



**METROPOLITAN
TRANSPORTATION
COMMISSION**

Bay Area Metro Center
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San Francisco, CA 94105
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www.mtc.ca.gov

Air Quality Conformity Task Force Meeting

Metropolitan Transportation Commission

Join Zoom Meeting @

<https://bayareametro.zoom.us/j/84383698853>

Meeting ID: 843 8369 8853

(Additional Zoom Meeting Call-In Info on Next Page)

December 1, 2022

9:30 a.m. –11:00 a.m.

AGENDA

1. Welcome and Introductions
2. PM_{2.5} Project Conformity Interagency Consultations
 - a. Consultation to Determine Project of Air Quality Concern Status
 - i. Interstate-80/Powell Street Interchange Transit Access Improvement Project (Follow-up Discussion on Task Force Determination)
3. Projects with Regional Air Quality Conformity Concerns
 - a. Review of the Regional Conformity Status for New and Revised Projects
 - 3a_Regional_AQ_Conformity_Review_120122.pdf
 - 3a_Attachment-A_List_of_Proposed_New_Projects_120122.pdf
4. Consent Calendar
 - a. October 27, 2022 Air Quality Conformity Task Force Meeting Summary
5. Other Items

Next Meeting: January 26, 2023

MTC Staff Liaison: Harold Brazil hbrazil@bayareametro.gov

Harold Brazil is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Topic: Air Quality Conformity Task Force Meeting

Time: This is a recurring meeting Meet anytime

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213.19.144.110 (Amsterdam Netherlands)

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64.211.144.160 (Brazil)

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207.226.132.110 (Japan Tokyo)

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Meeting ID: 843 8369 8853



TO: Air Quality Conformity Task Force

DATE: December 1, 2022

FR: Adam Crenshaw

RE: Review of the Regional Conformity Status for New and Revised Projects

Staff has prepared the following information in an effort to streamline the review of the regional air quality conformity implications of projects that staff proposes to add into the 2023 TIP through current or future revisions. This item is for advisory purposes only. The inclusion of these projects and project changes in a proposed revision to the TIP is subject to Commission approval in the case of amendments and MTC's Executive Director or Deputy Executive Director in the case of administrative modifications. The final determination of the regional air quality conformity status of these projects will be made by the Federal Highway Administration, the Federal Transit Administration and the Environmental Protection Agency as part of their review of proposed final TIP amendments and by the Executive Director or Deputy Executive Director as part of their review for TIP administrative modifications.

Changes Staff is Proposing to Include in the 2023 TIP

Staff is proposing to add six projects to the 2023 TIP. One of the new projects is a road extension that may not be treated as exempt from regional-level conformity under 40 CFR 93.126 or 40 CFR 93.127. However, staff believes that the revision to this project in the 2023 TIP would not require an update to the air quality conformity analysis for Plan Bay Area 2050 and the 2023 TIP. The projects are as follows:

1. US 101/SR-25/Santa Teresa Blvd Extension

TIP ID: SCL230201

Sponsor: VTA

Description: Gilroy: Santa Teresa Boulevard from just north of the existing terminus at Castro Valley Road to the US 101/SR 25 Interchange: Extend roadway

Expanded Description: Gilroy: Santa Teresa Boulevard from just north of the existing terminus at Castro Valley to the US 101/SR 25 Interchange: Extend roadway including bike lanes in both directions and reconstruct the Santa Teresa Boulevard/Castro Valley Road Intersection.

Conformity Issue: This project involves the construction of new roadway and cannot be considered exempt from regional air quality conformity analysis. However, the roadway being extended, Santa Teresa Blvd, is classified as a minor arterial. Because of this staff believes that the extension should be considered not regionally significant for regional air quality conformity purposes.



The description of the other new projects along with the regional air quality category that staff believes best describes the projects are included on Attachment A.

MTC staff is not seeking a determination on the status of these projects for project-level conformity purposes with this item.

