

Scenario Planning for MAG's New RTP: FAQs



What is Scenario Planning?

Scenario planning is a decision-support tool that helps us plan for an uncertain and rapidly-changing future. It acts as an insurance policy, helping to identify transportation investments that are resilient under a range of reasonable, possible futures.

How will we develop our scenarios?

Scenarios will be developed and vetted using an iterative, interactive planning process. Scenario planning presents a unique opportunity to think strategically about the future of our region.

Which trends and technologies will be considered?

Although we can't predict the future, we can use current trends and what we know about emerging technologies to identify some of the most important risks and opportunities facing our region over the next 20+ years. We can also identify areas of uncertainty and attempt to mitigate risks associated with over-investing in any one area of the transportation system or over-reliance on a single funding source. Scenario planning allows us to stress test project and program portfolios against various future conditions and policy decisions.

How will we choose a Preferred Scenario?

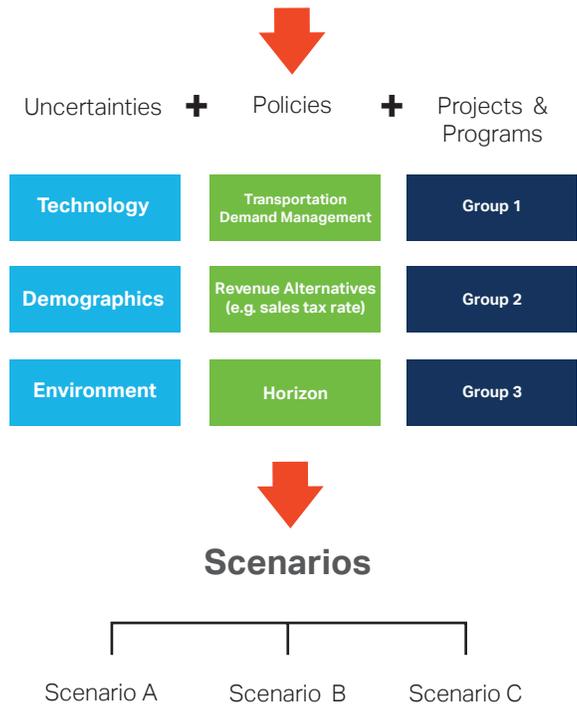
We probably won't! Choosing a single, preferred scenario implies that we think we can predict the future. Using a range of scenarios informs the development of a plan that can respond to change and uncertainty, and ultimately be more resilient.

How will Scenario Planning affect project selection?

Projects and investment packages (i.e., packages of projects and programs) will be evaluated to see how well they perform under a range of scenarios. This analysis will help our region identify tradeoffs associated with different types of investments and assess which investment packages move us closer to the vision, goals, and objectives for the region's transportation future.

Key Performance Indicators, or KPIs, will be used to determine how well each scenario performs against regional goals. KPIs allow us to compare the costs, benefits, and tradeoffs of the scenarios in a fair and consistent manner.

Example Inputs



Example: Scenario Performance

