temecula City Hall	City Hall/Government Administration	Microgrid
Temecula	Temecula Community Recreational Center	Community/Recreation Center	Community Resilience Center
Wildomar	Wildomar/Riverside County Fire Station 61	Public Safety	Microgrid
Wildomar	Wildomar City Hall	City Hall/Government Administration	Microgrid

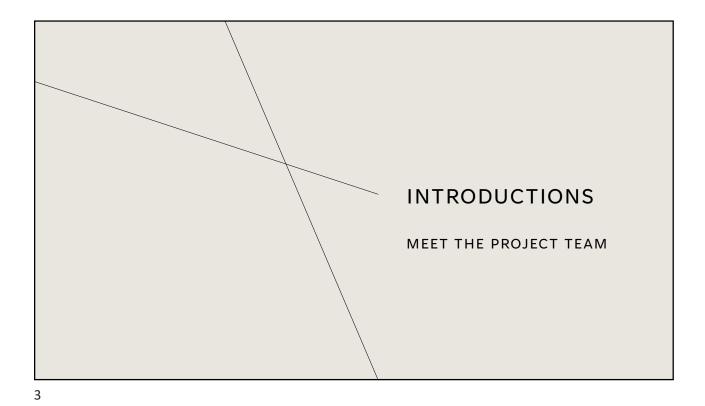
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<u>Attachment</u>

WRCOG ERP 2.0 - Member Agency Workshop #1 Presentation Slides

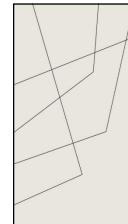






PROJECT OVERVIEW

- Task 1: Establish a framework for integrating WRCOG member agencies and community members into the Plan.
- Task 2: Consider and Integrate community characteristics, strengths, and social/physical vulnerabilities when identifying project locations to ensure resilience strategies and resources are distributed in an equitable manner.
- Task 3: Develop an energy adaptation strategy that creates a series of replicable resilience hubs that could provide consistent supply of electricity for critical infrastructure and community assets
- Task 4: Final Reporting



TASK 1: ESTABLISH A FRAMEWORK FOR INTEGRATING WRCOG MEMBER AGENCIES AND COMMUNITY MEMBERS INTO THE PLAN.

Completed:

Develop and Execute
 Agreement with Grid
 Alternatives Inland Empire

In Progress:

- Develop a Marketing, Outreach, and Engagement Plan
- Solicit qualified consultants to conduct feasibility studies across the subregion
- Member agency engagement and preliminary site list
- Goals and objectives

5



Community & Member Agency Engagement

- Purpose: To gather input from Riverside County's community members in regard to climate and power outage
 impacts that they experience. We expect to identify which communities are already prepared with a community
 resilience center, which communities could benefit from one, and which municipalities are interested in microgrids for
 critical facilities. We hope to at least cover all baseline activities for each participating community by the end of 2025.
- Engagement Methods:
 - o In-person workshops with paper form surveys and a QR code option.
 - Virtual meetings with an online survey and postup activity.
 - O Q&A's in all meetings and workshops.
 - Mailers with surveys included and workshop dates.
 - Unique engagement methods will be provided for each city for necessary follow-ups.



In-Person and Virtual Workshops

Example Agenda

- 1. Check In/Snacks (10-20 Minutes)
- 2. Define goals, reasoning and data, ground rules (15-20 Minutes)
- 3. Activities:
 - a. Survey questions and story sharing (Miro for Virtual) (30-40 Minutes)
 - b. BREAK (10 Minutes)
 - c. Continue questions and story sharing (30-40 Minutes)
- 4. Follow up with plan and current assistance we can provide for unique city



7



Marketing at tabling events

- 1. Postup Boards Activity
- 2. Board with facts, goals, and purpose
- 3. Sign in sheet for those that want to participate in future workshops
- 4. Ability to speak with someone about their experience/opinions



Accommodations & Data Collection

Accommodations:

- Separate English and Spanish workshops
- Timeframes that work with working communities and varying dates
- Suggested bus routes

Data Collection:

- Survey paper/online
- Note taking from team
- Postup notes and Miro



9

MEMBER AGENCY ENGAGEMENT

- Staff to coordinate with member agencies and advisory group throughout development of the Plan
- Host member agency workshops
- Seek detailed information on facilities
- Gather feedback on analysis methods
- Receive input on facility prioritization and selection for feasibility studies



UPCOMING TASKS

TASK 2:

- Literature review and regulatory memo
- Marketing to member agencies and communities
- Community events and workshops
- Surveys
- Site selection

TASK 3:

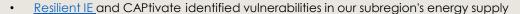
- Develop feasibility studies
- Develop a funding memo
- Develop an implementation plan

TASK 4:

 Present and deliver final report to OPR, WRCOG Committees & member agencies

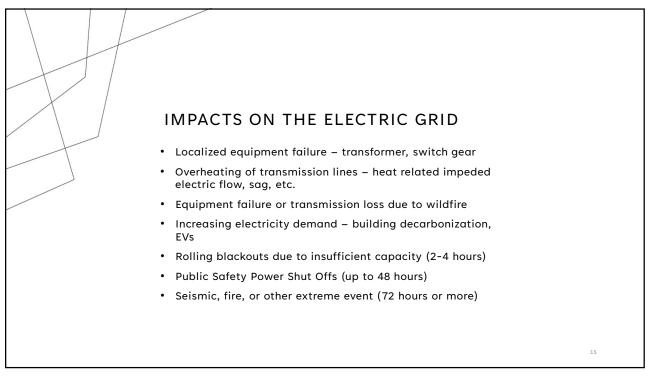


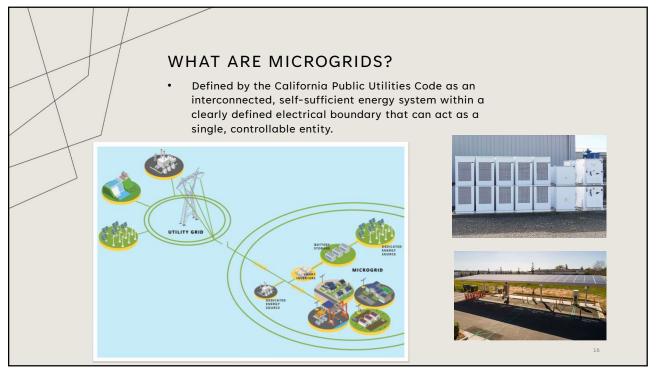
WHY PLAN FOR ENERGY RESILIENCE?



- Increased incidences of extreme heat, wildfire, high wind events, and severe weather, which can result in power outages
- Multiple socioeconomic vulnerabilities
- Inland Empire is expected to see the largest increases in energy consumption (30%-35%) due to future growth and intensity of extreme heat events
- Availability of funding for implementing microgrids and community resilience centers
- Projects identified by the ERP 2.0 will be supported by the IREN technical assistance and project development services

14





WHAT ARE COMMUNITY RESILIENCE CENTERS?

Defined by California Strategic Growth Council as a neighborhood-level resilience center to provide shelter and resources during climate and other emergencies, as well as year-round services and programming that strengthen community connections and ability to withstand disasters





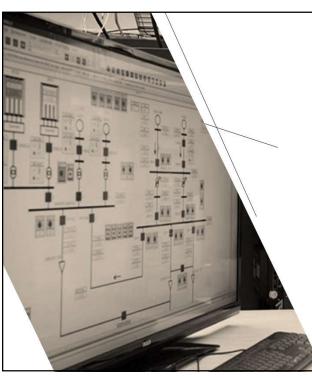








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LEARN MORE ABOUT MICROGRIDS AND CRC'S

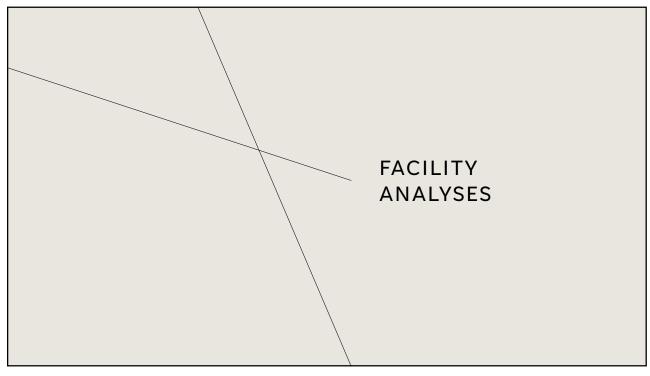
Microgrids:

- Microgrids; National Renewable Energy Lab
- What is a microgrid?; Microgrid Knowledge
- Microgrids; Center for Climate & Energy Solutions
- SCE Microgrid Incentive Program
- California Microgrid To Demonstrate that Hospitals Don't Need Diesel Generators; Microgrid Knowledge