Review of the Regional Conformity Status for New and Revised Projects - Attachment A

#	County	TIP ID/FMS ID	Sponsor	Project Name	Project Description	Project Expanded Description	Project Type
1	Alameda/ Contra Costa	ALA230202	LAVTA	LAVTA and CCCTA Hydrogen Fueling Stations	LAVTA and CCCTA: Facilities in Livermore and Concord: Design and construct hydrogen fueling stations at existing LAVTA and County Connection maintenance facilities	LAVTA and CCCTA: Facilities in Livermore and Concord: Design and construct two hydrogen fueling stations and maintenance infrastructure at existing County Connection and LAVTA maintenance facilities to accommodate the fueling of hydrogen fuel-cell electric heavy-duty transit buses in support of the I-680 Express Bus Program. The County Connection fueling station at its existing maintenance facility at 2477 Arnold Industrial Way in Concord will support up to 50 vehicles. The LAVTA fueling station at its existing maintenance facility at 875 Atlantis Court in Livermore will accommodate up to 120 FCEBs to facilitate the agency's complete conversion to procuring all FCEBs by 2029. The LAVTA facility will also accommodate future fleet growth and ensure scalability of clean-fuels transition and help catalyze broader FCEB manufacturing and uptake in California.	EXEMPT (40 CFR 93.126) - Construction or renovation of power, signal, and communications systems
2	Regional	REG230201	MTC	Bay Trail Planning and Technical Assistance	SF Bay Area: Regionwide: Bay Trail Equity Strategy, Design Guidelines, Strategic Plan, Data Strategy, Needs Assessment/Ops and Maintenance Plan, and Technical Assistance.	SF Bay Area: Regionwide: Bay Trail Equity Strategy, Design Guidelines, Strategic Plan, Data Strategy, Needs Assessment/Ops and Maintenance Plan, and Technical Assistance. RTP ID is 21-T08-060. Toll credits will be used in lieu of match.	EXEMPT (40 CFR 93.126) - Planning and Technical Studies
3	Regional	REG230203	MTC	Regional ITS Architecture	SF Bay Area: Regionwide: Develop and maintain the regional ITS Architecture system.	SF Bay Area: Regionwide: The Bay Area ITS Architecture is the blueprint for Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS) project coordination and integration in the San Francisco Bay Area. The Bay Area ITS Architecture underwent a major update in 2017, and continues to be maintained and updated by the Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) and the region's stakeholders. The purpose of the Architecture is to accurately represent the region's existing and future use of information, technology and automated systems to improve safety and efficiency for travelers and the agencies providing transportation services across all modes. The ITS Architecture facilitates ITS planning and aids in coordinated ITS project development, procurement, and delivery. The Architecture website provides access to comprehensive information about the ITS in the region, including project-specific data. Agencies in the Bay Area that implement ITS projects using Federal transportation funds are required to be consistent with the Bay Area ITS Architecture (pursuant to 23 CFR 940.9 and 940.11). This Architecture provides all the components required by the FHWA Final Rule and FTA Policy for regional ITS architectures.	EXEMPT (40 CFR 93.126) - Planning and Technical Studies
4	Regional	REG230202	MTC	Regional Mapping and Wayfinding	SF Bay Area: Regionwide: Provide updated passenger information at transit hubs and stops regionwide.	SF Bay Area: Regionwide: Design and deploy a fully harmonized suite of maps, signs and transit information in all Bay Area transit locations — from individual bus stops to major hubs like the Salesforce Transit Center, the Eastridge Transit Center or the El Cerrito Del Norte BART station — and to provide practical, predictable guidance to the walkable destinations, local shuttles and the like that extend from these transit stops.	EXEMPT (40 CFR 93.126) - Directional and informational signs
5	Santa Clara	SCL230202	Santa Clara	De La Cruz/Lick Mill/Scott Blvds Bicycle Lanes	Santa Clara: De La Cruz Blvd: Montague Expressway to Trimble Road, Lick Mill Blvd: Tasman Drive to Montague Expressway, and Scott Blvd: Calabazas Creek Trail to Saratoga Avenue: New bicycle lanes	Santa Clara: On three corridors (De La Cruz Blvd: Montague Expressway to Trimble Road, Lick Mill Blvd: Tasman Drive to Montague Expressway, and Scott Blvd: Calabazas Creek Trail to Saratoga Avenue): Complete traffic analyses, public outreach, design, and construction of bicycle facilities . The project will enhance safety, improve mobility, and reduce vehicle emissions by implementing high priority bicycle projects identified in the Santa Clara Bicycle Plan Update 2018.	EXEMPT (40 CFR 93.126) - Bicycle and Pedestrian Facilities

**Air Quality Conformity Task Force
Summary Meeting Notes
October 27, 2022**

Participants:

