2.4.3 Nexus Study: GIS Based Congestion Management Fee Calculator and Greenhouse Gas Emission Tool

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California Mitigation Fee Act (AB 1600) allows local governments to levy fees on new developments to defray the cost of accommodating their impact on affected transportation networks. AB 1600 requires a clear nexus between the purpose of the fee, the improvements being funded by the fee, and development growth. For Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (LAMTA), CS conducted a nexus study to identify possible structures for a congestion mitigation fee program that established impact fees on new development. The study provides tremendous opportunities to diversify the portfolio of funding strategies for municipal infrastructure. A web GIS based application, called LA County CMP Fee Revenue and Growth Forecast Calculator, was developed to help the Nexus study. The application consists of three suites of tool sets: the Fee Calculator tool, the Growth tool, and the Projects tool. It allows authorized employees of Los Angeles County's 88 jurisdictions, eight subregional metropolitan planning organizations (MPO), and the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority to enter project information, adjust growth forecasts, and calculate transportation impact fees and revenue streams for future development in Los Angeles County. A fourth sketch-planning tool was added to estimate the potential greenhouse gas (GHG) reduction benefits of congestion mitigation fee (CMF) candidate projects that are included in the web-based Fee Revenue and Growth Forecast Calculator. It allows cities and subregions to test individual GHG reduction scenarios for one or more CMF projects specified by Los Angeles County jurisdictions.