Community Resilience Centers:

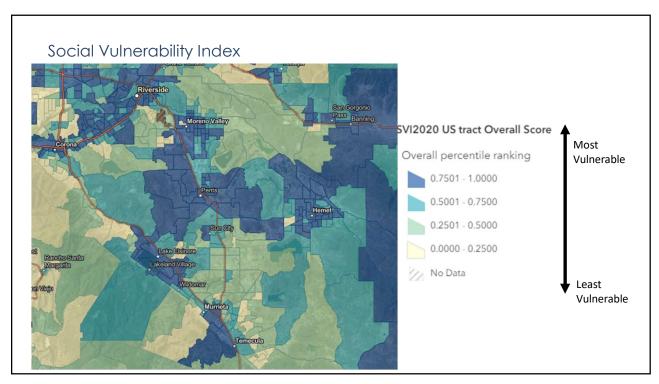
- A living breathing building, the rise of resilience centers amid extreme heat in the US; The Guardian
- Vulnerable Communities to Receive \$98.6M in Grants to **Build Climate Resiliency; Strategic Growth Council**
- Resilience Hubs; Urban Sustainability Directors Network

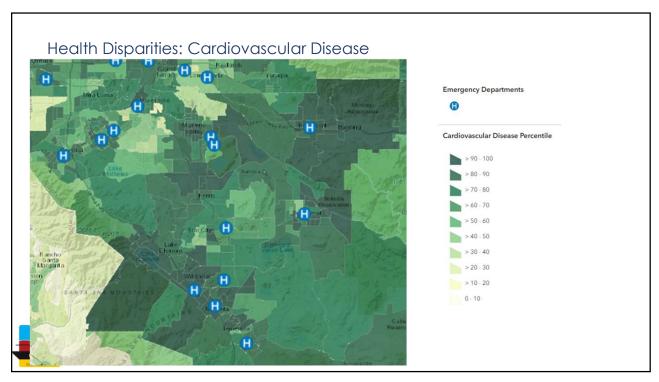


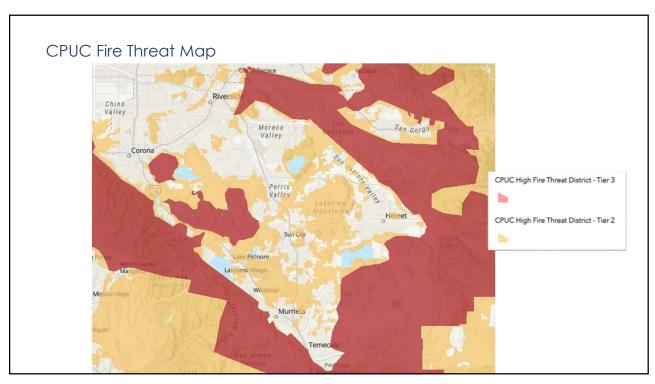


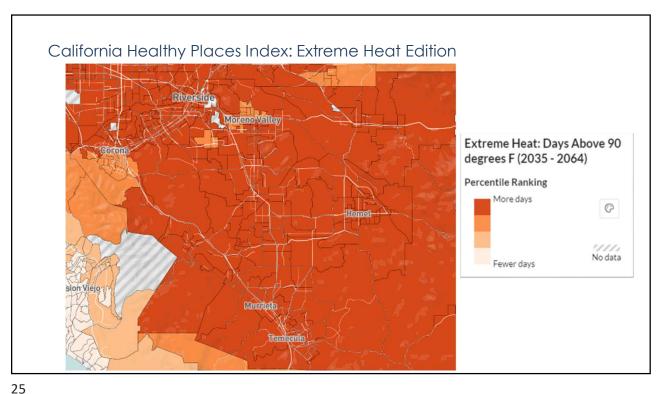


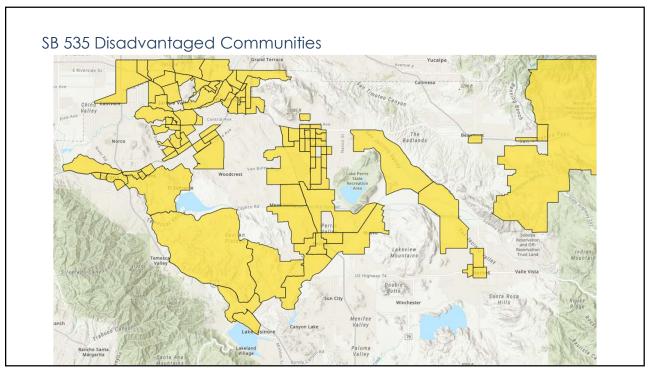
- Staff sent a request to all member agencies seeking candidate facilities
- Staff will be holding virtual meetings with members
- Using GIS to assess vulnerabilities and hazards
- Toolkit asks for:
 - 1. Facility details
 - 2. Climate and Social vulnerabilities
 - 3. Critical energy needs
 - 4. Existing infrastructure
- Toolkit provides preliminary strategies for resilience

