Transportation Planning Equity Assessment

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Introduction

Erica Lychak
Communications Manager
Broward MPO

Elisabeth Schuck, AICP, LEED GA
Senior Project Manager
Tindale Oliver
Presentation Topics

- **Historical Context**
- **Equity Assessment Process**
- **Key Takeaways**

  - 2045 Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) application
  - Other MPO plans and programs
Title VI/EJ: What We Know

• Any agency that receives federal funds must adhere to Title VI requirements and other federal non-discrimination authorities

• Equity Assessment has always been used in various forms in plans and programs of Broward MPO
  • Efforts are made to track staff Title VI/EJ training and regularly discuss at MPO staff meetings

How can we do more?
Prior Approach to Equity

- Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP)
- Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)
- Mobility/Complete Streets Initiatives
- Corridor and Sub-Area level studies
- Public Outreach Evaluation

Equity assessment is used but not standardized
How Can We Do More?

Created a Working Group

Goals:
• Develop a standardized process that can be used across plans and programs
• Build an assessment that can be a resource in the evaluation process
Equity Assessment Objectives

- Consistently evaluates
- Improves efficiency
- More effectively satisfies
- Produces meaningful outcomes
- Identifies adverse impacts early
- Advances equity
Equity Assessment Overview

**STEP 1**
Conduct Data & Peer Agency Review

**STEP 2**
Develop Equity Areas

**STEP 3**
Apply Assessment Methodology

**STEP 4**
Evaluate Results

We are here.
Data & Peer Agency Review

Reviewed applicable Broward MPO plans and programs

What should be standardized vs. flexible?

What data are available?

What can MPO staff maintain/update in the future?
Identify Equity Areas

**Objective 1:** Use available and accessible data

**Objective 2:** Be flexible for MPO/local plans and programs

**Objective 3:** Be simple to use

**Objective 4:** Be objective

**Objective 5:** Be open-sourced

What objectives should drive the methodology?
Identify Equity Areas

What demographic information should be included?

Race and Minority
• Racial Minority

Minority and National Origin
• Ethnic Minority
• LEP Population

Low Income
• Population below Poverty

Disability
• Population with a Disability

Age
• Youth (10-17 years)
• Older Adults (65+ years)
Identify Equity Areas

Calculates composite “equity” score

Flexible geography
County, city, region, subarea

• Excel-based
• Use Census/American Community Survey (ACS) data
• Flexibility in data and geography
  • Can “turn” indicators on/off
  • Block group or census tract level
• Statistically-driven calculation process (no user-assigned scoring) to identify equity score

How should the “tool” operate?
Identify Equity Areas

- Output is the equity area score map
- **Is not** intended to be a definitive identifier of EJ/Title VI populations
- **Is** intended to be used as a guide
- Provides a consistent way to analyze demographic data
Equity Assessment Resources

- Broward MPO Webpage
- “Resources” tab
- Technical reports
- Interactive map illustrating equity scores and data by block group
Application Methodology (Overview)

So we’ve identified equity areas...now what?

Three scalable assessment levels

• How are we doing?
• What are the trends?
• Do adjustments need to be made?

It starts with..... Commitment 2045 (Metropolitan Transportation Plan)
Application Methodology (MTP)

Equity Assessment Points

(1) Data & Analysis
(2) Scenario Analysis
(3) Hybrid Scenario
(4) 2045 Needs
(5) Project Priorities
(6) Cost Feasible Plan

Ongoing Input from Public, MPO Committees, and MPO Board
## MTP Planning Factors

### Mobility
- SOV Travel | VMT Reduction | Person Capacity | Peak Period Delay & Transit Travel Time

### Accessibility
- Transit Ridership | Activity Center Access & Reliability | Multimodal Connectivity

### Safety
- Multimodal Safety (Addressing existing high-crash locations and factors which adversely impact safety)

### Equity
- Distribution of Transit Service Frequency* | Transit Service* | Travel Time Savings* | Multimodal Safety* | Community Impacts

### Environment
- Sea Level Rise Mitigation | GHG and Precursor Emissions | Wetland/Natural Habitats | Cultural and Historical Resources

### Economy
- Freight & Goods Movement | State of Good Repair | Economic Development
MTP Scenario Evaluation

MTP Scenarios

- Trend (Baseline)
- Compact Development
- Technology
- Community Vision
- Resiliency

How compares to trend scenario for equity areas vs non-equity areas?

