



# TRANSPORTATION CONFORMITY WORKING GROUP

## Meeting Minutes

October 25, 2022

10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

The meeting was held via Zoom teleconference. A digital recording of the meeting is available for listening in SCAG's office.

### Attendee List

#### **SCAG Staff:**

*Asuncion, John  
Barajas, Agustin  
Calderon, Karen  
Gutierrez, Pablo  
Lo, Nancy  
Luo, Rongsheng  
Milner, David  
Sangkapichai, Mana  
Sun, Lijin  
Whiteaker, Warren*

#### **Via Teleconference:**

*Anderson, Kelsie  
Bade, Rabindra  
Brugger, Ron  
Cacatian, Ben  
Carpio, Wellvin  
Damiani, Brian  
Eaton, Maurice  
Emerson, Norman  
Garfio, Angel  
Heit, Karen  
Hendrawan, Kevin  
Houlihan, Michael  
Huddleston, Lori  
Kahrs, Jacqueline  
Kalandiyur, Nesamani  
Lau, Charles  
Lay, Keith  
Lee, David  
Lemons, Jason  
Lugaro, Julie  
Marroquin, Nancy  
Masters, Martha  
Miranda, Jude  
Moran, Nohemi  
Nieto, Andrea  
O'Connor, Karina  
Odufalu, Olufemi  
Sanchez, Roger  
Schnapp, Angela  
Shankel, James  
Silverman, Sam  
Srirajan, Sri  
Sutherland, Anders  
Tavitas, Rodney  
Vazquez, Sandy  
Wang, Sam*

*TCA  
Caltrans District 12  
LSA  
Ventura County APCD  
LA Metro  
Parsons  
Caltrans District 11  
Emerson & Associates  
OCTA  
Gateway Cities Council of Governments  
CARB  
ESA  
LA Metro  
Caltrans Headquarters  
CARB  
Caltrans District 7  
ICF  
Caltrans District 8  
Parsons  
Caltrans District 12  
LA Metro  
RCTC  
Caltrans District 12  
SBCTA  
Parsons  
US EPA Region 9  
Caltrans District 8  
Caltrans District 11  
Parsons  
Caltrans District 7  
Terry A Hayes Associates  
RCTC  
Terry A Hayes Associates  
Caltrans Headquarters  
Caltrans District 11  
South Coast AQMD*



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## MEETING SUMMARY

### 1. CALL TO ORDER AND SELF-INTRODUCTIONS

Andrew Yoon, TCWG Chair, called the meeting to order at 10:04 a.m.

### 2. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

None.

### 3. CONSENT CALENDAR

#### 3.1. September 27, 2022 TCWG Meeting Minutes

The meeting minutes were deferred to next TCWG Meeting.

### 4. INFORMATION ITEMS

#### 4.1. Review of PM Hot Spot Interagency Review Forms

- **RIV160101A:** It was determined that this project is not a project of air quality concern.

#### 4.2. Information Update on FTIP Project ID Correction from 991203 to 991203A on July 28, 2020 PM Hot Spot Interagency Review Form for Murrieta Creek Bridge at Overland Drive Project in City of Temecula

Lijin Sun, SCAG, reported the following:

- SCAG received a request to make a correction to the FTIP Project ID from 991203 to 991203A for the Murrieta Creek Bridge at Overland Drive project in the City of Temecula.
- TCWG determined that the project was not a project of air quality concern and did not require hot spot analysis at the July 28, 2020 TCWG meeting.
- SCAG staff reviewed project information provided by the City of Temecula and confirmed that the July 28, 2020 TCWG determination was specific and applied to FTIP Project ID 991203A.
- SCAG transmitted a letter confirming the FTIP Project ID correction to staff of the City of Temecula, RCTC, SCAG FTIP on September 26, 2022.
- Joseph Vaughn, FHWA, had no concern with the FTIP ID correction.

#### 4.3. RTP Update

Nancy Lo, SCAG, reported the following:

- SCAG Regional Council approved the final Connect SoCal Amendment No. 2 on October 6, 2022.
- Federal approval of Connect SoCal Amendment No. 2 was anticipated in December 2022.

#### 4.4. FTIP Update

John Asuncion, SCAG, reported the following:

- SCAG Regional Council approved the final 2023 FTIP on October 6, 2022, with federal approval anticipated in mid-December 2022.
- The 2023 FTIP would be incorporated into the Draft 2023 Federal Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (FSTIP), which was released for public review and comments from October 10 through October 31, 2022.
- Public comments on the Draft 2023 FSTIP could be sent to [jacqueline.kahrs@dot.ca.gov](mailto:jacqueline.kahrs@dot.ca.gov).



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## 4.5. Status Update on Regional Transportation Conformity Lockdown Rongsheng Luo, SCAG, reported the following:

### **EMFAC2021:**

- At the time of the October TCWG meeting, EMFAC2021 had not been approved. A status update on EMFAC2021 would be provided by ARB staff under Item 4.6.