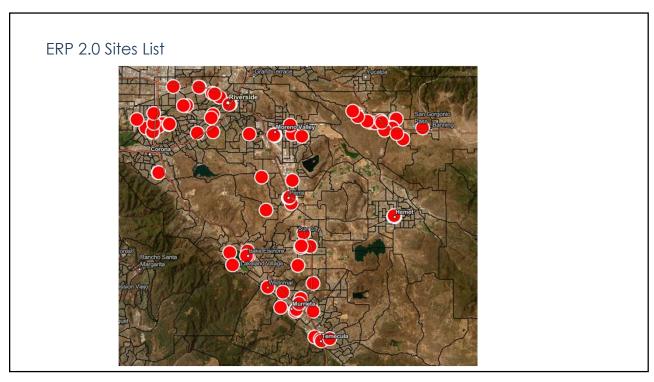


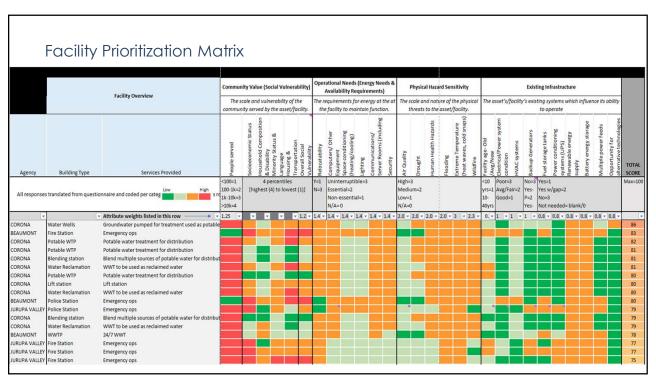


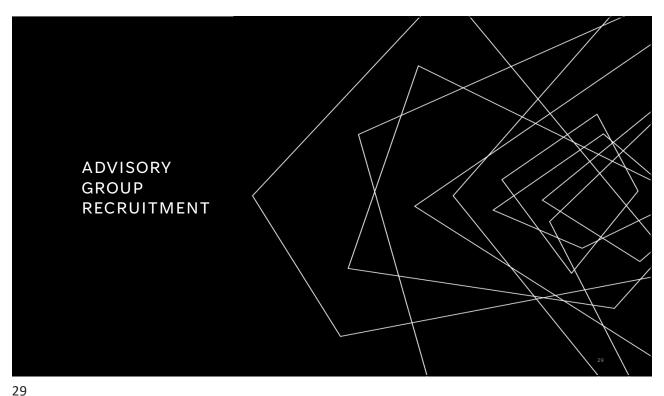






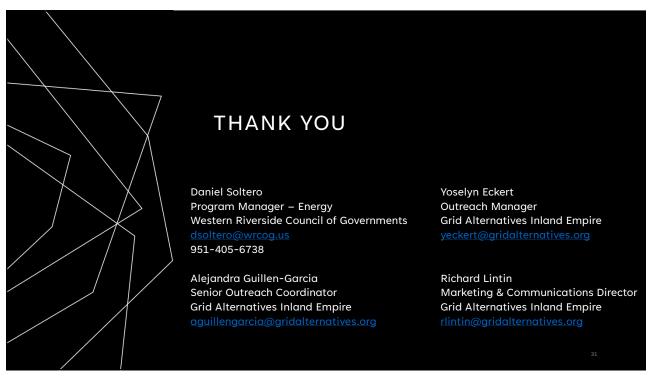






NEXT STEPS

- Staff to request meetings with member agencies to gather final details for sites
- Staff to release RFP and go through public procurement process
 - Advisory Group or other member agencies are welcomed to assist with reviewing proposals and interviews
- Workshop #2 for Member Agencies in October December
- Community workshops Winter 2024 Spring 2025



<u>Attachment</u>

WRCOG ERP 2.0 – Goals & Objectives

WRCOG Energy Resilience Plan Goals and Objectives

Goal: Consistent access to electricity for all critical public safety community facilities

<u>**Objective**</u>: Combine solar and storage to provide 72 hours of interrupted electricity supply and provide a roadmap for implementation of microgrids.

