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.

Joint MTC Planning Committee with ABAG Administrative Committee Agenda Item 5b October 8, 2021 Page 2 of 2

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

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