



NAPA VALLEY TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY TAC Agenda Letter

TO: Technical Advisory Committee
FROM: Kate Miller, Executive Director
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SUBJECT: Community Based Transportation Plan Update

RECOMMENDATION

That the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) review the list of Community Based Transportation Plan (CBTP) Programs and eligible projects.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

At the September 5th TAC meeting, NVTA staff presented the identified projects and programs for the CBTP and asked the TAC to provide additional jurisdictional projects to include in the plan. The intent of the Community Based Transportation Plan (CBTP) is to identify projects that meet the following criteria:

- 1) Developed through collaborative, inclusive planning process
- 2) Improve transportation choices
- 3) Identify and address transportation gaps
- 4) Focus on transportation needs specific to MTC-determined Communities of Concern (COCs) and local low-income, disabled, and senior Napa County residents

NVTA staff have conducted outreach to eight communities of concern (COCs) in Napa County to gain knowledge about transportation improvement priorities. In addition, NVTA formed a CBTP Steering Committee made up of social service and community-based organizations to veteran projects and programs and to gain further input on local needs.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

Is there a fiscal impact? No

BACKGROUND AND DISCUSSION

The purpose of the CBTP is to improve mobility options and close transportation gaps for low-income and disadvantaged communities in Napa County. Staff reviewed census data and other data sources to identify additional communities of concern (COC), beyond those identified by the Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC), for inclusion in the CBTP.

NVTA staff met with the Steering Committee to discuss outreach efforts. Based on input from the Steering Committee, staff identified outreach events to ensure equitable and appropriate outreach in all communities (Attachment 1). Prior to each event, staff issued press releases and coordinated with the local jurisdictions to inform and invite them to take part. The scheduled outreach events began in September of 2018 and concluded in early December of 2018.

Outreach

Many residents expressed their appreciation for the mobility programs NVTA offers. The CBTP outreach helped educate the public about the transportation options in the Napa Valley. For some residents, it was the first time hearing about NVTA's transit connections to Amtrak and BART. Staff prepared a draft list of CBTP-recommended transportation projects (Attachment 2) based on the comments and feedback received from outreach events and the online survey.

Evaluation of Transportation Proposals

NVTA staff created criteria to evaluate proposals to see if they addressed community needs identified through the outreach process. The Steering Committee reviewed and concurred with the evaluation criteria at its February 27, 2019 meeting. The criteria used to evaluate projects include:

1. Project Lead:
Existence of a "program champion", an agency (or agencies) that takes a leadership role in securing funding, staffing and other resources devoted to the proposed service or project.
2. Community Identified:
Does the proposal address transportation needs identified through public outreach? Ultimately, all proposed projects addressed transportation needs identified by the community.
3. Implementation:
Based on anticipated barriers to implementation (such as funding, resource allocation, and project development), the group placed proposals in implementation timeframes:

- Near-Term (to be implemented within 2 years)
 - Mid-Term (to be implemented in 3 to 5 years)
 - Long-Term (to be implemented in 6 years or more)
4. Cost/Funding
- Identify if funding might be available to plan, construct, and maintain the proposed projects and services. Availability of on-going funding/sources, especially for transit service operations, is considered when evaluating a proposal's sustainability. Although the project review group did consider the possible costs to develop and implement each proposal, proposals were not ranked based on their costs.
5. Benefit:
- Lastly, whether each proposal is easy for potential customers to use in addressing Lifeline Transportation barriers.
- Safety
 - System Performance (in addition to helping the community, does the project improve system performance?)
 - Emission reduction
 - Improved mobility
 - Improved Health Outcomes

Identified Projects

Based on the feedback from residents in the COCs, the list below represents transportation needs identified by the community for improving their mobility and quality of life. NVTa staff and the steering committee evaluated the projects against the criteria above and ranked them in the following order:

1. Hunt Ave Sidewalks/Pedestrian improvements
2. Bike facility from Jefferson Street to Soscol Avenue on Trancas
3. Pope Avenue Sidewalks/Pedestrian and Lighting improvements
4. Expanded TaxiScrip and VCommute Options
5. Bus shelter/benches at high usage stops
6. Enhanced pedestrian crossing/RRFB at Jefferson Street and Rubicon Street
7. Enhanced pedestrian crossing at Jefferson Street and El Capitan Way
8. Enhanced pedestrian Crossing/RRFB on Trancas Street at Valle Verde Drive
9. Transit service from St. Helena to Angwin and St. Helena Hospital
10. Transit service from Calistoga to Santa Rosa Kaiser
11. Expanded evening hours on local transit

