



**METROPOLITAN
TRANSPORTATION
COMMISSION**

Bay Area Metro Center
375 Beale Street, Suite 800
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www.mtc.ca.gov

Air Quality Conformity Task Force

Metropolitan Transportation Commission
Bay Area Metro Center

Mount Hamilton Conference Room

375 Beale Street, Suite 800

(Note: Visitors must check in with the receptionist on the 7th floor)
San Francisco, CA

Conference Call Number: Dial - **(415) 655-0002 (Access Code: 926 033 602)**

Participant ID is # **button**.

October 24, 2019

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. I-280/Wolfe Road Interchange Improvement Project
 - b. Confirm Projects Are Exempt from PM_{2.5} Conformity
Projects Exempt Under 40 CFR 93.126 – Not of Air Quality Concern
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_102419.pdf
3_Attachment-A_List_of_Proposed_New_Projects_102419.pdf
4. Proposed Revision to the Bay Area Transportation Air Quality Conformity Protocol and Interagency Consultation Procedures
5. Consent Calendar
 - a. September 26, 2019 Air Quality Conformity Task Force Meeting Summary
6. Other Items

Next Meeting: December 5, 2019

MTC Staff Liaison: Harold Brazil

hbrazil@bayareametro.gov



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Memorandum

TO: Air Quality Conformity Task Force

DATE: October 12, 2019

FR: Harold Brazil

W. I.

RE: PM_{2.5} Project Conformity Interagency Consultation

The project sponsor representing the Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority, seeks interagency consultation from the Air Quality Conformity Task Force (AQCTF) at today's meeting and the projects is as follows:

No.	Project Sponsor	Project Title
1	Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority	I-280/Wolfe Road Interchange Improvement Project

2a_I-280_Wolfe_Road_Interchange_Improvement_Project_Assessment_Form.pdf (for the I-280/Wolfe Road Interchange Improvement project)

MTC also requests the review and concurrence from the Air Quality Conformity Task Force (AQCTF) that the list of projects sponsors have identified as exempt and likely not to be a POAQC. **2b_Exempt List 101219.pdf** lists exempt projects under 40 CFR 93.126.

Application of Criteria for a Project of Air Quality Concern

Project Title: I-280 / Wolfe Road Interchange Improvements Project
Summary for Air Quality Conformity
Task Force Meeting: October 24, 2019

Description

The I-280/Wolfe Road Interchange Improvements Project (Project) proposes to modify the existing full-service interchange located at Interstate 280 (I-280) and Wolfe Road in Cupertino, CA. The project would eliminate collector distributors and convert loops to merge onto I-280 as separate on-ramps. Existing and proposed project interchanges would remain as Partial Cloverleaf (Type L-9) and would not include changes to the I-280 mainline.

Background

Caltrans, in collaboration with Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority (VTA) and the City of Cupertino, is proposing this project to improve local street traffic operations and promote multimodal use at the interchange.

Not a Project of Air Quality Concern (40 CFR 93.123(b)(1))

(i) New or expanded highway projects with significant number/increase in diesel vehicles?

- Not a new or expanded highway project
- Interchange replacement—no additional lanes on I-280
- No change in traffic volume or truck percentages on I-280

(ii) Affects intersections at LOS D, E, or F with a significant number of diesel vehicles?

- Diesel vehicles represent approximately 4.9% of intersection traffic volume
- Intersections at LOS E or F improve, and delays decrease (2045)
- No project changes to land use that would affect diesel traffic percentage

(iii) New bus and rail terminals and transfer points?—Not Applicable

(iv) Expanded bus and rail terminals and transfer points?—Not Applicable

(v) Affects areas identified in PM₁₀ or PM_{2.5} implementation plan as site of violation?

As indicated in the attached Draft Air Quality Report, the Project would not result in any exceedances of either the PM₁₀ or PM_{2.5} standards.

