

2025 – 2027 Interagency Equity Advisory Committee Member Recommendations

January 2025



Criteria for Membership

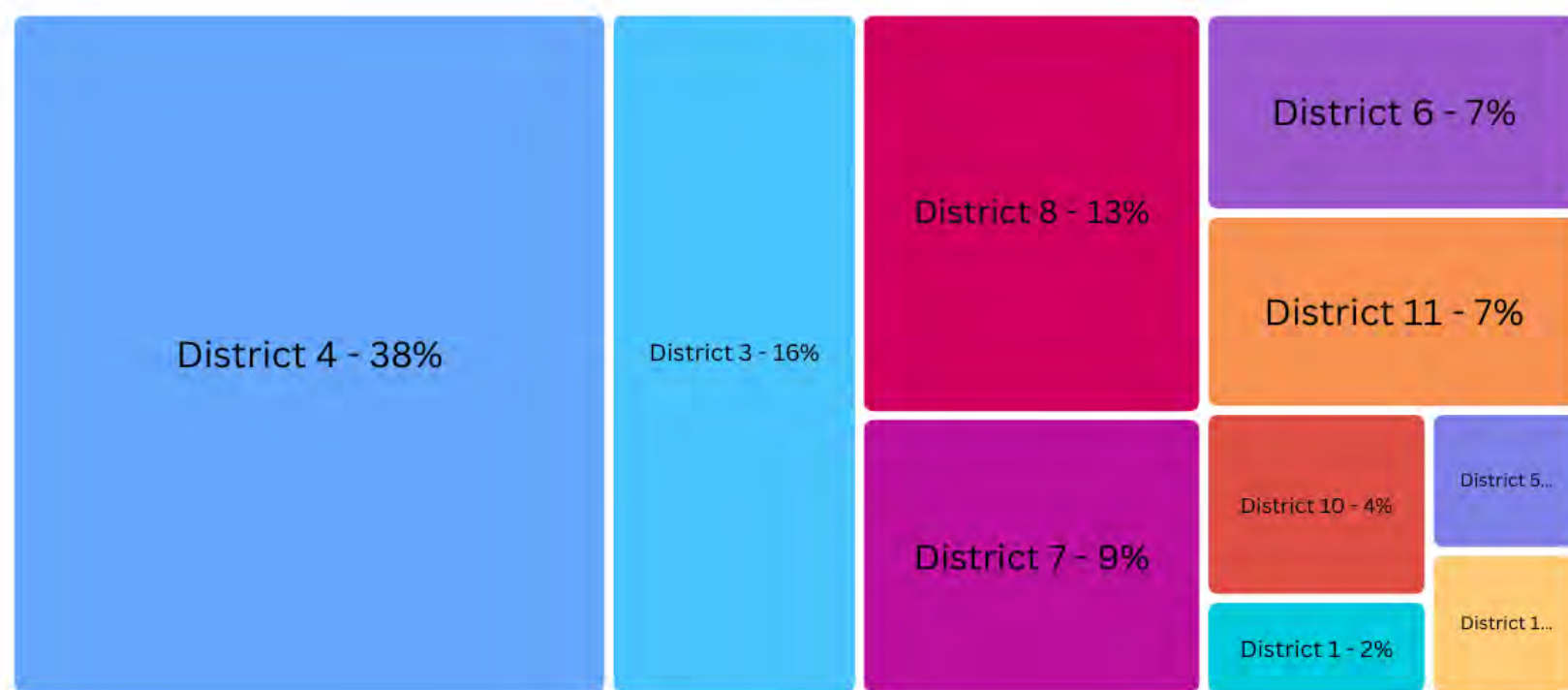
- Reside in California
- Clearly demonstrate a history of equity-centered personal or professional experience or community leadership
- Be actively engaged in transportation equity policy, programming, advocacy, or related fields such as health, air quality, climate, housing justice, or community and/or socioeconomic development

