

**Metropolitan Transportation Commission
Planning Committee**

October 8, 2021

Agenda Item 5b

**MTC Resolution No. 4482:
Final Transportation-Air Quality Conformity Analysis for Plan Bay Area 2050 and
Amended 2021 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)**

Subject:

A request for referral of MTC Resolution No. 4482 to the Commission for adoption.

Background:

Federal regulations require that Metropolitan Planning Organization conduct an analysis to determine whether the region's long-range plan (Plan Bay Area 2050, referred thereafter as the "Plan") and short-range funding program (Amended 2021 TIP) are consistent with the federal air quality plan, which is referred to as the State Implementation Plan (SIP), prior to their approval. MTC has prepared the Final Transportation-Air Quality Conformity Analysis for the Plan and the Amended 2021 TIP (Conformity Analysis) in accordance with the latest U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) transportation conformity regulations and the Bay Area Air Quality Conformity Protocol (MTC Resolution No. 3757). To complete this analysis, staff used the latest planning assumptions, emissions model, and consultation provisions, including a quantitative regional emissions analysis that meets emissions budget requirements of the U.S. EPA transportation conformity rule.

The Draft Conformity Analysis was released for a 30-day public review and comment period beginning on July 7, 2021 and ending on August 5, 2021. The document was available on the [Draft Supplemental Reports webpage](#). No comments were submitted during the comment period. The Final Conformity Analysis approach, methodology, and findings were prepared in consultation with the multiagency Air Quality Conformity Task Force (comprised of staff from the U.S. EPA, Federal Highway Administration, Federal Transit Administration, Caltrans, and participating congestion management agencies and transit operators), as stipulated in MTC Resolution No. 3757. The task force discussed the Conformity Analysis methodology, public comment period, and findings during their June 2020, January 2021, February 2021, May 2021, July 2021, and September 2021 meetings, which were held on Zoom due to COVID-19 and open to the public.

Findings:

The Final Conformity Analysis demonstrates that both the Plan and the Amended 2021 TIP conform to the federal air quality plan and the proposed transportation activities will not cause new air quality violations, worsen existing violations, or delay timely attainment of the federal air quality standards. Based on the Final Conformity Analysis, MTC makes the following conformity findings for the Plan and the Amended 2021 TIP:


- Conforms to the applicable provisions of the SIP and the applicable transportation conformity budgets in the SIP approved for the national 8-hour ozone standard and the interim conformity emissions test for the national fine particulate matter standard; and
- Provides for the timely implementation of transportation control measures (TCMs) pursuant to the applicable SIP.

Recommendation:

Staff requests the MTC Planning Committee find the Final Transportation-Air Quality Conformity Analysis for Plan Bay Area 2050 and the Amended 2021 TIP to be in conformance with the applicable federal air quality plan for ozone and particulates and refer MTC Resolution No. 4482 to the Commission and for approval.

Attachment:

- Attachment A: MTC Resolution No. 4482



Therese W. McMillan

Date: October 21, 2021
W.I.: 1412
Referred by: Planning

ABSTRACT

Resolution No. 4482

This resolution finds that the Final Transportation-Air Quality Conformity Analysis for Plan Bay Area 2050 and the Amended 2021 Transportation Improvement Program are in conformance with the State Implementation Plan to achieve National Ambient Air Quality Standards.

Further discussion of this subject is contained in the Planning Committee's Summary Sheet dated October 8, 2021.

Date: October 21, 2021
W.I.: 1412
Referred by: Planning

Re: Approval of the Transportation-Air Quality Conformity Analysis for Plan Bay Area 2050 and the Amended 2021 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) to demonstrate conformity for the 2015 Ozone and 2006 24-hour PM_{2.5} National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS)

METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

RESOLUTION NO. 4482

WHEREAS, the Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) is the regional transportation planning agency for the San Francisco Bay Area pursuant to California Government Code Section 66500 *et seq.*; and

WHEREAS, MTC is the federally designated Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO), pursuant to Section 134(d) of Title 23 of the United States Code (USC) for the nine-county San Francisco Bay Area region (the region); and

WHEREAS, Part 450 of Title 23 of the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR), require MTC as the MPO to prepare and update a long-range Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) every four years; and

WHEREAS, California Government Code § 65080 *et seq.* (Senate Bill 375) requires MTC to prepare and update a long-range RTP, including a Sustainable Communities Strategy (SCS) prepared in conjunction with the Association of Bay Area Governments (ABAG), every four years; and

WHEREAS, MTC and ABAG will jointly adopt the Final Plan Bay Area 2050 (Plan) (MTC Resolution No. 4485 and ABAG Resolution No. 09-2021) on October 21, 2021; and

WHEREAS, the Transportation-Air Quality Conformity Analysis for Plan and the Amended 2021 TIP meets all required EPA guidance criteria and, therefore, the region has demonstrated conformity for the 2015 Ozone National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS); and

WHEREAS, the Plan and the Amended TIP must conform to the federal air quality plan, which is also referred to as the State Implementation Plan (SIP); and

WHEREAS, MTC has conducted a transportation-air quality conformity analysis for the Plan and the Amended TIP in accordance with U.S. EPA conformity regulations and the Bay Area Air Quality Conformity Protocol (MTC Resolution No. 3757); and

WHEREAS, MTC conducted a transportation-air quality conformity analysis for the Plan and the Amended 2021 TIP utilizing the latest planning assumptions, emissions model, and consultation provisions, including a quantitative regional emissions analysis that meets emissions budget requirements of the U. S. Environmental Protection Agency transportation conformity rule, and the Plan contributes to all required emissions reductions; and

WHEREAS, said conformity analysis is included as Attachment A of this resolution, and is incorporated herein as though set forth at length; and

WHEREAS, the conformity analysis has been circulated for 30-day public review period from July 7, 2021, through August 5, 2021; now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, that MTC makes the following conformity findings for the Plan and the Amended 2021 TIP:

- (A) Conforms to the applicable provisions of the State Implementation Plan and the applicable transportation conformity budgets in the State Implementation Plan approved for the national 8-hour ozone standard and to the interim conformity emissions test for the national fine particulate matter standard; and
- (B) Provides for the timely implementation of transportation control measures (TCMs) pursuant to the applicable State Implementation Plan;

RESOLVED, that Executive Director shall forward a copy of this Resolution to the U.S. Department of Transportation for its approval of MTC's conformity findings, along with a copy of the Plan and the Amended 2021 TIP and to such other agencies as appropriate.

METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

Alfredo Pedroza, Chair

This resolution was entered into by the Metropolitan Transportation Commission at a meeting of the Commission held in San Francisco, California and at other remote locations on October 21, 2021.

Date: October 21, 2021
W.I.: 1412
Referred by: Planning

Attachment A
Resolution No. 4482
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**Transportation-Air Quality Conformity Analysis for Plan Bay Area 2050 and the Amended
2021 Transportation Improvement Program**

The Transportation-Air Quality Conformity Analysis for Plan Bay Area 2050 and the Amended
2021 Transportation Improvement Program is on file in the offices
of the Metropolitan Transportation Commission, Bay Area Metro Center,
375 Beale Street, Suite 800, San Francisco, CA 94105.

The Transportation-Air Quality Conformity Analysis for Plan Bay Area 2050 and the Amended
2021 Transportation Improvement Program can also be viewed on the [Plan Bay Area 2050 Air
Quality Conformity Report webpage](#).