- Accessibility
- Mobility
- Environment
- Safety
- Economic Vitality

Equity

Broward MPO Transportation Planning Equity Areas

BrowardMPO.org
# MTP Scenario Evaluation

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PLANNING FACTOR</th>
<th>PERFORMANCE MEASURE</th>
<th>COMMUNITY VISION</th>
<th>COMPACT DEVELOPMENT</th>
<th>TECHNOLOGY</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mobility</td>
<td>Vehicle delay - peak periods</td>
<td>EAs</td>
<td>Non-EAs</td>
<td>EAs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accessibility</td>
<td>% jobs accessible by car</td>
<td></td>
<td>EAs</td>
<td>Non-EAs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>% of jobs accessible by transit</td>
<td></td>
<td>EAs</td>
<td>Non-EAs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Safety</td>
<td>Annual fatalities</td>
<td></td>
<td>EAs</td>
<td>Non-EAs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Environmental Stewardship</td>
<td>Daily CO emissions</td>
<td></td>
<td>EAs</td>
<td>Non-EAs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>System Capacity</td>
<td>Travel time to activity centers</td>
<td></td>
<td>EAs</td>
<td>Non-EAs</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
MTP Scenario Evaluation

Transportation equity take-aways

• Community Vision & Technology Scenarios
  • Generally perform same for equity areas vs non-equity areas
  • Percent of jobs accessible by transit within 30 min

• Compact Development Scenario
  • Growth redirected to premium transit corridors
  • Primarily located within equity areas
  • No corresponding roadway capacity improvements
MTP System Evaluation (2045 Needs)

- 2045 Needs Plan
- 2045 Cost Affordable Plan

System performance measures tied back to MTP Goals

- Safety
- Accessibility
- Economic Vitality
- Environment

Report performance for equity areas vs countywide

Compare results and Monitor trends over time
# MTP System Evaluation (2045 Needs)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MEASURE AREA</th>
<th>2045 NEEDS PLAN</th>
<th>EQUITY ANALYSIS RESULTS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Congestion Management</td>
<td>Generally, congestion is worse</td>
<td>Generally similar performance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Delay</td>
<td>Delay is worse</td>
<td>Less delay in equity areas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mode Share</td>
<td>Fewer SOV trips and more transit stops – target achieved</td>
<td>Greater increase in non-equity areas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transit Supply</td>
<td>More transit is provided – targets achieved</td>
<td>Greater improvement in equity areas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transit Used</td>
<td>More transit is used – targets achieved</td>
<td>Greater improvement in non-equity areas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>System Capacity</td>
<td>More capacity provided – targets achieved</td>
<td>Greater improvement in equity areas</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Goal 1: Move People and Goods**

**Transportation**

Transit supply increases more in equity areas, but transit use increases more in non-equity areas.
## MTP System Evaluation (2045 Needs)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Measure Area</th>
<th>2045 Needs Plan</th>
<th>Equity Analysis Results</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Number of New Jobs</td>
<td>New jobs created – Target achieved</td>
<td>Generally similar performance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Access to Jobs</td>
<td>All measures improved – Not all targets achieved</td>
<td>Generally similar levels of improvement</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• Transit in non-equity areas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• Premium transit equity areas</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Transportation Equity

Access to jobs by premium transit increases more in equity areas. Access to jobs using transit overall increases more in non-equity areas.
## MTP System Evaluation (2045 Needs)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Measure Area</th>
<th>2045 Needs Plan</th>
<th>Equity Analysis Results</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Transit Access</td>
<td>All measures improved – Not all targets achieved</td>
<td>Generally similar performance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vehicle Miles Traveled (VMT)</td>
<td>VMT minimal increase – Targets maintained</td>
<td>Generally similar performance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vehicle Hours Traveled (VHT)</td>
<td>VHT increases – Target not maintained</td>
<td>Slightly lower increase in equity areas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Air Quality</td>
<td>Fewer emissions produced – Targets achieved</td>
<td>Generally similar performance</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Goal 3: Strengthen Communities**

Transportation Equity

Generally similar performance in equity areas vs non-equity areas, although VHT had a smaller increase in equity areas.
MTP Project Prioritization