CBTP Steering Committee

The Steering Committee convened on February 27, 2019 to review the projects and criteria staff prepared. Projects were then ranked based on the criteria. The Steering Committee reviewed the projects and criteria ranking and was in agreement with staff's proposal on the five criterion and the ranking of projects. The next step is for staff to work with local jurisdictions to identify additional projects that can meet the needs identified by the COCs and to formulate the draft plan.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

Attachments: (1) Identified Programs
 (2) Identified Projects
 (3) Project Rankings
 (4) COCs Existing Conditions

Community Based Transportation Program (CBTP) Identified Needs

Identified Need	Potential Solutions
Improve pedestrian safety	High visibility crosswalks, RRFB at mid-block crosswalks, and add/repair sidewalks
Improve pedestrian access to schools and transit	Prioritizing sidewalk infrastructure around schools and transit, as identified in the countywide transportation plan and pedestrian plan
Improve transportation options to healthcare	Evaluating cost/benefit of either transit options, including a shuttle/vanpool, or TNC subsidies for Calistoga residents to access Kaiser Santa Rosa
Expand mobility options for low-income-, senior-, and disabled-residents	Evaluate and expand transportation accessibility options for seniors and disabled such as mileage reimbursement program, shared vehicle, etc. Conduct annual education programs for seniors and disabled
Increase local transit evening frequencies	Evaluation of increased service hours in City of Napa (Healthcare, Education, Supportive Services)
Increase transit amenities	Create a ridership-based priority list of high-use transit stops to then allocate funds adding amenities such as benches, shelters
Decrease transit fares for low-income individuals	Evaluating implementation of means based fares for low-income individuals who are not seniors/youth riders
Increase transit ADA access	Evaluate transit ADA access effectiveness: on smaller buses, at high handicap boarding stops, typical driver routines/accommodations

DRAFT Community Based Transportation Plan Project List

Revisions

Project Number	Mode Type	Proposal	Community Need Addressed	Description	Sponsor	Estimated costs	Benefit	Implementation Timeline	Status	Project Rank
1	Active Transportation/Biking	Bike facility from Jefferson Street to Soscol Avenue	Access to and encouraging active transportation, public health	Class II Bike lanes for east-west connection along Trancas Street from Jefferson Street to Soscol Avenue	City of Napa	\$350,000	Safety; Reduced Emissions; Improved Mobility; Improved Health Outcomes	Long-term	Identified	
2	Active Transportation/Walking	Enhanced pedestrian Crossing/RRFB on Trancas Street at Valle Verde Drive	Improved pedestrian experience	Traffic calming and pedestrian improvements along Trancas Street at Valle Verde Drive including RRFB, ADA curb ramps, concrete, signing and striping	City of Napa	\$75,000	Safety; Improved Mobility	Medium-term	Identified	
3	Active Transportation/Walking	Enhanced pedestrian crossing/RRFB at Jefferson Street and Rubicon Street	Traffic calming, improved pedestrian experience	Traffic calming and pedestrian improvements at Jefferson Street and Rubicon Street including RRFB, ADA curb ramps, concrete, drainage, signing and striping	City of Napa	\$125,000	Safety; Improved Mobility	Medium-term	Identified	
4	Active Transportation/Walking	Enhanced pedestrian crossing at Jefferson Street and El Capitan Way	Improved safety for vehicles and improved pedestrian experience	Traffic calming and pedestrian improvements at Jefferson Street and El Capitan Way,-including ADA curb ramps, concrete and median work, signing and striping	City of Napa	\$100,000	Safety; Improved Mobility; Improved school access	Medium-term	Identified	
5	Transit	Bus shelter/benches at high usage stops	Transit Amenities	Improved transit experience and rider amenities at bus stops, in accordance with adopted Bus Stop policy	NVTA	\$250,000	Safety; Reduced Emissions; Improved Mobility	Medium-term	Identified	
6*	Active Transportation/Walking	Hunt Ave Sidewalks/Pedestrian improvements	Improved safety and pedestrian experience	Pedestrian safety improvements along Hunt Ave	City of St. Helena		Safety; Improved Mobility	Medium-term	Underway	
7*	Active Transportation/Walking	Pope Avenue Sidewalks/Pedestrian and Lighting improvements	Improved safety and pedestrian experience	Pedestrian, safety, lighting improvements along Hunt Ave	City of St. Helena		Safety; Improved Mobility	Medium-term	Identified	
8	Transit	Expanded evening hours on local transit	Improved Transit Access		NVTA	\$200,000/annually	Reduced Emissions; Improved Mobility	Medium-term	Identified	
9	All Mode types	Expanded TaxiScrip and VCommute Options	Improved ease of use and need, implementation of TNC options		NVTA	\$25,000/annually	Reduced Emissions; Improved Mobility	Medium-term	Identified	
10	Transit	Transit service from St. Helena to Angwin and St. Helena Hospital	Access to medical care	Expanded trip coverage area for low-income, disabled seniors	NVTA; P3	\$80,000/annually	Safety; Reduced Emissions; Improved Mobility; Improved Health Outcomes	Long-term	Identified	
11	Transit	Transit service from Calistoga to Santa Rosa Kaiser	Access to medical care	Two round trip bus trips from Calistoga to Santa Rose on Weekdays	NVTA; P3	\$195,000/annually	Safety; Reduced Emissions; Improved Mobility; Improved Health Outcomes	Long-term	Identified	

