

Metro | *Agenda*

Meeting: Metro Council Work Session
Date: Tuesday, November 10, 2015
Time: 2:00 p.m.
Place: Metro Regional Center, Council Chamber

CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

- | | | |
|----------------|---|--|
| 2:00 PM | 1. CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER COMMUNICATION | |
| 2:10 PM | 2. GREATER PORTLAND INC. UPDATE | Janet LaBar, Greater Portland Inc. |
| 3:00 PM | 3. LEAST COST PLANNING DEVELOPMENT | Jeff Frkonja, Metro
Elissa Gertler, Metro |
| 4:00 PM | 4. COUNCILOR LIAISON UPDATES AND COUNCIL COMMUNICATION | |

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ការគោរពសិទ្ធិពលរដ្ឋរបស់ ។ សំរាប់ព័ត៌មានអំពីកម្មវិធីសិទ្ធិពលរដ្ឋរបស់ Metro ឬដើម្បីទទួលបានក្បួនលក្ខណ៍រើសអើងសូមចូលទស្សនាការប្រកាស www.oregonmetro.gov/civilrights។
បើលោកអ្នកត្រូវការអ្នកបកប្រែភាសានៅពេលអង្គប្រជុំសាធារណៈ សូមទូរស័ព្ទមកលេខ 503-797-1890 (ម៉ោង 8 ព្រឹកដល់ម៉ោង 5 ល្ងាច ថ្ងៃធ្វើការ) ប្រាំពីរថ្ងៃ ថ្ងៃធ្វើការ មុនថ្ងៃប្រជុំដើម្បីអាចឲ្យគេសម្រួលតាមសំណើរបស់លោកអ្នក ។

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Agenda Item No. 2.0

GREATER PORTLAND INC. UPDATE

Metro Council Work Session
Thursday, November 10, 2015
Metro Regional Center, Council Chamber

GREATER PORTLAND 2020

One Region. One Future.

CREATING THE FUTURE WE WANT

Greater Portland 2020 is an unprecedented, collaborative action plan for the Greater Portland of tomorrow. It's an ambitious agenda, envisioned and created by more than 40 public and private organizations throughout the region to pursue the future we want, not the future that's handed to us.

WHY WE NEED GREATER PORTLAND 2020

In the competitive global marketplace, pioneering regions take decisive action. They invest in education and capture the attention of talent, existing and future, to engage a nimble, new class of leaders and businesses. They create conditions necessary to spur innovation and entrepreneurship. They build systems and infrastructure to support the needs of the people and businesses to move their region forward.

For Greater Portland to compete in this arena and create prosperity and resiliency—now and for the future—we must act together to build an economic landscape where we can thrive. We must create the region we want.

ECONOMIC PROSPERITY FOR ALL

The Greater Portland 2020 goal is **economic prosperity for all across the region**, which requires alignment by Greater Portland's business, education and civic leaders.

The plan focuses on **three core strategies**, guided by an emphasis in **equity and advancement**:



PEOPLE

Talent development and recruitment

PRIORITIES

1. Advance career technical education by activating industry in training and education
2. Own, practice and perfect diversity
3. Close the income gap in underrepresented, disadvantaged populations

WHAT WE'RE AIMING FOR

- Fully prepared workforce
- Best metro in which diverse talent thrive
- Access for all to quality jobs



BUSINESS

Growing business and pioneering innovation

PRIORITIES

1. Execute a regional approach to industries
2. Make Greater Portland a top location for global investment and trade
3. Sharpen the region's competitiveness for jobs and investment
4. Connect entrepreneurial support initiatives and networks across the bi-state region
5. Develop a regional public-private higher education innovation network

WHAT WE'RE AIMING FOR

- Net new traded-sector jobs
- Best location for international investment
- Support for early/second-stage and seamless innovation platforms



PLACE

Infrastructure that meets the needs of business, people and innovation

PRIORITIES

1. Improve region's transportation capabilities to alleviate congestion, enhance transit and augment freight movement
2. Identify future needs for jobs-ready industrial and employment lands
3. Address regional housing supply and affordability
4. Plan for Greater Portland's economic resiliency

WHAT WE'RE AIMING FOR

- Seamless movement of goods, people, ideas
- Coordinated portfolio of competitive offerings across bi-state metro
- Efficiencies in resolving needs as more people live/work closer to each other

“ THE PRICE OF GREATNESS IS RESPONSIBILITY

— Winston Churchill



YES@GREATERPORTLAND2020.COM

Agenda Item No. 3.0

LEAST COST PLANNING DEVELOPMENT

Metro Council Work Session
Thursday, November 10, 2015
Metro Regional Center, Council Chamber

METRO COUNCIL

Work Session Worksheet

PRESENTATION DATE: November 10, 2015

LENGTH: 50 minutes

PRESENTATION TITLE: Least Cost Planning Development

DEPARTMENTS: Research Center, Planning and Development

PRESENTER(S): Jeff Frkonja, jeff.frkonja@oregonmetro.gov x1897
Elissa Gertler, elissa.gertler@oregonmetro.gov x1752

WORK SESSION PURPOSE & DESIRED OUTCOMES

Purpose:

Brief Council on potential benefits of developing a Least Cost Planning capability at Metro, how such a process could be used, and what resources would be needed beyond the \$100,000 already appropriated for LCP development and piloting in FY15-16.

Outcome:

Obtain Council guidance to staff on the desired outcomes of a Least Cost Planning capability, what particular technical development approach seems most useful, what subject of a LCP first application or pilot Council would prefer, and the scale of additional resources that might be made available.

TOPIC BACKGROUND & FRAMING THE WORK SESSION DISCUSSION

Background

Least Cost Planning (LCP) is an investment decision support system that originated in the power utility industry. Originally based largely on benefit-cost analysis (BCA), the technique evolved to include other non-monetized measures and enabled utility planning efforts that invested in conservation programs as an adjunct to or means of “right-sizing” new generation assets. Transportation planning professionals and decision-makers adopted BCA and LCP techniques to support transportation investment decisions some time ago and have now accrued a range of actual LCP applications in the transportation field. LCP evolved further in its most successful applications to transportation decisions to the extent that current best-practice examples are now more properly categorized as Multi-Criterion Evaluation (MCE) exercises. The more compelling LCP/MCE transportation decision support examples explicitly address a comprehensive array of social, environmental, economic, system performance, and financial metrics and in so doing offer a robust framework for conducting triple bottom line (TBL or 3BL) evaluations. Excerpts from some real-world examples appear in Appendix A of this document.

Metro has a long track record of developing and applying performance measures to inform decisions regarding transportation policy and transportation investments. That work—much of it encoded in the current Regional Transportation Plan—provides a solid foundation for development work leading to LCP/MCE capabilities. Metro’s existing evaluation criteria are very much aligned with a TBL approach, so LCP/MCE development could be viewed as an “upgrade” to Metro capability rather than a “replacement.”

Why might Metro develop a “Least Cost Planning”/“Multi Criterion Evaluation” capacity?

Metro continuously seeks to improve its decision support capabilities. Examples of key decision objectives that would benefit from further development are social and geographic equity, public health outcomes, economic outcomes, and potential benefits of safety and reliability improvements. Metro also desires to maintain a national leadership role in transportation planning so it is noteworthy that many of its peer Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPOs) now apply LCP/MCE decision support tools.

What can LCP/MCE techniques do that Metro can't do now?

The peer agency examples described further below show that several enhanced capabilities can accrue from deploying well-designed LCP/MCE processes:

- Enhanced apples-to-apples comparison of evaluation criteria (as much as technically feasible).
- Integrated understanding of costs and benefits (via explicit benefit-cost analysis).
- Complex outcomes “rolled up” into one metric. For example, travel time savings in different corridors or facilities may be difficult to compare directly but can be captured in total in a region-wide mobility benefit measure.
- More robust treatment of many criteria (especially equity) than qualitative approaches.
- A coherent narrative explaining how the decision-makers evaluate possible investments against desired outcomes.
- Clearly-visualized decision support information.

How would LCP/MCE be applied in practice?

It is crucial to be aware that LCP/MCE is a planning process that is supported by specific types of technical tools. The tools by themselves provide little value if they are not used in a well-executed process that appropriately engages decision-makers and stakeholders and gives everyone ample opportunity to understand the process, the decision support information, and the stakes at hand. Although the specific order could vary somewhat, successful LCP/MCE decision processes generally execute the following steps (note that some iteration between steps is often necessary):

1. Identify the subject of the decision

Metro Council, working in conjunction with the Metro Policy Advisory Committee (MPAC) and the Joint Policy Advisory Committee on Transportation (JPACT), would identify the subject of the decision process. In the first instance at Metro this could consist of a hypothetical scenario designed by staff to test the various features of the analytic toolkit as a pilot for Council and other policymakers to understand how the process and its tools work. There are other planning activities that could also serve as a pilot for this effort, such as a regional transportation funding investment package or a future corridor study.

2. Design criteria that inform the decision and address Metro objectives

Planning & Development and Research Center staff would tailor an analytic toolkit that comprehensively incorporates regional values via criteria that can meaningfully be analyzed, starting with the criteria and target outcomes now encoded in the adopted 2014 RTP and other regional planning documents. Council, MPAC and JPACT could choose to refine or define target outcomes for some or all of the criteria that establish “yardsticks” for comparing possible alternatives. The decision support process can thus be made more outcomes-based.