<u>Goal</u>: Fundamental health and safety services are available at critical public and private facilities for all members of the community.

<u>Objective</u>: Create a series of resilience hubs that provide lighting, cooling, air filtration, cell phone charging, and refrigeration for medicine, breast milk, etc.

Goal: Resilience resources are distributed in an equitable fashion

<u>Objective</u>: Focus resilience recommendations in areas of existing inequities and disadvantaged communities and be inclusive of Access and Functional Needs populations.

<u>Goal</u>: Community characteristics and underlying social and physical vulnerabilities are fully integrated into the planning process.

<u>**Objective**</u>: Consider community vulnerabilities, accessibility, and land use issues when identifying the location and distribution of recommended energy resilience investments.

Goal: Result in replicable examples of how energy resilience can be implemented.

<u>**Objective**</u>: Identify policy issues and regulatory barriers and associated agencies.



Western Riverside Council of Governments Public Works Committee

Staff Report

Subject: LOS-based Traffic Studies under Senate Bill 743

Contact: Chris Gray, Deputy Executive Director, cgray@wrcog.us, (951) 405-6710

Date: December 12, 2024

Recommended Action(s):

1. Receive and file.

Summary:

With the implementation of Senate Bill (SB) 743 and the transition from Level of Service (LOS)-based metrics to Vehicle Miles Traveled (VMT) metrics for environmental analysis under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), questions have arisen regarding the value of traditional LOS-based transportation studies. WRCOG staff will present information regarding the utility of these studies, their applicability to the CEQA process, and other considerations.

Purpose / WRCOG 2022-2027 Strategic Plan Goal:

The purpose of this item is to present information regarding the use of LOS-based traffic studies to WRCOG member agency staff. This effort aligns with WRCOG's 2022-2027 Strategic Plan Goal #5 (Develop projects and programs that improve infrastructure and sustainable development in our region).

Discussion:

Background

For the past 50 years, LOS-based analysis has been the standard approach for most transportation impact studies. Each of these studies generally included:

- Review of existing conditions based on historical traffic counts
- Project trip generation
- · Future traffic forecasts
- Impact analysis
- Mitigation

That approach was used both in California and in the majority of locations throughout the United States. One difference in California was that this LOS-based approach was often implemented through a CEQA document such as an Environmental Impact Report (EIR), Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND), or

Negative Declaration (ND).

In these types of studies, when an impact was found to occur, which was often associated with traffic from the project causing or contributing to congestion beyond a specific threshold, then mitigation would be implemented. Often this mitigation was associated with some level of direct improvement. For example, if an intersection operated at a deficient LOS, then the intersection might be improved by changing the traffic signal operations, expanding the intersection, or other similar approaches. In some instances, the project was responsible for fully funding this improvement, and in other instances the impact was mitigated through payment of a fair-share contribution or payment of an impact fee, such as the WRCOG TUMF Program.

The advantage of this approach is that it was well understood by policy makers, developers, staff, stakeholders, and members of the public. For example, if a project added 5,000 cars to a 2-lane roadway and that 2-lane roadway would be congested, then that project had to contribute to widening that roadway in some fashion.

During this period, many agencies standardized their approaches to these transportation impact studies through formal guidelines. Therefore, as each project moved forward, there was a high level of certainty for all projects involved. While there could be disputes regarding data, calculations, conclusions, assumptions, and other factors, there were few instances in which the overall approach was in question.

In California, the traffic study process is deeply connected with the CEQA process. Traffic congestion often became one of the main impact areas requiring mitigation under CEQA, and it was often the primary issue of concern involving policy makers and members of the community. With the implementation of SB 743, CEQA documents no longer incorporate LOS-based impacts and mitigation measures. Instead, the analysis focuses on potential VMT impacts and mitigation measures, which often involves reducing the project VMT or offsetting the project-generated VMT by funding improvements to active and public transportation modes. Since LOS is no longer part of the CEQA analysis process, some have questioned whether LOS-based traffic studies are a worthwhile exercise or even allowed under SB 743.

