



**METROPOLITAN
TRANSPORTATION
COMMISSION**

Bay Area Metro Center
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Air Quality Conformity Task Force

Metropolitan Transportation Commission
Bay Area Metro Center

Mount Hamilton Conference Room

375 Beale Street, Suite 800

(Note: Visitors must check in with the receptionist on the 7th floor)
San Francisco, CA

Conference Call Number: Dial - **(415) 655-0002** (Access Code: **926 399 176**)

Participant ID is # **button**.

Thursday, May 24, 2018

9:30 a.m. –11:00 a.m.

AGENDA

1. Welcome and Introductions
2. PM_{2.5} Project Conformity Interagency Consultations
 - a. Confirm Projects Are Exempt from PM_{2.5} Conformity
 - i. Projects Exempt Under 40 CFR 93.126 – Not of Air Quality Concern
3. Consent Calendar
 - a. April 26, 2018 Air Quality Conformity Task Force Meeting Summary
4. Other Items – Updates
 - a. Conformity Analysis for the 2019 Transportation Improvement Program and the Amended Plan Bay Area
 - b. South Coast Court Ruling - Vacates 1997 Revocation
 - c. MTC/SACOG Air Quality Planning/Conformity MOU

Next Meeting: June 28, 2018

MTC Staff Liaison: Harold Brazil hbrazil@mtc.ca.gov



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Memorandum

TO: Air Quality Conformity Task Force

DATE: May 15, 2018

FR: Harold Brazil

W. I.

RE: PM_{2.5} Project Conformity Interagency Consultation

MTC requests the review and concurrence from the Task Force on projects that project sponsors have identified as exempt and likely not to be a POAQC. **2b_Exempt List 051118.pdf** lists these exempt projects.

40 CFR 93.126 Exempt Projects List

| County | TIP ID | Sponsor | Project Name | Project Description | Expanded Description | Project Type under 40 CFR 93.126 |
|--------|-----------|---------|---|--|--|---|
| ALA | ALA170087 | ACTC | Freight Intelligent Transportation System (FITS) | Oakland: In the Port of Oakland and surrounding areas: Implement ITS improvements, signal systems, and other technologies to cost-effectively manage truck arrivals and improve incident response | Oakland: In the Port of Oakland's seaport area, along W. Grand Avenue, Maritime Street, 7th Street, Adeline Street and Middle Harbor Roads in the vicinity of the Port: Implement ITS improvements including traffic management, incident management, traveler information, signal systems, and other technologies to cost-effectively manage truck arrivals and improve incident response. Other Federal funds are \$1.8M in FEMA Port Security Grant Program funds and \$9.7M in FHWA Advanced Transportation and Congestion Management Technologies Deployment (ATCMTD) funds | Safety - Traffic control devices and operating assistance other than signal projects |
| ALA | ALA170091 | LAVTA | Livermore Transit Center Rehab and Improvement | LAVTA: Downtown Livermore Transit Center: Rehabilitate and improve the center by replacing or rehabilitating assets past their useful life including failed pavement, area security lighting, passenger amenities, and information and wayfinding signage. | LAVTA: Downtown Livermore Transit Center: Rehabilitate and improve the 20-year-old center by replacing or rehabilitating assets past their useful life including failed pavement, area security lighting, passenger amenities, and information and wayfinding signage. | Mass Transit - Reconstruction or renovation of transit buildings and structures (e.g. rail or bus buildings, storage and maintenance facilities, stations, terminals, and ancillary structures) |
| SF | SF-170023 | SFMTA | SF Safe Routes to School Non-Infrastructure Project | San Francisco: Citywide: Coordinate school transportation services, including planning, operations, education, outreach and capital improvement activities. It will improve the safety of students who walk and bike to school. | San Francisco: Citywide: Coordinate across all City's school transportation services, including planning, operations, education, outreach and capital improvement activities. It will improve the safety of students who walk and bike to school. | Safety - Safety improvement program |

**Air Quality Conformity Task Force
Summary Meeting Notes
April 26, 2018**

Participants:

Rodney Tavitas – Caltrans
Lucas Sanchez – Caltrans
Ginger Vagenas – EPA
Andrea Gordon – BAAQMD
Victoria Cacciatore – SACOG

Dominique Kraft – FTA
Dave Vautin – MTC
Adam Crenshaw – MTC
Harold Brazil – MTC

- 1. Welcome and Self Introductions:** Harold Brazil (MTC) called the meeting to order at 9:38 am.
- 2. MTC/SACOG Air Quality Planning/Conformity MOU**

Harold Brazil (MTC) informed the group that legal staff at MTC had reviewed the draft revision of the MTC/SACOG Air Quality Planning/Conformity MOU. MTC legal staff provided two minor wording edits:

1. On page 2 of the attached pdf: “As result of these boundary requirements, a portion of Solano County is in the Sacramento air basin, which is governed by the Sacramento Area Council of Governments (SACOG). ***The entirety of*** Solano County, however, remains part of the MTC region and MTC has responsibility for the planning and programming process in the County.”

And –

2. On page 5 of the attached pdf: “Project-level conformity determinations in the Overlap Area will be made by MTC’s interagency consultation body, the Air Quality Conformity Task Force, and MTC will ***inform*** the SACOG interagency consultation body, the Regional Planning Partnership (RPP) of any such determinations.”

