

26. Transportation

Overview

This section provides guidelines for evaluating a project's potential transportation impacts, including vehicle miles traveled (VMT), roadway design and safety, impacts on multimodal facilities, and emergency access. The impact analysis includes screening projects using VMT screening criteria, assessing compliance with VMT thresholds, roadway standards, and fire safety regulations to ensure consistency with state and local transportation policies.

This topic section is updated from the following Transportation and Circulation sections from the existing ISAGs:

27(a1). Roads and Highways - Level of Service

27(a2). Roads and Highways - Safety and Design of Public Roads

27(a3). Roads & Highways – Safety & Design of Private Access

27(a4). Roads & Highways – Tactical Access

27b. Pedestrian/Bicycle Facilities

27c. Bus Transit

27d. Railroads

27e. Airports

27g. Pipelines

Thresholds of Significance

Impact analysis guidelines (formerly referred to as “Methodology”) are provided accordingly for the following updated thresholds.

A project may have a significant impact if it would:

TRA-1

- a. Residential uses: exceed a VMT per capita threshold of 15 percent below baseline VMT per capita levels.
- b. Office and industrial uses: exceed a VMT per employee threshold of 15 percent below baseline VMT per employee levels.
- c. Retail uses: result in a net increase in total VMT based on model data found in the Ventura County Transportation Model (VCTM).
- d. Mixed uses: exceed a VMT threshold of 15 percent below baseline VMT per capita or VMT per employee levels.
- e. Agricultural uses: result in a net increase in regional (unincorporated area) total VMT based on model data found in the VCTM.
- f. Roadway improvement projects: result in a net increase in total VMT based on model data found in the VCTM.

TRA-2

Substantially increase hazards due to a geometric design feature (e.g., sharp curves or dangerous intersections) or incompatible uses (e.g., farm equipment).

26. Transportation (cont.)

Thresholds of Significance (cont.)

A project may have a significant impact if it would:

TRA-3 a) Conflict with the Ventura County Fire Protection District Access Ordinance, Ventura County Road Standards, and/or State Fire Safe Regulations addressing the circulation system, including public transit, roadway, bicycle, or pedestrian facilities; and b) result in a significant adverse environmental effect due to that conflict.

TRA-4 Result in substantial adverse physical barriers to the circulation system, including public transit, pedestrian, or bicycle facilities, substantially increase demand in the use of such facilities, or substantially decrease the performance or safety of such facilities.

TRA-5 Result in a substantial adverse physical interference with an existing railroad's facilities or operations.

TRA-6 Result in inadequate emergency access.

Legend:

 Derived from standards specific to the County

 Derived from Appendix G of CEQA

 Derived from a combination of specific County standards and Appendix G of CEQA

Related Technical Terms

The following technical terms related to this topic section have been updated or incorporated:

- Affordable housing
- Low vehicle miles traveled area
- Traffic analysis zone
- Traffic Impact Study
- Ventura County Transportation Model
- Vehicle miles traveled