Present Situation

Throughout California, a general consensus has emerged regarding the preparation of LOS-based traffic studies as an element of the development review and approval process. Elements of this approach include:

- The need to conduct a VMT-based analysis to comply with CEQA
- A mechanism to address any VMT impacts through VMT mitigation measures
- The need to analyze the impacts of new development on transportation infrastructure through some type of analysis
- The use of fee programs and other financing tools to fund transportation infrastructure

The only significant change is that the LOS-based impact analysis is not an integral element of the CEQA review and approval process but still a necessary element of the planning process. In many cases, stakeholders have grown accustomed to LOS-based impact analyses and expect to see some type of analysis. If one is not provided, it can create speculation regarding potential impacts.

In conclusion, SB 743 has had both a significant effect on transportation studies while having limited
effect concurrently. Within CEQA, the effect is significant. However; not all planning and entitlement
efforts are related to CEQA and the need to address the adequacy of transportation infrastructure
remains a fundamental aspect of the planning process, as it historically has been and will continue to be.

Prior	Action	s):

None.

Financial Summary:

Transportation & Planning Department activities are included in the Agency's adopted Fiscal Year 2024/2025 Budget under the Transportation Department.

Attachment(s):

None.



Western Riverside Council of Governments Public Works Committee

Staff Report

Subject: VMT Mitigation Program Activities Update

Contact: Chris Gray, Deputy Executive Director, cgray@wrcog.us, (951) 405-6710

Date: December 12, 2024

Recommended Action(s):

1. Receive and file.

Summary:

Senate Bill (SB) 743, implemented on July 1, 2020, requires development projects to utilize Vehicle Miles Traveled (VMT), rather than Level of Service (LOS), as the metric to determine its transportation impacts under the California Environmental Quality Act. WRCOG assisted in preparing its member agencies in the implementation of SB 743 with guidance on meeting the requirements of the Bill. To continue with the implementation of VMT as a metric, WRCOG has been actively working with partner agencies to develop a VMT Mitigation Program Manual. WRCOG will present an overview of the Manual and then discuss next steps.

Purpose / WRCOG 2022-2027 Strategic Plan Goal:

The purpose of this item is to provide an update and next steps of the potential regional VMT mitigation program which would be available to each member agency to opt-in when available. This report is not requesting any approval of a program. A This effort aligns with Strategic Plan Goal #5 (Develop Projects and Programs That Improve Infrastructure and Sustainable Development in our Region).

Discussion:

Background

One objective of WRCOG's Local Transportation Funds (LTF) Program with the Riverside County Transportation Commission (RCTC) is to continue to WRCOG assist member agencies with SB 743 implementation. As part of this, WRCOG conducted initial research on a possible VMT mitigation program or bank strategies for development projects as part of its SB 743 implementation activities. This initial research was presented to the Public Works Committee in May 2021 and, as a result, WRCOG received inquiries from member agencies regarding the development of a potential regional VMT mitigation program for western Riverside County.

During WRCOG's work on SB 743 implementation, the issue of VMT mitigation was noted to be

problematic. The main reason is that most land-use projects cannot implement transportation system improvements or directly influence the travel of its occupants. VMT is a function of the intensity of use, type of use, and location, so the main challenge is that VMT is ultimately a regional, not local, concern. In comparison, LOS-based impacts are relatively easy to mitigate since payment of fees for improvements or construction of improvements, or some combination thereof, are appropriate mitigation.

WRCOG staff received direction from the Executive Committee at its October 4, 2021, meeting to evaluate options to mitigate VMT impacts from new development. WRCOG commenced an effort to develop a potential program for western Riverside County, and has been discussing with RCTC and the Riverside Transit Agency the different elements and options. These two agencies were identified since they would be potential large credit generators and/or credit users if they choose to participate. Participation in any potential program will be on a voluntary basis, so member agencies will participate in a program only if it decides to opt-in.

Since this due diligence process has taken place, the project team has looked at potential benefits and challenges to the different types of mitigation programs and its framework, such as banks, exchanges, and impact fee programs. The project team has also considered the key elements of additionality and equity. In addition, the project team has been exploring potential governing structures of the program and the different elements of operating a program. The project team includes WRCOG's legal counsel to ensure all elements of the program are analyzed from all aspects.