Recruitment Overview

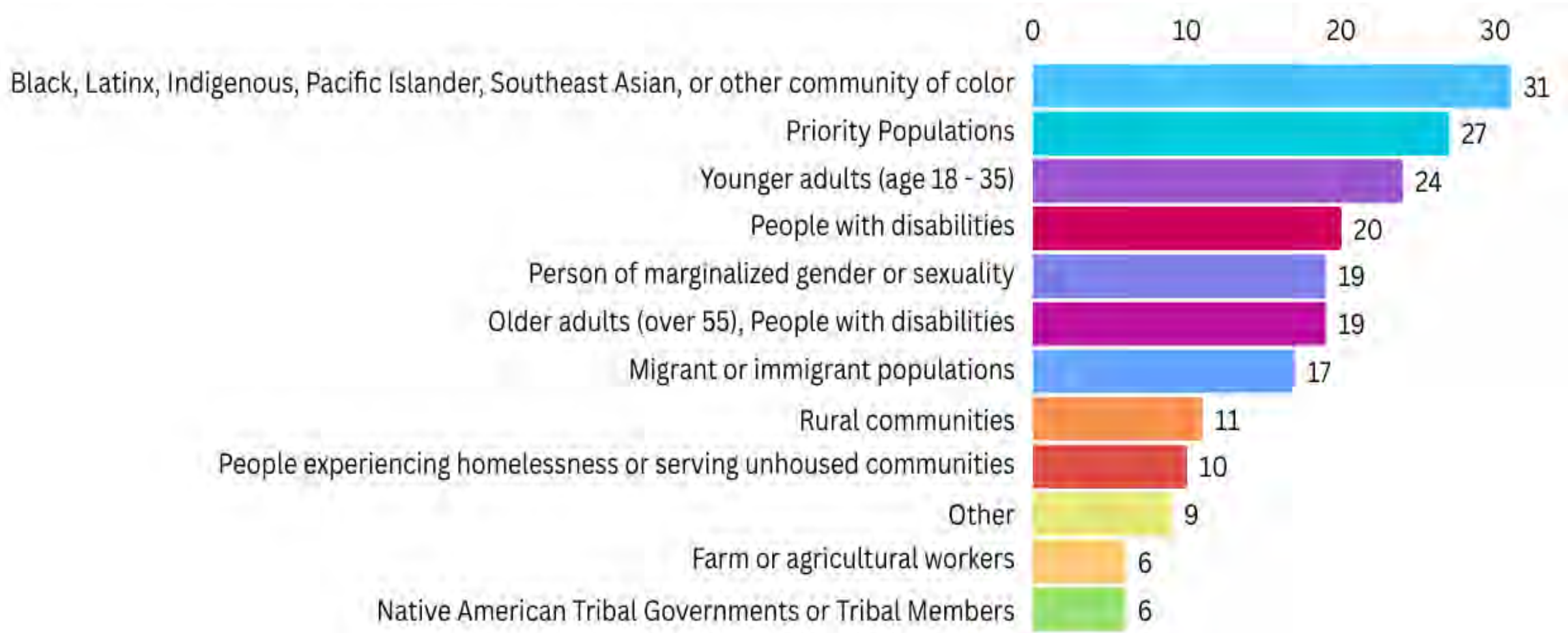
- Application period: Oct 15, 2024 – Dec 1, 2024
- 12 available seats
- 45 applications received
 - Applicants included six individuals from the 2023-2025 EAC
- Applicants represented a broad array of identities, geographies, and professional and civic backgrounds

Caltrans District	Number of Applications Received
District 1	1
District 2	0
District 3	7
District 4	17
District 5	1
District 6	3
District 7	4
District 8	6
District 9	0
District 10	2
District 11	3
District 12	1

Geographic Distribution of Applicants



Demographic Distribution: Personal experience representing or advocating on behalf of communities



Selection Process

- Applicant names were redacted during review and scoring
- The interagency team collaborated with two external state and regional transportation agency members to review and discuss applications.
 - To achieve a balanced committee, the review panel assessed applicants based on geographic, demographic, and professional or civic experience.
- 30-minute interviews were conducted with 21 top-ranked candidates
- Reference checks were conducted for the 12 recommended candidates

