



**METROPOLITAN
TRANSPORTATION
COMMISSION**

Bay Area Metro Center
375 Beale Street, Suite 800
San Francisco, CA 94105
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www.mtc.ca.gov

Air Quality Conformity Task Force

Metropolitan Transportation Commission
Bay Area Metro Center

Mount Hamilton Conference Room

375 Beale Street, Suite 800

(Note: Visitors must check in with the receptionist on the 7th floor)
San Francisco, CA

Conference Call Number: Dial - **(415) 655-0002 (Access Code: 927 048 261)**

Participant ID is # **button**.

February 27, 2020

9:30 a.m. –11:00 a.m.

AGENDA

1. Welcome and Introductions
2. PM_{2.5} Project Conformity Interagency Consultations
 - a. Confirm Projects Are Exempt from PM_{2.5} Conformity
Projects Exempt Under 40 CFR 93.126 – Not of Air Quality Concern
3. Revision to the Bay Area Conformity Protocol and Interagency Consultation Procedures
4. Consent Calendar
 - a. January 23, 2020 Air Quality Conformity Task Force Meeting Summary
5. Other Items – FHWA/FTA Certification Review Site Visit

Next Meeting: March 26, 2020

MTC Staff Liaison: Harold Brazil

hbrazil@bayareametro.gov



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Memorandum

TO: Air Quality Conformity Task Force

DATE: February 17, 2020

FR: Harold Brazil

W. I.

RE: PM_{2.5} Project Conformity Interagency Consultation

MTC requests the review and concurrence from the Air Quality Conformity Task Force (AQCTF) that the list of projects sponsors have identified as exempt and likely not to be a POAQC. **2a_Exempt List 021720.pdf** lists exempt projects under 40 CFR 93.126.

40 CFR 93.126 Exempt Projects List

County	TIP ID	Sponsor	Project Name	Project Description	Expanded Description	Project Type under 40 CFR 93.126
ALA	ALA190019	Alameda County	Alameda County Complete Street Improvements	Alameda County: Various locations: Bicycle and ped safety improvements	Alameda County: Various locations: Bicycle and ped safety improvements including sidewalk installation along Meekland Avenue from West Blossom Way to East Lewelling Blvd in the Cherryland Community.	Air Quality - Bicycle and pedestrian facilities
CC	CC-190007	San Pablo	Intersection Church/Willow, El Portal/Mission Bell	San Pablo: At the intersections of Church Ln and Willow Rd and Mission Bell Dr and El Portal Dr: H9-04-029 Install pedestrian crossing enhancements and illumination	San Pablo: At the Church Lane/Willow Road intersection: H9-04-029 Add a new raised pedestrian refuge island at the northbound approach on Church Lane, improve existing pavement markings and signs, and add advanced yield lines; At the Mission Bell Drive/El Portal Drive intersection: the project will formalize the median on El Portal to become a pedestrian refuge island, improve existing pavement marking and signs, add advanced yield lines, add illumination to improve nighttime visibility of people in the crosswalk, construct curb extensions to shorten the pedestrian crossing distance across El Portal Drive, and add a rectangular rapid flashing beacon for the crosswalk across El Portal Drive.	Safety - Safety improvement program
SON	SON190006	Sonoma County	Sonoma County Bridge Preventive Maintenance	Sonoma County: 24 bridges located throughout the county: Bridge preventive maintenance, apply a surface treatment to extend the service life of existing bridge decks.	Two bridges (20C0012, 20C0013 in Sonoma and Glen Ellen) proposed removing the existing asphalt concrete deck and a possible polyester concrete overlay on these decks before applying methacrylate. The other 22 bridges propose to have their decks treated with methacrylate.	Safety - Pavement resurfacing or rehabilitation



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Memorandum

TO: Air Quality Conformity Task Force

DATE: February 21, 2020

FR: Harold Brazil

W. I.

RE: Proposed Revision to the Bay Area Transportation Air Quality Conformity Protocol and Interagency Consultation Procedures

Background

MTC and the Sacramento Area Council of Governments (SACOG) share responsibilities for federal transportation-air quality requirements in Solano County. Northeastern Solano County is part of the Yolo-Solano Air Quality Management District, whereas the remainder of the county is part of the Bay Area Air Quality Management District. MTC and BAAQMD staff revised procedures for interagency consultation to account for additional federal transportation-air quality requirements and to provide clarity on MTC and SACOG's roles and updated responsibilities on these requirements, constituting a formal revision to the Bay Area elements of the SIP.