3. Devise methods that make evaluation criteria measurable and comparable

Planning & Development and Research Center staff would design methods that would ensure that forecasted outcomes are properly measured and converted, to the best extent possible, into comparable terms such as dollars or some normalized score (e.g. zero to one hundred).

4. Engage decision-makers to weight or prioritize the criteria

Council, MPAC and JPACT would engage in discussions or a statistical exercise that would establish the relative importance of the different evaluation criteria, or to structure the decision process in a manner that ensures all criteria are properly treated. This policy discussion should be informed by a broader stakeholder engagement process to ensure it reflects public priorities.

5. Apply the evaluation to the actions to be decided

Staff would apply the criteria evaluations and weighting (or prioritization) established by Council, MPAC and JPACT to produce evaluation findings.

6. *Report the evaluation findings to the decision-makers to support decision*

Staff would report the evaluation findings to Council, MPAC and JPACT, who would then render a decision. The decision should be informed by a broader stakeholder engagement process that includes an opportunity to provide input on the findings to inform the final decision.

What guidance does current LCP/MCE best practice give Metro for carrying out process development?

Metro staff perused a variety of recent applications of LCP/MCE techniques to transportation planning and decision processes across the United States and the United Kingdom. Key lessons from those examples, which include research by the Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) that informed the development of the ODOT MCE tool, Mosaic, include:

- **Analytic tools are necessary but not sufficient; a meaningful engagement process is also required.**
- Metro should **tap existing and successful peer agency LCP/MCE knowledge** for lessons and methods.
- **Benefit-cost analysis (BCA) is an important technical tool** that enables many useful criteria.
- **Evaluation criteria should be comprehensive and mutually exclusive.**
- **Criteria weights (priorities) should be set democratically** (e.g. by engaging Council, MPAC and JPACT appropriately).
- The **development and application processes should be transparent** to decision-makers and stakeholders. It is critical to report all individual criteria findings because doing so makes the details clear to stakeholders and lets them see for themselves how alternatives perform on the dimensions they most care about. In fact, some agencies report that single “rolled up” scores are less intuitive and less valuable to the decision than being able to see all the details.

What are our technical tool development options?

A LCP/MCE decision process requires software tools that perform the actual criteria evaluation using appropriate methods. Such tools can span a wide range of sophistication. At one end of the spectrum are more sketch-oriented tools such as ODOT’s Mosaic tool. At the other end lie tools built specifically to take advantage of an agency’s other land use and transportation analysis capabilities, including the full level of geographic and market segmentation detail available in the regional travel demand forecast model. Metro could choose to develop LCP capabilities at any point along this spectrum. The two endpoints of Metro’s technical tool development option spectrum are the ODOT Mosaic Tool (which would need to be upgraded to handle the sheer amount of data for the entire Metro region) or a built-for-Metro toolkit that takes borrows the “best of breed” methods from other agencies’ LCP/MCE tools then enhances them to provide next-generation capabilities. The main features of these “bookend” options include:

Upgrade Data Capacity of ODOT’s Mosaic Tool

- Upgrade Mosaic’s data capacity to function with a region the size of Metro
- Retain Mosaic fundamental “sketch” methods

Borrow best methods from peer agencies and enhance to provide Metro-specific LCP/MCE toolkit

- Use full market segment and zonal detail of the Metro travel demand model
- Upgrade or replace selected non-monetized criteria methods from Mosaic to obtain more robust evaluation methods, and develop new methods for Metro where Mosaic lacks the desired feature entirely.

How do the tool development options compare?

Metro staff estimated potential development costs for the bookend toolkit options. These early staff estimates identify a range of potential costs at each end of the spectrum and can be refined after obtaining Council guidance that would facilitate more-precise cost estimates. The estimates include one-time development costs over a multi-year period followed by subsequent annual maintenance costs that would ensure, on an ongoing basis, that the new toolkit would continue to use the latest evaluation methods. Note that the staff estimates below do not include the costs of carrying out the planning, engagement and decision support processes that would need to occur alongside development of a tool or toolkit; these costs are only for technical development.

Estimated Technical Option Development Cost Ranges*						
	Mosaic with Data Upgrade		Borrow & Enhance		Mosaic with Data Upgrade	Borrow & Enhance
	Low	High	Low	High	Midpoint	Midpoint
M&S	125,000	150,000	300,000	450,000	137,500	375,000
Staff	26,000	40,000	100,000	175,000	33,000	137,500
Total	151,000	190,000	400,000	625,000	170,500	512,500

* Does NOT include planning process costs and ongoing maintenance costs

Note: costs (in \$) represent a range of options, not a binary choice.

Estimated Post-Development Annual Maintenance Cost Ranges				
	Mosaic with Data Upgrade		Borrow & Enhance	
	Low	High	Low	High
M&S	8,000	12,500	18,000	30,000
Staff	5,000	12,500	22,000	35,000
Total	7,000	25,000	40,000	65,000

Staff evaluated the two development bookends against a number of criteria that illustrate the value each option could offer to Metro. As the comparison table below shows, the “Upgraded Mosaic” option is less costly because its core evaluation methods are already defined. The primary cost driver of the Mosaic Tool option is the transfer of the Mosaic Tool to a database platform capable of handling the large amount of information required to analyze the entire Portland metropolitan region. Potential development timelines of the two bookend options in calendar and fiscal year terms appear further below.

The “Borrow-and-Enhance” option is more costly and would take longer to develop and implement, but offers a number of features that the Mosaic option does not supply. The more-advanced features of a borrowed/enhanced toolkit include the inherent ability to take full advantage of both the zonal (geographic) detail and the market segment (demographic) detail in Metro’s travel demand model. This would enable more-detailed reporting by geography (e.g. Council district) and by demographic group (e.g. people living in areas with high proportions of low-income households). This finer detail combined with the benefit-cost analysis capability in turn enable more robust equity metrics, for example mobility benefits accruing to people of color and people with low income versus region-wide mobility benefits. Another outcome of more tightly coupling the LCP/MCE toolkit to Metro’s travel model is that the former can more easily take advantage of future travel model upgrades. The Borrow-and-Enhance option also offers the opportunity to customize or upgrade evaluation methods while the Mosaic option does not, for example, monetize its equity criteria and thus offers less robust findings in the equity domain. The Borrow-and-Enhance BCA-derived equity metrics would be monetized and could be computed individually (without going through a full LCP/MCE evaluation) if desired. A Built-for-Metro approach would enable project-level LCP/MCE analysis (which Mosaic does not) and offer a more robust platform for analyzing pricing scenarios. Finally, most peer MPOs including the Seattle area Puget Sound Regional Council, the Bay Area Metropolitan Transportation Commission, San Diego Association of Governments, San Francisco County Transportation Authority, and others have opted to build their own LCP/MCE tools tightly coupled to their travel demand models. Appendix B illustrates, at a high level, how the various tools in the LCP/MCE “kit” utilize information from other Metro tools like the travel demand model.

Development Options Assessment Criterion	Mosaic with Data Upgrade	Borrow & Enhance
Bulk of Tool Already Developed	X	
Operates at Metro's geographic detail		X
Operates at Metro's market segment detail		X
Independent Utility (e.g. for equity analysis)		X
Metro controls criteria evaluation methods		X
Leverages Metro model upgrades (equity, peds, activity-based) *		X
Other MPO current/best practice		X
Enhances regional partners' toolkit **		X
More robust treatment of pricing scenarios		X
Capable of project-level analysis		X
Lowest cost to develop and deploy	X	
* Future-generation Metro models will have enhanced equity measurement capability and more mode detail		
** Metro does travel modeling for local jurisdictions so an enhanced toolkit benefits regional partners		

It is worth noting that the range of cost options for technical LCP/MCE development is independent of the costs of a planning and engagement process that would use the resulting toolkit. Any deployment of an enhanced decision support information system will require extensive engagement with Council, MPAC and JPACT, and extensive outreach to stakeholders in general. Planning and engagement process costs are unlikely to vary significantly based purely upon the technical LCP/MCE toolkit details.

How would the Research Center recommend that Metro proceed?

At this point in time the Research Center recommends pursuing a “Borrow-and-Enhance” technical development approach in these phases:

- Phase 1: Assess and choose the best tools and methods to borrow, and scope detailed work plans and cost estimates both for full technical development and the planning processes that would use the toolkit.
- Phase 2: Develop the Benefit-Cost Analysis (BCA) component of the toolkit.
- Phase 3: Add the non-monetized criteria evaluation component, test, and deploy.

The rationale for this suggestion is that taken altogether the “Borrow and Enhance” approach would: more accurately encode Metro’s objectives into its LCP/MCE process, offer superior analytic methods, provide the most versatility, and put Metro on par with and preferably in advance of peer public agencies. The phased approach could let the BCA component be used in planning decision processes by itself, if desired, to phase in deployment earlier than the completion date of the entire toolkit. The BCA component is relatively straightforward and by itself would significantly upgrade Metro’s decision support toolkit, especially in the realm of equity and economic criteria. The technical development phases would be executed by a combination of staff and consultant resources, heavily weighted to consultants in the early steps.

