

**Association of Bay Area Governments  
ABAG Administrative Committee**

November 8, 2019

Agenda Item 3b

**Adoption of ABAG Resolution No. 12-19, Delegation of Authority to MTC to conduct a public hearing on the proposed revision to the Bay Area Transportation Air Quality Conformity Protocol and Interagency Consultation Procedures**

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**Subject:** Adoption of ABAG Resolution No. 12-19, Delegation of Authority to MTC to conduct a public hearing on the proposed revision to the Bay Area Transportation Air Quality Conformity Protocol and Interagency Consultation Procedures.

**Background:** ABAG, the Bay Area Air Quality Management District (BAAQMD), and the Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) adopted the Bay Area's current Transportation Air Quality Conformity Protocol and Interagency Consultation Procedures in 2006 (ABAG Resolution No. 06-06). These procedures, along with the 2001 Ozone Attainment Plan and certain BAAQMD rules, are Bay Area elements of the California State Implementation Plan (SIP) which is the plan to attain the national ambient air quality standards (NAAQS). MTC has taken the lead to consult with the Air Quality Conformity Task Force<sup>1</sup> and revise the conformity procedures to reflect updated consultation best practices and agency roles and responsibilities.

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 are proposing to update procedures for interagency consultation to account for additional federal transportation-air quality requirements and (specifically) 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 proposed SIP revisions have been reviewed and approved by the Air Quality Conformity Task Force and SACOG staff.

The key revisions to the Air Quality Conformity Protocol and Interagency Consultation Procedures 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.

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<sup>1</sup> The Bay Area's Air Quality Conformity Task Force consists of staff members of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), California Air Resources Board (CARB), Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), Federal Transit Administration (FTA), Caltrans, California Air Resources Board (CARB), BAAQMD, and MTC/ABAG.

**Public Hearing Requirements**

As co-lead agencies involved in preparing the SIP, the BAAQMD and ABAG are being asked to delegate authority to MTC to hold a public hearing on the revised conformity and interagency consultation procedures. If approved, MTC will notice and record the public hearing in accordance with MTC's public involvement procedures.

Staff requests that the ABAG Administrative Committee delegate authority to MTC to conduct a public hearing at a wintertime 2019-2020 Joint MTC Planning Committee with the ABAG Administrative Committee on behalf of the three co-lead agencies for revising the Bay Area's Transportation Air Quality Conformity Protocol and Interagency Consultation Procedures.

BAAQMD will be taking a similar action to delegate authority to MTC for the Public Hearing on November 20, 2019.

**Recommendation:** The ABAG Administrative Committee is requested to adopt ABAG Resolution No. 12-19.

**Issues:** None

**Attachment:** Attachment A: ABAG Resolution 12-19

  
Therese W. McMillan

**ASSOCIATION OF BAY AREA GOVERNMENTS  
ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE**

**RESOLUTION NO. 12-19**

**DELEGATE AUTHORITY TO METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION  
TO CONDUCT PUBLIC HEARING ON PROPOSED REVISION TO THE BAY AREA  
TRANSPORTATION AIR QUALITY CONFORMITY PROTOCOL AND INTERAGENCY  
CONSULTATION PROCEDURES**

**WHEREAS**, Association of Bay Area Governments (ABAG), the Bay Area Air Quality Management District (BAAQMD), and the Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) have been designated the co-lead agencies by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) for developing and implementing various portions of the federal air quality plans in the San Francisco Bay Area; and

**WHEREAS**, the MTC is the regional transportation planning agency for the San Francisco Bay Area pursuant to Government Code § 66500 *et seq.*; and

**WHEREAS**, prior to adopting or amending the long-range Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) and Transportation Improvement Program (TIP), MTC must first determine that these plans and programs conform to the federal air quality plan for the San Francisco Bay Area (termed the State Implementation Plan, or SIP) using procedures established by the U.S. EPA; and

**WHEREAS**, the three agencies have prepared a protocol for determining transportation air quality conformity in compliance with Federal regulation entitled: San Francisco Bay Area Transportation Air Quality Conformity Protocol ("the Protocol"), which includes certain conformity procedures relating to transportation plans, programs, and projects and the interagency consultation procedures; and

**WHEREAS**, the three agencies have revised the Protocol to reflect the most recent guidance provided by the U.S. EPA; and

**WHEREAS**, Federal regulations for amending the SIP require a public hearing prior to adoption or changes to the Protocol; and

**WHEREAS**, MTC will conduct a duly noticed public hearing on the proposed Protocol at a wintertime 2019-2020 meeting of the MTC Planning Committee; and

**WHEREAS**, the public's interest in providing comments on the proposed Protocol can best be served through a consolidated public hearing process.

**ASSOCIATION OF BAY AREA GOVERNMENTS  
RESOLUTION NO. 12-19**

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, DETERMINED AND ORDERED**, as follows: that the Administrative Committee of the Association of Bay Area Governments hereby delegates to the Metropolitan Transportation Commission the power and responsibility for conducting the public hearing on proposed revision to the Bay Area Transportation Air Quality Conformity Protocol and Interagency Consultation Procedures in accordance with, and in fulfillment of, all applicable legal requirements.

The foregoing was adopted by the Administrative Committee this 8<sup>th</sup> day of November, 2019.

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David Rabbitt  
President

**Certification of Executive Board Approval**

I, the undersigned, the appointed and qualified Clerk of the Board of the Association of Bay Area Governments (Association), do hereby certify that the foregoing resolution was adopted by the Administrative Committee of the Association at a duly called meeting held on the 8<sup>th</sup> day of November, 2019.

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Frederick Castro  
Clerk of the Board