RTIP ID# 17-07-0026				
TIP ID# SCL 190011				
Air Quality Conformity Task Force Consideration Date October 24, 2019				
Project Description <i>(clearly describe project)</i>				
<p>The Project would modify the existing I-280/Wolfe Road Interchange by constructing the following improvements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Widen (Alternative A) or Replace (Alternative B) the existing Wolfe Road bridge structure over I-280 from two lanes in each direction to three through lanes and one right turn lane in each direction. • Modify, realign, and square up all on- and off-ramps to better accommodate bicyclists and pedestrians. • Replace existing HOV preferential on all on-ramps. • Replace existing sound walls along the north side of I-280 affected by the project. • Add Class II or IV bicycle lanes and 10-foot sidewalks along both NB and SB Wolfe Road. • Provide a bike/ped connection from Wolfe Road to Perimeter Road and/or the planned Junipero Serra Trail. • Place retaining walls and fill on the existing Perimeter Road undercrossing to accommodate grade changes. 				
Type of Project: Roadway – Interchange Improvements				
County	<i>Narrative Location/Route & Postmiles</i>			
SCL	I-280 at Wolfe Road in the City of Cupertino/SCL-280 (PM8.1/8.6).			
	Caltrans Projects – EA# 1K300			
Lead Agency: Caltrans				
<i>Contact Person</i>	<i>Phone#</i>	<i>Fax#</i>	<i>Email</i>	
Lani Lee Ho	(408) 321-5927		lani.ho@vta.org	
Federal Action for which Project-Level PM Conformity is Needed <i>(check appropriate box)</i>				
<i>Categorical Exclusion (NEPA)</i>	X EA or Draft EIS	FONSI or Final EIS	PS&E or Construction	<i>Other</i>
Scheduled Date of Federal Action: TBD				
NEPA Delegation – Project Type <i>(check appropriate box)</i>				
	Section 326 – Categorical Exclusion	X	Section 327 – Non-Categorical Exclusion	
Current Programming Dates <i>(as appropriate)</i>				
	PE/Environmental	ENG	ROW	CON
Start	2017	2020	2020	2022
End	2020	2022	2022	2024

Project Purpose and Need (Summary): *(please be brief)*

Purpose

The purpose of the Project is to improve traffic operations and facilities for multimodal¹ forms of transportation, including bicycle, pedestrian, and high occupancy vehicle uses, at the Interstate 280 (I-280)/Wolfe Road Interchange in the City of Cupertino.

Need

Wolfe Road is a key connector between job locations and housing, commercial, and retail developments. The existing interchange at I-280 is congested with significant delays, which are projected to worsen due to planned growth in the area. Sidewalks and bike lanes are narrow and cross high-speed, at-grade ramp connections, which discourages use by pedestrians and bicyclists. The interchange configuration is not consistent with Caltrans' Complete Streets design guidelines or the Cupertino General Plan vision for a walkable, bikeable community.

Surrounding Land Use/Traffic Generators (especially effect on diesel traffic)

The project area is developed with a mixture of retail, commercial, and residential uses. The newly constructed Apple Campus 2, the planned renovation of Vallco Shopping Mall, and the planned Hamptons Redevelopment, are also in the project area.

Brief summary of assumptions and methodology used for conducting analysis

The Traffic Operations Analysis Report (TOAR) summarizes the results of the Opening Year 2025 and Design Year 2045 AM and PM peak hour traffic analysis. Traffic results are based on the City of Cupertino's General Plan using VTA's Regional Model. The CT-EMFAC (version 6) model was used to compute operational emissions.

Opening Year: If facility is a highway or street, Build and No Build LOS, AADT, % and # trucks, truck AADT of proposed facility

See attached summary tables; TOAR, Section 6; Air Quality Report, Appendix E.

RTP Horizon Year / Design Year: If facility is a highway or street, Build and No Build LOS, AADT, % and # trucks, truck AADT of proposed facility

See attached summary tables; TOAR, Section 7; Air Quality Report, Appendix E.

Opening Year: If facility is an interchange(s) or intersection(s), Build and No Build cross-street AADT, % and # trucks, truck AADT

See attached summary tables; TOAR, Section 6; Air Quality Report, Appendix E.

RTP Horizon Year / Design Year: If facility is an interchange (s) or intersection(s), Build and No Build cross-street AADT, % and # trucks, truck AADT

See attached summary tables; TOAR, Section 7; Air Quality Report, Appendix E.

Opening Year: If facility is a bus, rail or intermodal facility/terminal/transfer point, # of bus arrivals for Build and No Build, % and # of bus arrivals will be diesel buses

Not applicable.

