

New Visions 2030
Draft Updated Environmental Justice Analysis Report

Background

In response to the federal mandate to incorporate Environmental Justice (EJ) considerations into the Title VI (Civil Rights) aspects of our planning process, CDTC has updated its Title VI / Environmental Justice Analysis Report to document progress to date in New Visions, TIP and UPWP activities and to build a framework for future EJ incorporation.

Issues Explored

- **TIP Project Distribution**--Projects from the 07-12 TIP were mapped to identify their distribution and location in relation to EJ population areas. Analysis was also performed regarding the percentages of TIP projects in EJ areas and Non EJ areas
- **Linkage Project Distribution**--All 55 projects that have been funded through the Community and Transportation Linkage Planning Program were mapped to identify their distribution and location in relation to EJ population areas. Analysis was also performed regarding the percentages of Linkage projects in EJ areas and Non EJ areas.

Summary of Findings

- The general TIP process safeguards results in an equitable distribution of projects throughout the region.
- There are currently 246 projects on the TIP. Forty-eight percent of these projects are located within EJ target areas.
- Apart from the initial disruption caused by construction work, overall the TIP projects enhance safety, accessibility, and the quality of life in EJ areas.
- The TIP does not contain any major transportation project with significant negative EJ impacts.
- Forty-one of the fifty-five Linkage projects are located in Environmental Justice target areas.
- Several projects address transportation planning in areas especially high in EJ populations, such as inner city Schenectady, Albany, and Troy.
- CDTC staff will continue to update this report as better and more recent data becomes available and as programs change.
- Additional transportation concerns with Title VI / Environmental Justice aspects (noise, etc.) have been fairly examined in the “big ticket, big initiative” work.

Performance Measurement (relevance to existing performance measures or proposed new performance measures (if applicable))

- Quantitative measures are derived primarily from CDTC's core and supplemental system performance measures developed in its New Visions process. This is a work in progress and quantitative measurement is still evolving

Policy/Budget Implications and/or Recommendations

- CDTC's Title VI-Environmental Justice initiative is intended to ensure that EJ principles are included in CDTC's planning process. At all times, CDTC will seek to keep the EJ/Title VI measures integrated into the overall system planning and project-level measures used for decision-making

