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Defining Equity

- Equity is transforming the behaviors, institutions, and systems that disproportionately harm people of color. Equity means increasing access to power, redistributing and providing additional resources, and eliminating barriers to opportunity, in order to empower low-income communities of color to thrive and reach full potential.

- An approach that proposes to deliver outcomes with equity as a focus by ensuring decisions are made or influenced by communities with less political power or voice

1) Why are equity metrics important and why does defining benefits matter for clean transportation?

2) How can the CEC ensure procedural equity throughout this series of workshops to result in the best possible and most equitable definition of benefit as an outcome in Q3 of 2023?
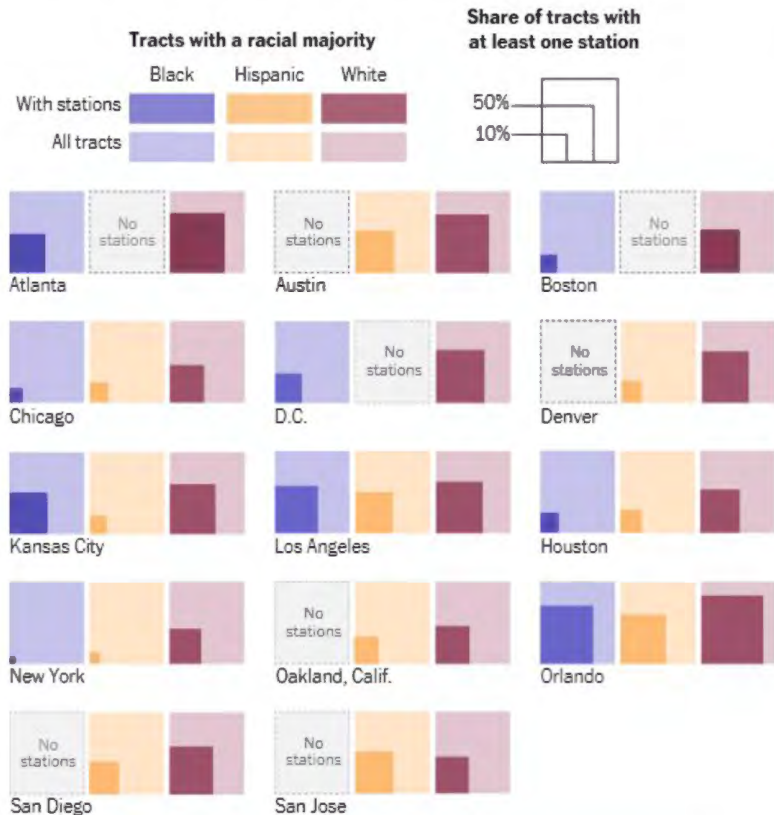
Why are equity metrics important and why does defining benefits matter for clean transportation?

In cities where more EV charging stations are available, many are in majority-White areas

Cities with the most active and publicly available EV charging stations

Tracts with a racial majority

	Black	Hispanic	White
With stations			
All tracts			

Share of tracts with at least one station

50%
10%

Atlanta — No stations

Austin — No stations

Boston — No stations

Chicago

D.C. — No stations

Denver — No stations

Kansas City

Los Angeles

Houston

New York

Oakland, Calif. — No stations

Orlando

San Diego — No stations

San Jose — No stations

Note: Cities that didn't have any majority-Black or majority-Hispanic tracts were excluded. Kansas City includes city areas in Kansas and Missouri.

Sources: Census Bureau; Energy Department

Without access to charging stations, Black and Hispanic communities may be left behind in the era of electric vehicles

Listen to article 13 min

Source: The Washington Post, 2021

How can the CEC ensure procedural equity throughout this process to result in the best possible and most equitable definition of benefits as an outcome in Q3 of 2023?

