



December 4, 2017

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Council of Infill Builders Applauds Governor Brown on New SB 743 Guidelines for Measuring Transportation Impacts Under The California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA)

The Council of Infill Builders, a statewide organization of real estate professionals committed to improving California through infill development, is pleased to acknowledge [new guidelines](#) from the Governor's Office of Planning and Research for evaluating transportation impacts under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) in accordance with Senate Bill 743 (Steinberg, 2013).

The new guidelines will:

- Replace the Level of Service (LOS) "auto delay" analysis in CEQA for determining a project's transportation impacts with a more appropriate Vehicle Miles Traveled (VMT) metric;
- Potentially eliminate transportation review altogether for infill projects close to major transit;
- Apply this VMT metric statewide to all projects, particularly all transit projects; and
- Align CEQA with achieving the state's goals on land use under Senate Bill 375 (Steinberg, 2008) and climate change under Senate Bill 32 (Pavley, 2016).

LOS disproportionately burdens infill projects and related infrastructure by privileging automobile traffic over pedestrians, bicyclists, and transit riders. VMT represents a far more accurate measure to determine transportation impacts. Furthermore, VMT analysis is generally more straightforward to complete than calculating LOS, which makes the environmental review process less resource-intensive.

"Replacing the outdated and counter-productive 'level of service' analysis with a 'vehicle miles traveled' metric will help new land use projects account for their impacts on traffic and pollution in a much more realistic fashion," commented Council of Infill Builders president Curt Johansen. "We applaud this change and how it will help Californians build more walkable and convenient neighborhoods to meet our housing and environmental goals."