The mitigation measures included will influence the type of program, so the project team has been working with member and partner agencies to identify potential mitigation measures to be included. WRCOG reached out to interested Public Works Committee members in February 2023 to solicit potential projects and programs that could be included in a program to serve as an initial project list. Additional projects and programs may be added. The project team is in the process of estimating the potential VMT reduction associated with the projects and programs, determining which projects and programs will be most effective throughout the subregion, and identifying specific areas that should be targeted for participation to maximize the benefits of the program. The project team also completed an equity analysis to consider demographic trends, including historically disadvantaged communities when identifying which projects and programs could be included in a regional VMT mitigation program.

Present Situation

All of the technical work and research on a potential VMT Mitigation Program has been completed. A draft Program Manual has been finalized and is currently being reviewed by various stakeholders including RCTC, RTA, and RCA. Once that review is complete, this document will be provided to members of the Planning Directors Committee and the Public Works Committee.

Some key elements of the effort proposed by WRCOG are as follows:

- The program would be a regional effort with WRCOG serving as the Program Administrator.
- The effort would be structured as an exchange instead of a bank or fee.
- The Planning Directors Committee would provide direct oversight of the program with the WRCOG Executive Committee retaining final jurisdiction as with all WRCOG activities.
- Agencies would agree to join the program by executing an agreement with WRCOG.
- Agencies which have formally joined the program can then submit VMT-reducing projects to be

included in the program.

- Only public agencies can submit VMT-reducing projects to be included in the program.
- WRCOG would compile this list of VMT-reducing projects.
- These VMT-reducing projects would then be available to be purchased to generate VMT credits.
- Any public entity or private entity can purchase VMT credits by selecting one or more projects from those available on the list WRCOG maintains.
- WRCOG would collect a nominal administrative fee (4%) based on the program costs for this transaction.
- WRCOG would refresh the program list as appropriate.
- Agencies can choose to participate in the WRCOG program, participate in other regional
 programs, develop their own program or any combination of those three. The only limitation is
 that an agency is not allowed to submit the same credit generator item to multiple programs.

Graphics depicting the operation of a program are provided as Attachment 1. These flowcharts describe the following program elements:

- Overall Program Process
- Process for Credit Generators
- Process for Submitting Credit-Generating Items
- Process for Private Sector Requests for Credit
- Process for Public Sector Requests for Credit
- Appeals Process
- Attachment 1 Overall program operation
- Attachment 2 How a credit generator joins the program
- Attachment 3 How to submit a credit generating item
- Attachment 4 How a private sector entity requests credits
- Attachment 5 How a public sector entity requests credits
- Attachment 6 Appeals process

Next Steps

Following distribution of the Program Manual, WRCOG will be requesting authorization from the Executive Committee to implement the program. At this time, we are not asking for any formal commitment from member agencies. However; any member agencies which are potentially interested should notify WRCOG so that information can be shared during discussions with the Executive Committee.

Prior Action(s):

November 6, 2023: The Executive Committee received and filed.

October 12, 2023: The Public Works Committee received and filed.

October 12, 2023: The Planning Directors Committee received and filed.

February 10, 2022: The Planning Directors Committee received and filed.

May 13, 2021: The Public Works Committee received and filed.

Financial Summary:

Costs for initial program evaluation and development are funded by LTF (Fund 210) and included in the Fiscal Year 2024/2025 Agency Budget. Should WRCOG elect to implement a program, on-going funding would be provided by an Administrative Fee which would be assessed on credits purchased by public sector and private sector entities.

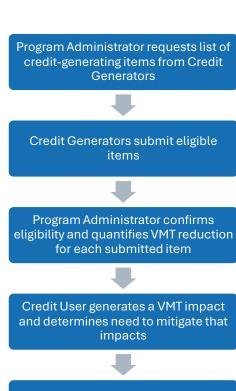
Attachment(s):

Attachment 1 - WRCOG VMT Exchange Flowcharts

WRCOG Voluntary VMT Mitigation Exchange Program

Process Flowcharts





If Program Administrator/Credit Generator have questions, issues are resolved before credit generating item is eligible for inclusion in Program

Credit Users apply to purchase credits to mitigate impacts



Application is reviewed and if approved by Program Administrator, Credit User pays for specific credit-generating item



Program Administrator allocates funds back to Credit Generator who submitted the specific credit-generating item



If application is not approved, Credit User may update application or determine appropriate next steps in consultation with Program Administrator