As mentioned above, upgrading Metro’s decision support toolkit in any way will require significant Council and Planning & Development Department resources as well. For these reasons the Research Center further recommends that it coordinate in more detail with Planning & Development staff to more-fully scope the latter’s involvement. Planning staff would need to take a leadership role in building both the policy support and the stakeholder support critical to the success of an effort to upgrade Metro’s decision process. To do so Planning staff will have to be engaged in shaping the technical development process as well. The time demands on Planning staff could compete with other initiatives underway such as the RTP update and will thus require careful forethought during budgeting. Since the conceptual approach is the same across the full range of technical options the resource requirements for Planning’s involvement are not likely to vary greatly.

A potential timeline for building a Metro LCP/MCE toolkit along three tracks—the recommended technical approach, a policy track engaging elected officials, and a stakeholder involvement process—appears below. It would deliver a complete LCP/MCE technical toolkit by June 2018, with the benefit-cost analysis component ready to apply in mid-2017 if desired. The Policy and Stakeholder tracks assume—purely for discussion’s sake—that the subject of the process is a regional funding package destined for the ballot in calendar 2018.

The potential budget demands for both Materials & Services (M&S) and staff time for both technical options also appear below, as does the phased budget for the high-end Borrow & Enhance technical approach.

Potential Timelines for Metro LCP/MCE Technical, Policy, and Stakeholder Efforts																																							
Milestone	In-Progress	Phase Complete																																					
Task	Lead	2015				2016								2017								2018																	
		Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	March	April	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	March	April	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	March	April	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec
Technical Track (High End)	RC	Release RFP		Hire Consultant		Sources Chosen	Phase 1 Complete: Workplan																																
Policy Track	P & D						Multi-Year Workplan to Council																																
Stakeholder Track	P & D																																						
* Analysis beginning in June 2017 would use the BCA component only if the "Borrow & Enhance" technical track is chosen.																																							

Potential Technical Track Budget Requirements by Option and Fiscal Year													
M&S	Total, High Range	FY 15-16			FY 16-17			FY 17-18			FY 18-19		
Upgrade Mosaic	\$ 150,000	100,000			50,000			\$0					
Borrow & Enhance	\$ 375,000	100,000			\$137,500			\$137,500					
RC Staff	Total, Low Range	FY 15-16			FY 16-17			FY 17-18			FY 18-19		
Upgrade Mosaic	\$ 40,000	20,000			\$20,000			\$0					
Borrow & Enhance	\$ 175,000	30,000			\$72,500			\$72,500					

QUESTIONS FOR COUNCIL CONSIDERATION

- Does the Council have any questions for staff?
- Do the “why” and “how” LCP/MCE objectives match your vision for a Metro decision support capability?
- Which technical approach best meets Metro’s needs, and is that approach financially feasible?
- What decision (or hypothetical decision) do you prefer as the “target” of a first Metro LCP/MCE exercise?

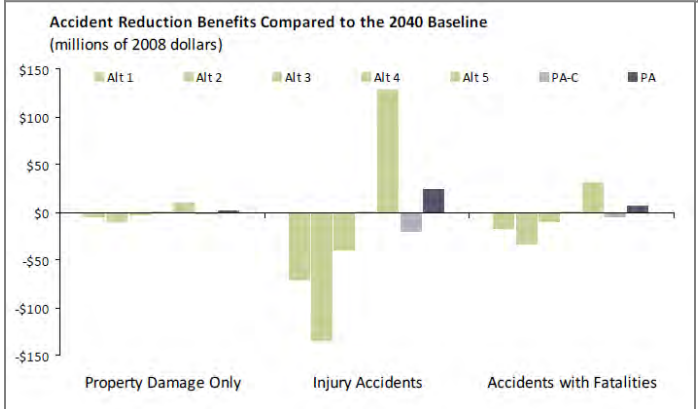
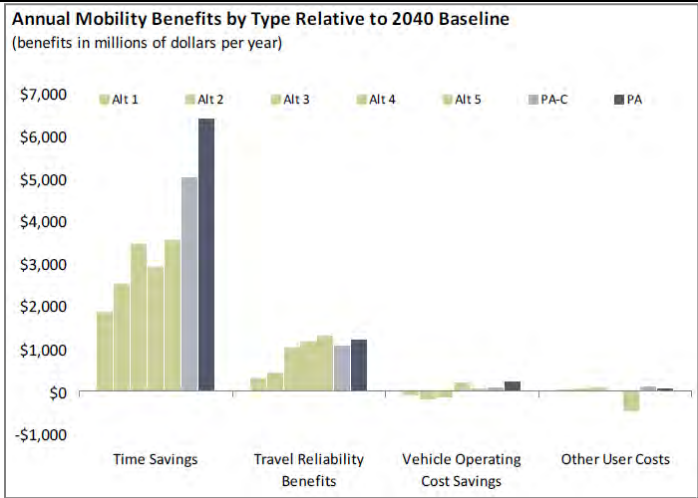
PACKET MATERIALS

- Would legislation be required for Council action Yes **X No**
- If yes, is draft legislation attached? Yes **X No**
- What other materials are you presenting today?
 - An Appendix showcasing LCP/MCE examples from other agencies compared to previous evaluation criteria used in regional planning.
 - An Appendix illustrating the various technical tools that inform LCP/MCE processes.

Example 2: PSRC LCP/MCE Criteria applied to RTP and Metro Climate Smart Strategy Criteria

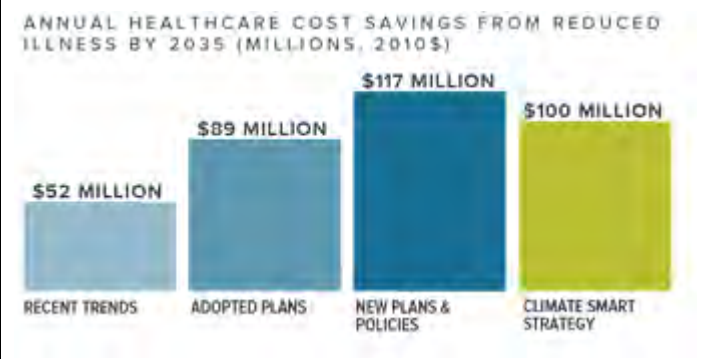
Metro’s Climate Smart Strategy (CSS) alternatives evaluation demonstrates that Metro’s evaluation approaches are already evolving toward an LCP/MCE approach. The Puget Sound Regional Council (PSRC) LCP/MCE approach monetizes mobility benefits in total and by mode, reliability benefits, emissions benefits, safety benefits, and operating cost savings benefits, as does SANDAG’s LCP/MCE approach. Likewise, Metro’s CSS also monetizes emissions benefits (using a health-based metric), travel (mobility) costs, and savings in vehicle operating costs and ownership. The PSRC and CSS approaches produce graphical visualizations of their findings. The SANDAG approach adds the formal benefit/cost treatment which explicitly calls out the relationship of total costs to the total benefits, as shown in the prior example. A potential evolutionary step from Metro’s CSS approach would be to add all the criteria used by SANDAG and PSRC (e.g. safety benefits, physical activity benefits, etc.) and incorporate the fully-featured benefit-cost analysis. It would also be valuable for Metro’s approach to evolve to using the Metro travel demand model rather than the Greenstep sketch tool.

Plan Alternative Comparison by PSRC (excerpts)



Source: Transportation 2040 Final Environmental Impact Statement, Appendix D. Puget Sound Regional Council. 2010.

Alternative Comparison for Metro’s Climate Smart Strategy (excerpts)

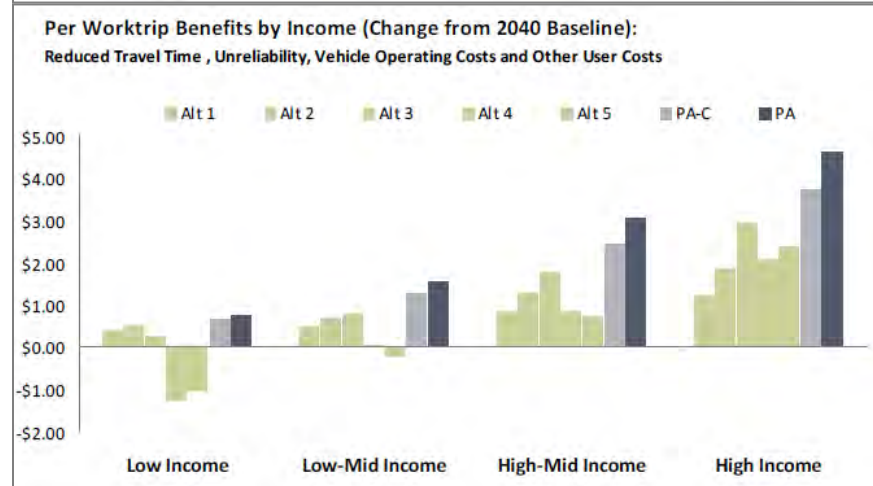
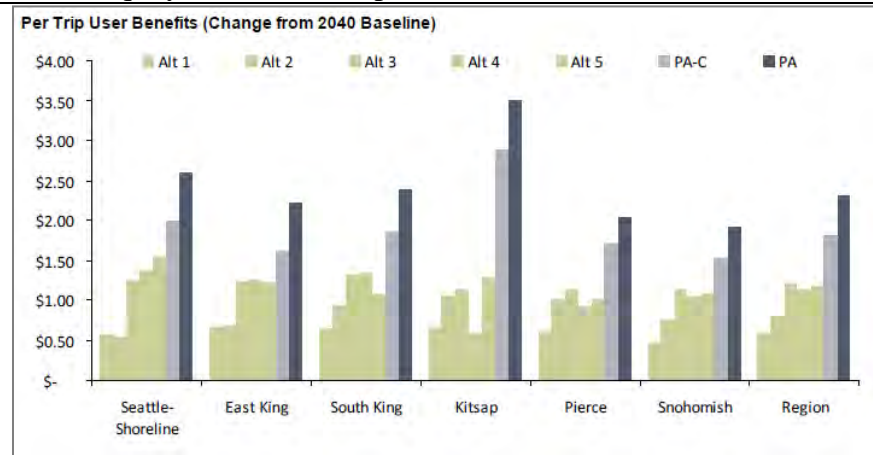


