TRANSPORTATION CONFORMITY WORKING GROUP

Meeting Minutes
July 25, 2023
10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

The meeting was held via Zoom, teleconference, and in-person. A digital recording of the meeting is available for listening in SCAG’s office.

Attendee List

SCAG Staff:
Asuncion, John
Calderon, Karen
Lo, Nancy
Luo, Rongsheng
Sun, Lijin

Via Zoom and Teleconference:
Bade, Rabindra
Becha, Karishma
Chung, Casey
Cooper, Keith
Ekrami, Sam
Emery, Edward
Espinosa Araiza, Erika
Galbreath, Holly
Kang, Peter
Lay, Keith
Lee, David
Lods, Barbara
Maggioncalda, Emma
Marroquin, Nancy
Masters, Martha
Maulano, Annabelle
Miranda, Jude
Moran, Nohemi
Morris, Michael
O'Connor, Karina
Richmai, Michael
Shah, Amit
Tavitas, Rodney
Thyagaraj, Sathya
Tran, Daniel
Wong, Alison
Wong, Philbert
Yan, Cheng
Yeung, Sean
Yoon, Andrew

Caltrans District 12
Caltrans Headquarter
OCTA
ERP
Parsons
RCTC
Caltrans Headquarter
Ventura County APCD
Caltrans Headquarter
ICF
Caltrans District 8
Antelope Valley AQMD
Caltrans Headquarter
LA Metro
RCTC
LA Metro
Caltrans District 12
SBCTA
FHWA
U.S. EPA Region IX
LA Metro
Parsons
Caltrans Headquarter
Parsons
LA Metro, Express Lanes
Caltrans District 7
LA Metro, Express Lanes
FHWA
Caltrans District 8
Caltrans District 7
MEETING SUMMARY

1. CALL TO ORDER AND SELF-INTRODUCTIONS
   Rabindra Bade, TCWG Chair, called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m.

2. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD
   None.

3. CONSENT CALENDAR
   3.1. May 23, 2023 TCWG Meeting Minutes
        The meeting minutes were approved.
   3.2. June 27, 2023 TCWG Meeting Minutes
        The meeting minutes were deferred to next TCWG meeting.

4. INFORMATION ITEMS
   4.1. Review of PM Hot Spot Interagency Review Form
        - LA9919118rev: It was determined that Alternative 1, Alternative 2, and Alternative 4 are not projects of air quality concern, and that Alternative 3 is a project of air quality concern. Karina O’Connor, EPA, and Rodney Tavitas, Caltrans Headquarter, recommended that project sponsors could either resubmit the project to TCWG or keep separate TCWG determinations for different alternatives. In response to a question, Andrew Yoon, Caltrans District 7, stated that they would discuss Alternative 3 with LA Metro and inform TCWG as needed.

   4.2. RTP Update
        Nancy Lo, SCAG, reported the following:
        - SCAG staff was developing the 2024-2050 RTP/SCS or Connect SoCal 2024 and had conducted substantial public outreach activities which were summarized in the staff report to SCAG’s Policy Committees in July 2023.
        - At its July 2023 meeting, SCAG’s Regional Council adopted the regional planning policy framework for Connect SoCal 2024.

        In response to a question, Michael Morris, FHWA, stated that federal approval of regional conformity determinations for RTP/FTIP and amendments would be provided electronically through the CTIP database, including federal approval date. Rodney Tavitas, Caltrans Headquarter, stated that federal approval letters would continue to be produced for project level conformity determinations.

   4.3. FTIP Update
        John Asuncion, SCAG, reported the following:
        - SCAG staff would highlight major changes to the Draft 2025 FTIP Guidelines since the 2023 FTIP Guidelines for interagency consultation at the August 22, 2023 TCWG meeting and then seek adoption by SCAG’s Regional Council in September 2023.