Rodney Tavitas – Caltrans	Alexander Smith– FTA
Dick Fahey – Caltrans	Jodi Ketelsen – TYLin
Andrea Gordon – BAAQMD	John Kenyon – TYLin
Joseph Vaughn – FHWA	Patrick Pittenger – FHWA
Abhijit Bagde – Caltrans	Michael Dorantes – EPA
Erika Espinosa Araiza – Caltrans	Shilpa Mareddy – Caltrans
Marcus Barrango – Montrose Environmental	John Saelee – MTC
Jacqueline Kahrs – Caltrans	Adam Crenshaw – MTC
Lexie Arellano – Caltrans	Harold Brazil – MTC
Lucas Sanchez – Caltrans	
Jean Mazur – FTA	

1. Welcome and Self Introductions: Harold Brazil (MTC) called the meeting to order at 9:35 am.

2. PM_{2.5} Project Conformity Interagency Consultation

a. Confirm Projects Are Exempt from PM_{2.5} Conformity Projects Exempt Under 40 CFR 93

i. Interstate-80/Powell Street Interchange Transit Access Improvement Project

Marcus Barrango (Montrose Environmental) began the Interstate-80/Powell Street Interchange Transit Access Improvement project presentation mentioning the project constructs a dedicated transit lane on Powell Street in the vicinity of the I-80/Powell Street interchange to enhance transit service, reliability, and transit rider accessibility. The project proposes two new bus stops and improved pedestrian and bicycle access to increase accessibility, connectivity, and transit usage.

Mr. Barrango indicated stated the Interstate 80/Ashby Avenue Interchange Improvement project purpose and need as –

Project Purpose:

- Improve transit reliability and travel time
- Improve transit accessibility
- Promote safety for transit riders
- Encourage transit usage

Project Need:

The Project is needed to address the transit operational deficiencies that currently result in travel delays and decreased reliability for transit vehicles that enter and exit I 80 via Powell Street.

Mr. Barrango also mentioned the Interstate-80/Powell Street Interchange Transit Access Improvement project will seek opportunities to improve safety for transit users by shortening the pedestrian crossing distance in the west leg of the Powell Street/West Frontage Road intersection in compliance with current ADA standards. The

Project will extend the sidewalk curb to a bulb-out at the northeast corner of Powell Street/West Frontage Road intersection facilitated by the proposed roadway modifications on Powell Street. Mr. Barrango added the Project includes relocating the existing, narrow 3 to 4-foot sidewalk along the north side of Powell Street approximately 10 feet away from the roadway and providing a 10-foot pedestrian path north of the freeway undercrossing structure columns. Within the Interstate-80/Powell Street Interchange Transit Access Improvement project limits, the San Francisco Bay Trail will be repainted, with the 8-foot-wide bicycle path in green and the parallel 5-foot pedestrian path in white to provide clear differentiation between the areas reserved for bicyclists and pedestrians.

Rodney Tavitias (Caltrans) Comment: For project-level conformity reviews, for the project scopes and descriptions in the TIP be consistent with what's listed in an MPO's RTP and if it is not consistent, Caltrans cannot sign-off on the project's environmental documentation and the project cannot go forward. In addition, if a project sponsor tries to bypass and go directly to FHWA – is going to send it right back, if the project is inconsistent between the TIP and RTP.

Joseph Vaughn (FHWA) Comment: As project timelines change, there can be a need to update project scopes and descriptions. The constraint is that a project must come from a conforming Plan and TIP, and meaning projects have to be consistent both in their descriptions in the Plan and TIP – if they're not consistent, they have to be amended, by definition.

Final Determination: Task Force members requested additional AC Transit bus data for the routes in the project area and asked for truck traffic data from the Interstate-80/Powell Street Interchange Transit Access Improvement project team. The project team provided the additional data, and the Task Force is working on completing the determination.

ii. US 101/Peninsula Avenue Interchange Project

Harold Brazil (MTC) documented the Task Force's email exchange thread concurrence that the US 101/Peninsula Avenue Interchange project is not a project of air quality concern.

Final Determination: After receiving the requested additional information and with input from EPA, FTA, FHWA and Caltrans (deferring their determination to FHWA), the Task Force concluded that the US 101/Peninsula Avenue Interchange project was not of air quality concern.

3. Consent Calendar

a. September 22, 2022 Air Quality Conformity Task Force Meeting Summary

Final Determination; With input from all members, the Task Force concluded that the consent calendar was approved.