RTP Horizon Year / Design Year: If facility is a bus, rail or intermodal facility/terminal/transfer point, # of bus arrivals for Build and No Build, % and # of bus arrivals will be diesel buses

Not applicable.

Describe potential traffic redistribution effects of congestion relief (*impact on other facilities*)

The Project is limited to operational improvements at the I-280/Wolfe Road interchange and is not anticipated to result in any redistribution of traffic.

Comments/Explanation/Details (please be brief)

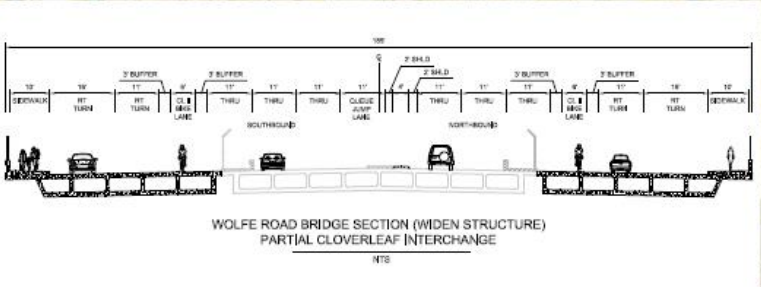
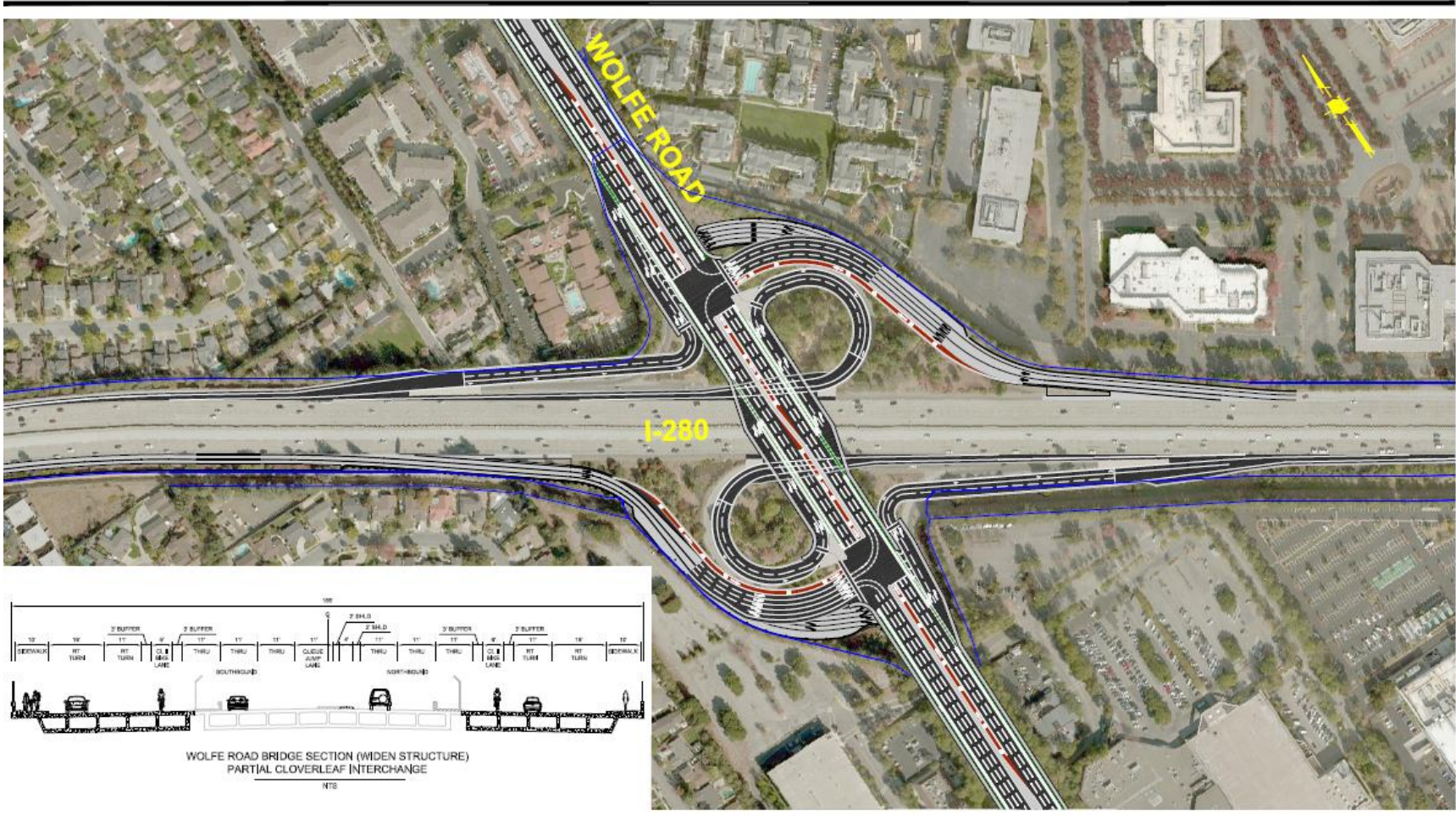
The Project modifies an existing interchange and does not create additional lanes on I-280. Therefore, the Project is not a new or expanded highway project and does not result in a significant increase in diesel vehicles.