* Previously one project; now separated into two projects

Short-term: 1-2 years
Medium-term: 3-5 years
Long-term: 6 or more years

DRAFT Community Based Transportation Plan Project Rankings

Revisions

Project Number	Proposal	Sponsor	Estimated costs	Benefit	Implementation Timeline	Status	Project Rank
1	Bike facility from-Jefferson Street to Soscol Avenue	City of Napa	\$350,000	Safety; Reduced Emissions; Improved Mobility; Improved Health Outcomes	Long-term	Identified	3
2	Enhanced pedestrian Crossing/RRFB on Trancas Street at Valle Verde Drive	City of Napa	\$75,000	Safety; Improved Mobility	Medium-term	Identified	8
3	Enhanced pedestrian crossing/RRFB at Jefferson Street and Rubicon Street	City of Napa	\$125,000	Safety; Improved Mobility	Medium-term	Identified	6
4	Enhanced pedestrian crossing at Jefferson Street and El Capitan Way	City of Napa	\$100,000	Safety; Improved Mobility; Improved school access	Medium-term	Identified	7
5	Bus shelter/benches at high usage stops	NVTA	\$250,000	Safety; Reduced Emissions; Improved Mobility	Medium-term	Identified	5
6*	Hunt Ave Sidewalks/Pedestrian improvements	City of St. Helena	TBD	Safety; Improved Mobility	Medium-term	Underway	1
7*	Pope Avenue Sidewalks/Pedestrian and Lighting improvements	City of St. Helena	TBD	Safety; Improved Mobility	Medium-term	Identified	2
8	Expanded evening hours on local transit	NVTA	\$200,000/annually	Reduced Emissions; Improved Mobility	Medium-term	Identified	11
9	Expanded TaxiScrip and VCommute Options	NVTA	\$25,000/annually	Reduced Emissions; Improved Mobility	Medium-term	Identified	3
10	Transit service from St. Helena to Angwin and St. Helena Hospital	NVTA; P3	\$80,000/annually	Safety; Reduced Emissions; Improved Mobility; Improved Health Outcomes	Long-term	Identified	9
11	Transit service from Calistoga to Santa Rosa Kaiser	NVTA; P3	\$195,000/annually	Safety; Reduced Emissions; Improved Mobility; Improved Health Outcomes	Long-term	Identified	10

* Previously one project; now separated into two projects

Short-term: 1-2 years
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Community Based Transportation Plan (CBTP) Existing Conditions in Napa County

MTC-determined Communities of Concern (COCs) by Census Tract

Eight Census Tract-level factors embody key characteristics of disadvantaged communities. Where/How to find these sensitive/disadvantaged communities? Geographies with higher concentrations of disadvantaged factors are what the Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) has dubbed a “Community of Concern” (COC). Technically, COCs are Bay Area (9-county region) Census Tracts above disadvantaged factor concentration thresholds for both minority and low-income households, or above concentration thresholds of three or more of the remaining six factors (#3 to #8) but only if they also have a concentration of low-income households.