Source: Climate Smart Strategy Scenarios. Metro

Example 3: PSRC MCE/LCP Equity Criteria and Metro’s 2014 RTP Equity Criteria

The Puget Sound Regional Council’s LCP/MCE approach includes a custom-build benefit-cost analysis (BCA) tool integrated with PSRC’s travel demand model. This enables reporting benefits both by geographic area (below left) and by sub-population (below right). Since the benefits include all those accrued to the summary reporting unit (geography or group) regardless of where the benefit was physically realized within the entire region, this technique provides a more accurate accounting of the distribution of benefits than, for example, simple summaries of expenditures of capital dollars in geographic areas. The PSRC geographic equity example illustrates that in year 2040, relative to the baseline case, the Preferred Alternative would give residents of the Kitsap subarea of the PSRC planning area more per-trip user benefits than the regional average. The PSRC social equity example shows that the Preferred Alternative achieves the highest per work trip benefits of all alternatives for low income travelers but that per work trip benefits of higher income groups are greater than those of lower income groups. Some of Metro’s criteria are still in development and could benefit from developing LCP/MCE capabilities.

PSRC Equity Criteria (excerpts)



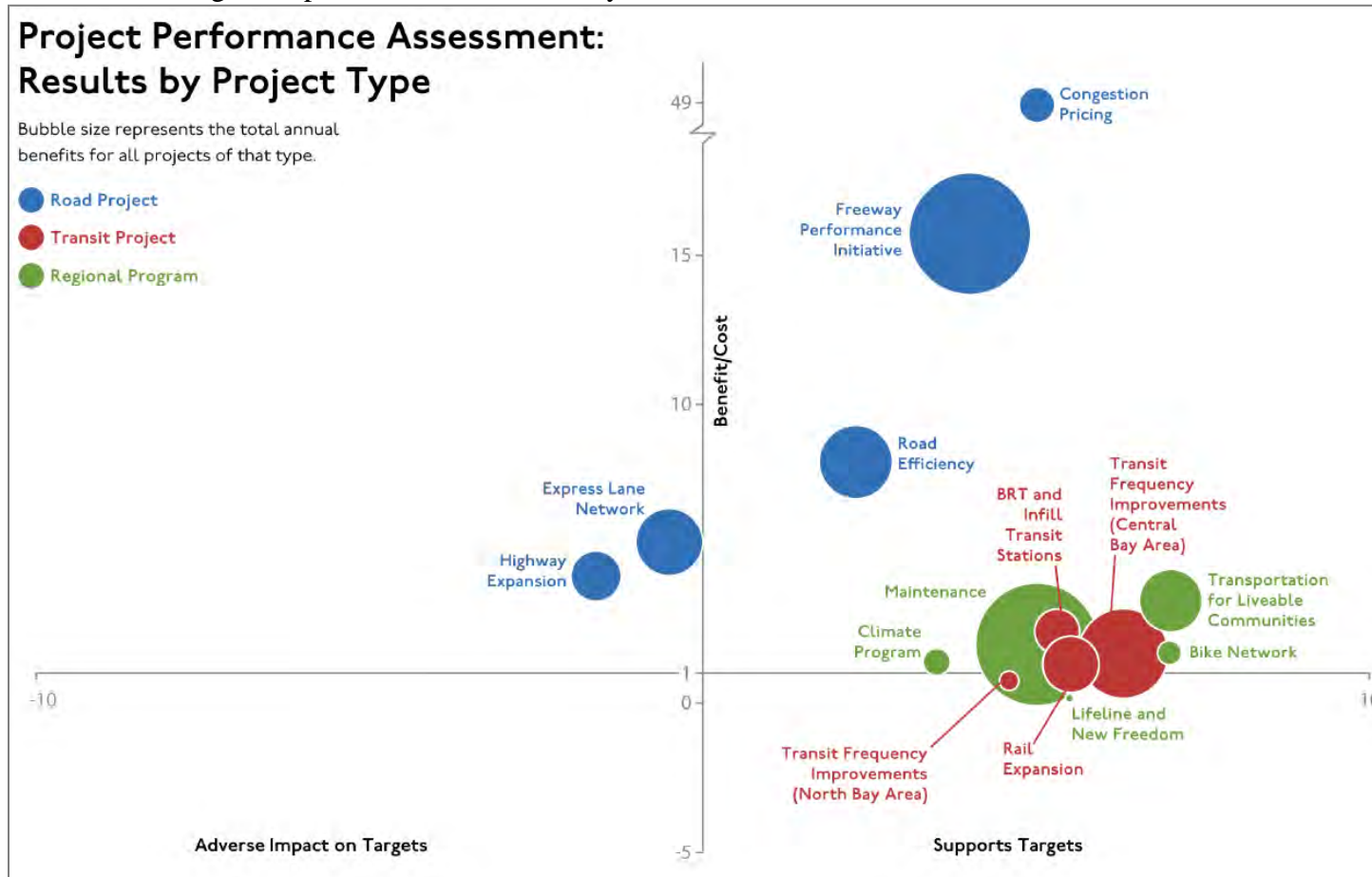
Source: Transportation 2040 Final Environmental Impact Statement, Appendix D. Puget Sound Regional Council. 2010.

Equity Metrics Used in Metro’s 2014 RTP

EQUITY		
<p>Affordability – By 2040, reduce the average household combined cost of housing and transportation by 25 percent compared to 2010.</p>	<p>In 2010, the average household in the Portland region spent about 43.9 percent of its income on housing and transportation.</p> <p>In 2040 it is estimated that the average household in the region will spend about 51% on housing and transportation.</p>	<p>The region does not meet the target. However, the cost of transportation as a percentage of total household income holds steady from 2010 (13.7%) to 2040 (13.6%).</p>
<p>Access to daily needs – By 2040, increase by 50 percent the number of essential destinations accessible within 30 minutes by bicycling and public transit for low-income, minority, senior and disabled populations compared to 2005.</p>	<p>Data under development</p>	<p>The methodology for establishing a base line for this target is being developed.</p>

Example of analytics supporting a particular planning process

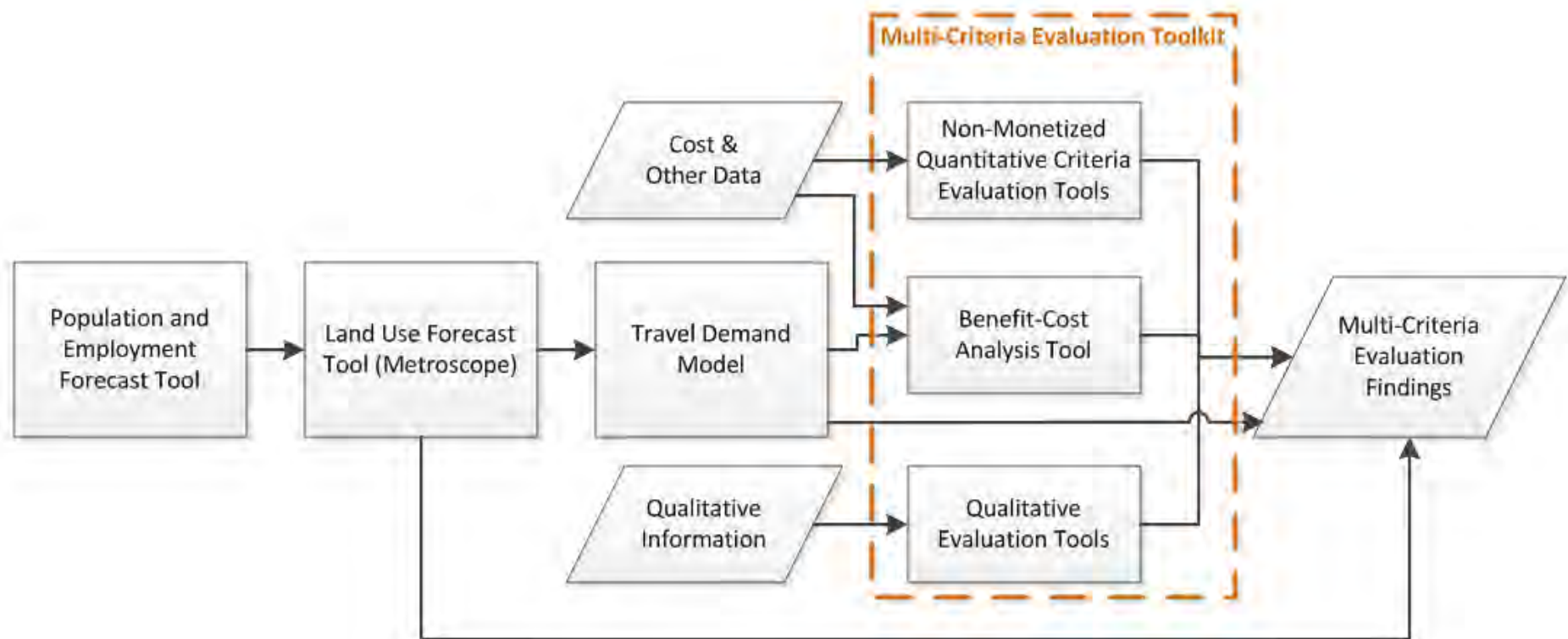
The Bay Area Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) crafted an outcomes-based planning process that applied its LCP/MCE toolkit in a two-part process: an evaluation of how alternatives compared in meeting target outcomes and a benefit-cost analysis (BCA). MTC visualized the relative success of various alternatives on a graph with better BCA results to the right (X-axis) and better outcomes performance up (Y-axis). Verbal communications from MTC staff indicates that in practice their outcomes evaluation was intended to exercise greater influence on the decision, in some cases intended to serve as a “gatekeeper” to further BCA analysis.