The key revisions are summarized below:

- Coordination between MTC and SACOG when exchanging travel data for emission inventories in eastern Solano County; and,
- Coordination between MTC and SACOG when conducting project-level conformity in eastern Solano County.

BAAQMD and ABAG Delegation of Authority to MTC to Hold Public Hearing

BAAQMD and ABAG are co-lead agencies involved in preparing the Bay Area elements of the California State Implementation Plan (SIP), but delegated authority to MTC to hold a public hearing on the revised conformity and interagency consultation procedures at the January 10, 2020, joint meeting of the MTC Planning Committee and the ABAG Administrative Committee. ABAG and BAAQMD took delegation of authority actions at their respective board meetings in November 2019.

Public Hearing and Comments

MTC noticed and recorded the public hearing in accordance with MTC's public involvement procedures. No oral comments were offered during the public hearing. One written comment was received from U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) about the use of "CO and PM" versus the word "pollutant".

The Proposed Final Bay Area Transportation Air Quality Conformity Protocol can be found at the following link: <https://mtc.ca.gov/Proposed-Final-Bay-Area-Transportation-Air-Quality-Conformity-Protocol>, at the Hub at 375 Beale St. in San Francisco, CA, and will be sent to major libraries throughout the Bay Area upon request.

Next Steps

The MTC Planning Committee approved MTC Resolution 3757, Revised at its February 14, 2020 meeting and referred it to the Commission for final action on February 26, 2020. The BAAQMD Board of Directors final action is scheduled for March 4, 2020. ABAG will take final action at its Executive Board meeting scheduled for March 19, 2020.

Attachment A: Schedule for the Revision to the Bay Area Transportation Air Quality Conformity Protocol and Interagency Consultation Procedures

Activity	Timeline
<i>ABAG delegates authority to MTC to conduct public hearing on proposed revision to Conformity Protocol and Interagency Consultation Procedures</i>	<i>November 8, 2019 – ABAG Administrative Committee Meeting</i>
<i>BAAQMD delegates authority to MTC to conduct public hearing on proposed revision to Conformity Protocol and Interagency Consultation Procedures</i>	<i>November 20, 2019 – BAAQMD Board of Directors Meeting</i>
<i>Begin Public Review and Comment Period</i>	<i>December 27, 2019</i>
<i>Public Hearing at the MTC Planning Committee/ABAG Administrative Committee</i>	<i>January 10, 2020</i>
<i>Discuss received comments with AQCTF</i>	<i>January 23, 2020</i>
<i>End of Public Comment Period</i>	<i>January 27, 2020</i>
<i>MTC Planning Committee Approval</i>	<i>February 14, 2020</i>
Commission Approval	February 26, 2020
AQCTF Meeting	February 27, 2020
BAAQMD Approval	March 4, 2020
ABAG Executive Board Approval	March 19, 2020
Expected Submission to CARB	Late March 2020

**Air Quality Conformity Task Force
Summary Meeting Notes
January 23, 2020**

Participants:

Andrea Gordon – BAAQMD
Panah Stauffer – EPA
Kevin Krewson – Caltrans
Dick Fahey – Caltrans
Ted Matley – FTA

Joseph Vaughn – FHWA
Lucas Sanchez – Caltrans
Rodney Taviton – Caltrans
Adam Crenshaw – MTC
Harold Brazil – MTC

1. Welcome and Self Introductions: Harold Brazil (MTC) called the meeting to order at 9:35 am.

Note: the “Projects with Regional Air Quality Conformity Concerns” was added to the beginning of the meeting agenda to facilitate discussion of this item for all Task Force members.

