

# Factsheet for Advisory Group

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Project Name (Legal): Near-Term Transportation Energy and Climate Change Strategies

## Research Synthesis for California Transportation Plan

### Interregional Transportation Related GHG Emission Reduction Strategies

#### About the Project

SB 391 requires Caltrans to update the California Transportation Plan (CTP) to address how the State will achieve “*maximum feasible emissions reductions*” in transportation, by identifying statewide integrated multimodal transportation system.

Caltrans is funding the Transportation Sustainability Research Center at UC Berkeley to conduct a synthesis of existing research (via literature search) and best practices (via expert interviews) on the feasibility of various interregional transportation strategies for GHG emission reduction and to summarize (based on the current research) the associated elasticities for post processing the outputs of the California Statewide Travel Demand Model. Quantitative and qualitative assessments of GHG reduction potential from selected strategies focused on interregional travel will be included in the literature review.

This will help the California Transportation Plan to:

- Support the *regional* transportation strategies for GHG emission reductions, and
- Advocate selected *interregional* transportation strategies for GHG emission reduction.

The study will focus on GHG Reduction strategies (both passenger and freight) related to (1) VMT Reduction (Transportation & Land Use Coordination, Transportation Alternatives, Pricing System Use, Mode Shift, Public Awareness), and (2) Transportation System / Operational Efficiency (Freight Mode Diversion). This study **does not** address GHG Reduction Strategies for Fuel Efficiency and Vehicle Efficiency.

#### Tasks by UC Berkeley researchers

Researchers will first consult with the Advisory Group (same members as the CTP Technical Advisory Committee, which includes staff experts from Caltrans, and other State and regional agencies) to take general guidance, to develop the questions for the expert interviews, and to explore the potential agencies (and contacts) to be interviewed. CTP Project Manager will finalize the names of contacts to be interviewed.

The researchers will then be conducting 10 to 15 expert interviews with subject matter experts in various agencies. The list of agencies would most likely include governmental agencies (e.g., metropolitan planning organizations, regional air quality management districts). CTP Project Manager could also consider interviewing non-profit organizations, and other key stakeholders, if the CTP TAC strongly recommends. It is anticipated that they will be conducted in the five key regions of the state (i.e., Sacramento, Bay Area, Los Angeles, San Diego, and Central Valley), including both urban and rural representation.

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The questions for these interviews will be prepared based on the previous research and with revisions suggested by the Advisory Group. The interview questions should address the following areas of concerns:

1. Identify potential for mitigation strategies, future goals, and lessons learned,
2. help assess the progress and to identify what are the concerns and opportunities in implementing climate strategies,
3. how to prioritize which GHG emission reduction strategies California should focus on,
4. the potential magnitude of emission reduction from various strategies and method of estimation,
5. what analytical tools to use to measure potential reduction estimates,
6. what is the level of confidence in such estimates,
7. what strategies were found to be readily politically acceptable,
8. challenges faced during plan development related to such strategies, and
9. general suggestions and specific suggestions for Caltrans as a state agency focusing on interregional travel.

## Role of CTP Technical Advisory Committee

These groups will meet periodically throughout the project through in-person meetings and/or web-ex teleconferences. This group will:

- advise on the critical needs of this project,
- suggest questions or revisions for the expert interviews,
- suggest the names of potential agencies (and contacts) that could be interviewed, and
- provide critical comments on the qualitative and quantitative aspects contained in the deliverables.

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