



## MEMORANDUM

**To:** CMAQ and TAP-L Project Selection Committee

**From:** CMAP Staff

**Date:** October 27, 2022

**Subject:** CMAQ and TAP-L Scoring Methodology – Equity (Justice40 and Inclusive Growth)

**Purpose:** Staff requests approval of changes to the CMAQ and TAP-L scoring to include an Equity Score which incorporates a Justice40-Disadvantaged Community criteria and modifies the overall scoring.

**Action Requested:** Approval

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In June, staff presented a [proposal](#) for the inclusion of a Justice40 scoring criteria that would be combined with the inclusive growth criteria to add an equity score for projects submitted for consideration in the development of the FFY 2024-2028 CMAQ and TAP-L program of projects. Since the June meeting, US DOT has officially added both CMAQ and TAP-L to the [programs covered under the Justice40 initiative](#). The scoring of projects for Equity will help in the selection of projects that can contribute to the region meeting the requirement of 40% of CMAQ and TAP-L funding being implemented on projects in disadvantaged communities. Adding the new equity scoring will impact the overall points allocation for the programs. Details are provided below on the proposed equity scoring and the changes to the overall points spread.

### Equity Scoring

To achieve the goals of Justice40, CMAP staff recommends incorporating disadvantaged communities as a scoring factor within an equity category using US DOT's Disadvantaged Community (DAC) screening tool. The equity score would have two criteria— 1) inclusive growth- the existing criteria of the percent of travelers using a facility that are people of color below the poverty line and 2) disadvantaged community- the number of disadvantage categories where a project is located. If a project is in multiple census tracts, the project will receive the score for the tract with the highest number of disadvantaged categories. Each criteria would have a total of 10 points bringing the equity category to a maximum score of 20 points.

The existing inclusive growth criteria would remain the same as shown in Table 1.

*Table 1. Inclusive Growth Criteria – existing users of the facility*

Percentage of facility users who are nonwhite and under the poverty line	Score
0%-4.9%	0
5%-9.9%	2
10%-14.9%	4
15%-19.9%	6
20%-24.9%	8
25% or more	10

For the disadvantaged community criteria, staff recommends points to be awarded by the number of disadvantage categories that a census tract has identified in the [US DOT DAC tool](#). Table 2 is the proposed method for allocating points based on the number of categories. Since the minimum categories is 4 for a census tract to be considered disadvantaged by US DOT, no points will be awarded below 4 categories.

*Table 2. Disadvantaged Community Criteria – number of disadvantage categories*

Number of disadvantaged categories	Score
0	0
1	0
2	0
3	0
4	4
5	7
6	10

### Changes to CMAQ and TAP-L Scoring

The overall project scoring will need to be adjusted to account for the 10 points within the 100-point scale for both CMAQ and TAP-L. A proposal for that scoring is shown in Tables 3 and 4 below.

*Table 3. CMAQ Project Scoring*

	Current	Proposed
Air Quality Cost Effectiveness Score	60 points*	50 points*
Transportation Impact Criteria (TIC) Score	30 points	30 points
Equity Score	10 points	20 points
TOTAL	100 points	100 points

\* Applies to all project types except the “Other” type which is on a 90 point scale for Air Quality Cost Effectiveness because they are not scored on TICs. The Other type projects are proposed to be scored on an 80 point scale for Air Quality Cost Effectiveness.

*Table 4. TAP-L Project Scoring*

	<b>Current</b>	<b>Proposed</b>
Completion of RGTP	30 points	30 points
Market for Facility	25 points	20 points
Safety and Attractiveness Rating	25 points	20 points
Equity Score	10 points	20 points
Project Readiness	10 points	10 points
TOTAL	100 points	100 points

Conclusion

The inclusion of the disadvantaged communities criteria in the overall CMAQ and TAP-L scoring process will not only align the programs with the federal Justice40 initiative but also assist in meeting the equity goals set out in ON TO 2050 for the region. Just like all the scoring criteria, Equity can be fine-tuned for future calls for projects as the programs change.