Attachments:

- Figure 1 – Map of Project Limits and Surrounding Area
- Figure 2 – Map of Alternative A: Partial Cloverleaf Interchange (Widen Structure)
- Figure 3 – Map of Alternative B: Partial Cloverleaf Interchange (Replace Structure)
- Summary Tables of ADT and Truck %
- [Final TOAR \(March 2019\) – Link to download](#)
- [Draft Air Quality Report \(August 2019\) – Link to download](#)



Figure 1 – Map of Project Limits and Surrounding Area

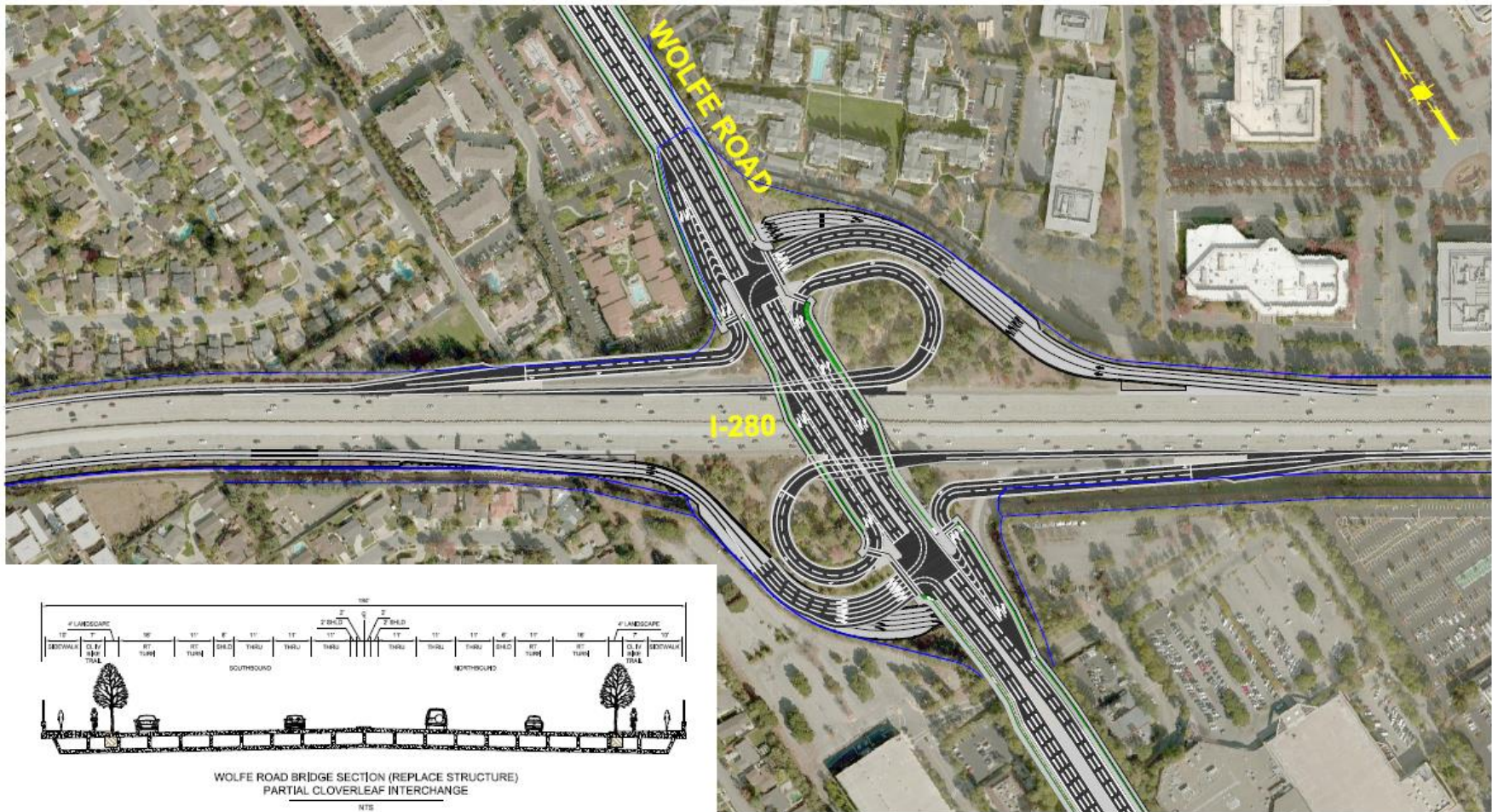


PARTIAL CLOVERLEAF INTERCHANGE (WIDEN STRUCTURE)

Scale: 1" = 100'
 Drawn: A/J/Reviewed: W/JW
 Title: 4003.00 06-16-2016



Figure 2 – Map of Alternative A: Partial Cloverleaf Interchange (Widen Structure)



PARTIAL CLOVERLEAF INTERCHANGE (REPLACE STRUCTURE)

Scale: 1" = 100'
 Drawn: A/J
 Reviewed: W/W
 Inter: 05/13/08 08/10/08



Figure 3 – Map of Alternative B: Partial Cloverleaf Interchange (Replace Structure)

Summary Tables

No Build, Build 1, and Build 2 Alternatives

