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

**June 23, 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
Luo, Rongsheng
McAlpine, Shannon
Sangkapichai, Mana

Via Teleconference

| | |
|----------------------|-----------------------|
| Acosta, Brooke | IBI Group |
| Alido, Josephine | Parsons |
| Arellano, Lexie | Caltrans Headquarters |
| Bade, Rabindra | Caltrans, District 12 |
| Blake, Michelle | Caltrans, District 11 |
| Brown, Laurence | SCAQMD |
| Brugger, Ronald | LSA Associates |
| Cacatian, Ben | VCAPCD |
| Cooper, Keith | ICF |
| Gomez, Melissa | Parsons |
| Guizado, Jillian | RCTC |
| Huddleston, Lori | LA Metro |
| Kalandiyur, Nesamani | ARB |
| Kulkarni, Anup | OCTA |
| Lay, Keith | HDR Engineering |
| Lau, Charles | Caltrans, District 7 |
| Lee, David | Caltrans, District 8 |
| Lugaro, Julie | Caltrans, District 12 |
| Moe-Luna, Lorelle | RCTC |
| O'Connor, Karina | EPA Region 9 |
| Sanchez, Lucas | Caltrans Headquarters |
| Schnapp, Angela | Parsons |
| Sun, Lijin | SCAQMD |
| Tavitas, Rodney | Caltrans Headquarters |
| Vaughn, Joseph | FHWA |
| Whiteaker, Warren | OCTA |
| 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.

2.0 PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

None.

3.0 CONSENT CALENDAR

- 3.1 May 26, 2020 TCWG Meeting Minutes
The meeting minutes were approved.

4.0 INFORMATION ITEMS

- 4.1 Review of PM Hot Spot Interagency Review Forms

1) 2002160

It was determined that this project is not a POAQC.

2) 1M1003

It was determined that this project is not a POAQC.

3) RIV031202

It was determined that this project is not a POAQC.

- 4.2 RTP Update

John Asuncion, SCAG, reported that SCAG received a letter from FHWA/FTA on June 5, 2020 indicating that all federal transportation conformity requirements for Connect SoCal and 2019 FTIP Amendment #19-12 had been met.

Rongsheng Luo, SCAG, thanked members of TCWG for their participation and feedback on development of SCAG's Connect SoCal over past three years. Mr. Luo also acknowledged Joseph Vaughn and Michael Morris, FHWA, FTA staff, Karina O'Connor, U.S. EPA, and Rodney Tavitas and Lucas Sanchez, Caltrans Headquarters, for their advanced review of proposed final plan, expedited review of final plan, and timely approval of final conformity determination.

- 4.3 FTIP Update

John Asuncion, SCAG, reported the following:

- 2021 FTIP would be delayed by five to six months with SCAG Regional Council adoption in February 2021 and federal approval in April 2021.

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- No issues were anticipated with development of 2021 FTIP.
- SCAG staff would continue to concurrently process 2019 FTIP amendments and administrative modifications.

4.4 Requirements of Regional Transportation Conformity Determination

Rongsheng Luo, SCAG, reported the following:

- On May 7, 2020, SCAG’s Regional Council adopted Connect SoCal for transportation conformity purposes only and postponed approval of Connect SoCal in its entirety and for all other purposes for up to 120 days.
- SCAG staff had been working on refining Connect SoCal for all purposes other than transportation conformity.
- There would likely be minor revisions to socio-economic growth forecast including population, households, and jobs at traffic analysis zone (TAZ) level.
- There would be no changes to socio-economic growth forecast at jurisdictional level.
- All transportation and emission modeling for Draft 2021 FTIP had been completed.
- There would be no changes to transportation projects or strategies in Connect SoCal or 2021 FTIP as a result of minor revisions to TAZ level growth forecast.
- SCAG staff was seeking interagency consultation regarding implications of minor Connect SoCal revisions on transportation conformity analysis of Connect SoCal and Draft 2021 FTIP.

Karina O’Connor, EPA Region 9, Joseph Vaughn, FHWA, and Lucas Sanchez, Caltrans Headquarters, concurred that new transportation conformity redetermination would not be needed because only minor revisions would be made to TAZ level growth forecast only and there would be no changes to transportation networks.

4.5 Proposed TCM Substitution Methodology by Orange County Transportation Authority (OCTA)

Anup Kulkarni, OCTA, presented proposed methodology for substitution of three committed TCMs in Orange County (Project IDs: 010254, ORA050, ORA051) including description of substitute projects, compliance with TCM substitution requirements, air quality analysis methodology, and current status.

Rongsheng Luo, SCAG, noted that OCTA initiated a TCM substitution in 2018 and received approval in 2019; proposed TCM substitution methodology was the same except with three updates: use of EMFAC2017 instead of EMFAC2014; application of ARB’s off-model EMFAC2017 adjustment factors for SAFE Vehicles Rule Part

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1; and new analysis years of 2022 (Opening Year), 2037 (Attainment Year under 2015 8-hour Ozone Standards), and 2045 (Planning Horizon Year).

In response to a comment, Mr. Luo noted that project description would be revised to clarify that proposed substitute TCM projects are eligible HOT lanes projects. Mr. Luo clarified that TCM substitution process would take about six months to one year and SCAG staff would work with OCTA staff to develop the TCM substitution analysis. Mr. Luo also requested that questions or comments on proposed methodology be emailed to him by July 10, 2010.

In response to a question, Mr. Kulkarni, OCTA, clarified that OCTA expected to complete draft analysis in Fall 2020 and hoped to complete substitution process in early 2021.

4.6 EPA Update

Karina O'Connor, EPA Region 9, reported that EPA proposed action on South Coast 2012 Annual PM_{2.5} Standard Moderate Plan Reclassification was signed on June 5, 2020.

4.7 ARB Update

Nesamani Kalandiyur, ARB, reported the following:

- ARB would host second workshop for EMFAC202X late July or early August to discuss updated modeling data and new model features.
- CO₂ adjustment factors to account for SAFE Vehicles Rule would be posted on ARB's website late June or early July. There were no additional adjustment factors for criteria pollutants.

In response to questions, Mr. Kalandiyur confirmed that CO₂ adjustment factors would not have implications for SB 375 analysis; it was too early to know whether ARB's Clean Trucks Program would be included in EMFAC202X pending ARB Board action; and beta version of EMFAC202x was scheduled to be completed by end of 2020, final version by early 2021, followed by US EPA review and approval process.

4.8 Air Districts Update

Lijin Sun, SCAQMD, stated that there was no AQMP/SIP at this time.

Rongsheng Luo, SCAG, noted that SCAG had been providing socio-economic growth forecast and travel activity projection data to SCAQMD for development of 2022 South Coast AQMP

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Ben Cacatian, VCAPCD, reported that VCAPCD staff was in process of developing Ventura County's next AQMP/SIP including TCM RCAM analysis to address 2015 8-hour ozone standards, due to US EPA by August 2022.

5.0 INFORMATION SHARING

None.

6.0 ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 11:02 am. The next Transportation Conformity Working Group meeting will be held on Tuesday, July 28, 2020 via teleconference and Zoom meeting only.