
**TRANSPORTATION CONFORMITY WORKING GROUP
of the
SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS**

**August 27, 2013
Minutes**

THE FOLLOWING MINUTES ARE A SUMMARY OF THE MEETING OF THE TRANSPORTATION CONFORMITY WORKING GROUP. A DIGITAL RECORDING OF THE ACTUAL MEETING IS AVAILABLE FOR LISTENING IN SCAG'S OFFICE.

The Meeting of the Transportation Conformity Working Group was held at the SCAG office in Los Angeles.

In Attendance:

Abrishami, Lori	Metro
Castro, Fernando	Caltrans, District 7
Malloy, Pat	City of Commerce
Morris, Michael	FHWA
Hamilton, Alex	City of Commerce

SCAG

Asuncion, John
Au, Anita
Gutierrez, Pablo
Luo, Rongsheng
Mann, Betty
Nadler, Jonathan

Via Teleconference:

Cacatian, Ben	VCAPCD
Chris, John	Terra Nova
Crow, Jason	ARB
Devitas, Rodney	Caltrans Headquarters
Edmondson, Miya	Caltrans, District 12
Fagan, Paul	Caltrans, District 8
Gallo, Ilene	Caltrans, District 11
Garcia, Dan	SCAQMD
Sonnenberg, Stew	FWHA
Tax, Wienke	EPA, Region 9
Tisoupulos, Tara	OCTA
Yoon, Andrew	Caltrans, District 7

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1.0 CALL TO ORDER

Fernando Castro, Caltrans District 7, called the meeting to order at 10:05 am.

2.0 PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

There were no comments.

3.0 CONSENT CALENDAR

3.1 TCWG July 23, 2013 Meeting Minutes
The minutes were approved.

4.0 INFORMATION ITEMS

4.1 Review of PM Hot Spot Interagency Review Forms

1) LAE3085

SCAQMD staff raised questions regarding the information/data presented in the PM Hot Spot Analysis (e.g., internal inconsistencies in the estimated traffic projections, etc.). Discussion would continue via email after the meeting as necessary to address comments.

Ian MacMillan, SCAQMD, submitted to SCAG via email and regular mail after the meeting on September 19, 2013 a comment letter expressing concerns about the localized air quality impact from the project.

In response to SCAQMD's comment letter, City of Commerce, lead agency of the project, submitted to SCAG via email on September 23, 2013 a response letter addressing each of the four specific comments from SCAQMD.

Both SCAQMD's comment letter and City of Commerce's response letter were emailed to TCWG before September 24, 2013 TCWG meeting.

2) RIV 110130

It was determined that this is not a POAQC (EPA and Caltrans concurrence received via email before and after meeting respectively).

4.2 FTIP Update

John Asuncion, SCAG, reported the following:

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- SCAG staff anticipated Federal Approval of FTIP Amendment #13-11;
- All other FTIP amendments and administrative modifications had received necessary approvals;
- Next FTIP Amendment submittal was due to SCAG on September 3, 2013;
- Comments on Draft 2015 FTIP Guidelines were requested to be submitted to SCAG by September 6, 2013.
- 2015 FTIP Guidelines would be presented to SCAG's Transportation Committee as an information item on September 12, 2013 and subsequently on October 3, 2013 as an action item to recommend adoption by SCAG's Regional Council.

Mr. Asuncion also presented major changes to following chapters of Draft 2015 FTIP Guidelines:

- Chapter 1. Policy and Requirements: This chapter and all subsequent chapters reference MAP-21 and 2012-2035 RTP/SCS.
- Chapter 2. Schedules and Submittals: Updated schedule including key dates of FTIP submittals from CTC's, Draft FTIP release date for public review, SCAG Regional Council approval, State approval, and Federal approval.
- Chapter 5. Programming, TIP Database, and References: Added language on Interim CMAQ Guidance dated June 10, 2013; CMAQ PM 2.5 Requirement; Transit Toll Credit Section; and Performance Measures. Some of these sections do not have specifics yet and will be updated when the specifics are available. Also updated or added to description of federal funding sources based on MAP-21;
- Chapter VI. Amendments and Administrative Modification: only added language emphasizing that adding phases in an administrative modification cannot be done (except for adding ENG if ROW and CON are already programmed); and
- Chapter VII. Financial Plan: Updated sample financial plan spreadsheets as well as financial forecast tables based on 2012-2035 RTP/SCS with the exception of CMAQ and RSTP apportionments which came from Caltrans.

Rongsheng Luo, SCAG, presented major revisions and clarifications to remaining two chapters of Draft 2015 FTIP Guidelines related to transportation conformity:

- Chapter 3. Transportation Air Quality Conformity and Modeling: two revisions.
(1) Addition of two new ozone nonattainment areas, namely the Morongo and Pechanga ozone nonattainment areas; and

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(2) Change of required modeling years from one set of years covering whole SCAG region to different sets of years that are specific to each nonattainment or maintenance areas in SCAG region.

- Chapter 4. Transportation Control Measures: three clarifications.

(1) An existing TCM-type project in the current FTIP (but not yet committed) may be used as a proposed TCM replacement project in a TCM substitution request. In the past, only a new TCM-type project which is not in the FTIP may be used for TCM substitution purposes.

(2) Individual bicycle, pedestrian, bus/shuttle/paratransit vehicle purchase, and traffic signal synchronization/control system computerization projects are allowed to be replaced without formal substitution as long as the magnitude of the respective TCM category is equivalent or greater than that at the beginning of the FTIP cycle by county and the replacement project(s) will be completed in the same FTIP cycle.

(3) De minimis TCMs are not reported nor require replacement.

4.4 RTP Update

There are no new updates.

4.5 EPA Update

Wienke Tax, EPA Region 9, reported the following:

- No substantive comments were received on EPA's proposed approval of South Coast PM2.5 contingency measure SIP submittal (for 1997 PM2.5 NAAQS); EPA would be finalizing the approval soon.
- EPA's proposed rule for implementing 2008 8-hour ozone standard was open for comment until September 4th.
- On the project level quantitative PM hot spot analysis guidance, EPA staff had completed EMFAC2011 updates but was still working on revisions associated with changes to the PM2.5 monitoring guidance.
- EPA staff was also close to finalizing revised training and will follow up with SCAG and Caltrans District 7 about potential rooms and dates for the training.

4.6 ARB Update

There are no new ARB updates.

4.7 Air Districts Update

Ben Cacatian, VCAPCD, reported that the District was working with auto dealerships, electric vehicle charging companies, and other vendors to co-sponsor an electric vehicle event on Saturday, Sept. 28, at Collection Riverpark Plaza in Oxnard, in celebration of National Plug-in weekend.

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5.0 **INFORMATION SHARING**

Ben Cacatian, VCAPCD, announced that more information about the electric vehicle showcase event can be found at vcapcd.org and thecollectionrp.com.

6.0 **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 11:30 am.

The next Transportation Conformity Working Group meeting will be held on Tuesday September 24, 2013 at the SCAG office in downtown Los Angeles.