Loc ID	Segment Name	Existing Count (2017)		Opening Year (2025)		Design Year (2045)	
		Existing Peak Total	Existing ADT	Peak Total	Estimated ADT	Peak Total	Estimated ADT
1	NB Wolfe to I-280 SB	1,142	8,507	1,210	9,020	1,800	13,410
2	NB Wolfe to I-280 NB	965	6,343	1,180	7,760	1,780	11,710
3	NB I-280 Off Ramp to Wolfe	2,006	15,065	3,070	23,050	3,510	26,360
4	SB Wolfe to I-280 NB	1,010	6,077	1,450	8,720	1,660	9,990
5	SB Wolfe to I-280 SB	872	7,170	1,420	11,680	1,580	12,990
6	SB I-280 Off Ramp to Wolfe	1,515	9,904	2,250	14,710	2,670	17,450
7	NB Wolfe crossing Bridge	3,000	19,235	4,980	31,930	6,210	39,810
8	SB Wolfe crossing Bridge	3,085	19,499	5,040	31,850	6,130	38,740

AM Peak (8:00AM-9:00AM), PM Peak (5:00PM-6:00PM)

Build Alternatives				
Scenario	Truck Type	% of Truck Type	Diesel VMT Fraction	% of Diesel Truck
Existing 2017	Truck 1	2.3	0.471	1.1
	Truck 2	3.3	0.946	3.1
Opening 2025	Truck 1	1.9	0.591	1.1
	Truck 2	3.7	0.945	3.5
Design 2045	Truck 1	1.6	0.676	1.1
	Truck 2	4	0.948	3.8