Making Equity Real Framework

1. **GOALS, VALUES, MISSION**
   How is equity described in the context of the overall goal of the approach? Is equity a core component? Is it missing?
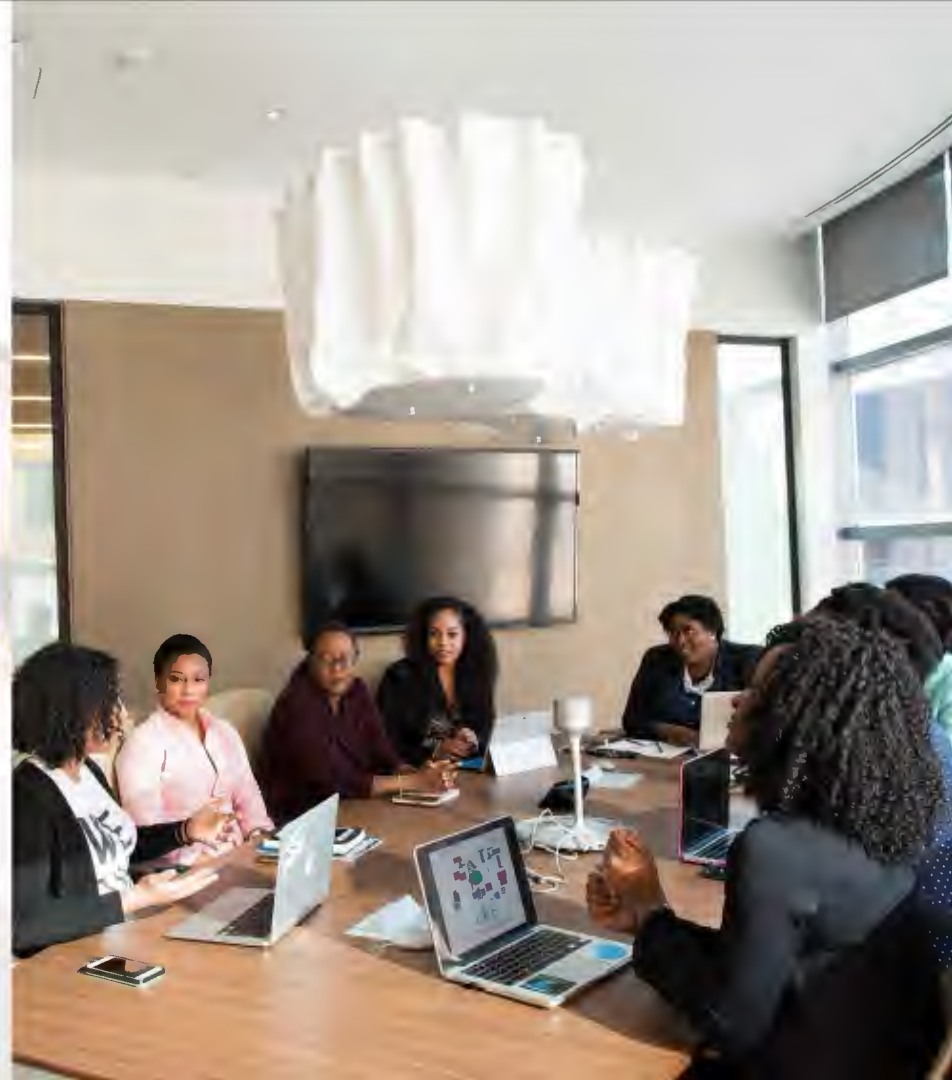
2. **PROCESS**
   How does the approach propose to deliver outcomes with equity as a focus? How are decisions made or influenced by communities with less political power or voice?

3. **IMPLEMENTATION**
   How does implementation lead to equity outcomes? What are the explicit equity outcomes described in the approach?

4. **MEASUREMENT & ANALYSIS**
   How is equity progress measured? How do we know that equity goals were achieved?

How does the policy, program or funding approach propose to deliver outcomes with equity as a focus? How are decisions made or influenced by communities with less political power or voice?

1. Literature review and landscape analysis of existing definitions or codified terms of "Benefit"
2. 10 Workshops and discussions with key equity stakeholders including community representatives from DACs to collect feedback on equity definitions
3. Ensure that there is consistent communication with communities early and often to gather community feedback BEFORE and DURING the ideation process not after.
4. Coordinate with CARB, CPUC, CalTrans and other state agencies

How does the policy, program or funding approach propose to deliver outcomes with equity as a focus? How are decisions made or influenced by communities with less political power or voice?

5. Establish infrastructure for an iterative process and assess relevance of benefits every other investment cycle.

6. Consider both sides of a "benefit". What are the intended and unintended benefits as well as potential detriments of clean transportation investments?

7. Conduct listening sessions with stakeholders who might not be able to attend workshops, are hard to reach or have not been included.

8. *Avoid Equity Washing and prioritize transparency throughout the process so communities know how their feedback is or is not being considered.