Mr. Brazil received no comments on the wording edits and as per Ginger Vagenas’ (EPA) suggestion, Mr. Brazil sent the revised version to the MOU to all members of the Task Force.

3. 2020 and 2022 Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) Performance Targets – Potential Options

Dave Vautin (MTC) informed the Task Force of the new federal performance requirements mandate that metropolitan planning organizations (MPOs) such as MTC set short-range transportation performance targets on issues ranging from roadway safety and infrastructure condition to traffic congestion and environmental benefits. Mr. Vautin went onto mention that MTC staff currently seeking feedback from regional stakeholders, including those participating in the Regional Advisory Working Group (RAWG), on the targets related to the Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) program.

Mr. Vautin provided some background on the requirements by mentioning that the federal transportation legislation, Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century Act (MAP-21), transformed the policy and programmatic framework for surface transportation investments by establishing new requirements for performance management to ensure the most efficient investment of Federal transportation funds. Mr. Vautin also mentioned that through MAP-21 and the Fixing America's Surface Transportation (FAST) Act, the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and Federal Transit Administration (FTA) have established a Transportation Performance Management program to provide a framework to support improved investment decision-making by focusing on national transportation goals, increasing the accountability and transparency of the Federal highway programs, and establishing performance-based planning and programming.

Mr. Vautin went on to say that for this first round of target-setting, Caltrans and MTC are responsible for setting targets categorized as related to the Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) program for year 2020 and year 2022 (both two- and four-year targets); these targets relate to the Congestion Reduction and Environmental Sustainability goals. While MPO targets for CMAQ are not required to be finalized until November (2018), Mr. Vautin informed the Task Force that Caltrans has a late May 2018 deadline from FHWA to identify these targets. After that point, MTC will not have any flexibility to modify urbanized area targets.

4. PM_{2.5} Project Conformity Interagency Consultations

a. Confirm Projects Are Exempt from PM_{2.5} Conformity

i. Projects Exempt Under 40 CFR 93.126 – Not of Air Quality Concern

Final Determination: With input from FTA, EPA, Caltrans and FHWA, the Task Force agreed the projects on the exempt list (**2b_Exempt List 041318.pdf**) was exempt from PM_{2.5} project level analysis.

5. Approach to the Conformity Analysis for the 2019 Transportation Improvement Program and the Amended Plan Bay Area

Harold Brazil (MTC) notified the Task Force that MTC staff is developing the draft 2019 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) conformity analysis which will also re-conform the recently Amended Plan Bay Area 2040 (PBA2040) and seeks the Air Quality Conformity Task Force's review of the proposed approach to adhere to federal conformity regulations. Mr. Brazil also mentioned that MTC is scheduled to release the Draft Transportation Air Quality Conformity Analysis for the 2019 TIP and Amended PBA2040 on Monday, June 18, 2018. Mr. Brazil asked Adam Crenshaw (MTC) to provide a summary of the project types included in the draft 2019 TIP and Mr. Crenshaw indicated that most of the major projects included in this conformity analysis have been reviewed previously via monthly regional conformity item reports at past Task Force meetings – and there have been few actual brand new projects in the 2019 TIP. The Task Force members had no questions or comments on this agenda item.

6. Projects with Regional Air Quality Conformity Concerns

a. Review of the Regional Conformity Status for New and Revised Projects

Projects Staff are Proposing to Include or Revise in the 2017 TIP

Adam Crenshaw (MTC) stated that MTC staff had received requests from sponsors to add two new individually listed project and 11 new grouped listed projects to the 2017 TIP. Attachment A includes a list of the projects along with the regional air quality category that staff believes best describes the projects.

Ginger Vagenas (EPA) asked using the “grants for training and research programs” 40 CFR 93.126 code for the REG170027 Targeted Transportation Alternatives and REG170028 Regional Car Sharing projects was used because they gave the best fit and Mr. Crenshaw indicated yes because the projects dealing with policy templates and vehicle sharing program marketing. Andrea Gordon (BAAQMD) asked if the REG170027 and REG170028 projects were continuations of the regional rideshare program and Mr. Crenshaw indicated that these projects were separate from the regional rideshare program and these projects were new efforts.

The Task Force members had no comments on this agenda item and concurred with Mr. Crenshaw’s recommendations.

7. South Coast Court Ruling - Vacates 1997 Revocation – (Info/Update)

Harold Brazil (MTC) discussed the recently released interim conformity guidance from FHWA and FTA on the South Coast court ruling and mentioned the Bay Area nonattainment area was not impacted by the ruling in the same way other MPOs are (example being the MPO in the Atlanta nonattainment area). Dominique Kraft (FTA) added that FTA is waiting for their formal guidance document which will be shared externally, but in the meantime, current regional conformity TIP and plan processes will be going forward. Ms. Kraft also commented that FTA and FHWA have been working together on this issue and Ken Born at FHWA concurs with FTA on the interim guidance. Ginger Vagenas (EPA) said EPA will be producing their own guidance on the court ruling and will notify the group when the guidance becomes available. Rodney Tavitas (Caltrans) said the areas in California mostly effected by the ruling and interim FHWA/FTA guidance are isolated rural areas which have separate planning requirements.

8. Consent Calendar

a. April 26, 2018 Air Quality Conformity Task Force Meeting Summary

With input from all members, the Task Force concluded that the consent calendar was approved.