Truck 1 = light heavy-duty

Truck 2 = medium and heavy-duty trucks

40 CFR 93.126 Exempt Projects List

County	TIP ID	Sponsor	Project Name	Project Description	Expanded Description	Project Type under 40 CFR 93.126
NAP	NAP110032	Napa County	Chiles Pope Vly Rd Over Chiles Creek (21C0075)	Napa County: On Chiles Pope Valley Road between Sage Canyon Road and Lower Chiles Valley Road: Replace bridge over Chiles Creek	Napa County: On Chiles Pope Valley Road between Sage Canyon Road and Lower Chiles Valley Road: Replace bridge over Chiles Creek. Existing bridge is structurally deficient.	Safety - Widening narrow pavements or reconstructing bridges (no additional travel lanes)
NAP	NAP110033	Napa County	Dry Creek Rd Bridge at Dry Creek, 21C0056	Napa County: On Dry Creek Road between Wall Road and Mt Veeder Road: Replace bridge over Dry Creek	Napa County: On Dry Creek Road between Wall Road and Mt Veeder Road: Replace bridge over Dry Creek. Existing bridge is structurally deficient.	Safety - Widening narrow pavements or reconstructing bridges (no additional travel lanes)
NAP	NAP150002	Napa County	Garnett Bridge Greenwood Ave - 21C0042	In Napa County: On Greenwood Avenue between Myrtdale Road and SR 29 over Garnett Creek; replace one lane bridge damaged in earthquake with a two lane bridge	In Napa County: On Greenwood Avenue between Myrtdale Road and SR 29; replace bridge damaged in earthquake. Existing bridge is structurally deficient and functionally obsolete (one lane). (Bridge No. 21C0042)	Safety - Hazard elimination program
SCL	SCL170037	Cupertino	Cupertino Pavement Maintenance Phase 2	Cupertino: Various Locations: Rehabilitate pavement	Cupertino: On Bollinger Rd between 100' W of Lawrence Expressway and Miller Ave and on Wolfe Rd between the I-280 bridge and 350 ft North of the I-280 Bridge: Asphalt Overlay; On Prospect Road between De Anza Blvd and Stelling Rd, on McClellan Rd between De Anza Blvd and Linda Vista Ave, on S Stelling Rd between Prospect Rd and SR 85: apply Rubberized Asphalt Chip Seal. Work includes asphalt rehabilitation and preventative maintenance and ancillary work including adjustment of utility covers and grates, replacing pavement legends and markings and replacement of traffic signal detection devices.	Safety - Pavement resurfacing or rehabilitation
SCL	SCL170061	San Jose	W San Carlos Urban Village Streets Improvements	San Jose: West San Carlos St between I-880 and McEvoy St: Implement safety improvements	San Jose: West San Carlos St between I-880 and McEvoy St: Implement safety improvements including median islands, ADA curbs ramps, flashing beacons, enhanced crosswalks, curb extensions, green infrastructure, traffic signal modifications and bike racks.	Air Quality - Bicycle and pedestrian facilities



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Memorandum

TO: Air Quality Conformity Task Force

DATE: October 15, 2019

FR: Adam Crenshaw

RE: Review of the Regional Conformity Status for New 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 2019 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.

Projects Staff is Proposing to Include in the 2019 TIP

Staff has received requests from sponsors to add eight individually listed projects to the 2019 TIP. Attachment A includes a list of the new projects along with the regional air quality category that staff believes best describes the projects.