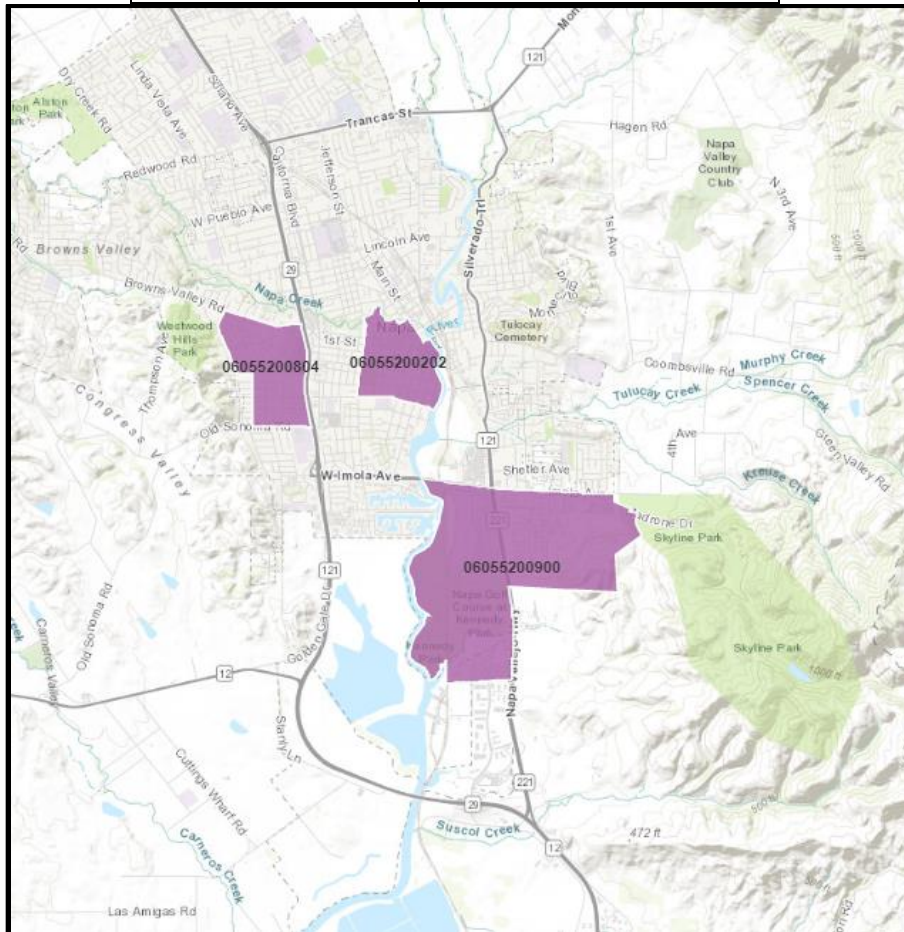
Communities of Concern Framework

Disadvantaged Factor	Percent Regional Population	Concentration Threshold
1. Minorities	58%	70%
2. Low-Income	25%	30%
3. Limited English Proficient	9%	20%
4. Zero-Vehicle Household	10%	10%
5. Seniors 75 Years and Over	6%	10%
6. People with Disability	9%	25%
7. Single-Parent Family	14%	20%
8. Severely-Rent Burdened	11%	15%

