



TRANSPORTATION CONFORMITY WORKING GROUP

Meeting Minutes

March 26, 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 for listening in SCAG's office.

Attendee List

SCAG Staff:

Calderon, Karen
Gutierrez, Pablo
Luo, Rongsheng
Sangkapichai, Mana
Sun, Lijin

Via Zoom and Teleconference:

Bade, Rabindra
Becha, Karishma
Berge, Brent
Dorantes, Michael
Emery, Edward
Galbreath, Holly
Gatza, Justin

Hendrawan, Kevin
Huddleston, Lori
Kalandiyur, Nesamani
Lay, Keith
Lee, Sang-Mi
Lee, David
Lugaro, Julie
Morris, Michael
Miranda, Jude
Nord, Greg
Samuelson, Marya

Sutherland, Anders
Tavitas, Rodney
Vaca, Erika
Vermeulen, Diane
Vidaure, Louis
Wong, Alison
Yoon, Andrew

Caltrans District 12
Caltrans Headquarters
Caltrans District 11
U.S. EPA
RCTC
Ventura County APCD
Kimley-Horn for StreetsLA,
Mission Mile Sepulveda project
CARB
LA Metro Long Range Planning
CARB
ICF
South Coast AQMD
Caltrans District 8
Caltrans District 12
FHWA
Caltrans District 7
OCTA
GPA Consulting for StreetsLA,
Mission Mile Sepulveda project
Terry A. Hayes Associates, Inc.
Caltrans Headquarters
Caltrans Headquarters
Caltrans District 11
SBCTA
Caltrans District 7
Caltrans District 7



TRANSPORTATION CONFORMITY WORKING GROUP

MEETING SUMMARY

1. CALL TO ORDER AND SELF-INTRODUCTIONS

Rabindra Bade, TCWG Chair, called the meeting to order at 10:02 a.m.

2. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

None.

3. CONSENT CALENDAR

3.1. January 23, 2024 TCWG Meeting Minutes

The meeting minutes were approved.

4. INFORMATION ITEMS

4.1. Review of PM Hot Spot Interagency Review Forms

- LAMP21MPO104: it was determined that this project is not a project of air quality concern.

In response to a question from Andrew Yoon, Caltrans District 7, the PM hot spot interagency form for LAMP21MPO104 was updated and posted on SCAG's website.

- LA0G1714, LA0G1714 Tracked, LA0G1714 Design: it was reaffirmed that this project is not a project of air quality concern.

4.2. RTP Update

Pablo Gutierrez, SCAG, reported the following:

- SCAG staff would present the proposed final Connect SoCal 2024 (Plan) and the 2023 FTIP Consistency Amendment #23-26 to SCAG Regional Council for adoption at its meeting on April 4, 2024 and subsequently submit to federal reviewing agencies for final review and approval upon Regional Council adoption.
- The 2023 FTIP Consistency Amendment #23-26 would be submitted to the California Transportation Improvement Program System (CTIPS) database.

4.3. FTIP Update

Pablo Gutierrez, SCAG, reported the following:

- SCAG staff was analyzing projects for the 2023 FTIP Amendment #23-27, which would be posted for a 10-day public review and comment period in coming weeks.
- SCAG staff was receiving projects information from County Transportation Commissions (CTCs) for the 2023 FTIP Administrative Modifications #23-25, which would be submitted to the CTIPS database in coming weeks.
- SCAG staff continued to analyze 2025 FTIP project submittals from the CTCs and anticipated to release the draft 2025 FTIP for public review in July 2024. SCAG Regional Council would consider the 2025 FTIP, including the transportation conformity analysis for approval anticipated in Fall 2024 and federal approval by December 2024.

4.3.1 Status Update on Transportation Conformity Analysis for the Proposed Final Connect SoCal 2024

Lijin Sun, SCAG, reported the following:

- SCAG three policy committees jointly recommended Regional Council adoption of the proposed final transportation conformity determination as part of its recommendation on the proposed final Connect SoCal 2024 on March 7, 2024.
- The proposed final Plan document, including the proposed final transportation conformity analysis technical report, would be released as part of the April 2024 Regional Council meeting packet on March 28, 2024.
- SCAG staff's responses to public and agency comments on the draft Plan, including those on the draft



TRANSPORTATION CONFORMITY WORKING GROUP

transportation conformity analysis technical report would be included in the Public Participation and Consultation Technical Report.

- SCAG Regional Council would consider adoption of the final Plan, including the final transportation conformity determination at its meeting on April 4, 2024.
- As a follow up to the discussion on transportation modeling at the February 2024 TCWG meeting, it was mentioned that technical and modeling details would be presented at the next SCAG Modeling Task Force meeting, which would take place on March 27, 2024, at 10 a.m. For more information, please visit SCAG website at: <https://scag.ca.gov/modeling-task-force>.

4.4. EPA Update

Michael Dorantes, EPA, reported the following:

- On March 6, 2024, EPA published in the Federal Register the finalized 2024 fine particulate matter (PM_{2.5}) national ambient air quality standards (NAAQS) by lowering the level of the primary (health-based) annual PM_{2.5} standard to 9.0 micrograms per cubic meter (µg/m³) from 12.0 µg/m³.
- Area designations process under the new standard was promulgated within two years from the promulgation date of the new NAAQS (Clean Air Act Section 107(d)(1)(B)(i)), which was February 7, 2024. Implications from the new standard on transportation conformity would begin after the area designations were completed and became effective.