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

Item 3 - Attachment A

County	TIP ID/FMS ID	Sponsor	Project Name	Project Description	Project Expanded Description	Project Type	
Proposed New Individually Listed Projects for Regional Air Quality Conformity Status Review							
1	Santa Clara	7067	Los Gatos	Shannon Rd Complete Streets	Los Gatos: On the north side of Shannon Rd between Los Gatos Blvd and Cherry Blossom Lane: Construct a Class I multi-use path	Los Gatos: On the north side of Shannon Rd between Los Gatos Blvd and Cherry Blossom Lane: Construct a Class I multi-use path including demolishing approximately 500 feet of existing sidewalk, filling in approximately 860 feet of sidewalk gap, constructing a Class I multi-use path approximately 1360' length x 10' width, with a 3' buffer between the path and the travel lane, installing new ADA curb ramps, and completing sharrow on Shannon Road within the project limits. The work scope also includes new curb and gutter and utility underground work.	EXEMPT (40 CFR 93.126) - Bicycle and pedestrian facilities
2	Santa Clara	7042	VTA	SR 87/Charcot Ave On-Ramp HOV Bypass	San Jose: At the SR-87/Charcot Ave on-ramp: Add HOV bypass lane to the current overcrossing by restriping and adding a lane within the existing pavement on the overcrossing and modify the SB SR 87 ramp meter.	San Jose: At the SR-87/Charcot Ave on-ramp: Add HOV bypass lane to the current overcrossing by restriping and adding a lane within the existing pavement on the overcrossing and modify the SB SR 87 ramp meter. Project includes technology-based improvements displaying the dynamic message signs of when the HOV lane could be used.	EXEMPT (40 CFR 93.127) - Interchange reconfiguration projects
3	Santa Clara	7048	VTA	SR 237/US 101/Mathilda Ave Landscaping Imp.	Sunnyvale: At US 101/Mathilda and SR 237/Mathilda interchanges: Enhance landscaping conditions	Sunnyvale: At US 101/Mathilda and SR 237/Mathilda interchanges: Enhance landscaping conditions, including planting and irrigation.	EXEMPT (40 CFR 93.126) - Plantings, landscaping, etc.
4	Santa Clara	7049	VTA	SR 237/Great America Pkwy WB off-ramp Imp	San Jose: SR 237/Great America Parkway interchange: Implement off-ramp enhancements to improve traffic operations and relieve congestion.	San Jose: WB off-ramps at the SR 237/Great America Parkway interchange: Implement off-ramp enhancements to improve traffic operations and relieve congestion.	EXEMPT (40 CFR 93.127) - Interchange reconfiguration projects
5	Santa Clara	7050	VTA	Santa Clara Countywide Noise Abatement Program	Santa Clara County: Countywide: Implement noise reduction projects	Santa Clara County: Countywide: Implement noise reduction projects	EXEMPT (40 CFR 93.126) - Noise attenuation
6	Santa Clara	7051	VTA	SR-17/SR-9 Interchange Improvement	Los Gatos: SR-17/SR-9 interchange: Upgrade interchange to improve pedestrian and bicycle safety, mobility, and roadway operations	Los Gatos: SR-17/SR-9 interchange: Upgrade interchange to improve pedestrian and bicycle safety, mobility, and roadway operations	EXEMPT (40 CFR 93.127) - Interchange reconfiguration projects
7	Santa Clara	7057	VTA	US 101/SR 152/10th Ramp and Intersection Improvements	Gilroy: US-101/SR-152/10th St Interchange: Add a second lane on the off-ramp	Gilroy: US-101/SR-152/10th St Interchange: Add a second lane on the off-ramp	EXEMPT (40 CFR 93.127) - Interchange reconfiguration projects
8	Santa Clara	7064	VTA	Rengstorff Grade Separation	Mountain View: At the intersection of Rengstorff Ave and the Caltrain right-of-way: Grade separate Caltrain at Rengstorff Avenue	Mountain View: At the intersection of Rengstorff Ave and the Caltrain right-of-way: Grade separate Caltrain at Rengstorff Avenue in Mountain View by lowering Rengstorff Avenue under the Caltrain tracks, constructing a bike/pedestrian bridge over Rengstorff parallel to the Caltrain bridge, and including bike/pedestrian improvements on Rengstorff under Caltrain. There will be no changes to the number of traffic lanes on Rengstorff.	EXEMPT (40 CFR 93.126) - Projects that correct, improve, or eliminate a hazardous location or feature



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Memorandum

TO: Air Quality Conformity Task Force

DATE: October 15, 2019

FR: Harold Brazil

W. I.

RE: Proposed Revision to the Bay Area Transportation Air Quality Conformity Protocol and Interagency Consultation Procedures

Background

ABAG, BAAQMD, and 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 Force and revise the conformity procedures to reflect updated consultation best practices and agency roles and responsibilities.

MTC and BAAQMD staff are proposing to update procedures for interagency consultation to account for additional federal transportation-air quality requirements and (specifically) 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. The proposed SIP revisions have been reviewed and approved by the Air Quality Conformity Task Force and SACOG staff.

The key revisions 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.

