

## EQUITY WORKING GROUP

### JULY MEETING NOTES

**Location:** 421 W Riverside Ave, Suite #500  
**Date:** July 26<sup>th</sup>, 2024  
**Time:** 4:15 – 5:15 pm  
**SRTC Staff:** Michael Redlinger, Savannah Hayward, Ben Kloskey, Jason Lien  
**Attendees:** Allison Z., Paul K., Nathan F., Ryan J.

Michael welcomed the group and thanked them for their attendance. Michael then introduced Jason Lien, who began the meeting with a presentation about the new Equity Guiding Principle that had been proposed in 2022 as part of the agency's Equity Planning Framework.

Jason explained what SRTC's Guiding Principles are intended for, as well as what goes into each Principle. The Guiding Principle's primary objective is to inform SRTC's planning programs, projects, and agency policies. Each Principle is associated with several policies, and Jason presented the tentative equity policies to the group for their feedback. The group provided feedback including a suggestion to split some policies into separate items and make the policies clearer and more direct. Afterwards, Jason wrapped up the discussion on the Equity Guiding Principle by sharing feedback received from SRTC's advisory committees and Board.

Following that discussion, Jason moved on to his second agenda item, describing the upcoming update to SRTC's Bicycle Priority Network. The Bicycle Priority Network is part of a recurring effort through which SRTC aims to identify areas of need in the network, such as gaps in paths and high stress routes. Jason talked about SRTC's bicycle level of traffic stress (LTS) analysis, completed in 2023, which will also help inform the identification of the priority network. Though work is ongoing, the priority network will ultimately be evaluated by the SRTC Board alongside the region's long range plan update in December of 2025. The Equity Working Group asked Jason some clarifying questions – such as why it is called a priority network and what an ideal level of stress is when planning bicycle facilities.

Michael then introduced the last agenda item, the region's Commute Trip Reduction (CTR) Plan update. The CTR Plan helps inform decision-making by local jurisdictions and across the region. The goal of CTR is to reduce the number of drive-alone trips on the region's roadways and encourage use of alternative methods of transportation. The primary focus of the presentation was the ongoing public input opportunities related to CTR, the regional survey (open through the first week of September) as well as the virtual open house on August 21<sup>st</sup>. Michael encouraged participants to fill out the survey and share it with community members. A participant asked for more information on the survey. Michael stated that the questions ask about commuting behavior and why people choose to commute the way they do.

Savannah and Michael thanked everyone for their attendance and noted that the group's next meeting is set for Friday, September 27<sup>th</sup>. The final remark before the meeting adjourned was that there will be a conflict on the typical meeting day in November, and that SRTC staff will be scheduling that meeting with the group in September.