



October 21, 2016

Carolyn Flowers
Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment
P.O. Box 4010
Sacramento, CA 95812-4010

Subject: Comments on CalEnviroScreen 3.0

Dear Ms. Flowers:

Please accept this letter as an official comment on the proposed CalEnviroScreen 3.0, announced on September 6, 2016.

Agency Background

MST was created by California law AB 644 and formed July 1, 2010. The district succeeds Monterey-Salinas Transit Joint Powers Agency formed in 1981 when the City of Salinas joined the Monterey Peninsula Transit Joint Powers Agency which was formed in 1972. Current members of the district are the cities of Carmel, Del Rey Oaks, Gonzales, Greenfield, King City, Marina, Monterey, Pacific Grove, Salinas, Sand City, Seaside, Soledad and the County of Monterey. The MST board of directors appoints the agency's general manager. MST has a staff of over 200 employees, which includes operations, maintenance and facilities, and administration. The operating budget has been in the range of \$25 Million to \$30 Million for the last several years.

Comments

We appreciate the Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment's (OEHHA) extensive efforts to improve the CalEnviroScreen tool. The proposed draft 3.0 has made a number of changes which appear to impact the areas defined as disadvantaged communities. Specifically, the map shows a noticeable decrease in areas that would be labeled as the 25% highest scoring census tracts when compared to the CalEnviroScreen 2.0 tool. The reduction in high scoring census tracts impacts Monterey County and significantly limits MST's options for implementing projects using Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund proceeds. Furthermore, the designations are presented in increments of 10% making it difficult to establish the 25% threshold. For these reasons, MST respectfully requests the 3.0 tool not be implemented until such time as these concerns have been satisfactorily addressed.

Advocating and delivering quality public transportation as a leader within our community and industry.

Transit District Members Monterey County • Carmel-by-the-Sea • Del Rey Oaks • Gonzales • Greenfield • King City • Marina • Monterey
Pacific Grove • Salinas • Sand City • Seaside • Soledad **Administrative Offices** 19 Upper Ragsdale Drive, Suite 200 Monterey, CA 93940

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We appreciate the opportunity to assist OEHHA in reviewing the CalEnviroScreen tool. For additional information, please contact Michelle Overmeyer at (831) 264-5877.

Sincerely,



Lisa Rheinheimer
Director of Planning and Marketing