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

**April 23, 2019
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:

Huddleston, Lori

Metro

SCAG:

Asuncion, John

Lo, Nancy

Louie, Matthew

Luo, Rongsheng

Via Teleconference:

Bade, Rabindra

Caltrans, District 12

Brugger, Ron

LSA

Cacatian, Ben

VCAPCD

Hatcher, Shannon

ARB

Ho, Billy

Caltrans, District 11

Kalandiyur, Nesamani

ARB

Lugaro, Julie

Caltrans, District 12

Miranda, Jude

Caltrans, District 12

Mortenson, Marilee

Caltrans Headquarters

Nord, Greg

OCTA

O'Connor, Karina

EPA Region 9

Rosenblum, Jason

IBI Group

Sanchez, Lucas

Caltrans Headquarters

Silverman, Sam

Terry A. Hayes Associates

Sun, Lijin

SCAQMD

Tavitas, Rodney

Caltrans Headquarters

Tax, Wienke

EPA Region 9

Vaughn, Joseph

FHWA

Yoon, Andrew

Caltrans District 7

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1.0 CALL TO ORDER AND SELF-INTRODUCTION

Rongsheng Luo, SCAG, called the meeting to order at 10:05 am on behalf of TCWG Chair, James Mejia.

2.0 PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

None.

3.0 CONSENT CALENDAR

3.1 March 26, 2019 TCWG Meeting Minutes

This item was deferred to May 28, 2019 TCWG meeting.

4.0 INFORMATION ITEMS

4.1 Review of PM Hot Spot Interagency Review Form

1) **IMP170701**

It was determined that this was not a POAQC.

2) **LA990359**

It was determined that this was not a POAQC.

4.2 Issues and Potential Risks of Anticipated Final Federal Action on Safer Affordable Fuel Efficient (SAFE) Vehicle Rule

Rongsheng Luo, SCAG, presented a brief summary of issues from proposed withdrawal of federal Clean Air Act Preemption Waiver that was previously granted to California in 2013 for ARB's Advanced Clean Car regulations as part of the Proposed SAFE Vehicle Rule, and potential risks of regional transportation conformity failure and/or highway sanctions if the rule would be finalized as proposed. Mr. Luo noted that there were many uncertainties even after EPA has finalized Waiver Withdrawal.

Rodney Tavitas, Caltrans Headquarters, commented that the most important and urgent issue is to address RTP and FTIP conformity re-determinations for 2015 8-hour ozone standards.

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Rongsheng Luo, SCAG, stated that SCAG had submitted its 2016 RTP/SCS and 2019 FTIP conformity re-determination to FHWA/FTA and requested their expedited review and approval. Mr. Luo shared that there should be a joint California Transportation Commission (CTC) and ARB workshop on Proposed SAFE Vehicle Rule immediately after CTC meeting in San Diego on May 16, 2019; In addition, good background and status update information was available on the California Association of Councils of Governments' (CALCOG) website, under *Policy Tracker/SAFE Vehicle Rule* at:

<https://www.calcog.org/index.php?submenu=PolicyTracker&src=directory&view=legislation>.

4.3 RTP Update

John Asuncion, SCAG, reported that SCAG staff was continuing development of Connect SoCal on schedule with draft release anticipated in fall 2019, SCAG Regional Council adoption in April 2020, and final federal approval in June 2020.

4.4 FTIP Update

Mr. Asuncion, SCAG, reported the following:

- SCAG staff continued developing 2021 FTIP Guidelines; Draft 2021 FTIP Guidelines would be presented to TCWG for comments and review in summer 2019; and Final 2021 FTIP Guidelines would be ready by fall 2019.
- 2019 FTIP Amendment #19-07 was under analysis by SCAG staff and expected to be posted for public review in early May 2019.

4.5 EPA Update

Wienke Tax, EPA Region 9, reported that EPA staff was working actively on 2008 8-hour ozone SIP and 2012 PM_{2.5} SIP in 2016 South Coast AQMP and expected to propose actions by summer 2019.

In response to a question, Ms. Tax confirmed that Proposed SAFE Vehicle Rule was being taken into consideration but was not expected to impact timeline of EPA proposed actions on 2016 South Coast AQMP.

Karina O'Connor, EPA Region 9, reported the following:

- EPA concurrence on previously reported OCTA TCM Substitution was near completion.
- EPA planned to propose approval of ARB's EMFAC2017 model soon.

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In response to a question, Ms. O'Connor confirmed that Proposed SAFE Vehicle Rule was not expected to impact timelines of EPA proposal to approve EMFAC2017.

4.6 ARB Update

Nesamani Kalandiyur, ARB, reported the following:

- Final Draft Sustainable Community Strategies Program and Evaluation Guidelines was released in late March.
- A public workshop on Final Draft Guidelines was held in early April.

4.7 Air Districts Update

Ben Cacatian, VCAPCD, reported that VCAPCD staff had started discussion with ARB and EPA staff regarding SIP development for 2015 8-hour ozone standards with anticipated SIP submittal in 2022.

5.0 INFORMATION SHARING

Rodney Tavitas, Caltrans Headquarters, announced that an *Introduction to Transportation Conformity* class by NTI was being planned for 2020 in Southern California.

In response to questions, Karina O'Connor, EPA Region 9, stated that EPA's MOVE model was not affected by SAFE Vehicle Rule and no specific timeline had been set for when SAFE Vehicle Rule would be finalized.

6.0 ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 10:39 am. The next Transportation Conformity Working Group meeting will be held on Tuesday, May 28, 2019, at the SCAG main office in downtown Los Angeles.