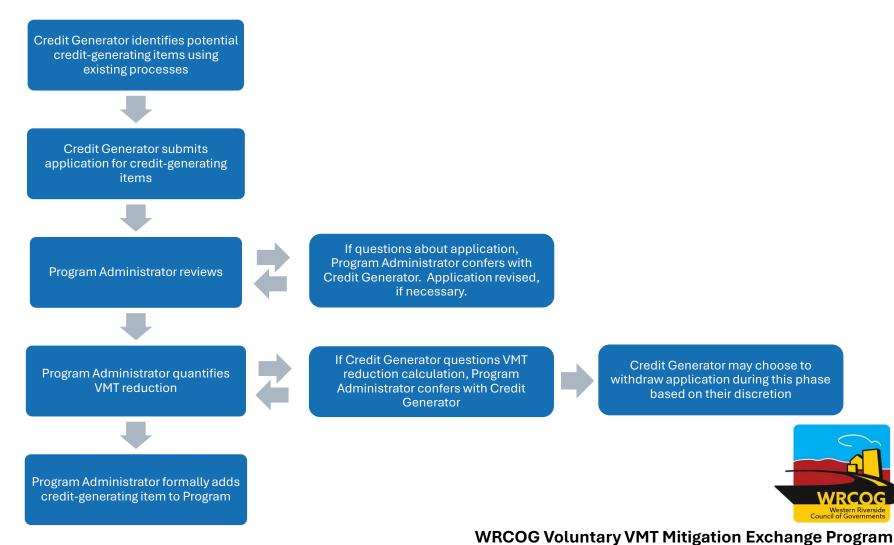
WRCOG Voluntary VMT Mitigation Exchange Program
Overall Program Process



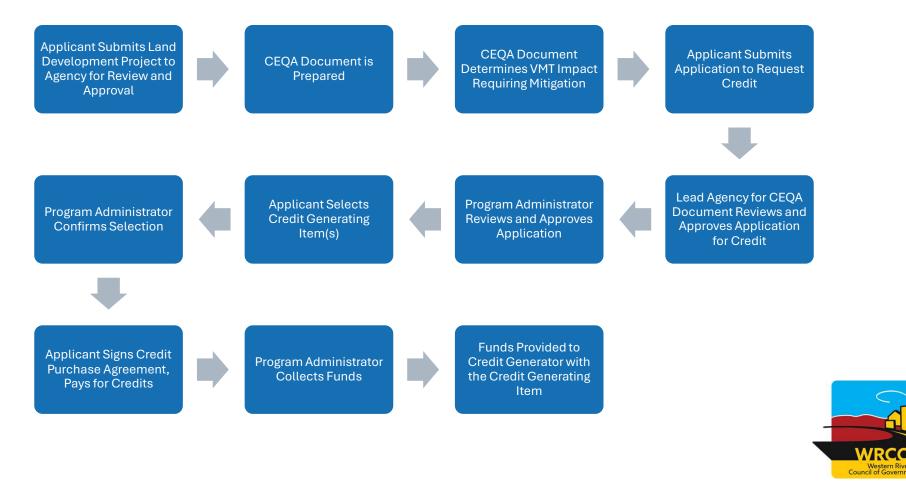


WRCOG Voluntary VMT Mitigation Exchange Program

Process for Credit Generators

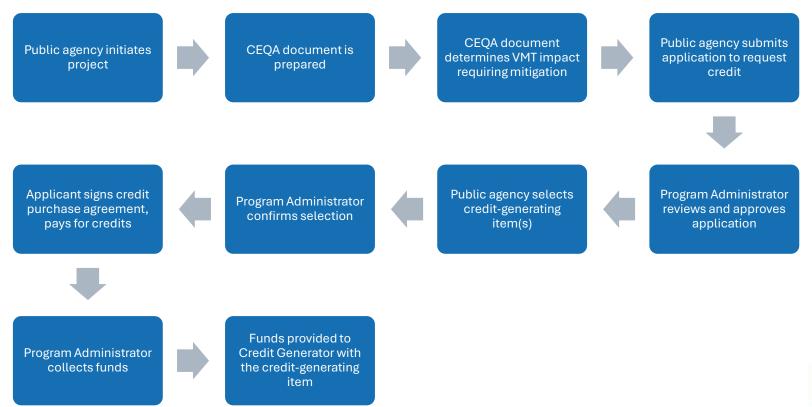


Process for Submitting Credit-Generating Items



WRCOG Voluntary VMT Mitigation Exchange Program

Process for Private Sector Requests for Credits





WRCOG Voluntary VMT Mitigation Exchange Program

Process for Public Sector Request for Credits