### **Major Activities and Progress to Resolve Coachella Valley Ozone Budgets Shortfalls**

- Since the September 2022 TCWG meeting, staff from the four-agency (South Coast AQMD, ARB, EPA, and SCAG) met for the 7<sup>th</sup> time on October 5<sup>th</sup>. This was the second quad-weekly status meeting where the four-agency staff provided updates on their respective major efforts to resolve Coachella Valley ozone budgets shortfalls.
- The public review and comment period of South Coast AQMD's voluntary request to reclassify Coachella Valley for the 2008 8-hour ozone standard and the associated Reasonable Further Progress (RFP) SIP that includes the updated Coachella ozone emissions budget concluded on October 18<sup>th</sup>. No public comments were received.
- The voluntary reclassification request and the RFP SIP including the updated Coachella ozone emissions budget were scheduled to be considered for adoption by the South Coast AQMD Governing Board at their meeting on November 4<sup>th</sup>.
- Upon South Coast AQMD adoption, the voluntary reclassification request and the RFP SIP including the updated Coachella ozone emissions budget would be formally submitted to ARB for approval and subsequent submittal to EPA.
- To expedite the process, ARB staff concurrently released their staff report on the Coachella RFP SIP including the updated ozone emissions budget for a 30-day public review and comment period on October 7<sup>th</sup> through November 7<sup>th</sup>. ARB Board was scheduled to hold a public hearing on November 17<sup>th</sup> to consider adoption of the RFP SIP including the updated Coachella ozone emissions budget, and to direct ARB staff to submit it to EPA.
- On a separate track, EPA initiated the required tribal consultation for the voluntary reclassification request earlier in October. The updated Coachella ozone emissions budget was anticipated to become effective mid-April 2023 pending EPA determination of whether approval of the budgets could be issued prior to approval of the reclassification.
- As a result, staff anticipated Regional Council's adoption of the proactive concurrent 2020 Connect SoCal Amendment No. 3 and the 2023 FTIP modeling amendment #23-03 in May 2023, instead of in April/May 2023 as reported at the September TCWG meeting.
- Staff of the four agencies would continue to update the matrix of major milestones to monitor progress and meet for the 8<sup>th</sup> time on November 2<sup>nd</sup> to discuss any emerging issues and take any necessary actions.
- SCAG staff had provided status update to the Planning Directors and CEOs of the six County Transportation Commissions in the SCAG region at their respective monthly meetings earlier this month.
- In addition, SCAG staff continued to work on the proactive concurrent Draft 2020 Connect SoCal Amendment No. 3 and the Draft 2023 FTIP modeling amendment #23-03 to minimize the lockdown impact, with the public release anticipated in January 2023, Regional Council for adoption anticipated in May 2023, and under the best-case scenario, federal approval within the same month.

In response to a request, SCAG staff would provide the updated matrix of major milestones to TCWG after the third quad-weekly status meeting of the four agencies on November 2<sup>nd</sup>.



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## 4.6. EPA Update

Karina O'Connor, EPA, reported the following:

### **EMFAC2021:**

- EPA received submittal of EMFAC2021 and EMFAC2017 adjustment factors from ARB on October 14, 2022 and anticipated publication on Federal Register in late November 2022. EMFAC2021 would become effective after publication.

### **OCTA TCA TCM Substitution:**

- EPA concurrence letter dated October 14, 2022 on the Traffic Signal Synchronization Projects in Orange County as TCM Substitution for Toll Road Expansion Projects had been transmitted to SCAG.

### **Final SIP Disapproval Concerning the South Coast AQMD's Local Rule 1118:**

- In response to an inquiry from the September TCWG meeting on the final SIP disapproval concerning the South Coast AQMD's local Rule 1118 – Control of Emissions from Refinery Flares, EPA rulemaking staff anticipated to receive an amended Rule 1118 from the South Coast AQMD in February 2023 and the amendment would resolve the deficiencies identified in EPA's final action. Once EPA acts on this amended rule, the sanction clocks would be turned off. A larger amendment to this rule was also expected later in 2023 and would require EPA's review.

In response to a request, Karina clarified that FHWA maintained tracking of highway sanction clocks on their website and offered to send a link to SCAG staff after the TCWG meeting. Karina also noted that most local air districts' rules were amended before their sanction clocks went off.