   4.4. EPA Update
        Karina O’Connor, EPA, reported the following:
        - EPA published final limited disapprovals of MDAQMD and AVAQMD’s respective new stationary source review programs on June 30 and July 3, 2023, and proposed limited disapproval of MDAQMD’s Rule 401 on July 7, 2023.
        - EPA and SCAG would meet regularly to support ongoing tracking of highway sanction clocks in the SCAG region. The first meeting with SCAG Management would be on August 18, 2023.
In response to a question, Karina O’Connor, EPA, would find out if EPA had guidance on the Transportation Control Measures Most Stringent Measure (MSM) analysis.

4.4a Status Update on the SCAQMD Lawsuit against EPA (Case No. 2:23-cv-02646)
No updates provided.

4.5. ARB Update
No representatives present to provide an update.

4.6. Air Districts Update
4.6.1. Status Update on EPA Final Limited Disapproval of Reasonable Available Control Technology Demonstrations for Sources Covered by the EPA’s 2016 Oil and Gas Control Techniques Guidelines for VCAPCD
Holly Galbreath, VCAPCD, reported the following:
• VCAPCD Board adopted the revisions to Rule 71.1 on July 11, 2023.
• The revised Rule 71.1 would be submitted to CARB soon for EPA approval.

4.6.2. Status Update on EPA Proposed Limited Disapproval of SCAQMD Rules 1106, 1106.1, and 1107; Final Limited Disapproval of SCAQMD Rule 1118; Final Limited Disapproval of Reasonable Available Control Technology Demonstrations for Sources Covered by the EPA’s 2016 Oil and Gas Control Techniques Guidelines for SCAQMD; Failure to Submit Contingency Measures for the 2008 8-Hour Ozone NAAQS for Coachella Valley Ozone Nonattainment Area; Failure to Submit State Implementation Plan Submissions for the 2012 Fine Particulate Matter National Ambient Air Quality Standards
Lijin Sun, SCAG, reported on behalf of SCAQMD:
• SCAQMD staff was waiting on EPA’s finalized contingency measures guidance.
• SCAQMD staff had also initiated a public process for developing a 2012 Annual PM2.5 Attainment Revised SIP for the South Coast Air Basin and held two public working group meetings in May and July 2023. The public process would continue in 2023, with anticipated adoption by the SCAQMD Board in Spring 2024.

4.6.3. Status Update on EPA Final Limited Disapproval of MDAQMD Rule 1160; Final Disapproval of MDAQMD Rule 315; Failure to Submit Contingency Measures for the 2008 8-Hour Ozone NAAQS for San Bernardino County Portion of West Mojave Desert Ozone Nonattainment Area; Final Limited Disapproval of MDAQMD Rules 1301, 1302, 1303, 1304, and 1305; and Final Limited Disapproval of MDAQMD Rule 1157
Lijin Sun, SCAG, reported on behalf of MDAQMD:
• MDAQMD staff submitted a draft revised MDAQMD Rule 1157 for EPA review on June 19, 2023 following the final limited disapproval published on June 16, 2023. Once EPA confirmed that the draft revisions could resolve the deficiencies underlying the final limited disapproval, MDAQMD would readopt the revisions in Fall 2023.
• As reported under Item 4.4, EPA had proposed limited disapproval of MDAQMD’s Rule 401, Visible Emissions. MDAQMD staff was gathering background information on the proposed limited disapproval.
4.6.4. Status Update on EPA Final Limited Disapproval of AVAQMD Rule 315; Failure to Submit Contingency Measures for the 2008 8-Hour Ozone NAAQS for Antelope Valley Portion of West Mojave Desert Ozone Nonattainment Area; and Final Limited Disapproval of AVAQMD Rules 1301, 1302, 1303, 1304, 1305, and 1309
Lijin Sun, SCAG, reported on behalf of AVAQMD:
- AVAQMD was in the process of filing a petition to sue EPA concerning the final limited disapproval of AVAQMD Rules 1301 through 1305 and 1309.

5. INFORMATION SHARING
None.

6. ADJOURNMENT
The next meeting of the TCWG will be held on Tuesday, August 22, 2023 in-person, via Zoom, and by teleconference. Please submit PM Hot Spot Analysis Interagency Review Forms for the next meeting to Lijin Sun, sunl@scag.ca.gov, by Tuesday, August 8, 2023.