



# TRANSPORTATION CONFORMITY WORKING GROUP

## Meeting Minutes

August 22, 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  
Jones, Mike  
Lo, Nancy  
Luo, Rongsheng  
Sun, Lijin*

#### **Via Zoom and Teleconference:**

*Bade, Rabindra  
Becha, Karishma  
Espinosa Araiza, Erika  
Galbreath, Holly  
Garfio, Angel  
Gow, Jimmy  
Huddleston, Lori  
Kalandiyur, Nesamani  
Lay, Keith  
Lee, David  
Lee, Sang-Mi  
Lugaro, Julie  
Maggioncalda, Emma  
Masters, Martha  
Morris, Michael  
OConnor, Karina  
Richmai, Michael  
Tavitas, Rodney  
Vaca, Erika  
Yoon, Andrew*

*Caltrans District 12  
Caltrans Headquarter  
Caltrans Headquarter  
Ventura County APCD  
OCTA  
Office of Assemblymember Al Muratsuchi  
LA Metro, Long Range Planning  
CARB  
ICF  
Caltrans District 8  
South Coast AQMD  
Caltrans District 12  
Caltrans Headquarter  
RCTC  
FHWA  
U.S. EPA Region IX  
LA Metro  
Caltrans Headquarter  
Caltrans Headquarter  
Caltrans District 7*



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## MEETING SUMMARY

### 1. CALL TO ORDER AND SELF-INTRODUCTIONS

Rabindra Bade, TCWG Chair, called the meeting to order at 10:02 a.m.

### 2. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

None.

### 3. CONSENT CALENDAR

#### 3.1. June 27, 2023 TCWG Meeting Minutes

The meeting minutes were approved.

#### 3.2. July 25, 2023 TCWG Meeting Minutes

The meeting minutes were deferred to next TCWG meeting.

### 4. INFORMATION ITEMS

#### 4.1. Acknowledgement of Outstanding Interagency Collaboration in Lifting Regional Transportation Conformity Lockdown in SCAG Region

Rongsheng Luo, SCAG, acknowledged the extraordinary interagency consultation, coordination, and collaboration in lifting the unprecedented regional transportation conformity lockdown in the vast SCAG region including:

- The entire TCWG for their sustained and active efforts and contributions over the past two years to address the conformity lockdown and to minimize its impact on the implementation of transportation projects.
- The six involved federal and state agencies - ARB, Caltrans Headquarters, EPA Region 9, FHWA, FTA, and South Coast AQMD - for their respective extraordinary efforts and significant contributions.
- The point of contact staff from these six key agencies - ARB: Nesamani Kalandiyur, Caltrans Headquarters: Rodney Tavitas, EPA Region 9: Karina O'Connor, FHWA: Michael Morris, FTA: Mervin Acebo, and South Coast AQMD: Dr. Sang-Mi Lee - for their diligent and effective interagency coordination efforts and significant contributions. As a token of SCAG's sincere appreciation, SCAG had prepared a certificate of appreciation for each of the six key staff members, signed by SCAG's President and SCAG's Executive Director.

#### 4.2. RTP Update

Nancy Lo, SCAG, reported the following:

- SCAG staff was developing the 2024-2050 RTP/SCS or Connect SoCal 2024 and would highlight the draft Plan to the Joint Meeting of SCAG Policy Committees in September 2023.

#### 4.3. FTIP Update

John Asuncion, SCAG, reported the following:

- SCAG had received federal approvals of amendments to the 2023 FTIP through FTIP Amendment #23-13.
- Amendment #23-14 to the 2023 FTIP was under federal review.
- Administrative Modification #23-15 to the 2023 FTIP would be available in a week.

##### 4.3.1. Draft 2025 FTIP Guidelines

John Asuncion, SCAG, reported the following:

- The Draft 2025 FTIP Guidelines included the established performance measure targets, information on STBG/CMAG fund sources and CRP Guidelines that SCAG had developed, and an updated Equity Section.
- Advanced copies of the Draft 2025 FTIP Guidelines had been provided to CTCs and Caltrans for informal



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reviews. Public release of the draft guidelines would be in September 2023.

- SCAG's Transportation Committee would consider the Draft 2025 FTIP Guidelines in October to recommend approval by SCAG's Regional Council at its meeting in November 2023.

