

# Deconstructing SB 375

*Lessons from California's VMT law*



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# SB 37-wha?



- 2008 – another era
- Sets a GHG target for every MPO
- Changes RTP requirements to address GHGs, housing, land use
- “All things to all people”
- BUT must be done

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# Timeline for Implementation

2008: Bill is signed into law.

2009: Regional Targets Advisory Committee

2010: GHG targets established for every region

2011: The law takes effect

San Diego

Southern California (SCAG)

Sacramento

San Francisco Bay Area

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# What is working?

- Tie to existing process and \$\$\$ is key
- Advisory committee to inform implementation
- Mandates a regional dialogue, not a set of specific actions
- Unified and informed activist community
- Independent research to shape discussion
- Broad agreement on the policy solutions

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# What isn't working?

- Travel models are not sophisticated enough
- Fiscal situation
- Political climate has changed drastically
- No direct mandates to local governments
- Success relies upon MPO leadership, which doesn't always exist
- Framing the issue from day 1

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# Lessons and Recommendations

- Tie implementation to \$\$ - build in new revenue if possible
- Get ahead of the framing curve
- Create structures for communication
  - Coordination among progressive allies
  - Dialogue with leaders from across the political spectrum
- Be careful who you empower

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