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

**August 23, 2011
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
Sherwood, Arnie	System Metrics

SCAG

Asuncion, John
Kuo, Ryan
Luo, Rongsheng
Sangkapichai, Mana

Via Teleconference:

Behtash, Arman	Caltrans, District 12
Brady, Mike	Caltrans Headquarters
Diaz, Roderick	Metro
Cacatian, Ben	VCAPCD
Chiene, Kelly	RBF Consulting
Crow, Jason	ARB
Fagan, Paul	Caltrans, District 8
Foreman, Stan	LSA Associates
Gallo, Ilene	Caltrans, District 11
Jaffery, Edison	Caltrans, District 8
Krebs, Cindy	OCTA
Malisos, Achilles	RBF Consulting
Poe, Lisa	SANBAG
O'Connor, Karina	U.S. EPA, Region 9
Sonnenberg, Stew	FHWA
Tang, Paul	Caltrans, District 8
Tax, Wienke	U.S. EPA, Region 9
Walecka, Carla	TCA
Welting, Ken	City of Buena Park
Yoon, Andrew	Caltrans, District 7
Zamora, Cherry	Dokken Engineering

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1.0 CALL TO ORDER

Lori Abrishami, Metro, called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m.

2.0 PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

There were no comments.

3.0 CONSENT CALENDAR

3.1 TCWG July 26, 2011 Meeting Minutes

The minutes were approved.

4.0 INFORMATION ITEMS

4.1 Review of PM Hot Spot Interagency Review Forms

1) LA0G208

It was determined that this is not a POAQC.

2) LA11G3

It was determined that this is not a POAQC.

3) LA0D198

It was determined that this is not a POAQC.
(FTA concurrence via email on August 24, 2011)

4) ORA080920

It was determined that this is not a POAQC.

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5) RIV_47520 (Revised)

It was determined that this is not a POAQC.
(Project sponsor provided revised Table 3 - Horizon Year Traffic Volumes on August 24, 2011)

6) RIV011203 and RIV990727

It was determined that this is not a POAQC.

7) RIV011232

It was determined that this is not a POAQC.

8) RIV090902

It was determined that this is not a POAQC.

4.2 FTIP Update

John Asuncion, SCAG, reported the following:

- 2011 FTIP Amendment #14 was posted on SCAG website on August 18 and the public review period would end on September 1.

Mr. Asuncion also gave a PowerPoint presentation of the Draft 2013 FTIP Guidelines:

- The draft guidelines are subject to change due to the following uncertainties:
 - The effective date and contents of the federal transportation bill;
 - The 2012 RTP currently under development; and
 - The schedule of the 2013 FTIP development.
- TCWG will be informed of any significant changes to the guidelines.
- There are eight chapters in the guidelines, some of which combine individual chapters from the 2011 Guideline.
- Consistent with its letter dated June 7, 2011, Caltrans has given MPOs the discretion to exercise the authority to approve FTIP Administrative Modifications to the FTIP in accordance with the approved FTIP Administrative Modification and Amendment Procedures as may be amended.
- Staff will ask the SCAG Regional Council (RC) in October to consider a resolution granting authority to SCAG's Executive Director (1) to approve FTIP amendments and the associated conformity determination and to transmit to the

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state and federal agencies and (2) to approve administrative modifications to the FTIP/FSTIP as given by FHWA and FTA. FTIP amendments triggered by an RTP amendment must be approved by the RC.

- Congestion Management Plan (CMP): The Code of Federal Regulations stipulates that no federal funds may be programmed for any projects that significantly increase Single Occupancy Vehicle (SOV) capacity unless as part of a congestion management process. The policy language has been added on how the CTC's are required to enter projects in the CMP as part of their 2013 FTIP Submittal.
- Key dates of the 2013 FTIP submittal schedule (subject to change):
 - January 4, 2012: Deadline of county TIP submittal to SCAG
 - September 1, 2012: Draft FTIP due to Caltrans
 - December 2012: Approve by Federal Agencies
- Revised FTIP submittal check list – the 2013 FTIP Package to SCAG shall include the following:
 - CTC Transmittal Letter
 - Project Narratives
 - Grouped Project back-up listings
 - Modeling Report generated from the SCAG Database
- Next steps:
 - Comments to the Draft 2013 FTIP Guidelines need to be provided to SCAG by September 8.
 - Subsequent policy changes to the 2013 FTIP Guidelines will need to be approved by the SCAG Regional Council.

4.3 RTP Update

Ryan Kuo, SCAG, reported the following:

- SCAG Staff has continued to hold RTP/SCS public outreach workshops throughout the region. The last three workshops would be held this week in Santa Clarita, Carson, and Santa Monica. The workshops had been well-attended, especially the recent ones in LA County. Mr. Kuo thanked all the stakeholders and partners for their support.
- SCAG High-Speed Rail (HSR) Subcommittee and Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) Subcommittee met last week on Thursday and Friday, respectively. Both Subcommittees have been presented with information on RTP development to facilitate recommendations to the Transportation Committee (TC).

Ms. Abrishami, Metro, commended SCAG staff and management for their efforts in holding the RTP/SCS workshops to solicit comments and ideas.

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4.4 EPA Update

Wienke Tax, EPA, reported the following:

- The Re-proposal of the South Coast PM2.5 SIP was published on the Federal Register on July 14, 2010. The comment period ended on August 15. EPA expected to finalize the Re-proposal by September 30, 2011.
- The South Coast Ozone SIP would be re-proposed shortly because it has to be finalized by December 15, 2011.

Karina O'Connor, EPA, reported the following:

- The Transportation Conformity Rule Restructuring Amendments will be delayed until the new Ozone standard is finalized.
- The training session for the Quantitative PM Hot-Spot Analysis in Sacramento on September 19-21 is now full. Another training class is expected to be held in Southern California in the next fiscal year.

4.5 ARB Update

Jason Crow, ARB, reported the following:

- ARB staff continued working on the new version of EMFAC model but there is not a definite release date.

4.6 Air Districts Update

Ben Cacatian, VCAPCD, reported the following:

- The air district expected to discuss the conformity SIP guidelines to gain a better understanding of the status and actions needed to finalize the conformity SIP and to gain EPA approval.

5.0 **INFORMATION SHARING**

- Arnie Sherwood, System Metrics, informed TCWG that South Coast AQMD had held the second 2012 AQMP Advisory Group Meeting.
- Mike Brady, Caltrans, announced that he continued working with Ms. O'Connor, EPA, to setup another training session for the Quantitative PM Hot-Spot Analysis in Southern California in the next federal fiscal year. He also announced that the next Statewide Conformity Working group meeting is expected to be held in October.

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6.0 **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 11:10 a.m.

The next Transportation Conformity Working Group meeting will be held on September 27, 2011 at the SCAG office in Los Angeles.