



Los Angeles County
Metropolitan Transportation Authority



Countywide Sustainability Planning Policy

Streets and Freeways
April 19, 2012

Purposes of the Policy

Establish a framework to:

- Better **integrate** sustainability in Metro Planning Functions
- **Support** cities in taking complementary local actions
- **Foster** collaboration and partnerships

Policy Development Process

Development/Review of Principles & Priorities—Sept-Oct

Technical Analysis to develop Planning Framework—Nov-Jan

Develop Strategies and Draft Policy—Feb-Mar

Completion/Review of Policy—April-June

Final Policy—July

Policy Outline

- I. Overview and Background
- II. Planning a Sustainable Transportation System
 - A. Principles and Priorities
 - B. Key Concepts
 - C. Planning Framework
- III. Planning Guidance
- IV. Policy Implementation and Impact—Under Development

Policy Elements: Principles and Priorities

	Society	Economy	Environment
Connect	Access	Prosperity	Green Modes
Create	Healthy Neighborhoods	Community Development	Urban Greening
Conserve	Context Sensitivity	System Productivity	Environmental Stewardship

Policy Elements: Key Concepts

- Transportation and Land Use Integration
- Context Sensitive Design
- “Bundling” for Greatest Impact
- Network Optimization
- Think Regionally, Act Locally

Policy Elements: Planning Framework

- Establishes Accessibility Index (AI) to identify locations with similar characteristics that may benefit from similar strategies
- Helps leverage and create linkages between investments in all modes
- Facilitates benchmarking and sharing of best practices between similar communities
- Ensures policy implementation activities support progress and provide benefits to all parts of the county

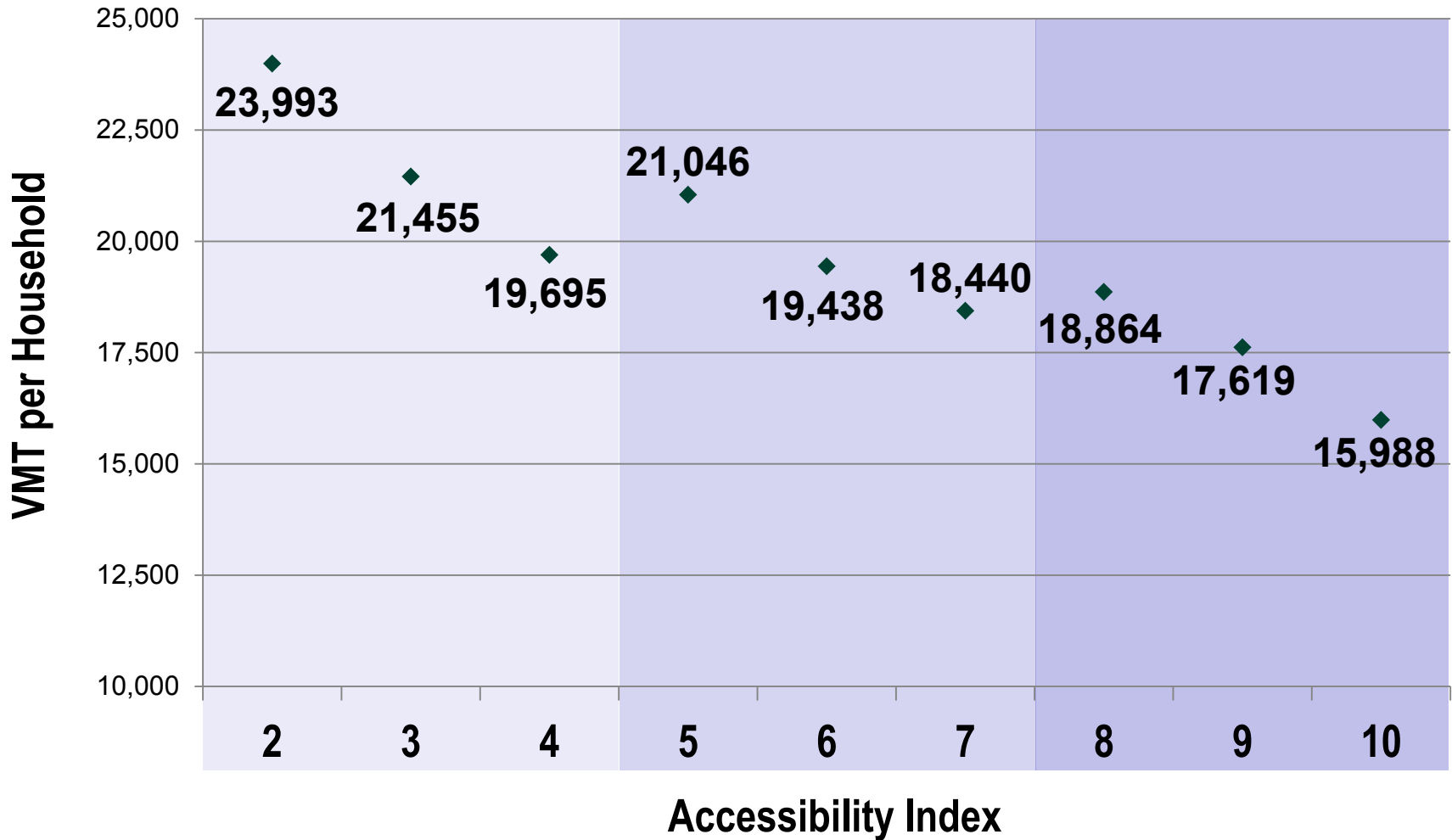
The focus is not on making all locations the same, but providing “best fit” strategies that respond to a community’s land-use conditions and aspirations.