2. PM_{2.5} Project Conformity Interagency Consultations

a. Confirm Projects Are Exempt from PM_{2.5} Conformity

i. Projects Exempt Under 40 CFR 93.126 – Not of Air Quality Concern

Task Force members had no comments.

Final Determination; With input from FTA, FHWA, EPA, Caltrans and MTC, the Task Force agreed that the projects on the exempt list **2b_Exempt List 010920.pdf** are exempt from PM_{2.5} project level analysis.

Added Item – Review of the Regional Conformity Status for New and Revised Projects

Projects Staff Proposing to Include in the 2019 TIP

Adam Crenshaw (MTC) stated that MTC staff had received a request from sponsors to add six individually listed project to the 2019 TIP and revise one existing project. Mr. Crenshaw when on to say that the I-280 HOV Lane Extension to Magdalena Ave Interchange project included in the 2019 TIP and Plan Bay Area 2040 adds new lanes to extend the HOV lanes on I-280 from where they terminate near the Magdalena Ave Interchange to the San Mateo County line.

Mr. Crenshaw added that Caltrans has recently proposed to fund construction for a portion of this project, from the terminus of the existing HOV lanes to a point approximately 3,200 feet north, as part of their I-280 Roadway Preservation project in 2020. Mr. Crenshaw said that the construction of these improvements is expected to be completed toward the end of 2021, which is consistent with how the project is currently modelled in the regional conformity analysis.

Mr. Crenshaw indicated that MTC staff is proposing to revise the scope of the Caltrans project per their request through an amendment to the 2019 TIP. Since the project is already reflected in the existing regional air quality conformity analysis, staff is asking for the Task Force's concurrence that the change to this project in the 2019 TIP would not require an update to the conformity analysis.

Discussion continued about the I-280 HOV Lane Extension to Magdalena Ave Interchange project with Joseph Vaughn (FHWA) concurring the project would not require an update to the conformity analysis. Rodney Tavitas (Caltrans) agreed if there was no new EMFAC modeling involved – then amending the project to the TIP would be no problem.

Mr. Crenshaw also asked is there was a timeline for EPA's approval of CARB's EMFAC adjustment factors for conformity determinations resulting from SAFE Rule Part One impacts on on-road emission modeling in California. Panah Stauffer (EPA) indicated that she was unaware of a timeline for EPA's approval of the CARB's adjustment factors but stated EPA and the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) submitted the SAFE Rule to the Office of Management and Budget on January 14th, 2020.

After the meeting, Caltrans requested follow-up discussion on this agenda item and the email chain is listed below:

From: Stauffer, Panah <Stauffer.Panah@epa.gov>
Sent: Monday, February 10, 2020 8:03 AM
To: Adam Crenshaw <ACrenshaw@bayareametro.gov>; Harold Brazil <HBrazil@bayareametro.gov>; 'Matley, Ted' <ted.matley@fta.dot.gov>; Kraft, Dominique (FTA) <Dominique.Kraft@dot.gov>; Vaughn, Joseph (FHWA) <Joseph.Vaughn@dot.gov>; Tavitas, Rodney A@DOT <rodney.tavitas@dot.ca.gov>; 'Fahey, Dick' <dick_fahey@dot.ca.gov>; Sanchez, Lucas@DOT <Lucas.Sanchez@dot.ca.gov>
Subject: RE: January 2020 Air Quality Conformity Task Force Meeting Package - Added Items

Hi Adam,

Thanks for looking into that. Yes, I think the bike/ped category would make more sense there. I was also wondering if bike/ped or another category would make more sense for the "Napa Valley Forward" project. Other than that I have no other questions on the exempt projects.

