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

**March 24, 2015
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:

| | |
|-----------------|----------------------|
| Jaffery, Edison | Caltrans, District 8 |
| Louka, Tony | Caltrans, District 8 |
| Chandan, Meenu | Caltrans, District 8 |
| Sherwood, Arnie | UC Berkeley |

SCAG

Asuncion, John
Barajas, Agustin
Luo, Rongsheng
Tran, Daniel
Young, Stephanie
Zhou, Yanlin

Via Teleconference:

| | |
|------------------|----------------------|
| Cacatian, Ben | VCAPCD |
| Castro, Fernando | Caltrans, District 7 |
| Craig, Kenneth | Sonoma Technology |
| Chu, Philip | SANBAG |
| DeHate, Eric | RCTC |
| Lay, Keith | LSA Associates |
| Philips, Heather | ARB |
| Sheehy, Erin | OCTA |
| Tax, Wienke | EPA |
| Vaughn, Joseph | FHWA |
| Wade, Dennis | ARB |
| Yoon, Andrew | Caltrans, District 7 |

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1.0 CALL TO ORDER AND SELF-INTRODUCTION

Tony Louka, TCWG Chair, called the meeting to order at 10:05 am.

Rongsheng Luo, SCAG, announced and welcomed new SCAG intern Yanlin Zhou on board to support TCWG.

John Asuncion, SCAG, announced and welcomed two new SCAG FTIP staff Stephanie Young and Agustin Barajas.

2.0 PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

There were no public comments.

3.0 CONSENT CALENDAR

3.1 TCWG January 27, 2015 Meeting Minutes

The meeting minutes were deferred to the next meeting.

3.2 TCWG February 24, 2015 Meeting Minutes

The meeting minutes were approved.

4.0 INFORMATION ITEMS

4.1 Review of PM Hot Spot Interagency Review Forms

1) RIV080904

It was determined that this is not a POAQC.

(Caltrans Headquarters concurrence was received after the meeting).

4.2 FTIP Update

John Asuncion, SCAG, reported the following:

- 2015 FTIP Amendments #15-01, #15-02, #15-03 and #15-05 have received all approvals.
- 2015 FTIP Amendment #15-04 has received state approval and is expected to receive federal approval in early April after effective revocation of 1997 federal Ozone standards.
- 2015 FTIP Administrative #15-06 is under SCAG review and anticipated to be released for public review in early April.

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Rongsheng Luo, SCAG, clarified that both regional and project-level conformity analyses can be submitted to FHWA for review but cannot receive federal approval until revocation of 1997 federal Ozone standards becomes effective on April 6, 2015.

4.3 RTP Update

Daniel Tran, SCAG, reported the following:

- SCAG staff is coding transportation networks as input to scenario planning model and expects coding to be completed in March.
- Initial scenario planning results will be present to SCAG's General Assembly which will be held on May 7 and May 8.
- SCAG released Notice of Preparation (NOP) for Program Environmental Impact Report (PEIR) for 2016-2040 RTP/SCS on March 9, 2015; two scoping meetings were held on March 17 and March 18 respectively; and comments on the NOP should be submitted to SCAG by April 7, 2015.

4.4 SANBAG TCM Substitution Update

Rongsheng Luo, SCAG, reported the following:

- SANBAG TCM Substitution was presented to TCWG in January 2015.
- The TCM substitution was subsequently released for a 15-day public review which concluded on March 13; No comments were received.
- The TCM substitution is scheduled to be presented to SCAG Energy and Environment Committee for approval and then to SCAG Region Council for adoption on the same day on April 2, 2015.
- If the TCM substitution will be adopted by SCAG Regional Council as expected, it will be forwarded to ARB and EPA for their respective concurrence.
- Upon EPA and ARB concurrences, TCM designation of two original TCM projects will be rescinded and the new regional vanpool program TCM will become effective.
- Finally, FTIP will reflect the TCM substitution through an FTIP amendment.

In response to a question, Rongsheng Luo, SCAG, stated that ARB and EPA concurrences are expected in June 2015.

4.5 EPA Update

Wienke Tax, EPA Region 9, reported the following:

- EPA Administrator has signed a final rule to designate Pechanga Reservation as a separate air quality planning area for 1997 8-hour Ozone standard; and also to redesignate the area from nonattainment to attainment.

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- Final area designations for 2012 PM2.5 standards will become effective April 15, 2015; As a result, conformity determination for the new PM2.5 standards is required by April 15, 2016.
- EPA received a notice of intent to sue EPA to act on 2012 South Coast PM2.5 SIP for addressing 2006 PM2.5 standards; South Coast Air Quality Management District recently adopted a Supplement to the PM2.5 SIP; and EPA is waiting for the Supplement before taking a proposed action on the Plan.
- EPA published proposed SIP implementation requirements rule for 2012 PM2.5 standards on March 23, 2015 and there will be a 60-day public comment period.

4.6 ARB Update

Dennis Wade, ARB, reported that EMFAC2014 is still anticipated to be submitted to EPA soon.

4.7 Air Districts Update

Ben Cacatian, VCAPCD, reported the following:

- A request was submitted last week to remove District's Transportation Conformity Rule 221 from California SIP as part of effort to address backlog of SIPs at EPA.
- Rule 221 was adopted locally and will continue to be enforced locally until revision is made and resubmitted to EPA to meet transportation conformity SIP requirements.

Jillian Wong, SCAQMD, reported the following:

- SCAQMD also intends to withdraw its Transportation Conformity Rule.
- 2016 South Coast AQMP Advisory Group last met on March 19, 2015 and was provided with an update on development of 2016 South Coast AQMP.
- A control strategy symposium is scheduled to be held in May 2015.
- SCAQMD has submitted comments to EPA on proposed 2015 8-hour Ozone standards.
- 2012 base year emission inventory has been updated with EMFAC2014.

In response to a question, Wienke Tax, EPA Region 9, confirmed that EPA received the Supplement to 2012 South Coast PM2.5 SIP on March 4, 2015.

5.0 INFORMATION SHARING

Rongsheng Luo, SCAG, announced that his manager Jonathan Nadler will leave SCAG on March 27, 2015. Mr. Luo expressed gratitude to Mr. Nadler for his past strong support as Department Manager and also as a great mentor, and wished him the best of luck in his

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future endeavor. Tony Louka, Caltrans District 8, also acknowledged Mr. Nadler for his very helpful assistance in many areas over the last many years.

Mr. Louka announced that Caltrans District 8 Director will be retired at the end of this month and join Parsons Brinckerhoff.

6.0 ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 10:45 am.

The next Transportation Conformity Working Group meeting will be held on Tuesday, April 28, 2015 at the SCAG office in downtown Los Angeles.