



**SAN BENITO COUNTY
AGENDA ITEM
TRANSMITTAL FORM**

Betsy Dirks
District No. 1

Kollin Kosmicki
District No. 2
Vice Chair

Peter Hernandez
District No. 3
Chair

Bob Tiffany
District No. 4

Bea Gonzales
District No. 5

Item Number: 1.4

MEETING DATE: 09/27/2022

DEPARTMENT: RESOURCE MANAGEMENT AGENCY

AGENDA ITEM PREPARER: Angelika Rangel

DEPT HEAD/DIRECTOR: Steve Loupe

SUBJECT:

RESOURCE MANAGEMENT AGENCY- S. LOUPE ASSISTANT DIRECTOR - PUBLIC WORKS

Adopt Resolution for implementation of a County Vehicle Miles Traveled (VMT) Policy.

SBC FILE NUMBER: 105

RESOLUTION NO: 2022-104

AGENDA SECTION:

REGULAR AGENDA

BACKGROUND/SUMMARY:

In 2013, SB 743 was signed into law by California Governor Jerry Brown with a goal of reducing Greenhouse Gas (GHG) emissions, promoting the development of infill land use projects and multimodal transportation networks, and to promote a diversity of land uses within developments. One significant outcome resulting from this statute is the removal of automobile delay and congestion, commonly known as level of service (LOS), as a basis for determining significant transportation impacts under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).

The Governor's Office of Planning and Research (OPR) has documented recommended analysis guidelines for SB 743 in its *Technical Advisory on Evaluating Transportation Impacts in CEQA* (2018) which provides for Vehicle Miles Traveled (VMT) as the principal measure to replace LOS for determining significant transportation impacts. VMT is a measure of total vehicular travel that accounts for the number of vehicle trips and the length of those trips. OPR selected VMT, in part, because jurisdictions are already familiar with this metric. VMT is already used in CEQA to study other potential impacts such as GHG, air quality, and energy impacts and is used in planning for regional Sustainable Communities Strategies (SCS).

VMT also allows for an analysis of a project's impact throughout the jurisdiction rather than only in the

vicinity of the proposed project allowing for a better understanding of the full extent of a project's transportation-related impact. It should be noted that SB 743 does not disallow San Benito County to use LOS for other planning purposes outside the scope of CEQA.

RESOLUTION OR ORDINANCE NEEDED FOR THIS ITEM:

Yes

CONTRACT NEEDED FOR THIS ITEM:

No

CONTRACT AND RFP HISTORY:

N/A

LAST CONTRACT AMOUNT OR N/A:

N/A

STATE IF THIS IS A NEW CONTRACT/ HOW MANY PAST AMENDED CONTRACTS/ OR N/A:

N/A

STRATEGIC PLAN GOALS: 1. Operational Development & Excellence

Yes

STRATEGIC PLAN GOALS: 2. Planning And Sustainable Growth

Yes

STRATEGIC PLAN GOALS: 3. Technology

No

STRATEGIC PLAN GOALS: 4. Community Engagement

No

STRATEGIC PLAN GOALS: 5. Health & Safe Community

No

BUDGETED:

N/A

BUDGET ADJUSTMENT NEEDED:

No

SOURCE OF FUNDING:

N/A

UNFUNDED MANDATE:

N/A

SBC BUDGET LINE ITEM NUMBER:

N/A

CURRENT FY COST:

N/A

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

Staff respectfully recommends that the Board of Supervisors adopt a resolution for implementation of a County Vehicle Miles Travelled (VMT) Policy.

BOARD ACTION RESULTS:

Adopted Resolution No. 2022-104 per staff recommendation. (4/0 vote, Hernandez - Absent)

ATTACHMENTS:

[Resolution 2022-104 - VMT Thresholds of Significance](#)