Source: MTC’s Communities of Concern Framework from GitHub

MTC City of Napa COCs

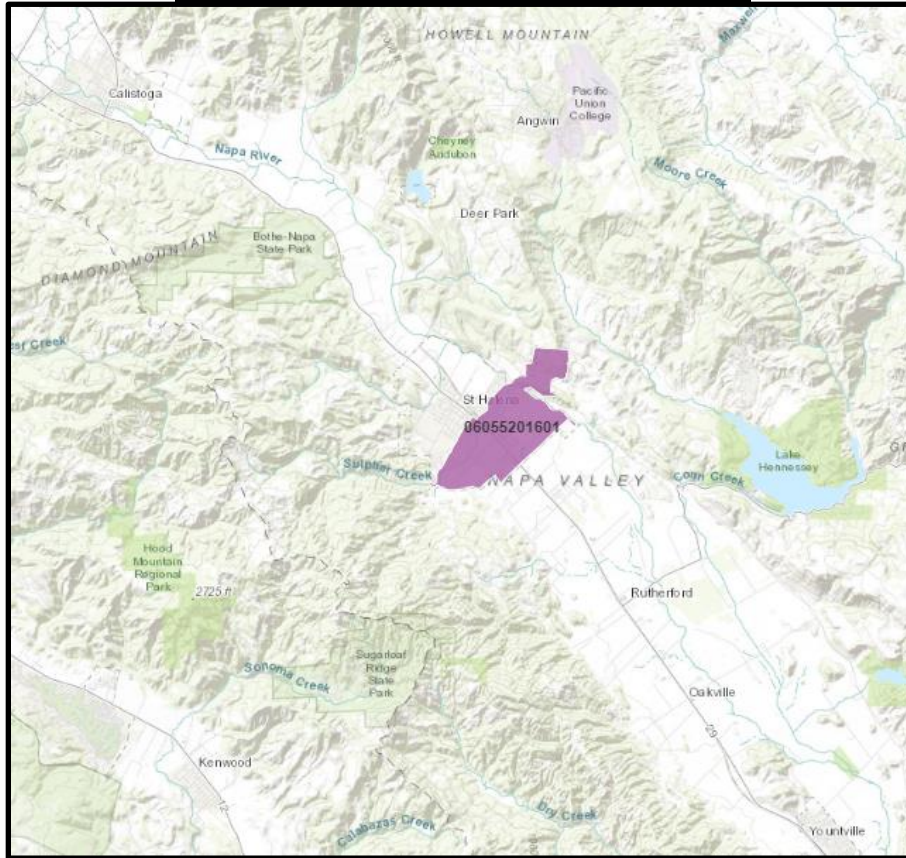
Census Tract	Neighborhood Name
1. 06055200202	South Downtown Napa
2. 06055200804	Westwood Neighborhood
3. 06055200900	East Imola



Source: MTC's Communities of Concern Tracts Plan Bay Area 2017

MTC St. Helena COC

Census Tract	Neighborhood Name
4. 06055201601	South St. Helena



Source: MTC's Communities of Concern Tracts Plan Bay Area 2017

NVTA-determined Communities of Concern by Census Tract

Unlike the MTC COC framework, COCs in Napa County are determined by different criteria. Identifying additional COCs in Napa County focuses on low-income, disabled, and senior populations. County averages act as thresholds, county thresholds do not have to be higher than the regional (MTC) thresholds, and county Census Tracts can meet one or more of the criteria to be included as a NVTA-determined COC. As a result, NVTA found four census tracts exhibiting above average rates for all three Napa County COC criteria: low-income, disabled, and seniors.

For the purposes of this 2018 CBTP effort, we will only be focusing on the (1) MTC-determined and the (2) NVTA-determined geographies as COCs, while acknowledging other county Census Tracts may be applicable but relatively less disadvantaged than other Tracts exhibit above average rates in all three criteria. This NVTA-lead COC analysis will later inform our 2020 Countywide Transportation Plan and Outreach activities.

Napa County COC Metric Averages

Geography	Senior resident percentage	Median HH Income	Disabled residents percentage
Napa County	7.67%	74,609	11.67%