Geographic Distribution of Members



District 1 (Eureka): Peggy Martinez

District 2 (Redding): No applications received

District 3 (Marysville/Sacramento): David Azevedo

District 4 (Bay Area/Oakland): Michelle Rousey, Gloria Huerta*, Keri Akemi-Hernandez, Florence Simon, Howard Wong

District 5 (San Luis Obispo/Santa Barbara): Gloria Huerta*

District 6 (Fresno/Bakersfield): Lisa Marie Alvarado

District 7 (Los Angeles/Ventura): Andres Ramirez, Naomi Iwasaki

District 8 (San Bernardino/Riverside): Ana Gonzalez

District 9 (Bishop): No applications received

District 10 (Stockton): Martha Armas-Kelly, Gloria Huerta*, Abimael Chavez-Hernandez

District 11 (San Diego): Randy Torres-Van Vleck, Pualani Vazquez

District 12 (Orange): Applicant not selected

* Represents multiple Districts

Member Profiles

Keri Akemi-Hernandez

- 2022 BCLI Alumni and Community Leader
- Chair of Napa County Housing Commission

Lisa Marie Alvarado

- President of Womxnwise
- Member of City of Visalia Measure N Oversight Committee and Tulare County Associations of Governments Active Transportation Advisory Committee

Martha Armas-Kelly†

- Environmental Justice Program Coordinator for Catholic Charities, Diocese of Stockton
- UC Davis Transportation Environmental Justice Fellow

David Azevedo

- Associate Director for Advocacy and Community Engagement for AARP California
- Previously served on the City of Pasadena Accessibility and Disability Commission, Caltrans California Walk/Bike Technical Advisory Committee, and CalSTA Transit Transformation Task Force

Abimael Chavez-Hernandez

- Serves on the California Public Utilities Commission Disadvantaged Communities Advisory Group and City of Modesto Salary Setting Commission

Ana Gonzalez†

- Executive Director, Center for Community Action and Environmental Justice
- EJ advocate and community organizer

Naomi Iwasaki

- Senior Planner and Transportation Equity Lead for HDR U.S. West Region
- Serves on Los Angeles County Community Health Prevention and Population Task Force and City of Los Angeles Affordable Housing Commission

Peggy Martinez†

- Creative Inclusion - Founder and Director, focuses on improving accessibility for people with sight loss

Randy Torres-Van Vleck †

- Associate Director of Community and Housing Development for Partnership for the Advancement of New Americans
- Serves on multiple San Diego region advisory groups focused on transportation, planning, community development, and social equity

Florence Simon

- Chief of Staff for Generate Capital; Fmr. Special Assistant for Policy on Mayor Pete Buttigieg's Presidential Campaign
- Supported roll out of Federal Infrastructure Investments and Jobs Act, authored Asian American and Pacific Islander Policy to ensure equitable access to opportunities and resources.

Pualani Vasquez

- Trauma Injury Prevention & Community Outreach Coordinator focusing on creating an equitable understanding of transportation injuries within the medical setting

Howard Wong

- Retired architect
- Served on the Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) Policy Advisory Council and MTC Equity and Access Subcommittee focusing on a broader Transportation network to serve the aging population and growing disabled community

† 2023-2025 EAC Committee Member

2025 Meeting Schedule

- **March 11–12**

- Hybrid in person
- New Cohort Onboarding
- Sacramento Regional Transit Board Room

- **May 14**

- Executive Meeting
- CTC Meeting on May 15–16
- Hybrid in person
- San Francisco Bay Area

- **July 31**

- *Virtual*

- **September 5**

- *Virtual*

- **October 15**

- CTC October Meeting on 16–17
- Hybrid in person
- Central Valley

- **December 3**

- Executive Meeting
- CTC Meeting on December 4–5
- Hybrid in person
- Riverside