TRANSPORTATION CONFORMITY WORKING GROUP  
of the  
SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS  

April 23, 2019  
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:
Huddleston, Lori  
Metro  

SCAG:
Asuncion, John  
Lo, Nancy  
Louie, Matthew  
Luo, Rongsheng  

Via Teleconference:
Bade, Rabindra  
Caltrans, District 12  
Brugger, Ron  
LSA  
Cacatian, Ben  
VCAPCD  
Hatcher, Shannon  
ARB  
Ho, Billy  
Caltrans, District 11  
Kalandiyur, Nesamani  
ARB  
Lugaro, Julie  
Caltrans, District 12  
Miranda, Jude  
Caltrans, District 12  
Mortenson, Marilee  
Caltrans Headquarters  
Nord, Greg  
OCTA  
O’Connor, Karina  
EPA Region 9  
Rosenblum, Jason  
IBI Group  
Sanchez, Lucas  
Caltrans Headquarters  
Silverman, Sam  
Terry A. Hayes Associates  
Sun, Lijin  
SCAQMD  
Tavitas, Rodney  
Caltrans Headquarters  
Tax, Wienke  
EPA Region 9  
Vaughn, Joseph  
FHWA  
Yoon, Andrew  
Caltrans District 7
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, James Mejia.

2.0 PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

None.

3.0 CONSENT CALENDAR

3.1 March 26, 2019 TCWG Meeting Minutes
This item was deferred to May 28, 2019 TCWG meeting.

4.0 INFORMATION ITEMS

4.1 Review of PM Hot Spot Interagency Review Form
1) IMP170701
   It was determined that this was not a POAQC.

2) LA990359
   It was determined that this was not a POAQC.

4.2 Issues and Potential Risks of Anticipated Final Federal Action on Safer Affordable Fuel Efficient (SAFE) Vehicle Rule
Rongsheng Luo, SCAG, presented a brief summary of issues from proposed withdrawal of federal Clean Air Act Preemption Waiver that was previously granted to California in 2013 for ARB’s Advanced Clean Car regulations as part of the Proposed SAFE Vehicle Rule, and potential risks of regional transportation conformity failure and/or highway sanctions if the rule would be finalized as proposed. Mr. Luo noted that there were many uncertainties even after EPA has finalized Waiver Withdrawal.

Rodney Tavitas, Caltrans Headquarters, commented that the most important and urgent issue is to address RTP and FTIP conformity re-determinations for 2015 8-hour ozone standards.
Rongsheng Luo, SCAG, stated that SCAG had submitted its 2016 RTP/SCS and 2019 FTIP conformity re-determination to FHWA/FTA and requested their expedited review and approval. Mr. Luo shared that there should be a joint California Transportation Commission (CTC) and ARB workshop on Proposed SAFE Vehicle Rule immediately after CTC meeting in San Diego on May 16, 2019; In addition, good background and status update information was available on the California Association of Councils of Governments’ (CALCOG) website, under Policy Tracker/SAFE Vehicle Rule at: https://www.calcog.org/index.php?submenu=PolicyTracker&src=directory&view=legislation.

4.3 RTP Update
John Asuncion, SCAG, reported that SCAG staff was continuing development of Connect SoCal on schedule with draft release anticipated in fall 2019, SCAG Regional Council adoption in April 2020, and final federal approval in June 2020.

4.4 FTIP Update
Mr. Asuncion, SCAG, reported the following:
- SCAG staff continued developing 2021 FTIP Guidelines; Draft 2021 FTIP Guidelines would be presented to TCWG for comments and review in summer 2019; and Final 2021 FTIP Guidelines would be ready by fall 2019.
- 2019 FTIP Amendment #19-07 was under analysis by SCAG staff and expected to be posted for public review in early May 2019.

4.5 EPA Update
Wienke Tax, EPA Region 9, reported that EPA staff was working actively on 2008 8-hour ozone SIP and 2012 PM$_{2.5}$ SIP in 2016 South Coast AQMP and expected to propose actions by summer 2019.

In response to a question, Ms. Tax confirmed that Proposed SAFE Vehicle Rule was being taken into consideration but was not expected to impact timeline of EPA proposed actions on 2016 South Coast AQMP.

Karina O’Connor, EPA Region 9, reported the following:
- EPA concurrence on previously reported OCTA TCM Substitution was near completion.
- EPA planned to propose approval of ARB’s EMFAC2017 model soon.
In response to a question, Ms. O’Connor confirmed that Proposed SAFE Vehicle Rule was not expected to impact timelines of EPA proposal to approve EMFAC2017.

4.6 ARB Update
Nesamani Kalandiyur, ARB, reported the following:
- Final Draft Sustainable Community Strategies Program and Evaluation Guidelines was released in late March.
- A public workshop on Final Draft Guidelines was held in early April.

4.7 Air Districts Update
Ben Cacatian, VCAPCD, reported that VCAPCD staff had started discussion with ARB and EPA staff regarding SIP development for 2015 8-hour ozone standards with anticipated SIP submittal in 2022.

5.0 INFORMATION SHARING
Rodney Tavitas, Caltrans Headquarters, announced that an Introduction to Transportation Conformity class by NTI was being planned for 2020 in Southern California.

In response to questions, Karina O’Connor, EPA Region 9, stated that EPA’s MOVE model was not affected by SAFE Vehicle Rule and no specific timeline had been set for when SAFE Vehicle Rule would be finalized.

6.0 ADJOURNMENT
The meeting was adjourned at 10:39 am. The next Transportation Conformity Working Group meeting will be held on Tuesday, May 28, 2019, at the SCAG main office in downtown Los Angeles.