Next Steps

BAAQMD and MTC staff are requesting the ABAG Administrative Committee delegate authority to MTC to conduct a public hearing at a wintertime 2019-2020 Joint MTC Planning Committee with the ABAG Administrative Committee on behalf of the three co-lead agencies for revising the Bay Area's Transportation Air Quality Conformity Protocol and Interagency Consultation Procedures at their upcoming November 8, 2019 meeting. Currently, the entire schedule for the conformity protocol/SIP revision process is being finalized.

**Air Quality Conformity Task Force
Summary Meeting Notes
September 26, 2019**

Participants:

Andrea Gordon – BAAQMD
Wendy Goodfriend – BAAQMD
Dominique Kraft – FTA
Panah Stauffer – EPA
Shannon Hatcher – CARB
Marilee Mortensen – Caltrans

Lucas Sanchez – Caltrans
Joseph Vaughn – FHWA
Rodney Tavitas – Caltrans
John Saelee – MTC
Adam Crenshaw – MTC
Harold Brazil – MTC

1. Welcome and Self Introductions: Harold Brazil (MTC) called the meeting to order at 9:34 am.

2. PM_{2.5} Project Conformity Interagency Consultations

a. Confirm Projects Are Exempt from PM_{2.5} Conformity

i. Projects Exempt Under 40 CFR 93.126 – Not a Project of Air Quality of Concern

Harold Brazil (MTC) asked if Task Force members had questions and or comments on the **2b_Exempt List 091219.pdf** exempt under 40 CFR 93.126. Task Force members had no comments.

Final Determination: With input from FTA, EPA, Caltrans and FHWA, the Task Force agreed that the project on the exempt list (**2b_Exempt List 09122019.pdf**) was exempt from PM_{2.5} project level analysis.

3. Projects with Regional Air Quality Conformity Concerns

a. Review of the Regional Conformity Status for New and Revised Projects

Projects Staff Proposing to Include in the 2019 TIP

Adam Crenshaw (MTC) stated that MTC staff had received requests from sponsors to add one individually listed project back into the TIP and six new group listed projects to the 2019 TIP. Mr. Crenshaw went onto discuss the US 101/Holly St Interchange Modification and Bicycle/Pedestrian Overcrossing project by mentioning the project was included in the 2017 TIP as a non-exempt project but was not carried forward to the 2019 TIP the funding had been obligated by the time the 2019 TIP was approved. Andrea Gordon (BAAQMD) if the US 101/Holly St Interchange Modification and Bicycle/Pedestrian Overcrossing project was included in the most recent regional conformity analysis highway network and Mr. Crenshaw indicated it was (included in the highway network) and was being added to the 2019 TIP for bookkeeping purposes.

Mr. Crenshaw also identified six group listed projects which sponsors intend to add to the 2019 TIP. Panah Stauffer (EPA) made suggestions on the project type exemption codes in the group listed projects and Mr. Crenshaw agreed.

4. Consent Calendar

a. August 22, 2019 Air Quality Conformity Task Force Meeting Summary

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

5. Other Items

Harold Brazil (MTC) referred to the September 24, 2019, EPA sent CARB suggesting the state had failed to address a backlog of air pollution control plans mandated by federal law. The EPA has indicated that they will begin a “disapproval process” which could impact billions in federal funds for highways in the state, unless the state acts on an estimated 130 plans.

Some key takeaways from the EPA letter are:

- The EPA Administrator does not impose any new highway sanctions on the region;
- The EPA Administrator includes a description of what “could” happen if there is a SIP disapproval for the region in the future; and,
- A SIP disapproval action would go through the federal regulatory process and any highway sanctions produced from a new SIP disapproval would take two years to take effect.

Also, Rodney Tavitas (Caltrans) discussed the Safer Affordable Fuel-Efficient Vehicles Rule Part One: One National Program and the proposed final rule, the EPA and the Department of Transportation's National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) offered new and amended GHG and Corporate Average Fuel Economy (CAFE) standards for model year 2021 to 2026 light duty vehicles. Mr. Tavitas mentioned key points in the rule being:

- The effective date will be 60-days after the final rule is published in the federal register 11/26/2019
- EPA will withdraw the January 2013 waiver for the State of California’s Advanced Clean Car (ACC) program model years 2021 through 2025 (both in EMFAC 2014 & 2017 incorporate the ACC)
- SIPs may have to be revised if EMFAC 2014 or 2017 were used in the development