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

**January 27, 2015  
Minutes**

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**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:**

Abrishami, Lori	Metro
Chu, Philip	SANBAG
Chung, Jeeseong	Metro
Louka, Tony	Caltrans, District 8
Sherwood, Arnie	UC Berkeley
Suh, Elizabeth	CH2M Hill
Zhuang, Hong	CH2M Hill
Zureick, Andrea	SANBAG

**SCAG**

Asuncion, John  
Luo, Rongsheng  
Tran, Daniel

**Via Teleconference:**

Alvarez, Grace	RCTC
Aurasteh, Reza	Caltrans, District 12
Baker, Jillian	SCAQMD
Behtash, Arman	Caltrans, District 12
Brent, Cherry	Dokken Engineering
Cacatian, Ben	VCAPCD
Castro, Fernando	Caltrans, District 7
Chamberlain, Tim	Dokken Engineering
Cooper, Keith	ICF International
DeHate, Eric	RCTC
Gallo, Ilene	Caltrans, District 11
Craig, Kenneth	Sonoma Technology
Moe-Luna, Lorelle	RCTC
Morris, Michael	FHWA
Nord, Greg	OCTA
O'Connor, Karina	EPA, Region 9
Odufalu, Olufemi	Caltrans, District 8
Philips, Heather	ARB

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Sheehy, Erin	OCTA
Tavitas, Rodney	Caltrans Headquarters
Vaughn, Joseph	FHWA
Vermeulen, Diane	Caltrans, District 11
Walecka, Carla	TCA
Yoon, Andrew	Caltrans, District 7

**1.0 CALL TO ORDER AND SELF-INTRODUCTION**

Tony Louka, TCWG Chair, called the meeting to order at 10:05 am and wished TCWG a happy new year. Mr. Louka announced that Dr. Paul Fagan, former TCWG Member representing Caltrans District 8, had retired. He acknowledged Dr. Fagan for his services and contribution to the TCWG.

**2.0 PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD**

There were no public comments.

**3.0 CONSENT CALENDAR**

3.1 TCWG December 2, 2014 Meeting Minutes

The meeting minutes were deferred to the next meeting.

**4.0 INFORMATION ITEMS**

4.1 Review of PM Hot Spot Interagency Review Forms

**Project-Level Conformity and TCM Substitution Requirements for Projects that Convert HOV Lane from Limited Access to Continuous Access Only**

At the request of Caltrans District 12 and OCTA, TCWG discussed about the project-level conformity and TCM substitution requirements for projects that convert HOV lane from limited access to continuous access only. It was determined after the meeting that the HOV lane conversion from limited access to continuous access only project is not a transportation project as defined in the Transportation Conformity Regulations. As a result, project-level conformity and TCM substitution are not required.

1) LA0G872

It was determined that this is not a POAQC.

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2) RIV031209

It was determined that this is not a POAQC.

(Updated PM hot spot review forms were received after the meeting for documentation purposes only.)

3) RIV62024

It was reaffirmed that this is not a POAQC.

(TCWG concurrence received via email after the meeting.)

4.2 FTIP Update

John Asuncion, SCAG, reported the following:

- 2015 FTIP Amendments #15-01 through #15-03 had received all necessary approvals.
- 2015 FTIP Amendment #15-04 was under review and expected to be released for public review by January 30, 2015.

4.3 RTP Update

Daniel Tran, SCAG, reported the following:

- SCAG staff has been working closely with six County Transportation Commissions (CTCs) for further revising and refining list of projects for 2016-2040 RTP/SCS.
- Based on input provided by CTCs, approximately 1,900 existing projects will be carried over and 209 new projects will be added.
- Project list will be submitted to SCAG modeling staff at end of January for modeling.
- SCAG staff will continue to reach out to CTCs to provide further project clarification to SCAG modelers if needed.
- Draft release of 2016 RTP/SCS is still on schedule for fall 2015.

In response to a question, Mr. Tran confirmed that modeling will start in early February 2015.

4.4 TCM Substitution Requests

Jeeseong Chung, Metro, presented a brief status update on Metro's TCM substitution technical analysis. Mr. Chung reported that Metro staff will perform a new technical analysis with different substitute projects and expect to present updated technical analysis at next TCWG meeting.

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Rongsheng Luo, SCAG, clarified that any substitute TCM project is required to remain a non-committed TCM until conclusion of TCM substitution process.

Andrea Zureick, SANBAG, presented an overview of SANBAG's request to substitute two Metrolink station park and ride lot expansion TCM projects with a region-wide vanpool program. Ms. Zureick reported that SANBAG's analysis demonstrates that SANBAG's TCM substitution meets all requirements.

In response to questions, Ms. Zureick confirmed that the substitute vanpool program is a new program, not in current FTIP yet; she also clarified that consistent growth of the vanpool program over next 20 years contributes to the substantial emission reduction benefits in 2035.

Rongsheng Luo, SCAG, clarified that SANBAG's presentation today is to get feedbacks from TCWG; the TCM substitution will be released for a public review; upon conclusion of public review, the TCM substitution will be presented to SCAG's Energy and Environment Committee (EEC) for approval and SCAG's Regional Council (RC) for adoption; Upon RC adoption, the TCM substitution will be forwarded to ARB and EPA for concurrence; the TCM substitution will conclude and become effective upon ARB and EPA concurrence.

4.5 EPA Update

Karina O'Connor, EPA Region 9, reported that public comment period for EPA's proposed clean data finding that South Coast has attained 1997 PM 2.5 standards has closed and one comment was received from Earthjustice.

4.6 ARB Update

Heather Philips, ARB, reported the following:

- EMFAC2014 is available for public use.
- EMFAC2014 has not yet been submitted to EPA for approval but the submittal is expected soon.

In response to a question, Karina O'Connor, EPA Region 9, stated that EPA review will take about three to six months and there will be a grace period for transition from EMFAC2011 to EMFAC 2014.

4.7 Air Districts Update

Jillian Baker, SCAQMD, reported the following:

- Supplement to 2012 South Coast AQMP/PM2.5 SIP has been submitted to ARB.

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- 2016 South Coast AQMP Advisory Group and White Paper Working Groups meetings will start again soon.

**5.0 INFORMATION SHARING**

Rodney Tavitas, Caltrans Headquarters, shared the following:

- Next Statewide Transportation Conformity Working Group meeting may be postponed from March to April 2015.
- Caltrans is working with FHWA to offer three California-based basic transportation conformity classes around the state within next six months or so.

**6.0 ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 11:25 am.

The next Transportation Conformity Working Group meeting will be held on Tuesday, February 24, 2015 at the SCAG office in downtown Los Angeles.