Source: THE CRITICAL INTERSECTION OF PUBLIC HEALTH, SOCIAL EQUITY, AND PERFORMANCE-BASED PLANNING. Presentation by Dave Vautin of METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION. DECEMBER 3, 2014

Appendix B: Schematic Showing the LCP/MCE “Toolkit” and its Integration with Existing Metro Tools

A multi-criteria evaluation (MCE) toolkit consists of three main components: a benefit-cost analysis (BCA) tool, a tool that evaluates non-monetized criteria, and (if needed) a tool that support qualitative evaluations. The toolkit, especially the BCA component, takes inputs from the “chain” of models that produce forecasts of transportation system performance from the travel demand model. The tighter the “coupling” between the quantitative MCE tools and the travel demand model the more the findings can leverage travel model reporting capabilities such as fine grains of geographic and demographic detail. Supplementary data, especially cost estimates for the investments in the alternatives analyzed, is also required as inputs to the various components of the overall MCE toolkit. The distribution of expected land uses itself (from the land use allocation forecast tool, Metroscope) can also inform the evaluation findings.



Materials following this page were distributed at the meeting.

Building a Metro Least Cost Planning Capability

(aka Multi-Criteria Evaluation)

Potential Work Plan

Metro Council Work Session

November 10, 2015

Jeff Frkonja, Research Center Director

Elissa Gertler, Planning & Development Director

Version 4a



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Agenda

What is “Least Cost Planning” and what it could do for the region

What options we have for developing Least Cost Planning at Metro

To what we might apply Least Cost Planning techniques

Council discussion



Agenda

Council Discussion Preview:

- *Questions?*
- *Does the “what it does” description match your vision?*
- *Which technical approach best fits the vision and can we make the necessary resources available?*
- *What “decision” would you prefer to address in a pilot LCP effort?*

What is Least Cost Planning (LCP)? What could it do for the region?

Background

Comparison with Current Capabilities

Advantages Realized at Peer Agencies



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Background

Least Cost Planning:

- A structured planning ***process*** that provides ***decision support information*** to the decision-makers
- ***Applies benefit-cost analysis (BCA)***
- ***Originally*** developed by power utilities ***examine capital investments versus conservation programs***
- A large body of ***theoretical, ethical, and practical developments already exist***

Background: Least Cost Planning Evolution in Transportation Field

- Transportation “borrowed” LCP
- Evolved toward multi-criteria evaluation (MCE) in a triple-bottom-line* context
- Each evolutionary step added more information
- MCE: *a framework for making sense of diverse information*



* *Triple Bottom Line: economic, environmental/ecological, and social dimensions are all accounted for*



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Background: Transportation Decision Evaluation at Metro

2014 RTP

- Variety of individual metrics and costs

Climate Smart Strategies

- Triple-bottom-line context
- Monetized benefits*

Equity Strategy

- Seeks to enhance the equity lens



* *Greenstep tool application to CSS omitted integrated costs and lacked detail*

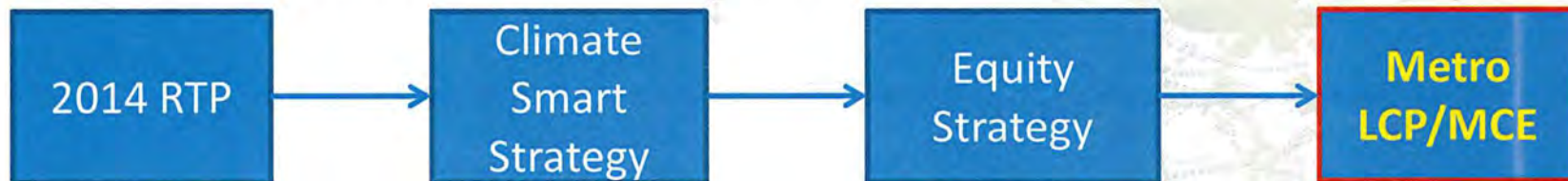


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Background: Working Metro LCP/MCE Definition

Complete the evolutionary arc started by CSS:

- Retain triple-bottom-line context
- Add full benefit-cost analysis to treat costs and benefits together
- Upgrade to Multi-Criterion Evaluation to ensure rigorous attention to all things the region values (economic, environmental, social, **equity**, human health dimensions)
- Borrow best practice tools and knowledge
- Enhance and innovate to fully address the things our region values





Comparison with Current Capabilities

Metro's peer agencies have applied or developed various forms of BCA, LCP, MCE:

- Puget Sound Regional Council (PSRC, Seattle area)
- Metropolitan Transportation Council (MTC, Bay Area)
- San Diego Association of Governments (San Diego, Southern California)
- San Francisco County Transportation Authority (SFCTA, Bay Area)
- Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT)
- Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT—developed the Mosaic tool)
- Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning (CMAP, Chicagoland)
- *...and more*

Comparison: "Rollup"

SANDAG's scorecard and Metro 2014 RTP (excerpts)

Plan Alternative Comparison by SANDAG		
Build Scenarios Relative to Baseline (No-Build) Scenario		
Description	RC	Hypothetical
Build Scenario	RC	Hypothetical
Number of years	58	58
Summary		
Lifecycle Benefits	\$53,752,288,102	\$63,884,869,250
Lifecycle Costs	\$29,153,987,133	\$42,546,985,120
Net Present Value	\$24,598,300,969	\$24,598,300,969
Benefit / Cost Ratio	1.84	1.50
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Scenario:	RC	Hypothetical
Mobility - Residents	\$33,936,027,894	\$25,611,958,902
Mobility - Trucks / Commercial	\$9,143,327,429	\$6,337,078,938
Emissions	-\$394,015,321	\$2,729,979,286
Accidents	\$1,523,838,864	\$1,987,327,688
Reliability	\$478,016,975	\$678,056,799
Vehicle Operating	\$6,337,078,938	\$23,408,823,856
Auto Ownership	\$2,729,979,286	\$3,123,173,814
Physical Activity	-\$1,965,964	\$8,469,967
Total	\$53,752,288,102	\$63,884,869,250

Excerpts from Plan Alternative Comparison for Metro's 2014 RTP				
Vehicle Hours of Delay				
<i>Vehicle Hours of Delay (VHD)</i>				
	2010	2040NB	2040FC	2040ST
PM2	4,160	20,810	13,490	12,510
MD1	280	1,480	1,120	1,010
Average weekday, Intra-UGB				
VMT per Capita				
<i>Average Week Day (AWD) Vehicle Miles Traveled (VMT) Intra-UGB</i>				
	2010	2040NB	2040FC	2040ST
VMT/capita	13.06	12.39	12.27	12.22
% Reduction		-5.1%	-6.0%	-6.4%
Number of Walk & Bike Trips				
	2010	2040NB	2040FC	2040ST
Walk	505,500	814,100	835,900	823,900
Bike	178,400	293,300	306,600	302,700
(Average Weekday, Intra-UGB)				
Bicycle Miles Traveled (BMT)				
	2010	2040 NB	2040 FC	2040 ST
BMT	443,400	729,800	801,500	793,200
Population	1,483,506	2,080,456	2,080,456	2,080,456
BMT/Capita	0.30	0.35	0.39	0.38

Sources:

- Transportation 2040 Final Environmental Impact Statement, Appendix D. Puget Sound Regional Council. 2010.
- Regional Transportation Plan. Oregon Metro. 2014.

