

Equity Distribution Compliance Methodology

Background

Since 2014, the Metropolitan Council has measured regional equity by identifying Areas of Concentrated Poverty (ACPs) as census tracts where 40% or more of the residents have family or individual incomes that area less than 185% of the federal poverty threshold. To identify areas where people of color experience the most exposure to concentrated poverty, the Council further differentiated Areas of Concentrated Poverty where 50% or more of the residents are people of color as ACP50s. The 2020 Scooter Program was based off the 2019 Met Council ACP50 census tracts within the City of Minneapolis.

2021 Changes to the Methodology

In the time since the scooter program equity requirements were set, significant changes to ACPs in the city have occurred including: changes to census tracts included in the North and South ACP50 boundaries, the elimination of census tract 1018 in Northeast as an ACP50, the completion of a federal 2020 Census, and the Met Council's intention to phase out the ACP50 program and replace the ACP Program with a new, more inclusive [Equity Considerations dataset](#). Because the Met Council's ACP update eliminated the Northeast Minneapolis ACP, the distribution requirements were reduced from 5% of the scooter fleet in the 2020 season, to a minimum of 25 scooters in 2021. Additionally, the NE ACP50 census tract is primarily residential, with the exception of the Central Avenue corridor, and lacks sufficient bike parking to handle the scooter demand without a negative impact on bike parking availability. Based on feedback from businesses along Central Avenue, the Minneapolis Advisory Committee On People With Disabilities, and Bicycle Advisory Committee, Public Works decided to further reduce the fleet deployment requirements for the NE ACP50 for the remainder of the 2021 season.

Future Evaluation of the Methodology

It is the City's intention to continue to evaluate the effectiveness of our equity distribution requirements and design our next program accordingly. The City will continue to gather community feedback and evaluate the data sets and metrics currently used to measure equity in the region as well as the results of the 2020 Census. As part of a larger conversation across City departments, Public Works will determine which data sets will be used to establish scooter equity requirements in the future.

Plans for 2022 Season

To continue to evaluate the program and provide time for analysis of new data sets, the City plans to use the Met Council's 2019 ACS ACP majority non-white areas as boundaries for the North and South Equity Distribution Areas (EDA) for the 2022 season. Through 2022, the City will also be developing an Equity Framework, which will inform a longer-term solution for equity mapping areas in the City. The 2022 Equity Distribution Map is in the [Minneapolis Open Data Portal](#).