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

**February 24, 2015
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 at the SCAG office in Los Angeles.

In Attendance:

Abrishami, Lori	Metro
Jaffery, Edison	Caltrans, District 8
Louka, Tony	Caltrans, District 8
Yaha, Randy	Caltrans, District 8
Morris, Michael	FHWA
Sherwood, Arnie	UC Berkeley

SCAG

Asuncion, John
Luo, Rongsheng
Tran, Daniel

Via Teleconference:

Alvarez, Grace	RCTC
Aurasteh, Reza	Caltrans, District 12
Bai, Song	Sonoma Technology
Cacatian, Ben	VCAPCD
Castro, Fernando	Caltrans, District 7
DeHate, Eric	RCTC
Gallo, Ilene	Caltrans, District 11
Lay, Keith	LSA Associates
Moe-Luna, Lorelle	RCTC
Odufalu, Olufemi	Caltrans, District 8
Philips, Heather	ARB
Tax, Wienke	EPA
Tavitas, Rodney	Caltrans Headquarters
Vaughn, Joseph	FHWA
Wade, Dennis	ARB
Wong, Jillian	SCAQMD
Wright, Larry	OCTA

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1.0 CALL TO ORDER AND SELF-INTRODUCTION

Tony Louka, TCWG Chair, called the meeting to order at 10:05 am. Mr. Louka acknowledged three former TCWG members - Stew Sonnenberg, FHWA; Cari Anderson, ARB; and Dr. Paul Fagan, formerly Caltrans District 8 - who recently left TCWG. Rongsheng Luo, SCAG, expressed appreciation and gratitude for their services and contribution to the TCWG and wished them best of luck in their new endeavors.

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 approved.

3.2 TCWG January 27, 2015 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

1) LA0G755

It was determined that this is not a POAQC (EPA concurrence received via email before the meeting).

2) RIV010206

It was determined that this is not a POAQC (EPA concurrence received via email before the meeting).

4.2 FTIP Update

John Asuncion, SCAG, reported the following:

- 2015 FTIP Amendment #15-04 was under federal review for approval.
- 2015 FTIP Administrative Modification #15-05 was under SCAG review and expected to be approved soon.

In response to a question, Michael Morris, FHWA, stated that 2015 FTIP Amendment #15-04 was anticipated to receive federal approval in about two weeks.

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4.3 RTP Update

Daniel Tran, SCAG, reported the following:

- SCAG staff was in the process of coding transportation network based on input from County Transportation Commissions and expected the coding to be completed in March.
- Draft 2016-2040 RTP/SCS was anticipated to be released for public review in fall 2015.
- Final 2016-2040 RTP/SCS was anticipated to be adopted by SCAG's Regional Council in April 2016.

In response to a question, Mr. Tran, SCAG, confirmed that 2015 FTIP Consistent Amendment #15-99 follows the same process and schedule as 2016-2040 RTP/SCS.

4.4 EPA Update

Wienke Tax, EPA Region 9, reported the following:

- EPA had published in Federal Register a proposed rule to find that South Coast had attained 1997 PM2.5 standards; Only one comment letter from Earthjustice was received; And the proposal was anticipated to be finalized in spring 2015.
- Published in Federal Register on January 15, 2015, final area designations for 2012 PM2.5 National Ambient Air Quality Standards will become effective April 15, 2015.
- Final SIP Implementation Rule for 2008 8-hour ozone standards was signed by EPA Administrator on February 13, 2015; Upon its effective date, expected in late March or early April 2015, 1997 8-hour ozone standards will be re-revoked for all purposes including transportation conformity; 1997 8-hour ozone standards had been previously revoked by EPA for transportation conformity purposes only; However, the EPA action was vacated by a court order in December 2014; as a result, transportation conformity requirements reapply for 1997 ozone standards until the re-revocation becomes effective.
- Proposed 2015 8-hour Ozone standards had been published in Federal Register and EPA is accepting public comments until March 17, 2015.

Joseph Vaughn, FHWA, reported that FHWA can accept and review but cannot approve project-level conformity determinations for 1997 8-hour ozone standards until after effective date of re-revocation of 1997 ozone standards around late March or early April 2015.

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4.7 ARB Update

Heather Philips, ARB, reported the following:

- EMFAC2014 is expected to be submitted to U.S. EPA around March 2015; EPA staff had indicated that it will take EPA about three to six months to review for approval; and there will be a grace period for transition from EMFAC2011 to EMFAC2014.

4.8 Air Districts Update

Jillian Baker, SCAQMD, reported that SCAQMD's Mobile Source Committee discussed about EPA's proposed revisions to 8-hour ozone standards and SCAMQD's draft comment letter at its last meeting on February 20; Staff presentation and draft District comment letter are available on SCAQMD website at <http://www.aqmd.gov/home/library/meeting-agendas-minutes/agenda?title=mobile-source-02202015>.

5.0 INFORMATION SHARING

Rodney Tavitas, Caltrans Headquarters, announced that Mr. Yoojoong Choi has taken over environmental analysis and transportation conformity responsibilities from Mr. Jim Elder.

6.0 ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 10:35 am.

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