• Planning factor weights
  • Align with importance to the community
  • Determined by polling of TAC, CAC, and MPO Board

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Planning Factors</th>
<th>Assigned Weight</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Accessibility</td>
<td>20.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mobility</td>
<td>20.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Safety</td>
<td>18.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Equity</td>
<td>14.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Economic Vitality</td>
<td>13.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Environmental Stewardship</td>
<td>12.8</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## MTP Project Prioritization

### Equity Criteria

Equity criteria provide for **8 out of 37** total points

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Criteria Category</th>
<th>Points</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Distribution of Transit Service Frequency</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Distribution of Transit Service Frequency</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Project will add high-quality transit service to multiple new communities.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Project will add high-quality transit service to one new community.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>0</td>
<td>Project will not add high-quality transit to any new communities.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>-1</td>
<td>Project may degrade transit service to a community.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Transit Services within Equity Areas</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transit Services within Equity Areas</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Project will provide more direct transit service between equity area and key activity center(s).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Project will provide new transit service within equity area.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>0</td>
<td>Project will not provide new transit service within equity area.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>-1</td>
<td>Project may degrade transit service within an equity area.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Multimodal Safety within Equity Areas</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Multimodal Safety within Equity Areas</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Project will directly improve safety through improvements at a high-crash location within an equity area.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Project may directly improve safety through improvements (regardless of existing crash situation) within an equity area.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>0</td>
<td>Project has no impact on safety within an equity area.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>-1</td>
<td>Project may introduce factors (higher speeds, higher traffic volumes, design features) that could adversely impact multimodal safety within an equity area.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Community Impacts</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community Impacts</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>Project has no disproportionate impacts (physical and/or economic) on existing residences or businesses.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>-1</td>
<td>Project may have disproportionate impacts (physical and/or economic) on existing residences or businesses.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>-2</td>
<td>Project may have disproportionate impacts (physical and/or economic) on existing residences or businesses with an equity area.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
MTP Equity Assessment

What’s Next?

- Goals & Objectives
- Scenario Evaluation
- System Evaluation – 2045 Needs Plan
- Project Prioritization
- System Evaluation – 2045 Cost Feasible Plan
Equity Assessment
Other MPO Plans and Programs

• Reference Guide
  • What are equity areas?
  • What types of projects this applies to?
  • How equity can be considered?
    • Public outreach
    • Technical analysis
  • What other considerations are there?
  • What are the resources?

Transportation Planning Equity Assessment

How can you use the equity assessment?

Our goal is that this information can and will be used as a planning resource by MPO staff and partner agencies, including cities, counties, and transit agencies, saving time by providing easily accessible data and maps. Primarily, we hope that the methodology and tools help facilitate the consideration of equity in the planning process, either by providing a standardized way to identify equity areas or by providing easily accessible key data for federally-projection population groups in Broward County.

We also hope the interactive maps can be used as an information portal by anyone, planner or the public alike, looking for demographic data of their neighborhood, city, or the county.

Where can I find more information on the equity assessment?

Please visit our TEN VI Transportation Planning Equity Assessment page for more information at TENVI.BrowardMPO.org under the 'Resources' tab at BrowardMPO.org

You can also visit the site for more information of the Transportation Planning Equity Area Map here. On this interactive webpage you can:

• View the composite scores by block group and the breakdown of indicator data used to develop the score
• Look across the exact indicators
• Export data for the composite equity score and each indicator into a CSV (Comma Separated View) format
• Export the maps into a PNG (Portable Graphics Format) file
• Click on the at the top right hand corner of each map to export!
Equity Assessment
Other MPO Plans and Programs

- Complete Streets & Localized Initiatives Program (CSLIP)
- Complete Streets Master Plan (next update)
- Mobility Hub Program
- Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)
Key Takeaways

• Elevate equity so it can be impactful
• Use as one resource in informed decision-making
• Flexibility is key!
• Take the time to educate partners and policy makers
• Make information open-sourced and available
Thank You!

Erica Lychak  
Communications Manager  
Broward MPO  
(954) 876-0058  
Lychake@browardmpo.org

Elisabeth Schuck  
Sr. Project Manager  
Tindale Oliver  
(813) 224-8862  
Eschuck@tindaleoliver.com

Questions?

@MPOErica