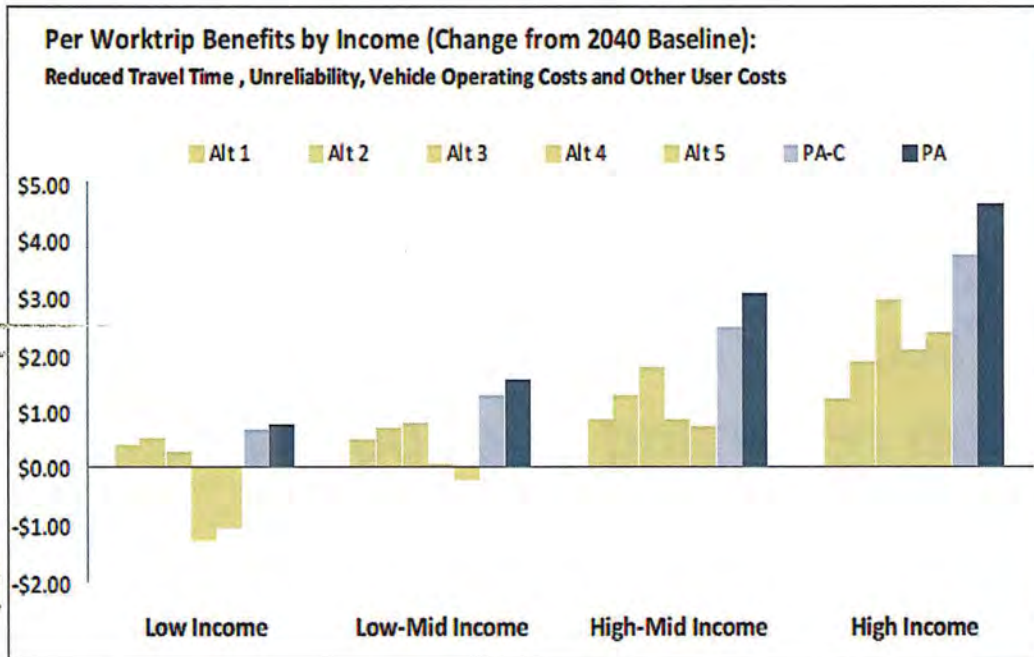


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Comparison: Equity Evaluations (Social leg)

PSRC--Per-trip benefits to population group

Metro 2014 RTP—average combined cost of housing and transportation




EQUITY		
<p>Affordability – By 2040, reduce the average household combined cost of housing and transportation by 25 percent compared to 2010.</p>	<p>In 2010, the average household in the Portland region spent about 43.9 percent of its income on housing and transportation.</p> <p>In 2040 it is estimated that the average household in the region will spend about 51% on housing and transportation.</p>	<p>The region does not meet the target. However, the cost of transportation as a percentage of total household income holds steady from 2010 (13.7%) to 2040 (13.6%).</p>
<p>Access to daily needs – By 2040, increase by 50 percent the number of essential destinations accessible within 30 minutes by bicycling and public transit for low-income, minority, senior and disabled populations compared to 2005.</p>	<p>Data under development</p>	<p>The methodology for establishing a base line for this target is being developed.</p>

Sources:

- Transportation 2040 Final Environmental Impact Statement, Appendix D. Puget Sound Regional Council. 2010.
- Regional Transportation Plan. Oregon Metro. 2014.



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What advantages did LCP/MCE supply to our peer agencies relative to current Metro capability?

- *“Apples-to-apples” comparison**
- *Costs explicitly treated in value comparisons*
- *“Rolls things up” (aggregates disparate findings into one “score” region-wide)*
- *Enables information reporting at geographic subareas and by population segments*
- *More robust evaluations of:*
 - *Equity*
 - *Health & Safety*
 - *Reliability*

* Acknowledging that current techniques may still require separate treatment of some criteria

What Options Have We for Developing LCP?

What overall work plan would we follow?

What investments in tools might we make?

What investments in process activities would be required?





What would the **overall workplan** look like?

- Scope and **implement the planning process**
 - **Identify what will be decided***
 - Launch the technical development and identify **criteria**
 - Engage decision-makers to **weight the criteria**
 - **Apply the evaluation toolkit** to the actions
 - **Report the evaluation findings** to the decision-makers
 - **Make the decision**
- Scope and **implement technical development**
 - Choose the **starting-point tools**
 - Engage consultants to help **enhance tools and evaluation methods**

What might the **overall workplan** look like?

Fiscal Year:	FY15-16				FY16-17				FY17-18				FY19-20	
Calendar Year:	2016				2017				2018					
Track	1Q	2Q	3Q	4Q	1Q	2Q	3Q	4Q	1Q	2Q	3Q	4Q		
Technical	Scope & Launch		Complete BCA				Complete full MCE Toolkit							
Policy		Launch		BCA OK		Needs		MCE OK	Alts	Weight	Evaluate	Decide		
Stakeholder		Launch	Outreach	BCA OK		Needs & MCE		Alternatives		Evaluate	Advise			

Three-phase technical development

Technical, Policy, and Stakeholder tracks coordinated



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What are the **tool investment options?**

Main Starting-Point Options:

- Apply ODOT's Mosaic “sketch” tool*
- Borrow methods from peer agencies and enhance for Portland region

** After making upgrades necessary to handle regional-scale data required
Note that ODOT's Greenstep also has visualizations that can be borrowed*

What are the **tool investment options**?

Development Cost* Range Estimates

	Mosaic with Data Upgrade		Borrow & Enhance	
	Low	High	Low	High
M&S	125,000	150,000	300,000	450,000
Staff	26,000	40,000	100,000	175,000
Total	151,000	190,000	400,000	625,000

** Does not include marginal "tool outreach" costs of the planning process*



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What are the **tool investment options?**

Borrow & Enhance High Range Cost* Estimates by FY

Fiscal Year:	FY15-16	FY16-17	FY17-18	FY19-20	Totals
M&S	150,000	\$150,000	\$150,000	0	450,000
Staff	30,000	\$57,500	\$57,500	\$30,000	175,000

** Does not include marginal "tool outreach" costs of the planning process*

NOTE: supersedes work session agenda packet "high" range timeline



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What are the **tool investment options**?

Options compared


Toolkit Options Assessment	Mosaic with Data Upgrade	Borrow & Enhance
Bulk of Tool Already Developed	X	
Operates at Metro's geographic detail		X
Operates at Metro's market segment detail		X
Independent Utility (e.g. for equity analysis)		X
Metro controls criteria evaluation methods		X
Leverages Metro model upgrades (equity, peds, activity-based) *		X
Other MPO current/best practice		X
Enhances regional partners' toolkit **		X
More robust treatment of pricing scenarios		X
Capable of project-level analysis		X
Lowest cost to develop and deploy	X	

* *Metro's travel demand model is constantly evolving*

** *Metro performs modeling for other agencies in the region*



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What are the **tool investment options?**

LCP/MCE toolkit would complement other tools:

- Economic Value Atlas
- Mobility Corridor Atlas
- Equity Strategy



What **tool investment option** does Research Center recommend?

- Borrow & Enhance
 - Leverages Metro's travel model tools
 - Builds on existing Metro work
 - Multi-phase approach allows mindful treatment of values important to region
 - Greatest opportunity to take national leadership in LCP/MCE process development



What **tool investment option** does Research Center recommend?

- Spend existing \$100K to:
 - Create and bring Council detailed multi-year budget
 - Start* BCA development

** \$50K additional this year would help immensely*



What are the **planning process investment options**?

- Depend upon choice of decision
- Toolkit “understanding-building” similar in all cases

To what might we apply LCP/MCE techniques?

What upcoming decisions do we face?

What factors affect the choice of decision?





What **factors** affect our choice of decision?

- **Timing**
 - *potential for decision timeline to match tool availability*
- **Utility**
 - *potential to meet a need (as defined by stakeholder request and acceptance of tool)*
- **Resource Intensity**
 - *ability to right-size toolkit development/outreach efforts compared to decision benefits*
- **Decision Support**
 - *ability for tool to have a meaningful, positive impact on decision-making*
- **Available Resources**
 - *ability for tool to be used with available decision resources*
- **Programmatic Alignment**
 - *ability to apply toolkit/process across multiple projects and programs*

What decisions do we face?

Potential Projects	Timing	Utility	Resource Intensity	Decision Support	Available Resources	Programmatic Alignment	Overall Readiness Score
1. Regional Transportation Investment Package	***	***	***	***	*	*	2.3
2. 2022-24 Regional Flexible Funds Allocation	***	***	***	***	**	***	2.8
3. 2022 RTP Update	***	***	**	**	**	***	2.5
4. Future Corridor and Investment Area Plans	***	***	***	***	***	***	3.0
5. 2018-21 Regional Flexible Funds Allocation	*	***	***	***	*	**	2.2
6. 2018 RTP Update	*	***	**	**	*	**	1.8
7. 2018 Regional Transit Strategy	*	**	**	**	*	*	1.5
8. 2018 Regional Freight Strategy	*	**	**	**	*	*	1.5
9. Powell-Division Transit Development Project	*	***	***	***	*	*	2.0
10. Southwest Corridor Project	*	***	***	***	*	*	2.0

*** = *Strong Potential*

** = *Some Potential*

* = *Limited Potential*



Discussion

- *Questions?*
- *Does the “what it does” description match your vision?*
- *Which technical approach best fits the vision and can we make the necessary resources available?*
- *What “decision” would you prefer to address in a pilot LCP effort?*

What are the **tool maintenance costs**?