Thanks a lot,
Panah

Panah Stauffer
Air Planning Section (ARD-2)
US EPA Region 9
75 Hawthorne Street
San Francisco, CA 94105
415-972-3247

From: Adam Crenshaw <ACrenshaw@bayareametro.gov>
Sent: Thursday, February 6, 2020 5:10 PM
To: Stauffer, Panah <Stauffer.Panah@epa.gov>; Harold Brazil <HBrazil@bayareametro.gov>; 'Matley, Ted' <ted.matley@fta.dot.gov>; Kraft, Dominique (FTA) <Dominique.Kraft@dot.gov>; Vaughn, Joseph (FHWA)

<Joseph.Vaughn@dot.gov>; Tavitias, Rodney A@DOT <rodney.tavitias@dot.ca.gov>; 'Fahey, Dick' <dick_fahey@dot.ca.gov>; Sanchez, Lucas@DOT <Lucas.Sanchez@dot.ca.gov>
Subject: RE: January 2020 Air Quality Conformity Task Force Meeting Package - Added Items

Hi Panah,

I forwarded your questions to the project manager. The project will be a mix of non-infrastructure TDM type activities and bike/ped infrastructure improvements.

Regarding the “commuter projects”, she replied that “we have developed an e-bike commuter program with rebates and incentives to support e-bike commute travel during peak period across the bridge” and that some funds will be used for construction of “‘quick build’ bike/ped access improvements (including protected intersections) for Richmond-San Rafael bridge”.

In light of this, would the “bicycle and pedestrian facilities” exempt category be more appropriate?

Thank you.

Adam

From: Stauffer, Panah [<mailto:Stauffer.Panah@epa.gov>]
Sent: Thursday, February 06, 2020 12:55 PM
To: Harold Brazil <HBrazil@bayareametro.gov>; 'Matley, Ted' <ted.matley@fta.dot.gov>; Kraft, Dominique (FTA) <Dominique.Kraft@dot.gov>; Vaughn, Joseph (FHWA) <Joseph.Vaughn@dot.gov>; Tavitias, Rodney A@DOT <rodney.tavitias@dot.ca.gov>; 'Fahey, Dick' <dick_fahey@dot.ca.gov>; Sanchez, Lucas@DOT <Lucas.Sanchez@dot.ca.gov>
Cc: Adam Crenshaw <ACrenshaw@bayareametro.gov>
Subject: RE: January 2020 Air Quality Conformity Task Force Meeting Package - Added Items

Hi Harold,

It seems like the Oakley Park and Ride and the I-280 extension projects are already modeled in the regional emissions analysis for the relevant years. I don't have any further questions or concerns on those.

On the exempt project list, I do have a question. The second project says “Quick Build PE/CON and technical assistance will also be provided on an as-needed basis for and other shared use commuter projects throughout the region to support mobility hub and protected intersection development.” What does “commuter projects” mean- is it more bike/ped promotion? I'm trying to understand if something would be built/constructed because the exemption category says it's a grant for training and research.

Thanks!
Panah

Panah Stauffer
Air Planning Section (ARD-2)
US EPA Region 9
75 Hawthorne Street
San Francisco, CA 94105
415-972-3247

From: Tavitas, Rodney A@DOT <rodney.tavitas@dot.ca.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, February 4, 2020 3:41 PM
To: Harold Brazil <HBrazil@bayareametro.gov>
Cc: Sanchez, Lucas@DOT <Lucas.Sanchez@dot.ca.gov>
Subject: RE: I-280 HOV Lane Extension to Magdalena Ave Interchange

Thank you, Harold! I really appreciate it.

From: Harold Brazil <HBrazil@bayareametro.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, February 4, 2020 3:37 PM
To: Tavitas, Rodney A@DOT <rodney.tavitas@dot.ca.gov>
Cc: Sanchez, Lucas@DOT <Lucas.Sanchez@dot.ca.gov>
Subject: Re: I-280 HOV Lane Extension to Magdalena Ave Interchange

Will do Rodney and thanks.

Harold

From: Tavitas, Rodney A@DOT <rodney.tavitas@dot.ca.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, February 4, 2020 9:30 AM
To: Harold Brazil <HBrazil@bayareametro.gov>
Cc: Sanchez, Lucas@DOT <Lucas.Sanchez@dot.ca.gov>
Subject: RE: I-280 HOV Lane Extension to Magdalena Ave Interchange

Hi Harold,

Sorry for the late response, the SAFE Rule had me a little busy yesterday.