Source: 2012-2016 ACS

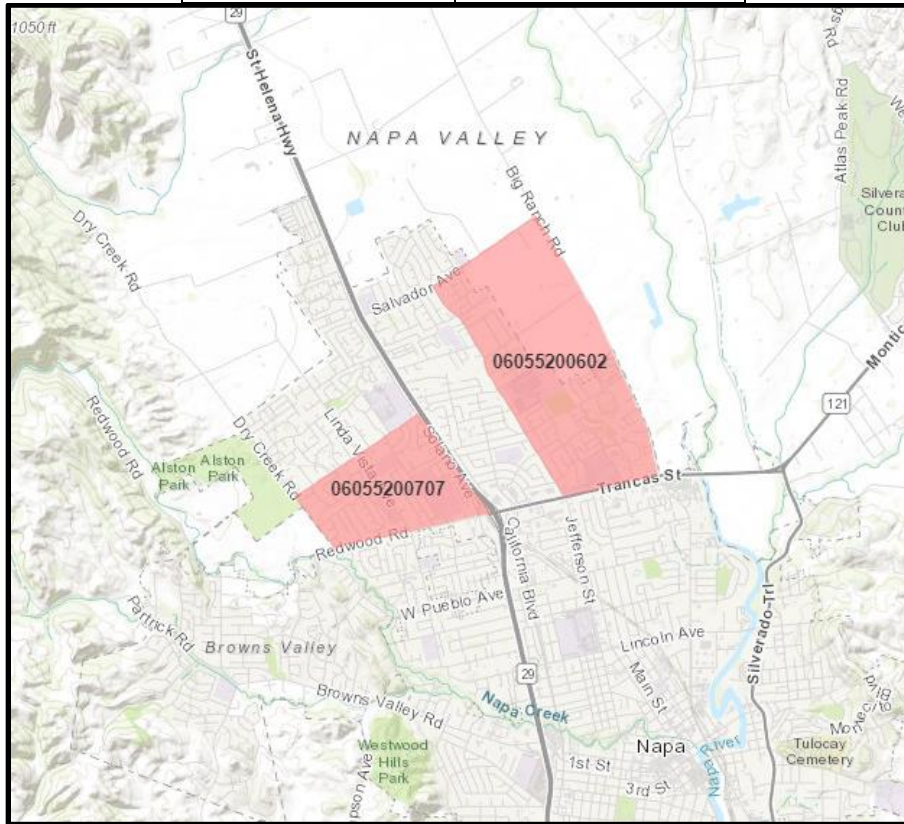
Census Tracts above average COC Metrics in Napa County

NVTA COC Census tract	COC Senior resident percentage	COC Median HH Income	COC Disabled residents percentage
5. 06055200602	9.70%	67,664	13.90%
6. 06055200707	11.50%	73,293	12.66%
7. 06055201200	13.80%	59,024	13.80%
8. 06055202000	9.30%	60,534	16.49%

Source: 2012-2016 ACS

NVTA City of Napa COCs

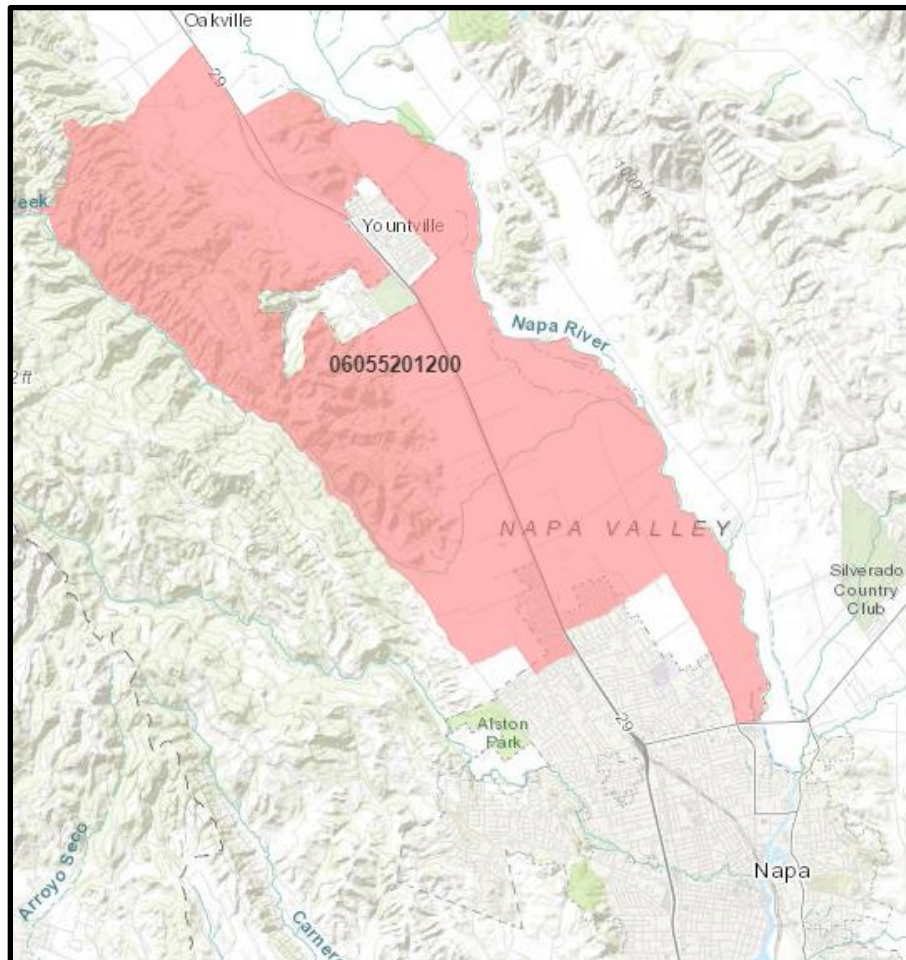
	Census Tract	Neighborhood Name
5.	06055200602	Northeast Napa
6.	06055200707	Northwest Napa



