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

**April 28, 2020
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 via teleconference.

SCAG

Asuncion, John
Calderon, Karen
Luo, Rongsheng
McAlpine, Shannon
Sangkapichai, Mana

Via Teleconference

Acosta, Brooke
Bade, Rabindra
Brugger, Ron
Cacatian, Ben
Cooper, Keith
Huddleston, Lori
Kalandiyur, Nesamani
Lay, Keith
Lugaro, Julie
Masters, Martha
O'Connor, Karina
Sanchez, Lucas
Sun, Lijin
Vaughn, Joseph
Yoon, Andrew

IBI Group
Caltrans, District 12
LSA Associates
VCAPCD
ICF
LA Metro
ARB
HDR Engineering
Caltrans, District 12
RCTC
EPA Region 9
Caltrans Headquarters
SCAQMD
FHWA
Caltrans, District 7

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1.0 CALL TO ORDER AND SELF-INTRODUCTION

Martha Masters, TCWG Chair, called the meeting to order at 10:05 am.

2.0 PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

None.

3.0 CONSENT CALENDAR

3.1 January 28, 2020 TCWG Meeting Minutes
The meeting minutes were approved.

3.2 February 25, 2020 TCWG Meeting Minutes
The meeting minutes were approved.

3.3 March 24, 2020 TCWG Meeting Minutes
The meeting minutes were approved.

4.0 INFORMATION ITEMS

4.1 Review of PM Hot Spot Interagency Review Forms

1) LA0G1562rev

It was determined that this project is not a POAQC.

2) RIV060116

It was determined that this project is not a POAQC.

3) 20190010

It was determined that this project is not a POAQC.

4.2 RTP Update

John Asuncion, SCAG, reported that Proposed Final Connect SoCal was scheduled to be considered for approval by Regional Council on May 7, 2020.

Rongsheng Luo, SCAG, reported the following:

- Transportation Conformity Analysis Technical Report including transportation conformity determination would be presented as part of Proposed Final Connect SoCal to SCAG's Regional Council for consideration for approval on May 7, 2020.

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- SCAG's Executive Director emailed a letter to FHWA and FTA Regional Administrators requesting their advance review of Proposed Final Connect SoCal pending Regional Council's approval because SCAG needs to receive federal approval of transportation conformity determination by June 1, 2020. The letter was forwarded to TCWG members on April 9, 2020. In addition, SCAG staff followed up with EPA and Caltrans Headquarters staff with whom FHWA and FTA staff consult in their review of the Plan.

At request of Mr. Luo, Joseph Vaughn, FHWA, Karina O'Connor, EPA Region 9, and Lucas Sanchez, Caltrans Headquarters, all confirmed their agencies' respective advance review of Proposed Final Connect SoCal and no issues at that time.

4.3 FTIP Update

John Asuncion, SCAG, reported the following:

- SCAG staff was working on 2019 FTIP Amendment #19-20 for which project submittals were due to SCAG April 28.
- It would be under discussion at California Federal Programming Group meeting on April 28, 2020 whether 2021 FTIP would be delayed by several months or postponed until 2023 FTIP.

4.4 EPA Update

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

- EPA's proposed approval of Imperial County 2018 PM₁₀ Redesignation Request and Maintenance Plan was published in Federal Register on April 2, 2020 and comment period closes May 4, 2020.
- EPA staff was reviewing comments received on proposed action on Coachella Valley 2008 8-hour ozone standard SIP published in January 2020.
- EPA staff continued work on South Coast 2012 Annual PM_{2.5} standard Moderate Plan and hoped to propose action in May 2020.
- Signed on March 30, 2020, SAFE Vehicles Rule Part 2 was expected to be published in Federal Register on April 30, 2020 and become effective June 30, 2020.

4.5 ARB Update

Nesamani Kalandiyur, ARB, reported the following:

- ARB staff presented the base year emissions inventory along with the VMT offset demonstration under 2015 8-hour ozone standard for South Coast and Coachella Valley at South Coast AQMP Advisory Group Meeting on April 16, 2020. Both regions met applicable requirements.

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- After reviewing and evaluating pre-publication SAFE Vehicles Rule Part 2, ARB staff found no need for additional adjustment factors for criteria pollutants. In addition, the pre-publication itself says that EMFAC2014 and EMFAC2017 adjustment factors for SAFE Vehicles Rule Part 1 continued to be valid and should be used for SIP and transportation conformity purposes.

Rongsheng Luo, SCAG, expressed thanks and appreciation to ARB staff for evaluation of Part 2 Rule before its publication and for confirming no additional adjustment factors.

In response to questions regarding ARB staff's finding on Part 2 Rule, Mr. Kalandiyur did not think that US EPA action would be needed; Both Karina O'Connor, EPA Region 9, and Joseph Vaughn, FHWA, concurred; In addition, Mr. Vaughn confirmed that the verbal agreement was sufficient for transportation conformity purposes.

4.6 Air Districts Update

Lijin Sun, SCAQMD, reported the following:

- A South Coast AQMP Advisory Group Meeting was held on April 16, 2020.
- SCAQMD staff was working on Reasonably Available Control Technology Analysis and Emission Statement Certification. These two items were scheduled to be presented to SCAQMD Board for consideration in June 2020.

Ben Cacatian, VCAPCD, reported the following:

- EPA's final approval of Ventura County 2008 8-hour ozone standard SIP was published on February 27, 2020.
- VCAPCD staff was working on 2022 Ventura County SIP for 2015 8-hour ozone standard. Draft Ventura County 2020 Reasonably Available Control Technology SIP was under public comment, available at vcapcd.org. VCAPCD Staff was also updating emissions inventory for the SIP.

5.0 INFORMATION SHARING

None.

6.0 ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 10:35 am. The next Transportation Conformity Working Group meeting will be held on Tuesday, May 26, 2020 via Zoom meeting and teleconference.