Planning Framework: Accessibility Index

- A. Based on quantitative analysis
- B. Creates 9 Accessibility Index (AI) values reflecting:
 1. Residential Density
 2. Employment Centrality

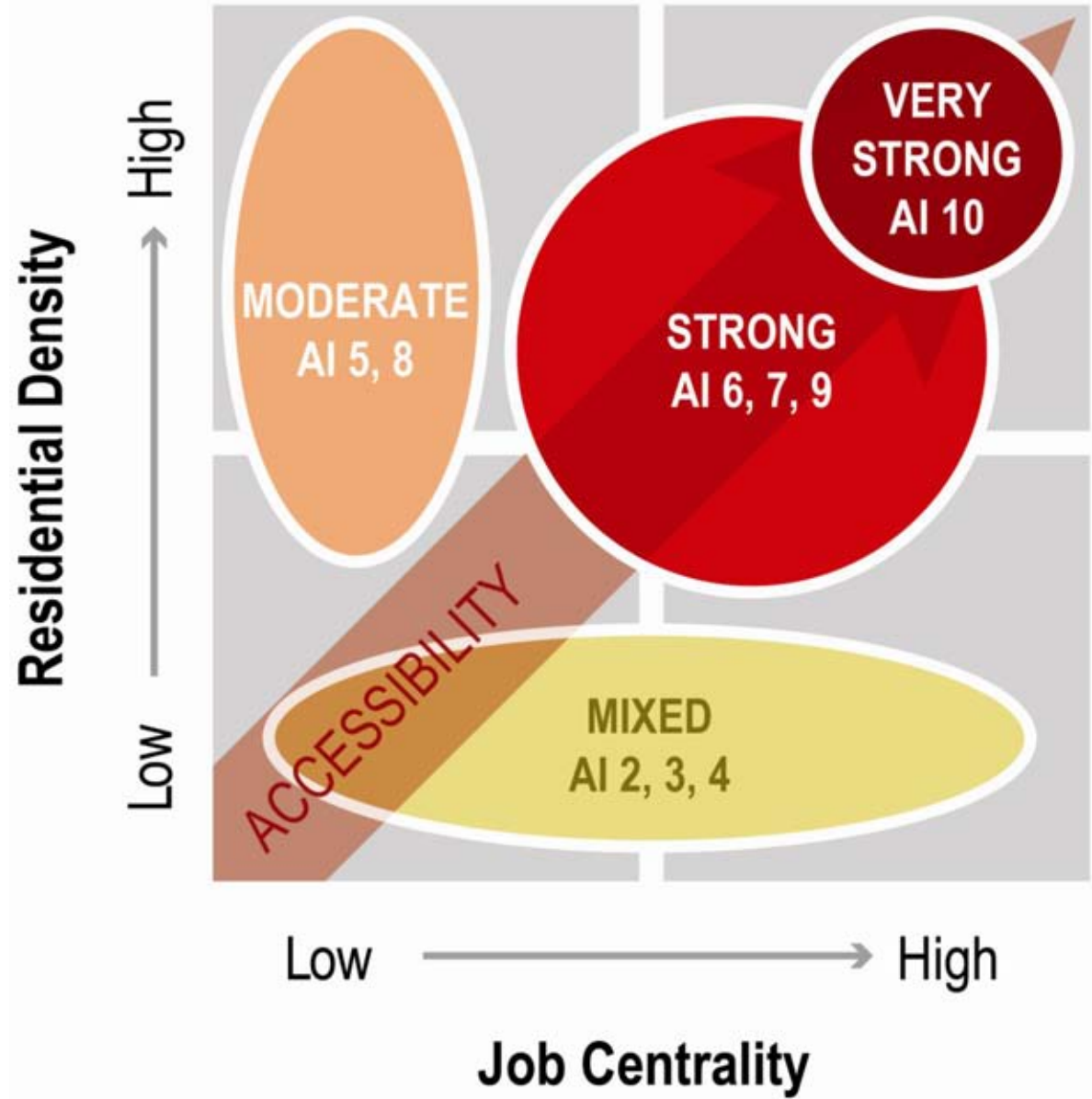
Residential Density	High	8	9	10
	Medium	5	6	7
	Low	2	3	4
		Low	Medium	High
		Job Centrality		