Source: NVTA's CBTP Communities of Concern Metrics 2018

NVTA Town of Yountville COC

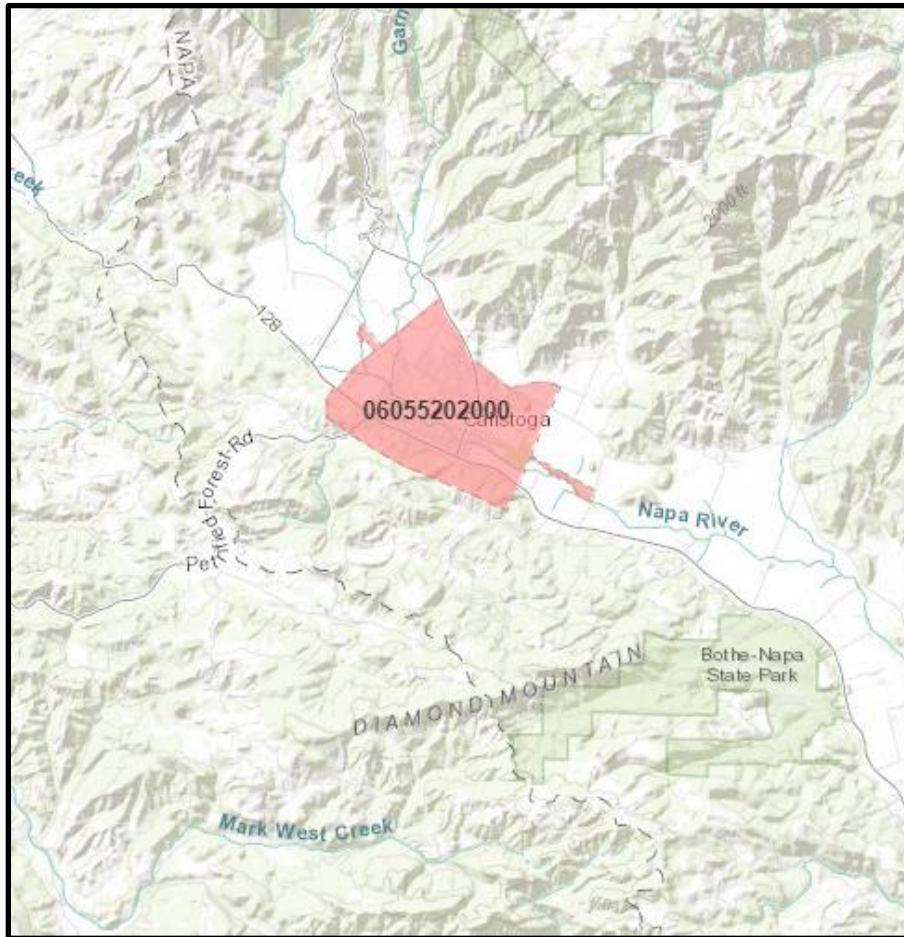
Census Tract	Neighborhood Name
7. 06055201200	Unincorporated area near Yountville



Source: NVTA's CBTP Communities of Concern Metrics 2018

NVTA City of Calistoga COC

Census Tract	Neighborhood Name
8. 06055202000	City of Calistoga



Source: NVTA's CBTP Communities of Concern Metrics 2018