I believe the issues was that EPA didn't concur. EPA was quiet on the last call. Could you follow-up with EPA? Thank you, Harold.

Sincerely,

Rodney Tavitas
Air Quality Planning and Coordination
California Department of Transportation
Phone:(916)653-1069
Fax:(916)653-1447
Rodney.Tavitas@dot.ca.gov
<http://www.dot.ca.gov/hq/env/air/index.htm>

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<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/CTDOTP>

From: Harold Brazil <HBrazil@bayareametro.gov>
Sent: Monday, February 3, 2020 12:35 PM
To: Tavitias, Rodney A@DOT <rodney.tavitias@dot.ca.gov>
Cc: Sanchez, Lucas@DOT <Lucas.Sanchez@dot.ca.gov>
Subject: Re: I-280 HOV Lane Extension to Magdalena Ave Interchange

Hi Rodney and Lucas.

Lucas, my apologies for not responding last we because we were waiting to hear what was said at last Wednesday's RTPA meeting regarding the SAFE rule.

Re: the status of the I-280 HOV Lane extension – at the task force meeting last month [1/23/20], there was discussion between FHWA and Caltrans and we heard concurrence that the I-280 HOV Lane Extension to Magdalena Ave Interchange project could be added 2019 TIP without conducting a regional conformity emissions analysis.

I'm a little confused to why we would need a follow-up with the group for this specific project when it seems we already have concurrence?

Does Caltrans have new and/or different comments on this project now?

Let me know and I'll look to talk to you later!

Thanks,
Harold

Harold Brazil
Senior Planner
hbrazil@bayareametro.gov

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From: Tavitias, Rodney A@DOT <rodney.tavitias@dot.ca.gov>
Sent: Monday, February 3, 2020 11:32 AM
To: Harold Brazil <HBrazil@bayareametro.gov>
Cc: Sanchez, Lucas@DOT <Lucas.Sanchez@dot.ca.gov>
Subject: RE: I-280 HOV Lane Extension to Magdalena Ave Interchange

Hi Harold,

Are we going to have a follow-up meeting to last month's Air Quality Conformity Task Force discussion? I know there were several items that we couldn't concur on because of the short notice. Our district office is inquiring on the status of the I-280 HOV Lane extension. Thanks again Harold.

From: Sanchez, Lucas@DOT
Sent: Friday, January 24, 2020 12:56 PM
To: Harold Brazil <HBrazil@bayareametro.gov>
Cc: Tavitias, Rodney A@DOT <rodney.tavitias@dot.ca.gov>
Subject: I-280 HOV Lane Extension to Magdalena Ave Interchange

Hey Harold,

Can you follow up with the AQCTF on the above project that was included in yesterday's "Other Items" PDF under Review of the Regional Conformity Status for New and Revised Projects (page 2)? Now that we have had more time for review, we specifically would like to get the group's input on the question asked in the review "For both of the projects above, staff is seeking clarification from the Task Force as to whether or not these amendments would require a conformity determination before being approved".

Thank you,

Lucas Sanchez
Air Quality Specialist
DOTP
Caltrans HQ
(916) 653-2023

3. Proposed Revision to the Bay Area Transportation Air Quality Conformity Protocol and Interagency Consultation Procedures

Harold Brazil (MTC) updated the Task Force on the status of the revisions to the procedures for interagency consultation. A public hearing was held during the January 10, 2020, joint meeting of the MTC Planning Committee and the ABAG Administrative Committee to receive oral comments on the proposed revisions to MTC Resolution No. 3757, Revised. Mr. Brazil indicated that MTC noticed and recorded the public hearing in accordance with MTC's public involvement procedures and there were no oral comments were offered during the public hearing. Mr. Brazil discussed with the group the use of "CO and PM" and MTC followed up on the final wording with the Task Force after the meeting.

4. Consent Calendar

a. December 5, 2019 Air Quality Conformity Task Force Meeting Summary

Final Determination; With input from all members, the Task Force concluded that the consent calendar was approved.