

Association of Bay Area Governments

Executive Board

April 16, 2020

Agenda Item 6.e.

Bay Area Transportation Air Quality Conformity Protocol

Subject: Adoption of ABAG Resolution No. 04-2020, Authorizing Approval of Proposed Final San Francisco Bay Area Transportation Air Quality Conformity Protocol and Interagency Consultation Procedures

Background: The Association of Bay Area Governments (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 Force¹ to 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 revise 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. MTC has consulted with the Air Quality Conformity Task Force to ensure the proposed revisions reflect consultation best practices.

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.

¹ 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

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The Metropolitan Transportation Commission approved the procedures for conducting and consulting on the air quality conformity analysis for the Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) and Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) at their February 26, 2020 Commission meeting. The Bay Area Air Quality District Board of Directors approved conformity and interagency consultation procedures at their March 4, 2020 meeting.

Public Hearing Requirements:

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. 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". See Attachment A for EPA's comment which was incorporated into the final proposed version of the protocol.

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 Street in San Francisco, California, and will be sent to major libraries throughout the Bay Area upon request.

Issues:

None

Recommended Action:

The Executive Board is requested to adopt Resolution No. 04-2020.

Attachments:

A. EPA Comment on Proposed Final Version of Conformity Protocol

B. ABAG Resolution No. 04-2020

Reviewed:



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