In response to a question, Michael Dorantes, EPA, stated that transportation projects that had not received final PM hot spot determinations after EPA finalized area designation process and past the grace period would likely need to return back to the respective interagency consultation process to seek project-level conformity determination.

4.4.1. Status Update on the SCAQMD Lawsuit against EPA (Case No. 2:23-cv-02646)

Michael Dorantes, EPA, reported the following:

- EPA entered into and filed a joint motion for the consent decree on March 18, 2024 after the close of the public comment period for the proposed consent decree.

Lijin Sun, SCAG, stated that EPA published the proposed disapproval of South Coast AQMD's 2019 Contingency Measure Plan for a 30-day public comment period. SCAG and six CTCs in the region requested additional time to respond to EPA proposed disapproval. Subsequently, EPA extended the comment period by additional 30 days, with a new comment deadline ending on April 3, 2024. SCAG staff appreciated the extension.

In response to a question, Michael Dorantes, EPA, would check and report back on whether the July 1, 2024 deadline for EPA final action in the published proposed consent decree had been extended that corresponded to the comment period extension and that whether the joint motion filed on March 18th would be published again in Federal Register.

4.5. ARB Update

Nesamani Kalandiyur, CARB, reported the following:

- CARB staff was developing the next version of the EMFAC model, also known as EMFAC202Y. An alpha version for model testing purposes would be released in summer 2024. The final version would be released in spring 2025.
- CARB staff was working with South Coast AQMD staff to develop draft motor vehicle emission budgets (MVEBs) for the Coachella Valley Extreme nonattainment area 75 ppb ozone SIP and would present them to TCWG for interagency consultation at future meeting.



TRANSPORTATION CONFORMITY WORKING GROUP

4.6. Air Districts Updates

4.6.1. Status Update on EPA Final Limited Disapproval of Reasonable Available Control Technology Demonstrations for Sources Covered by the EPA's 2016 Oil and Gas Control Techniques Guidelines for VCAPCD

Holly Galbreath, VCAPCD, reported the following:

- The revised Rule 71.1 package was submitted by CARB to EPA on January 10, 2024.

4.6.2. Status Update on EPA Proposed Limited Disapproval of SCAQMD Rules 1106, 1106.1, and 1107; Final Limited Disapproval of SCAQMD Rule 1118; Final Limited Disapproval of Reasonable Available Control Technology Demonstrations for Sources Covered by the EPA's 2016 Oil and Gas Control Techniques Guidelines for SCAQMD; Failure to Submit Contingency Measures for the 2008 8-Hour Ozone NAAQS for Coachella Valley Ozone Nonattainment Area; Failure to Submit the Required 2012 Annual Fine Particulate Matter State Implementation Plan Elements for the South Coast Air Basin; Failure to Submit State Implementation Plan Submissions for the 2012 Annual Fine Particulate Matter in the South Coast Air Basin; EPA Proposed Disapproval of the Contingency Measure Plan for the 1997 8-hour Ozone NAAQS in the South Coast Air Basin

Sang-Mi Lee, SCAQMD, reported the following:

- EPA proposed approval and interim final determination to defer sanctions previously triggered by EPA final limited disapproval of SCAQMD Rule 1118.
- SCAQMD Rule 463 was being amended to include continuous control measures for Coachella Valley. A public workshop would take place on March 27, 2024 before SCAQMD Governing Board adoption on June 7.
- The Coachella Valley Contingency Measures SIP for the 2008 8-hour ozone NAAQS was adopted by SCAQMD Governing Board on March 1, 2024 and was subsequently submitted to CARB on March 20 for EPA submittal.
- The draft 2012 PM2.5 SIP was released for a 45-day public review and comment period on March 22, 2024. SCAQMD Governing Board adoption was anticipated on June 7.

4.6.3. Status Update on EPA Final Limited Disapproval of MDAQMD Rule 1160; Final Disapproval of MDAQMD Rule 315; Failure to Submit Contingency Measures for the 2008 8-Hour Ozone NAAQS for San Bernardino County Portion of West Mojave Desert Ozone Nonattainment Area; Final Limited Disapproval of MDAQMD Rules 1301, 1302, 1303, 1304, and 1305; Final Limited Disapproval of MDAQMD Rule 1157; and Proposed Limited Disapproval of MDAQMD Rule 401

No representative was present to provide an update.

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

- No representative was present to provide an update.

4.6.4. Status Update on EPA Final Disapproval of AVAQMD Rule 315; Failure to Submit Contingency Measures for the 2008 8-Hour Ozone NAAQS for Antelope Valley Portion of West Mojave Desert Ozone Nonattainment Area; and Final Limited Disapproval of AVAQMD Rules 1301, 1302, 1303, 1304, 1305, and 1309

No representative was present to provide an update.

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

- No representative was present to provide an update.



TRANSPORTATION CONFORMITY WORKING GROUP

5. INFORMATION SHARING

None.

6. ADJOURNMENT

The next TCWG meeting would be held on Tuesday, April 23, 2024 in-person, via Zoom, and by teleconference. Please submit PM Hot Spot Analysis Interagency Review Forms for the next meeting to Lijin Sun, sunl@scag.ca.gov, by Tuesday, April 9, 2024.