



TRANSPORTATION CONFORMITY WORKING GROUP

Meeting Minutes

January 27, 2026

10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

The meeting was held via Zoom, teleconference, and in person. A digital recording of the meeting is available upon request.

Attendee List

SCAG Staff:

Calderon, Karen
Banuelos, Ryan
Fuentes, Diana
Gutierrez, Pablo
Li, Crystal
Northfield, Shea
Ramirez, Sarahi
Sangkapichai, Mana
Sun, Lijin

Via Zoom and Teleconference:

Acebo, Mervin
Bade, Rabindra
Caraig Jr., Ricardo
Dorantes, Michael
Emery, Edward
Galbreath, Holly
Getachew, Eleni
Gilbert, Julie
Hernandez Rios, Kevin
Hosford, Steve
Inouye, Eric
Islam, Fatima
Kalandiyur, Nesamani
Lay, Keith
Lee, David
Lee, Sang-Mi
Lugaro, Julie
Marroquin, Nancy
Meneses, Mercedes
Morris, Michael
Richmai, Michael
Rivera, Ismael
Slavick, Michael
Tavitas, Rodney
Tso, Kristin
Yoon, Andrew

FTA Region 9
Caltrans District 12
Caltrans District 12
EPA Region 9
RCTC
Ventura County APCD
Impact Sciences
Compass Consulting
Caltrans HQ
CNS Engineers
Caltrans District 11
Caltrans District 8
CARB
ICF
Caltrans District 8
South Coast AQMD
Caltrans District 12
LA Metro
LA Metro
FHWA
LA Metro
City of Corona
ECORP Consulting Inc.
Caltrans HQ
OCTA
Caltrans District 7



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MEETING SUMMARY

1. CALL TO ORDER AND SELF-INTRODUCTIONS

Lori Huddleston, TCWG Chair, called the meeting to order at 10:01 a.m.

2. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

None.

3. CONSENT CALENDAR

- 3.1. December 2, 2025 TCWG Meeting Minutes
The meeting minutes were approved.

4. INFORMATION ITEMS

4.1. Review of PM Hot Spot Analysis Interagency Review Forms

- **Attachment 4.1-1 RIV160405:** It was determined that this project is not a project of air quality concern. For future reference, U.S. EPA staff recommended that the PM Hot Spot Analysis Interagency Review Form include the comparison of the traffic volumes between the two opening years that was presented at the TCWG meeting.
- **Attachment 4.1-2 LALS02:** It was determined that this project is exempt under 40 CFR 93.126 Safety— Projects that correct, improve, or eliminate a hazardous location or feature.

4.2. RTP Update

Shea Northfield, SCAG, reported no updates.

4.3. FTIP Update

Shea Northfield, SCAG, reported the following:

- 2025 FTIP Amendment #25-18 was pending state and federal approval.
- 2025 FTIP Administrative Modification #25-19 was approved by SCAG and uploaded to CTIPS.
- SCAG staff work was underway for 2025 FTIP Administrative Modification #25-20 and Amendment #25-21 and the upcoming 2027 FTIP.

4.4. U.S. EPA Update

Michael Dorantes, U.S. EPA, reported no updates.

4.5. CARB Update

Nesamani Kalandiyur, CARB, reported the following:

- CARB staff was developing guidance on how to apply the U.S. EPA-approved EMFAC2021 adjustment factors for project level conformity analyses.
- CARB staff was monitoring the proposed federal Safer Affordable Fuel-Efficient (SAFE) Vehicles Rule III which would reduce fuel economy standards from 50 mpg to 34.5 mpg.
- Based on CARB staff's preliminary evaluation of the proposed federal SAFE Rule III, which was still undergoing the public process, impacts on transportation conformity were not expected. More information was expected after the proposed SAFE Rule III is finalized.



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4.6. Air Districts Updates

4.6.1. Ventura County APCD Update

Holly Galbreath, Ventura County APCD, reported no updates.

4.6.2. South Coast AQMD Update

Sang-Mi Lee, South Coast AQMD, reported the following:

- U.S. EPA proposed a determination that the Coachella Valley attained the revoked 1997 8-hour federal ozone standard.
- The public comment period for the proposed determination was underway.
- South Coast AQMD would request formal redesignation of the Coachella Valley to attainment for the said standard once finalized.
- It should be noted that the Coachella Valley would remain in nonattainment for other federal ozone standards, and transportation conformity requirements would continue to apply in the area.

4.6.3. Mojave Desert AQMD Update

Bertrand Gaschot, Mojave Desert AQMD, reported no update.

In response to a question, Bertrand Gaschot stated that Mojave Desert AQMD Governing Board would consider adoption of the proposed amendment to correct their stationary new source rule at its March 2026 meeting before submitting to U.S. EPA for approval through CARB. This action was in response to EPA's proposed conditional approval which paused the highway sanction clock in the MDAQMD's jurisdiction in July 2025.

4.6.4. Antelope Valley AQMD Update

No representative was present to provide updates.

4.6.5. Imperial County APCD Update

No representative was present to provide updates.

5. INFORMATION SHARING

Rodney Tavitas, Caltrans HQ, noted a Statewide Conformity Working Group meeting was expected in 2026 and would likely be held in northern California.

6. ADJOURNMENT

The next TCWG meeting would be held on Tuesday, February 24, 2026, in-person, via Zoom, and by teleconference. PM Hot Spot Analysis Interagency Review Forms were due to Karen Calderon, via email at calderon@scag.ca.gov, by Tuesday, February 10, 2026.