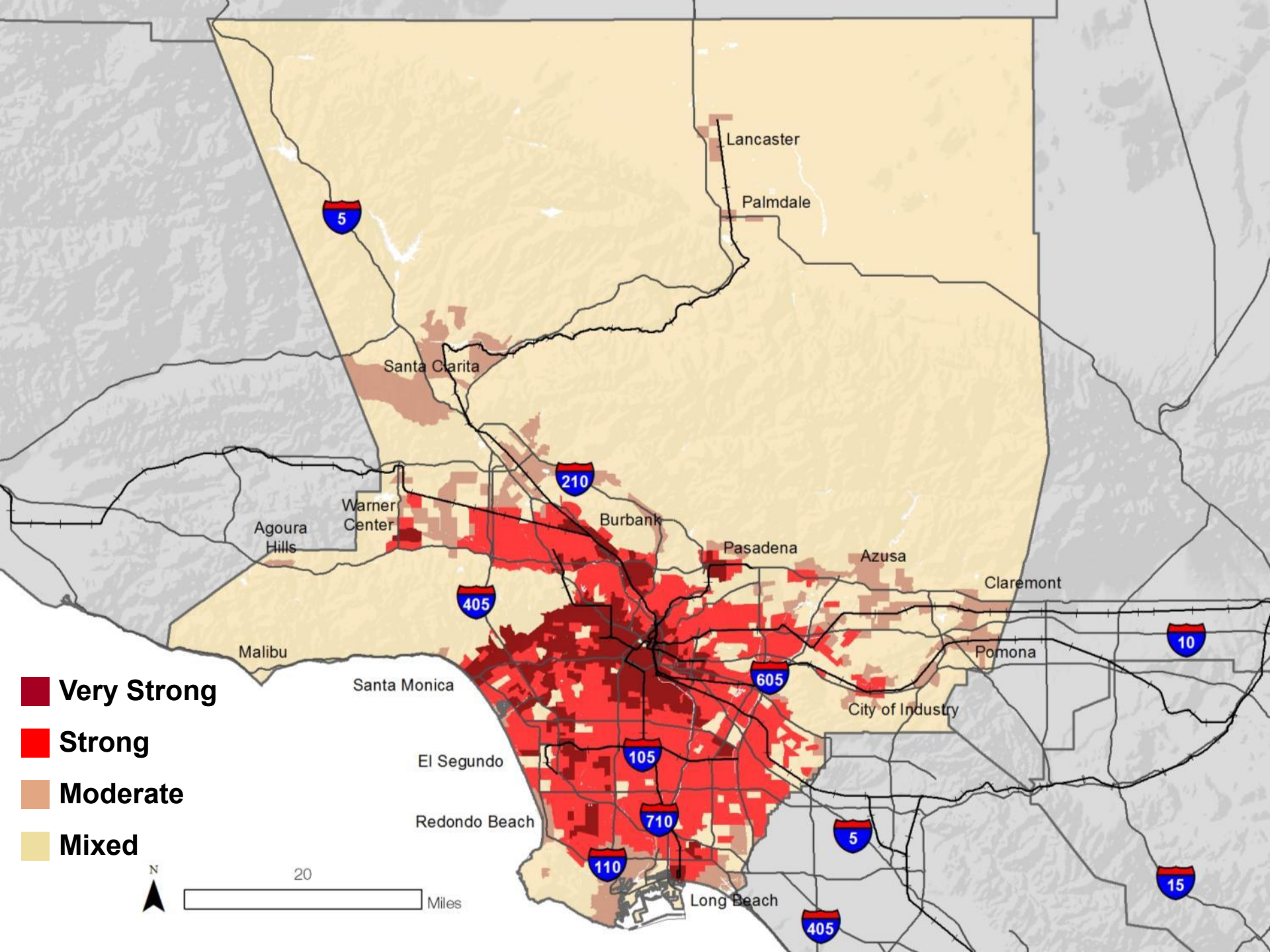
Average Annual VMT for the Typical Los Angeles County Household



Source: Center for Neighborhood Technology 2012

Accessibility Index Clusters represent four different types of areas across the County.