Maintenance Cost* Range Estimates Per Year

	Mosaic with Data Upgrade		Borrow & Enhance	
	Low	High	Low	High
M&S	8,000	12,500	18,000	30,000
Staff	5,000	12,500	22,000	35,000
Total	7,000	25,000	40,000	65,000

* Does not include marginal "tool outreach" costs of the planning process

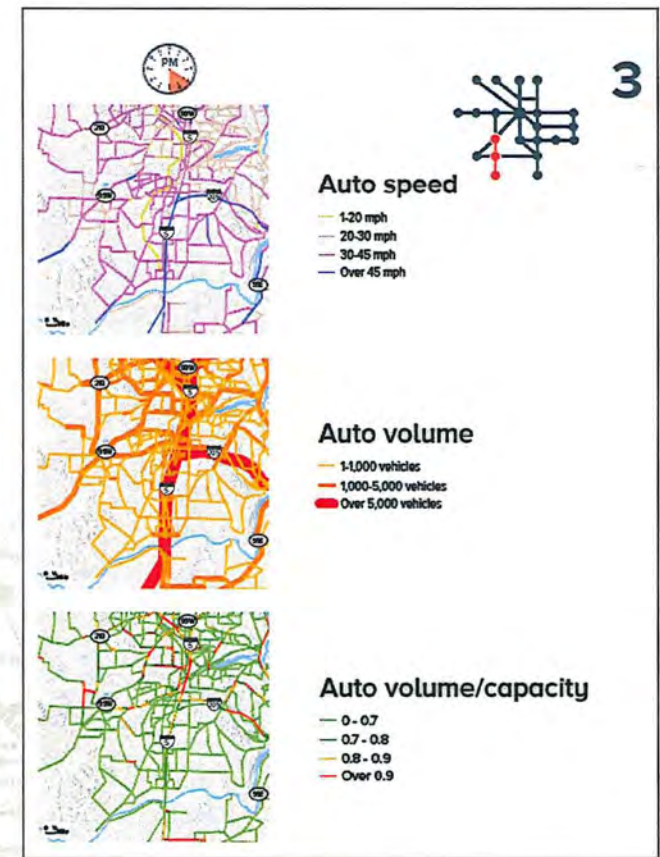
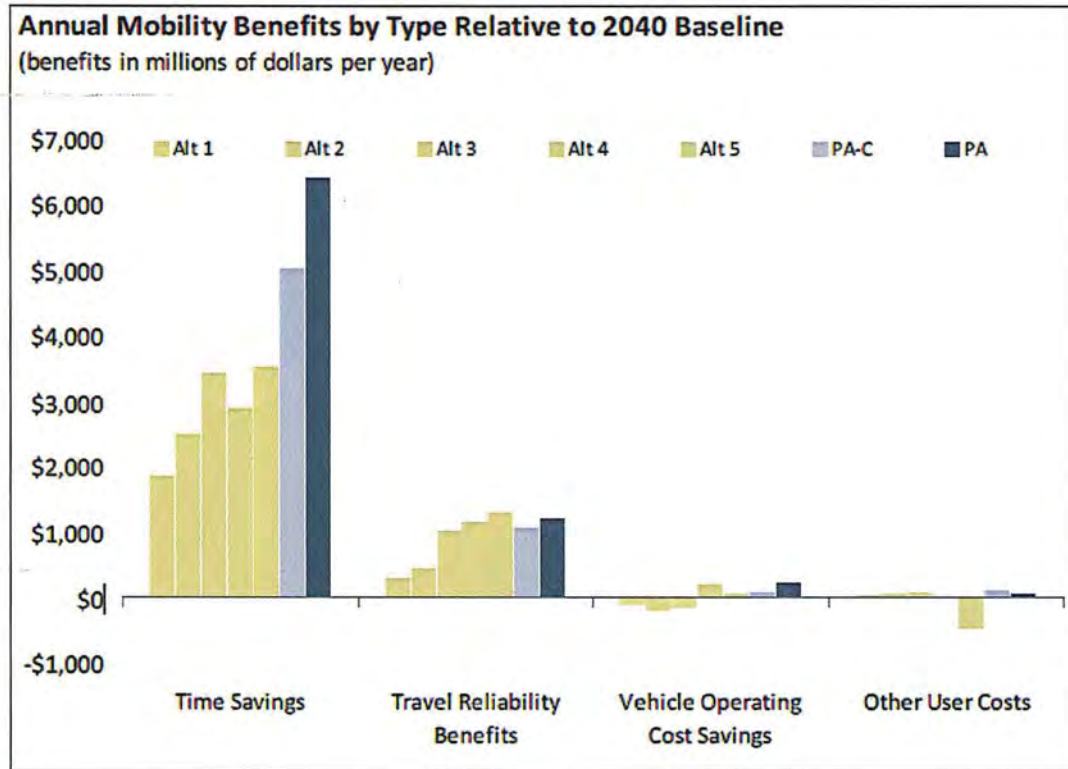


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Comparison: Mobility Evaluation (part of economic leg)

PSRC--detailed & total mobility benefits

Mobility Corridor Atlas--selected corridor travel times



Sources:

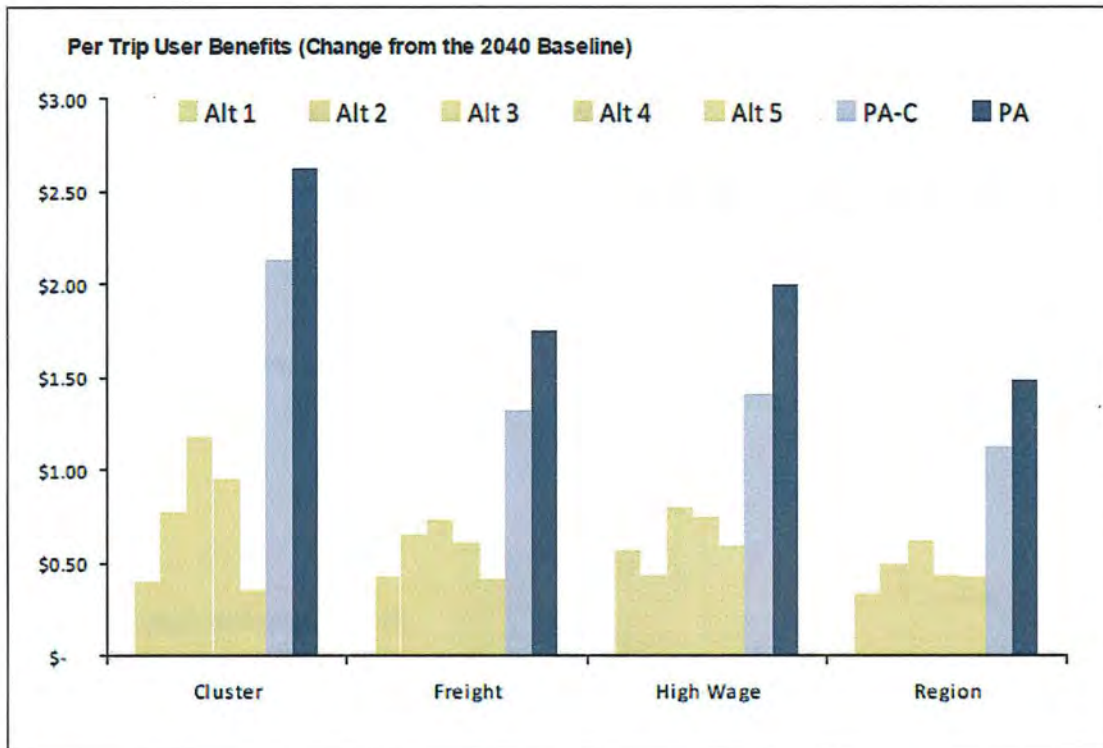
- Transportation 2040 Final Environmental Impact Statement, Appendix D. Puget Sound Regional Council. 2010.
- Metro Mobility Corridors Atlas -- <http://www.oregonmetro.gov/mobility-corridors-atlas>



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Comparison: Economic Evaluation

PSRC--specific & total user benefits to “cluster” industry, freight, and high-wage locations
 Greenstep--total truck travel costs



ANNUAL ENVIRONMENTAL AND FREIGHT TRUCK TRAVEL COSTS BY 2035 (MILLIONS, 2005\$)



Sources:

- Transportation 2040 Final Environmental Impact Statement, Appendix D. Puget Sound Regional Council. 2010.
- Climate Smart Strategy for the Portland metropolitan region. Oregon Metro. 2014.

