

Establishing Average Residential and Employment VMT (CEQA Baseline)

CEQA requires establishing a baseline that describes existing conditions in order to measure future impacts on the environment. The baseline is described as the average distance Sunnyvale residents and employees travel by car each day. The baseline can be measured on a citywide, countywide, or a regional average. The regional average includes nine counties: Santa Clara, San Francisco, Alameda, Napa, Sonoma, San Mateo, Contra Costa, Marin, and Solano.

The citywide average is defined as the total residential VMT divided by the number of residents in Sunnyvale, or the total employment VMT divided by the number of employees in Sunnyvale. The countywide and regional averages are defined similarly by taking the total VMT (residential or employment) and dividing by the total number of employees or residents in the county or region.