## 4.3.2. Transportation Conformity/Transportation Control Measures/Modeling portions of the Draft 2025 FTIP Guidelines

Lijin Sun and Mana Sangkapichai, SCAG, reported the following:

### **Transportation Conformity/Transportation Control Measures (TCMs) Portions:**

- Chapter 3 of the Draft 2025 FTIP Guidelines discussed transportation conformity and modeling and included the same seven sections as in 2023 FTIP Guidelines.
- No major revisions to Chapter 3, except the following technical changes:
  - Modeling years had been updated in the conformity tables.
  - New tables had been added for informational purposes only at this time due to anticipated new conformity budgets which were currently under U.S. EPA review.
- It was important to note that it would be a challenge to delay project completion years in the 2025 FTIP cycle especially in the South Coast Air Basin where almost every year would be a required modeling year.
- Chapter 4 discussed TCMs and included the same four sections as in the 2023 FTIP Guidelines.
- No major revisions to Chapter 4, except one technical change and one proposed enhancement:
  - Updated two-year cycle to be consistent with the 2025 FTIP cycle.
  - Consistent with bike lane TCM projects, pedestrian TCM projects less than 1 mile would be de minimis and would not need to be reported, and no replacement is required. It used to be less than ¼ mile in the 2023 FTIP Guidelines.

### **Modeling Portion:**

- SCAG staff had updated the activity-based travel demand model for the 2024 RTP/SCS and would continue to use this updated model for the 2025 FTIP cycle.
- Model improvements included updated model estimations based on the most recent data and the latest planning assumptions and new sub-models for future planning policies and analyses, with the biggest improvement to the heavy-duty truck sub-model.
- Peer review of the transportation modeling completed in May 2023 and received positive feedback. SCAG staff had reflected short-term recommendations in the modeling.
- As done in the previous cycles, SCAG's travel demand model was validated and calibrated to the 2024 RTP/SCS base year (2019).
- The U.S. EPA-approved EMFAC2021 and the interim off-model adjustment factors for EMFAC2021 would be used for the regional emissions analysis.

In response to a request from Karina O'Connor, EPA, SCAG staff would provide an advanced copy of the Draft 2025 FTIP Guidelines for informal review.

## 4.4. EPA Update

Karina O'Connor, EPA, reported the following:

- The first bi-monthly check-in meeting between EPA and SCAG Management would be on August 18, 2023 to discuss ongoing highway sanction clocks in the SCAG region.



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4.4.1. Status Update on the SCAQMD Lawsuit against EPA (Case No. 2:23-cv-02626)  
No updates provided.

## 4.5. ARB Update

Nesamani Kalandiyur, CARB, reported the following:

- CARB was developing the next version of the EMFAC model. Public workshops were planned for early 2024.
- CARB was also developing motor vehicle emissions budgets for the 2012 annual PM2.5 federal standards in the South Coast nonattainment area and could present them to TCWG for interagency consultation at future meetings.

## 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 had adopted the revisions to Rule 71.1 on July 11, 2023.
- Upon receipt of the CEQA document from the Ventura County Clerk's Office, the revised Rule 71.1 would be submitted for EPA review and approval through CARB.

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

Sang-Mi Lee, SCAQMD, reported the following:

- SCAQMD Board had adopted revisions to Rules 1106, 1106.1, 1107, and 1118 in January 2023 and revisions to Rules 463 and 1178 in May 2023 which were to address the deficiencies underlying the final limited disapproval concerning the EPA's 2016 Oil and Gas Control Techniques Guidelines for SCAQMD.
- SCAQMD staff was waiting on EPA's finalized contingency measures guidance.
- Development of the 2012 Annual PM2.5 Attainment Revised Plan was underway and would be submitted to EPA through CARB in 2024.

In response to a question, Sang-Mi Lee, SCAQMD, stated that SCAQMD had submitted the adopted Revised Rules 1106, 1106.1, 1107, 1118, 463, and 1178 to CARB for their subsequent submittals for EPA approvals.

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; Final Limited Disapproval of MDAQMD Rule 1157; and Proposed Limited Disapproval of MDAQMD Rule 401  
No representatives present to provide an update.



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- 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

No representatives present to provide an update.

## 5. INFORMATION SHARING

None.

## 6. ADJOURNMENT

The next meeting of the TCWG will be held on Tuesday, September 26, 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](mailto:sunl@scag.ca.gov), by Tuesday, September 12, 2023.