TRANSPORTATION CONFORMITY WORKING GROUP of the SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS

March 23, 2021 Minutes

THE FOLLOWING MINUTES ARE A SUMMARY OF THE MEETING OF THE TRANSPORTATION CONFORMITY WORKING GROUP. A DIGITAL RECORDING OF THE ACTUAL MEETING IS AVAILABLE FOR LISTENING IN SCAG'S OFFICE.

The Meeting of the Transportation Conformity Working Group was held via teleconference.

SCAG

Asuncion, John Calderon, Karen Ekman, Annaleigh Luo, Rongsheng

Via Teleconference

Acosta, Brooke IBI Group Anderson, Kelsie TCA

Arellano, Lexie Caltrans Headquarters Bade, Rabindra Caltrans, District 12

Cacatian, Ben VCAPCD
Cooper, Keith ERP
Huddleston, Lori LA Metro
Kalandiyur, Nesamani CARB

Lau, Charles Caltrans, District 7
Lay, Keith HDR Engineering
Lee, David Caltrans, District 8

Marroquin, Nancy LA Metro Masters, Martha RCTC

Miranda, Jude Caltrans, District 12

Moran, Nohemi SBCTA

O'Connor, Karina EPA Region 9

Sanchez, Lucas Caltrans Headquarters

Vaughn, Joseph FHWA Whiteaker, Warren OCTA

Yoon, Andrew Caltrans, District 7

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1.0 CALL TO ORDER AND SELF-INTRODUCTION

Karen Calderon, SCAG, called the meeting to order at 10:05 am.

2.0 PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

None.

3.0 CONSENT CALENDAR

- 3.1 <u>January 26, 2021 TCWG Meeting Minutes</u> The meeting summary was approved.
- 3.2 <u>February 23, 2021 TCWG Meeting Minutes</u> The meeting summary was approved.

4.0 <u>INFORMATION ITEMS</u>

4.1 RTP Update

John Asuncion, SCAG, reported that modeling and analysis for the 2020 RTP/SCS Amendment No. 1 had begun and was on schedule to finish by the end of March 2021. SCAG's adoption of the RTP Amendment No. 1 was anticipated in September or October 2021.

4.2 FTIP Update

John Asuncion, SCAG, reported that SCAG's Regional Council adopted the 2021 FTIP at their March 4, 2021 meeting. SCAG submitted the 2021 FTIP to Caltrans and would subsequently submit to FHWA and FTA for their final approval. The final approval of the 2021 FTIP was expected in mid-April 2021. No issues or delays were expected.

In response to a question about the approval of the 2021 FTIP Amendment #21-01, John responded that FHWA and FTA would review it shortly after their review of the 2021 FTIP (approximately mid- to late-April).

4.3 EPA Update

Karina O'Connor, US EPA Region 9, reported that EPA had started the adequacy review process for the 2020 post-attainment year transportation conformity budgets from the South Coast AQMD attainment plan for the 2006 24-hour PM_{2.5} standard. EPA previously approved this plan in February 2019; however, they did not act on the post-attainment year budgets at that time in anticipation that South Coast would

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reach attainment by 2019. In 2020, EPA finalized a finding of failure of South Coast to attain the 2006 24-hour PM_{2.5} standard, and initiated the adequacy review process for the post-attainment year budgets. Comments on the adequacy action would end on April 16, 2021.

4.4 ARB Update

Nesamani Kalandiyur, ARB reported the following:

- CARB released both the desktop and web-based versions of the EMFAC2021
 model to the public at the end January/early February 2021. CARB was working
 on the technical documentation expected to be completed and posted on their
 website by the end of March or early April 2021. The next step would be to work
 with EPA for the approval of EMFAC2021.
- CARB was working on the PM₁₀ budget development for South Coast AQMD's second maintenance plan. Nesamani would work with Karen and Rongsheng to coordinate a presentation of the budget to the TCWG.

In response to a question about the length of EPA's approval process for a new version of EMFAC model, Karina O'Connor, EPA, responded that each version is different, but the previous three processes have taken between from 6 to 18 months.

4.5 <u>Air Districts Update</u>

None.

5.0 INFORMATION SHARING

Lucas Sanchez, Caltrans Headquarters, provided a summary of the first Interim Interagency Consultation (IAC) Focus Group meeting hosted by Caltrans on March 17th with representatives from SCAG, CARB, EPA, and FHWA in anticipation of the end of the grace period for use of the EMFAC2014 model on August 16th 2021. The purpose of this meetings is to share information and create long term solutions to avoid a "conformity lockdown" in the SCAG region. A follow up meeting was scheduled for May 2021 to coordinate with partners in the San Joaquin Valley who are experiencing similar issues. Meeting minutes from the March 17th Interim IAC Focus Group meeting are being finalized and can be shared with the TCWG.

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6.0 ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 10:21 am. The next Transportation Conformity Working Group meeting will be held on Tuesday, April 27, 2021 via teleconference and Zoom meeting only.