From LOS to VMT: An Update on California’s SB 743 Legislation

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ITE Joint Western & Texas District Meeting
June 26, 2018
Keystone, Colorado
WHAT WE DO NOW

From LOS to VMT: An Update on California’s SB 743 Legislation
What We Will Do Under SB 743
(Starting January 1, 2020)

VMT = Vehicle Miles Traveled

Number of Trips x Length of Trip

Compare To

San Diego Region

Regional or City

VMT/Employee = ?

VMT/Capita = ?

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VMT Analysis for Land Development Projects

- Projects Less Than 110 ADT Considered Insignificant
- Residential: VMT/capita 15% below regional average or city average
- Office: VMT/employee 15% below regional average
- Retail: Net decrease in VMT. Local-serving retail exempt.
- Mixed Use: Evaluate each component separately and take credit for internal capture
- Other Projects: To be determined by lead agency
- Certain Projects in High Transit Areas Transit Exempt
Why Are We Making This Change?

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Mixed Use Projects

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Mitigation Fees \( \Rightarrow \) $ / VMT
Transportation Projects

Net Change in VMT = ?

Net Change in VMT = ?
SB 743: Opportunities

CEQA

Climate Action
Smart Growth
Multimodal Transportation Networks

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SB 743: Challenges

- Does it still matter?
- How do we incorporate LOS analysis into development review process?
- VMT mitigation not always feasible
- Small projects in auto-oriented areas: Will they require an EIR?
Next Steps in SB 743 Process

- Incorporation of SB 743 into CEQA by Natural Resources Agency (expected in 2018)
- Revisions to OPR Technical Advisory (Current is April 2018)
- Local Agency Thresholds
- Required Implementation January 1, 2020
Preparing for Implementation

- Check whether your region is developing SB 743 guidelines.
- Consider updating local transportation impact study guidelines.
- Determine new procedures for requiring roadway improvements for development projects.
- Consider VMT fees for mitigation.
- Consider tiered environmental studies for small land development and roadway projects (to avoid preparation of an EIR).
- Discuss SB 743 with your agency’s staff, managers and attorneys.
Websites for More Information

❖ California Governor’s Office of Planning and Research (OPR)
  www.opr.ca.gov
  Check: CEQA / Alt Transportation Metrics (SB 743)

❖ Institute of Transportation Engineers (ITE), Western District
  www.westernite.org
  Check: Legislation Around the District