

During the update of WATS 2040 Long Range Transportation Plan (2040 LRP), language was introduced guiding WATS to develop an equity goal that promotes the concepts of, and progress toward equity, in line with recent equity efforts taking shape in Washtenaw County. This includes the Washtenaw Office of Community and Economic Development's (OCED) Opportunity Index which focuses on the potential for racial and socio-economic disparities. The Index applies the lenses of geography, gender, race/ethnicity and age, through the indicators of job access, health, economic vitality, education and neighborhood stability to evaluate inequity and ranks census tracts from very low to very high opportunity as well as change within the index from high decline to high growth. OCED's work can be found at the following link.

<http://www.opportunitywashtenaw.org/opportunity-index.html>

WATS' draft equity goal builds on the work initiated by OCED by focusing on areas poised for additional consideration in the equitable distribution of infrastructure investment.

Goal - Your zipcode should not define your chances in life

Objective - Correct the transportation decisions that have separated, underserved or otherwise negatively altered communities

Indicators / Description -

- *Portion of TIP investment spent in Very Low opportunity areas per Washtenaw Opportunity Index*
 - *Review TIP investment in Very Low opportunity area at each Committee action on the TIP*
- *Portion of TIP investment spent in Low opportunity areas per Washtenaw Opportunity Index*
 - *Review TIP investment in Low opportunity area at each Committee action on the TIP*
- *Create suite of equity projects, positioned as regional priority in 2045 LRP*
 - *Observe impacts on change index from investment in equity projects*
- *Number of projects that improve access to parks, child care, jobs, etc, in Very Low opportunity and High Decline areas*
 - *Review impacts at new TIP creation (and from culmination of previous TIP)*