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

**July 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:

SCAG:

Asuncion, John
Luo, Rongsheng
Yen, Emily

Via Teleconference:

Brugger, Ron	LSA
Cacatian, Ben	VCAPCD
Gallo, Ilene	Caltrans, District 11
Hendrawan, Kevin	MDAQMD
Kalandiyur, Nesamani	ARB
Legaro, Julie	Caltrans, District 12
Miranda, Jude	Caltrans, District 12
Mejia, James	SBCTA
Mortenson, Marilee	Caltrans
O'Connor, Karina	EPA Region 9
Rosenblum, Jason	IBI Group
Sanchez, Lucas	Caltrans Headquarters
Sangkapichai, Mana	SCAG
Sun, Lijin	SCAQMD
Tax, Wienke	EPA Region 9
Vaughn, Joseph	FHWA
Yoon, Andrew	Caltrans, District 7

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

**July 23, 2019
Minutes**

1.0 CALL TO ORDER AND SELF-INTRODUCTION

James Mejia, TCWG Chair, called the meeting to order at 10:05 am.

2.0 PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

None.

3.0 CONSENT CALENDAR

3.1. May 28, 2019 TCWG Meeting Minutes

The meeting minutes were approved.

3.2. June 25, 2019 TCWG Meeting Minutes

The meeting minutes were deferred to the next TCWG meeting.

4.0 INFORMATION ITEMS

4.1 RTP Update

John Asuncion, SCAG, reported that SCAG staff was working hard on developing draft Connect SoCal document which was on schedule to be released this fall, adopted by SCAG's Regional Council next April, and approved by federal agencies in June 2020.

4.2 FTIP Update

John Asuncion, SCAG, reported that 2019 FTIP Amendment #19-09 would be posted for public review within about one week.

4.3 Draft 2021 FTIP Guidelines

John Asuncion, SCAG, reported the following major changes to Draft 2021 FTIP Guidelines except Sections III and IV:

- In *Section I. Policy and Requirements*, a "Safety" subsection was added to address safety target requirements of *Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century Act* (MPA-21). 2021 FTIP would need to meet SCAG region specific safety targets for Calendar year 2020 established in February 2019.
- In *Section V. Programming, TIP Database and References*, CMAQ funded project eligibility was added to ensure that CMAQ funded projects submitted by project sponsors for 2012 FTIP and its future amendments meet CMAQ eligibility guidelines; Under new eFTIP database, Highway Infrastructure Program (HIP) funds, Better Utilizing Investments to Leverage Development

TRANSPORTATION CONFORMITY WORKING GROUP
of the
SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS

July 23, 2019
Minutes

(BUILD) grants, and SB-1 funds had been added as three new common fund sources.

- In *Section VI. Financial Plan*, financial plan input instructions were added for new eFTIP database; and language was added to clarify what should be included in a letter of agreement to Caltrans between agencies when two agencies agree to loan and receive CMAQ or STBG funding from one another.
- There would be another training for eFTIP database in August 2019.

Rongsheng Luo, SCAG, reported major changes to Sections III and IV:

- Proposed major changes to Draft 2021 FTIP Guidelines were presented to programming staff of all six County Transportation Commissions (CTCs) in the SCAG region last week.
- Overall, with exception of required modeling years and clarification on some exempt projects, there are no major changes to *Section III. Transportation Air Quality Conformity and Modeling* and *Section IV. Transportation Control Measures*.
- Section III includes same seven sub-sections, but only Sub-sections C and F have major revisions.
 - ✓ Many changes were made to Sub-section C due to addition of new required modeling years to reflect new attainment and budget years, removal of years that already passed, and addition of Table B-7a for Imperial County to reflect new conformity budgets currently under EPA review.
 - ✓ Same as in 2019 FTIP Guidelines, seven tables are included for informational purpose only at this time due to anticipated new transportation conformity budgets. These budgets were currently under EPA review and were expected to be approved by EPA before federal approval of 2021 FTIP. Superscript “a” was added to table number to identify these tables. Upon EPA’s approval of any of these new conformity budgets, these tables would supersede corresponding/preceding tables.
 - ✓ Additional minor revisions would be made to some required modeling years to be consistent with Connect SoCal.
 - ✓ Sub-Section F added Caltrans’ recent clarifications on road diets, auxiliary lanes, and ramp metering.
- In *Section IV. Transportation Control Measures*, only revisions were updated two-year cycles to be consistent with 2021 FTIP cycle.

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

**July 23, 2019
Minutes**

4.4 EPA Update

Wienke Tax, EPA Region 9, reported the following:

- Public comment period for proposed approval of 2016 South Coast Ozone SIP and revisions ended Wednesday on July 17, 2019; EPA had received public comments and would respond to those comments.

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

- EPA's final rule of approving reclassification of Coachella Valley from "Severe-15" to "Extreme" ozone nonattainment area for 1997 ozone standard was published in Federal Register on July 10, 2019.
- EPA and FHWA staff discussion of grace period for EMFAC2017 was still ongoing.

In response to a question, Ms. O'Connor, EPA Region 9, confirmed that even though reclassification had changed Coachella Valley's attainment year to 2023, the new attainment year is not required to be included as an analysis for regional emissions analysis.

4.5 ARB Update

Nesamani Kalandiyur, ARB, reported that ARB staff was working with SCAG staff to answer some technical questions from EPA regarding South Coast SIPs.

In response to a question, Mr. Kalandiyur, ARB, confirmed that the EPA's technical questions were not related to EMFAC2017.

4.6 Air Districts Update

None.

5.0 INFORMATION SHARING

None.

6.0 ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 10:25 am. The next Transportation Conformity Working Group meeting will be held on Tuesday, August 27, 2019, at the SCAG main office in downtown Los Angeles.