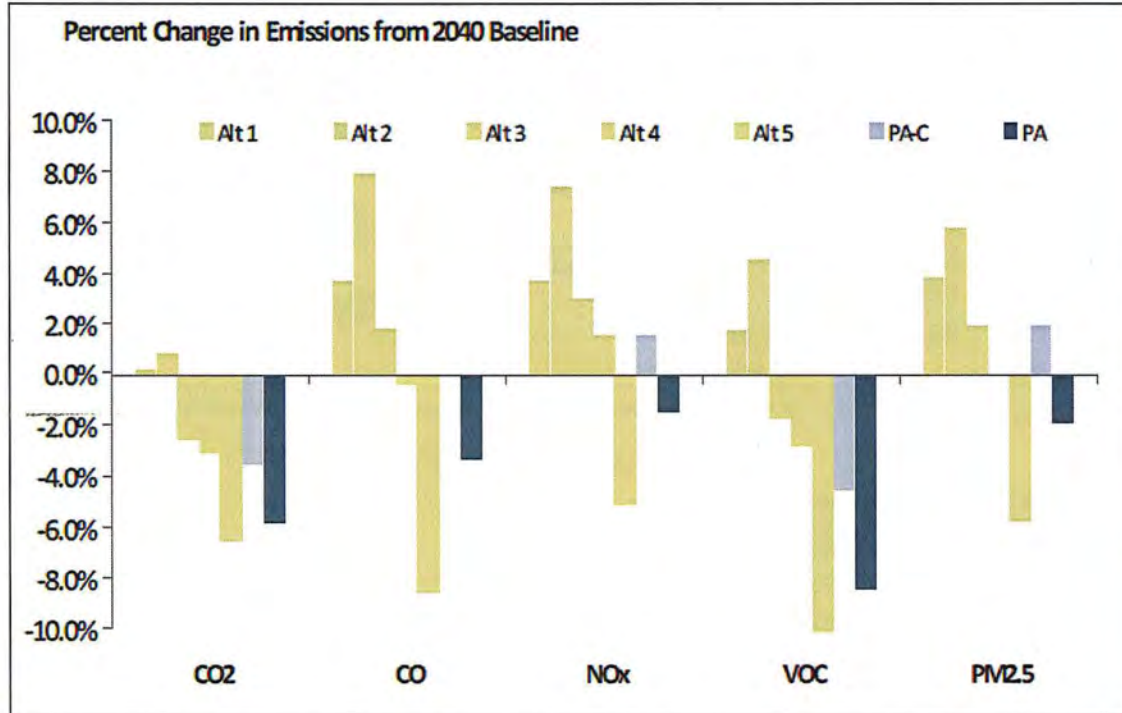


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Comparison: Environmental Evaluation

PSRC--Change in value by pollutant

Greenstep—Total environmental cost of pollutants



ANNUAL ENVIRONMENTAL AND FREIGHT TRUCK TRAVEL COSTS BY 2035 (MILLIONS, 2005\$)



Sources:

- Transportation 2040 Final Environmental Impact Statement, Appendix D. Puget Sound Regional Council. 2010.
- Climate Smart Strategy for the Portland metropolitan region. Oregon Metro. 2014.



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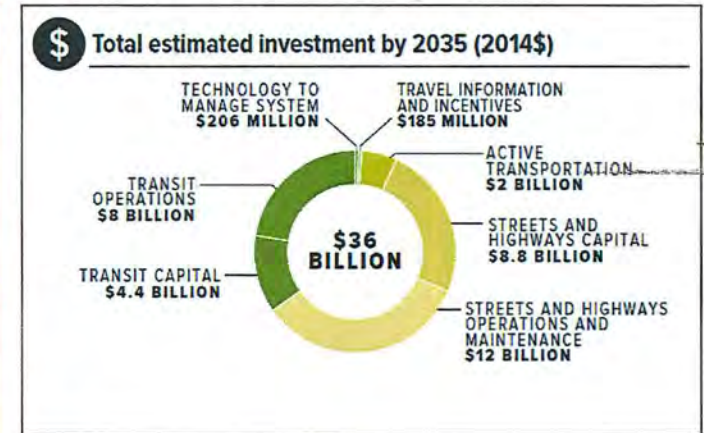
Comparison: “Rollup”

SANDAG--BCA “scorecard” with costs and benefits

Metro—Climate Smart Strategies cost data (see previous slides for other metrics)

Build Scenarios Relative to Baseline (No-Build) Scenario

Description	RC	Hypothetical
Build Scenario		
Number of years	58	58
Summary		
Lifecycle Benefits	\$53,752,288,102	\$63,884,869,250
Lifecycle Costs	\$29,153,987,133	\$42,546,985,120
Net Present Value	\$24,598,300,969	\$24,598,300,969
Benefit / Cost Ratio	1.84	1.50
Internal Rate of Return (%)	10.8%	7.2%



Total Lifecycle Benefits by Category for Build Scenarios Relative to Baseline

Scenario:	RC	Hypothetical
Mobility - Residents	\$33,936,027,894	\$25,611,958,902
Mobility - Trucks / Commercial	\$9,143,327,429	\$6,337,078,938
Emissions	-\$394,015,321	\$2,729,979,286
Accidents	\$1,523,838,864	\$1,987,327,688
Reliability	\$478,016,975	\$678,056,799
Vehicle Operating	\$6,337,078,938	\$23,408,823,856
Auto Ownership	\$2,729,979,286	\$3,123,173,814
Physical Activity	-\$1,965,964	\$8,469,967
Total	\$53,752,288,102	\$63,884,869,250

Economic
 Economic
 Environmental
 Health/Safety
 Economic
 Economic
 Economic
 Health/Safety

Sources: Author’s archive of draft work done by RSG, Inc. for San Diego Association of Governments; *Climate Smart Strategy for the Portland metropolitan region*. Oregon Metro. 2014.



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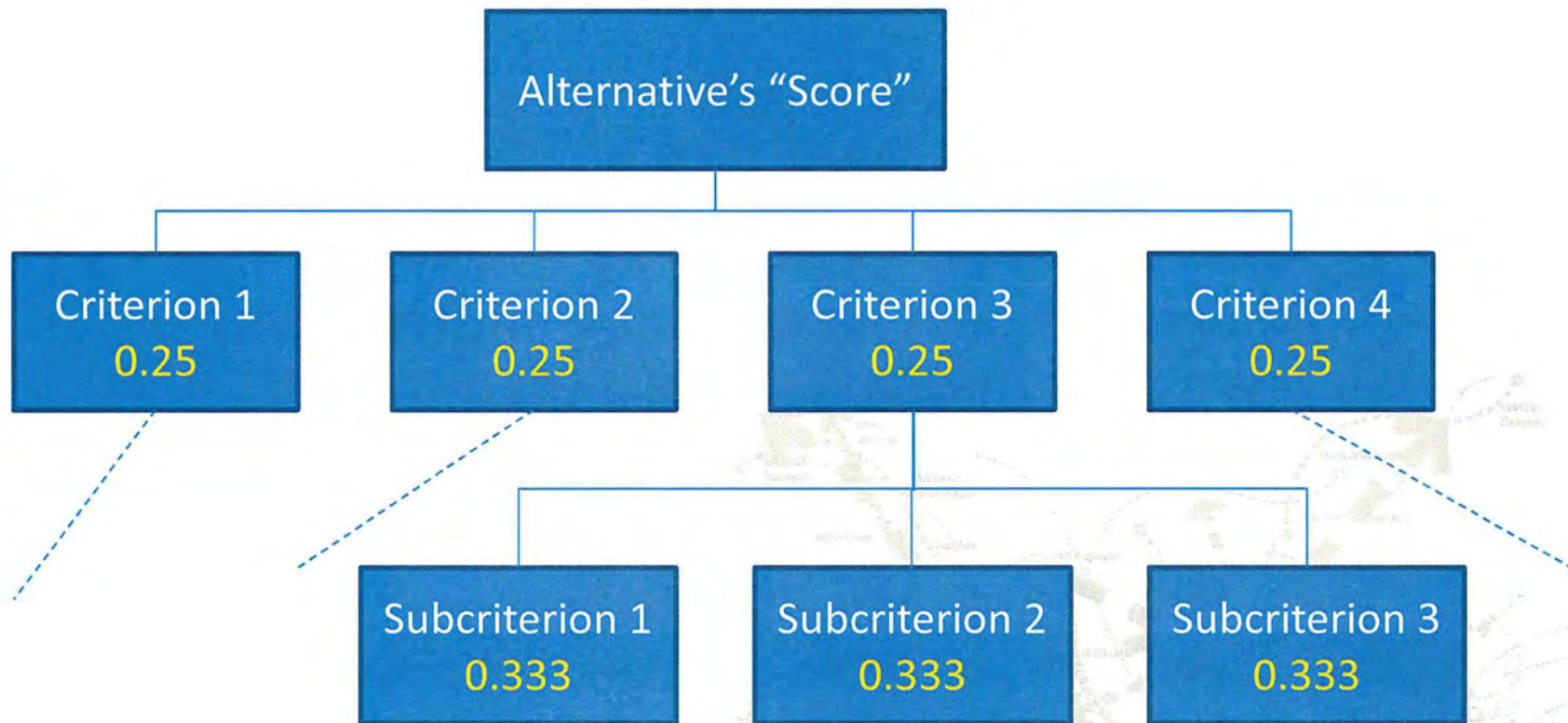


Principles of Successful LCP/MCE

- All Criteria taken together should provide a ***comprehensive*** evaluation
- Criteria should be ***mutually exclusive***
- Weights should be set using information from the actual decision-makers (***democratic***)
- Process should be ***transparent***
 - Engage stakeholders meaningfully
 - Publish both overall and component evaluation results
 - Fully disclose all analytic methods, assumptions, and limitations
 - Fully disclose all criteria composition and weights

What do you “get”?

Criteria made comparable



Repeat for each alternative...