## 4.7. ARB Update

Nesamani Kalandiyur, ARB, reported the following:

- ARB submitted EMFAC2021 and EMFAC2017 adjustment factors to EPA on October 14, 2022. Most of ARB regulations had already been accounted for within EMFAC2021. Adopted ARB regulations that were not originally included in EMFAC2017 were included in the adjustment factors. ARB's memo would include instructions on how to apply the adjustment factors with examples.
- ARB staff had developed the draft new conformity budgets for the South Coast Air Basin, Coachella Valley, and Ventura County portion of the South Central Coast Air Basin in the SCAG region and provided them for informal interagency review and consultation. The draft new budgets could be presented at next month's TCWG meeting.
- ARB staff was also developing write-ups for public review, some of which had been already released for public review and comment as part of air districts' draft Air Quality Management Plans/SIPs.
- ARB Governing Board adopted the 2022 State SIP Strategy in September 2022. ARB staff would initiate development of regulations to implement the adopted 2022 State SIP Strategy and schedule workshops as part of their rulemaking process to engage with the public and receive feedback.



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## 4.8. Air Districts Updates

### 4.8.1. Status Update on EPA Final Limited Disapproval of Reasonable Available Control Technology (RACT) Demonstrations for Sources Covered under the EPA's 2016 Oil and Gas Control Techniques Guidelines for VCAPCD

Ben Cacatian, VCAPCD, reported the following:

- VCAPCD staff had been working with ARB to address EPA final limited disapproval of RACT demonstrations concerning their local Rules 71.1 and 71.2 and had included both rules on their rule development calendar to work on amending the rules.
- VCAPCD's final draft 2022 AQMP for the 2015 8-hour ozone standard would be released in mid-November and presented to VCAPCD Board for adoption at their meeting on December 13, 2022.

### 4.8.2. Status Update on EPA Final Disapproval of AVAQMD and MDAQMD SIP Revision and Finding of Failure to Submit Contingency Measures for the 2008 8-Hour Ozone NAAQS

Lijin Sun, SCAG, reported on behalf of MDAQMD staff that:

- MDAQMD staff had provided EPA a draft version of their amended local Rule 315 that they hoped would resolve the deficiencies identified in the EPA's final disapproval and that EPA staff would have comments on the draft by mid to late October.
- At the time of the October TCWG meeting, MDAQMD staff had not received EPA staff comments on the draft and would follow up with them after the meeting.

### 4.8.3. Status Update on EPA Proposed Limited and Final Disapprovals of South Coast AQMD SIP Revision, Finding of Failure to Submit Contingency Measures for the 2008 8-Hour Ozone NAAQS, and Final Limited Disapproval of Reasonable Available Control Technology (RACT) Demonstrations for Sources Covered under the EPA's 2016 Oil and Gas Control Techniques Guidelines for South Coast AQMD

Sam Wang, SCAQMD, reported the following:

#### **Finding of Failure to Submit Contingency Measures for the 2008 8-Hour Ozone NAAQS:**

- The failure to submit impacted the Coachella Valley ozone nonattainment area and became effective on October 31, 2022.
- South Coast AQMD staff would present the Coachella Valley voluntary reclassification for Coachella Valley to their Board for adoption on November 4, 2022.

#### **Final SIP Disapproval Concerning South Coast AQMD Rule 1118:**

- The final SIP disapproval concerning South Coast AQMD Rule 1118 – Control of Emissions from Refinery Flares became effective on October 24, 2022.
- South Coast AQMD staff initiated the public process to amend Rule 1118.
- The amended Rule 1118 would be presented to South Coast AQMD Board for adoption in February 2023 and would be expected to fully resolve the deficiencies, subject to EPA's approval.

#### **Final Limited Disapproval of RACT Demonstrations for South Coast AQMD:**

- The final limited disapproval of RACT demonstrations concerning South Coast AQMD Rules 1178 and 463 became effective on October 31, 2022.
- South Coast AQMD staff had been working to amend both rules to address the deficiencies.
- Adoption of the amended Rule 1178 by South Coast AQMD Board was anticipated in the first quarter of 2023 followed by adoption of the amended Rule 463 in late 2023.



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## **Proposed Limited Disapproval Concerning South Coast AQMD Rules 1106 and 1107:**

- The proposed limited disapproval concerning South Coast AQMD local Rules 1106 and 1107 was published in the Federal Register in August 2022.
- South Coast AQMD staff initiated the public process to amend both rules to address the deficiencies.
- The amended Rules 1106 and 1107 would be presented to South Coast AQMD Board for adoption in February 2023 and would be expected to fully resolve the deficiencies, subject to EPA's approval.

## **5. INFORMATION SHARING**

Rodney Tavitas, Caltrans Headquarters, reported on staffing changes on his team and was planning to have the next statewide conformity working group meeting in spring 2023.

## **6. ADJOURNMENT**

The next meeting of the TCWG will be held on Tuesday, December 6, 2022 via teleconference and Zoom meeting only. Please submit PM Hot Spot Analysis Interagency Review Forms for the next meeting to Lijin Sun, [sunl@scag.ca.gov](mailto:sunl@scag.ca.gov), three weeks in advance by Tuesday, November 15, 2022, due to the Thanksgiving holiday.