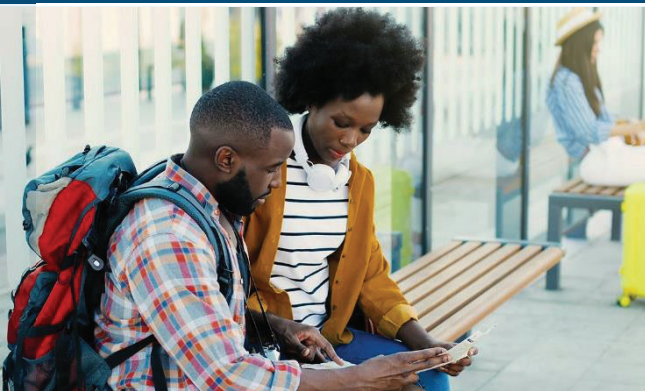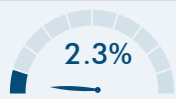# T-23. Provide Community-Based Travel Planning
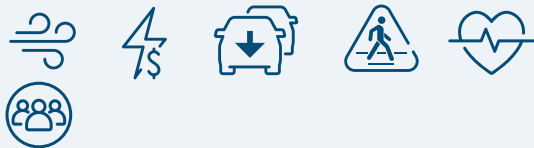

GHG Mitigation Potential

2.3% — Up to 2.3% of GHG emissions from vehicle travel in the plan/community

Co-Benefits (icon key on pg. 34)

Climate Resilience

CBTP can decrease vehicle use and thus improve air quality, resulting in health impacts that may increase the resilience of communities near freeways and roads. This can also increase the adaptive capacity of communities by informing them of travel alternatives if certain modes become disrupted due to extreme events.

Health and Equity Considerations

Outreach materials may need to be in multiple languages to address diverse linguistic communities.

Measure Description

This measure will target residences in the plan/community with community-based travel planning (CBTP). CBTP is a residential-based approach to outreach that provides households with customized information, incentives, and support to encourage the use of transportation alternatives in place of single occupancy vehicles, thereby reducing household VMT and associated GHG emissions.

Subsector

Trip Reduction Programs

Locational Context

Urban, suburban

Scale of Application

Plan/Community

Implementation Requirements

CBTP involves teams of trained travel advisors visiting all households within a targeted geographic area, having tailored conversations about residents' travel needs, and educating residents about the various transportation options available to them. Due to the personalized outreach method, communities are typically targeted in phases.

Cost Considerations

The main cost consideration for CBTP is labor costs for program managers and resident outreach staff plus material costs for development of educational material. The beneficiaries are the commuters who may be able to reduce vehicle usage or ownership. The local municipality may achieve cost savings through a reduction of cars on the road leading to lower infrastructure and roadway maintenance costs.

Expanded Mitigation Options

Pair with any of the Measures from T-17 through T-22-D to ensure that residents that are targeted by CBTP who want to use alternative transportation have the infrastructure and technology to do so.

GHG Reduction Formula

$$A = \frac{C}{B} \times D \times \text{-}E \times F$$

GHG Calculation Variables

ID	Variable	Value	Unit	Source
Output				
A	Percent reduction in GHG emissions from household vehicle travel in plan/community	0–2.3	%	calculated
User Inputs				
B	Residences in plan/community	[ ]	residences	user input
C	Residences in plan/community targeted with CBTP	[ ]	residences	user input
Constants, Assumptions, and Available Defaults				
D	Percent of targeted residences that participate	19	%	MTC 2021
E	Percent vehicle trip reduction by participating residences	12	%	MTC 2021
F	Adjustment factor from vehicle trips to VMT	1	unitless	assumed

Further explanation of key variables:

- (D) – Results from program evaluations of CBTP in several counties in Washington and Oregon across multiple years indicate that an average of 19 percent of residences targeted will participate (MTC 2021).
- (E) – Results from program evaluations of CBTP in several counties in Washington and Oregon across multiple years indicate that a 12 percent vehicle trip reduction will occur among participating residences (MTC 2021).
- (F) – The adjustment factor from vehicle trips to VMT is 1. This assumes that all vehicle trips will average out to typical trip length ("assumes all trip lengths are equal"). Thus, it can be assumed that a percentage reduction in vehicle trips will equal the same percentage reduction in VMT.

GHG Calculation Caps or Maximums

Measure Maximum

(A_{max}) The maximum percent reduction in GHG emissions (A) is 2.3 percent. This maximum scenario is presented in the below example quantification.

Subsector Maximum

Same as (A_{max}). Measure T-23 is the only measure at the Plan/Community scale within the Trip Reduction Programs subsector.

Example GHG Reduction Quantification

The user reduces household VMT by having residences in the plan/community participate in CBTP. In this example, all of the residences in a city of 5,000 are targeted (B and C), which would reduce GHG emissions from citywide household VMT by 2.3 percent.

$$A = \left(\frac{5{,}000 \text{ residences}}{5{,}000 \text{ residences}}\right) \times 19\% \times \text{-}12\% \times 1 = \text{-}2.3\%$$

Quantified Co-Benefits

Improved Local Air Quality

The percent reduction in GHG emissions (A) would be the same as the percent reduction in NO$_X$, CO, NO$_2$, SO$_2$, and PM. Reductions in ROG emissions can be calculated by multiplying the percent reduction in GHG emissions (A) by an adjustment factor of 87 percent. See *Adjusting VMT Reductions to Emission Reductions* above for further discussion.

Energy and Fuel Savings

The percent reduction in vehicle fuel consumption would be the same as the percent reduction in GHG emissions (A).

VMT Reductions

The percent reduction in household VMT would be the same as the percent reduction in GHG emissions (A).

Sources

- Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC). October 2021. *Plan Bay Area 2050, Forecasting and Modeling Report*. Available: https://www.planbayarea.org/sites/default/files/documents/Plan_Bay_Area_2050_Forecasting_Modeling_Report_October_2021.pdf. Accessed: November 2021.