



TRANSPORTATION CONFORMITY WORKING GROUP

Meeting Minutes

October 22, 2024

10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

The meeting was held via Zoom, teleconference, and in person. A digital recording of the meeting is available upon request.

Attendee List

SCAG Staff:

Banuelos, Ryan
Barajas, Agustin
Calderon, Karen
Cheng, Hao
Sun, Lijin

Via Zoom and Teleconference:

Bade, Rabindra
Becha, Karishma
Berg, Brent
Caraig, Ricardo
Damiani, Brian
DePuy, Nicole
Dorantes, Michael
Espinosa Araiza, Erika
Guizado, Jillian
Hang, Ivy
Huddleston, Lori
Lee, David
Lods, Barbara
Mar, Sheldon
Marroquin, Nancy
McNeill, Brooke

Meneses, Mercedes
Morris, Michael
O'Connor, Karina
Schoenewald, Vanessa
Sutherland, Anders
Tavitas, Rodney
Wong, Alison

Caltrans District 12
Caltrans Headquarters (HQ)
Caltrans District 11
Caltrans District 12
Parsons
Parsons
U.S. EPA Region 9
Caltrans HQ
RCTC
OCTA
LA Metro
Caltrans District 8
Antelope Valley Air Quality Management District (AQMD)
Stantec
LA Metro
The Office of Senator Catherine Blakespear (California Senate District 38)
LA Metro
FHWA
U.S. EPA Region 9
SBCTA
TAHA
Caltrans HQ
Caltrans District 7



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MEETING SUMMARY

1. CALL TO ORDER AND SELF-INTRODUCTIONS

Vanessa Schoenewald, TCWG Chair, called the meeting to order at 10:02 a.m.

2. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

None.

3. CONSENT CALENDAR

3.1. September 24, 2024 TCWG Meeting Minutes

The meeting minutes were approved.

4. INFORMATION ITEMS

4.1. Review of PM Hot Spot Interagency Review Form

- **Attachment 4.1-1 RIV211201:** it was determined that this project is not a project of air quality concern.

Staff from the federal review agencies acknowledged project sponsor's efforts in bringing this project back for interagency consultation and providing a comprehensive overview of the project description at the meeting.

In response to a comment, Rodney Tavitias, Caltrans HQ, clarified that there was no requirement or guidance under the federal Clean Air Act to consider induced demand for project-level transportation conformity purposes. Project sponsor might evaluate potential impacts from induced demand during the environmental review process.

4.2. RTP Update

Agustin Barajas, SCAG, reported the following:

- Connect SoCal 2024 Amendment 1 and the associated transportation conformity analysis were expected to receive final federal approval in December 2024.

4.3. FTIP Update

Agustin Barajas, SCAG, reported the following:

- 2023 FTIP Amendment #23-36 was approved on October 8, 2024.
- 2023 FTIP Amendment #23-37 was undergoing a 10-day public review and comment period and would be submitted for approval in the coming weeks. This would be the final amendment to the 2023 FTIP.
- 2025 FTIP was submitted for final federal approval anticipated in December 2024.
- 2025 FTIP Amendment #25-01 was submitted with the 2025 FTIP document to be included in Caltrans' 2025 Federal Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (FSTIP). The 2025 FSTIP, which included SCAG's portions, was released for a 21-day public review and comment period that ended on October 31, 2024. The 2025 FTIP Amendment #25-01 was expected to receive federal approval after the final federal approval of the 2025 FTIP.
- SCAG staff was preparing 2025 FTIP Administrative Modification #25-02 to capture additional project updates that would occur during the period between the federal approval of the 2025 FTIP and the federal approval of the 2025 FTIP Amendment #25-01.

4.4. EPA Update

Karina O'Connor, EPA, reported the following:

- U.S. EPA staff was evaluating the court decision regarding the litigation involving the Mojave Desert Air Quality Management District (MDAQMD) and would provide updates on the status of offset and highway sanctions and the proposed Federal Implementation Plan in the MDAQMD's jurisdiction at a future TCWG meeting.



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4.5. CARB Update

Nesamani Kalandiyur, CARB, reported the following:

- EMFAC202Y model was under development. A public workshop would take place on October 23, 2024. TCWG was encouraged to participate and provide feedback.

4.6. Air Districts Updates

4.6.1. Ventura County APCD Update

No representative was present to provide updates.

4.6.2. South Coast AQMD Update

No representative was present to provide updates.

4.6.3. Mojave Desert AQMD Update

No representative was present to provide updates.

4.6.3.1. Status Update on the MDAQMD Lawsuit against EPA (Case No. 23-1411)

No representative was present to provide updates.

4.6.4. Antelope Valley AQMD Update

Barbara Lods, Antelope Valley AQMD, reported no updates.

4.6.4.1. Status Update on the AVAQMD Lawsuit against EPA (Case No. 23-1614)

Barbara Lods, Antelope Valley AQMD, reported no updates.

4.6.5. Imperial County APCD Update

No representative was present to provide updates.

5. INFORMATION SHARING

The Chair reminded the TCWG that, due to the holidays and similar to previous years, the November and December TCWG meetings would be combined into one meeting to be held on December 3, 2024.

Rodney Tavitas, Caltrans HQ, stated that a project subject to 23 U.S. Code Section 327 that had received TCWG concurrence under a previously conforming RTP/SCS as not a project of air quality concern would need interagency consultation for TCWG to determine if a new TCWG concurrence under a currently conforming SCAG's RTP/SCS would be necessary given the availability of the most recent planning assumptions in force with the currently conforming RTP/SCS (e.g., 2024 RTP/SCS or Connect SoCal 2024).

6. ADJOURNMENT

The next TCWG meeting would be held on Tuesday, December 3, 2024 in a hybrid format with virtual and in-person options. Please submit PM Hot Spot Analysis Interagency Review Forms for the next meeting to Lijin Sun, sunl@scag.ca.gov, by Tuesday, November 19, 2024.