



FOCUS GROUP SESSIONS WITH ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE & COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS

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Part of Public Engagement Process

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- Focus Group Sessions
- Ca Freight Mobility Plan Public Draft Review
- California State Rail Plan Open Houses
- Tribal Listening Sessions and Consultation Meetings
- Rural Counties Task Force
- Ca Freight Mobility Plan Scoping Study Surveys
- California Transportation Plan Public Engagement



During the San Francisco Bay Area focus group held on June 26 in Oakland

Focus Group Regions

★ San Francisco
Bay Area

★ San Joaquin
Valley

★ Los Angeles
Area

★ Inland
Empire



Methodology

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Focus Group Session	# of Organizations Contacted	# of Participants
San Joaquin Valley	120	13
Los Angeles	63	7
San Francisco Bay Area	366	4
San Bernardino	24	7

- EJ/Community-based organizations compiled by consultant, Caltrans, and regional agencies.
- List prioritized by freight relevancy and freight interests.
- Organizations invited by phone and email.
- Focus group sessions were held.
- Results summarized in a report.

Goals of the Focus Group Sessions

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- Improve and increase Caltrans' understanding of freight transportation community concerns, issues, and impacts from freight transportation
- Improve relationships with community groups through continued involvement throughout the CFMP development process
- Ability to supply a more accurate and complete list of freight transportation impacts on communities during development of the CFMP

Focus Group Discussions

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- Caltrans' Role
- Public's role
- Public Outreach
- Benefits of the Freight System
- Impacts of the Freight System
- Critical issues
- Suggestions for Improvement

Public Outreach Common Concerns

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- Outreach to the public is difficult but essential
- Need for more collaboration among elected officials, government agencies, the freight industry, and the public

Environmental Justice Coordination

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- Effective public outreach requires coordination with environmental justice representatives
- Approach:
 - Grassroots, targeted effort
 - Coordination between environmental justice organizations, Caltrans, regional, and local agencies
 - Inform and educate underrepresented communities about freight planning issues and solutions

Suggestions for Public Outreach

- Use language that is easily understood, straight forward, and concise
- Make documents available for comment easily accessible
- The Caltrans website is a favorable platform, however, it should be made easier to understand and include more information

Benefits of the Freight System

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- Jobs
- Economic development
- Flexibility between modes
- Good connectivity
- Access to and availability of products in stores



Impacts of the Freight System

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- Health
- Noise
- Air Quality
- Traffic Congestion
- Pavement Degradation
- Diversion of Resources and Energy
- Ground Vibration



Suggestions

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- Research and identify new technologies to enhance the efficiency and reduce impacts
- Focus on “green” technologies
- Include a cost/benefit analysis as a part of the planning process to determine those modes and mobility improvements that would reduce health impacts.



QUESTIONS?