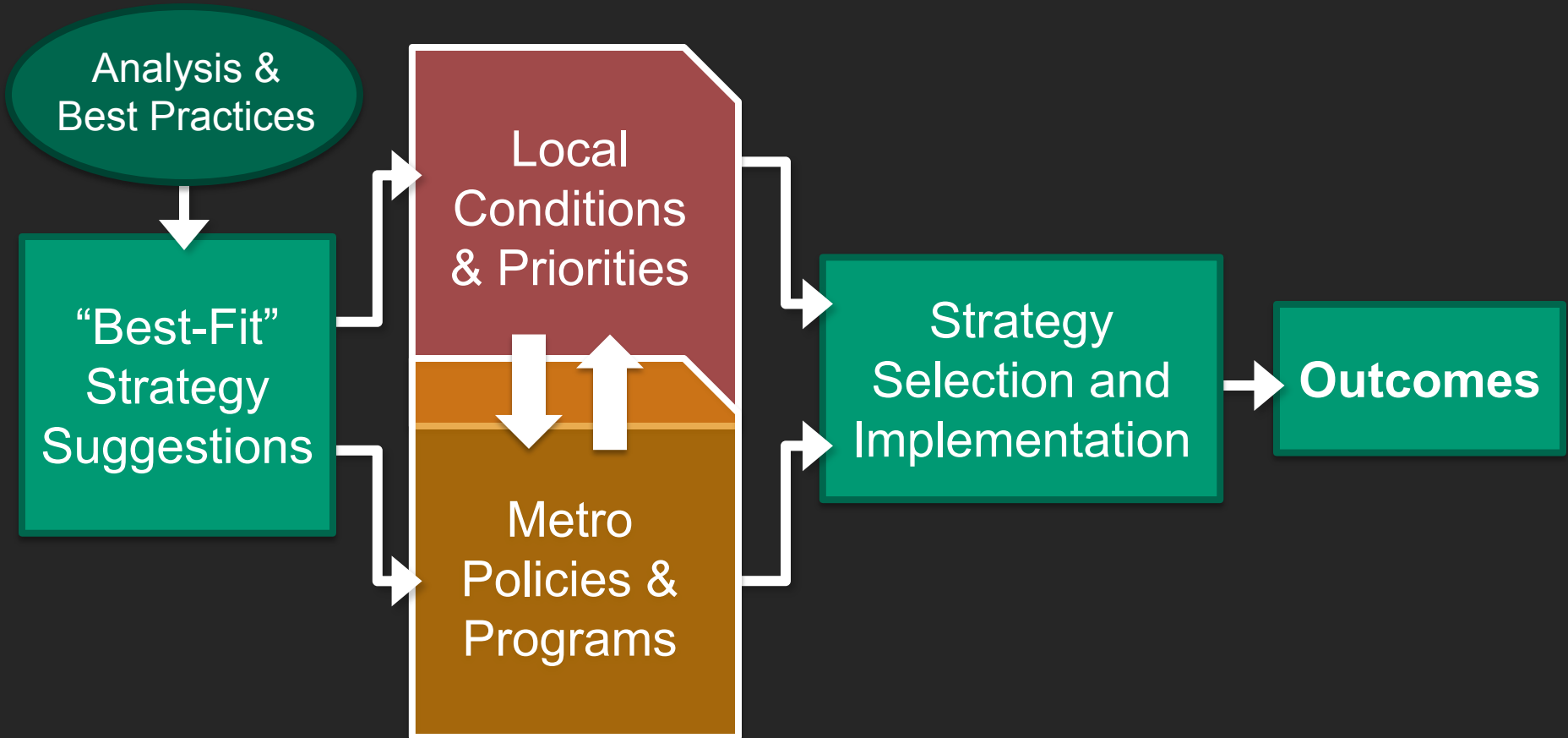




Policy Elements: Planning Guidance

- Provides mix of **land-use** and **transportation strategies** that could be sponsored by Metro or considered by partner agencies
- **Resource for Metro planners/project managers** to incorporate sustainability principles and priorities into activities
- **Resource for sub-regional agencies/cities** developing transportation projects/plans, climate action plans, general plans and mobility elements, TOD plans
- Based on original analysis and published research findings
- Presented as **universal strategies** and **context-based strategies** associated with “AI” clusters

Planning Guidance:



Policy Elements: Implementation & Impact— *Under Development*

Implementation Plan

- Outline of process for implementing policy across planning functions in collaboration with regional partners
- Formulated with stakeholder input (forthcoming)
- To include:
 - Short term actions
 - Mid term actions

Evaluation Metrics

- Method to capture countywide progress and inform future planning and policy decisions
- Program Metrics: Are we following through on commitments?
- Performance metrics: Are we reaching desired outcomes?

Next Steps

Final Deliverables

- Countywide Sustainability Planning Policy
- Technical Appendices
- Planning Tools
(Accessibility Index Catalogue, Corridor Study Analysis Tool)

Additional Outreach

Planning Tools Development

