



**METROPOLITAN
TRANSPORTATION
COMMISSION**

Bay Area Metro Center
375 Beale Street, Suite 800
San Francisco, CA 94105
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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: Meeting will be conducted via Webex conference call)

San Francisco, CA

Conference Call Number: Dial - **(415) 655-0002 (Access Code: 493 846 141)**

Participant ID is # **button**.

April 23, 2020

9:30 a.m. –11:00 a.m.

AGENDA

1. Welcome and Introductions
2. PM_{2.5} Project Conformity Interagency Consultations
 - a. Confirm Projects Are Exempt from PM_{2.5} Conformity
3. Transportation Air Quality Conformity Determination for the Amended Plan Bay Area 2040 (Plan) and the Amended 2019 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)
4. Projects with Regional Air Quality Conformity Concerns
 - a. Review of the Regional Conformity Status for New and Revised Projects
 - 4a_Regional_AQ_Conformity_Review_042320.pdf
 - 4_Attachment-A_List_of_Proposed_New_Projects_042320.pdf
5. Consent Calendar
 - a. March 26, 2020 Air Quality Conformity Task Force Meeting Summary
6. Other Items – SAFE Vehicles Rule for Model Years 2021-2026 Passenger Cars and Light Trucks

Next Meeting: May 28, 2019

MTC Staff Liaison: Harold Brazil hbrazil@bayareametro.gov



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Memorandum

TO: Air Quality Conformity Task Force

DATE: April 9, 2020

FR: Harold Brazil

W. I.

RE: PM_{2.5} Project Conformity Interagency Consultation

MTC 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 040920.pdf** lists exempt projects under 40 CFR 93.126.

40 CFR 93.126 Exempt Projects List

County	TIP ID	Sponsor	Project Name	Project Description	Expanded Description	Project Type under 40 CFR 93.126
ALA	ALA190005	LAVTA	Hybrid Bus Battery Pack Replacement	LAVTA: Fleetwide: Replace hybrid battery packs on Diesel/Electric hybrid buses	LAVTA: Fleetwide: Replace hybrid battery packs on Diesel/Electric hybrid buses	Mass Transit - Rehabilitation of transit vehicles
SCL	SCL190036	Cupertino	McClellan Road Separated Bike Lanes	Cupertino: McClellan Rd from Stelling Rd to Torre Ave and between Byrne Ave and Imperial Ave: Implement separated bike lane improvements and traffic signal modifications	Cupertino: McClellan Rd from Stelling Rd to Torre Ave and between Byrne Ave and Imperial Ave: upgrade 1 Mile of class 2 bike lanes along McClellan Road to class 4 separated bike lanes between Stelling Rd to Torre Ave and between Byrne Ave and Imperial Ave. The project also include traffic signal modifications to minimize the number of conflicts between bicycles and right turning movements. McClellan Road serves Monta Vista High School, Abraham Lincoln Elementary School, Kennedy Middle School and De Anza College. The project will include barrier separated bike lanes.	Air Quality - Bicycle and pedestrian facilities
SM	SM-110057	Woodside	Portola Rd Bridge Replacement (35C0055)	HBP: (35C0055) Bridge replacement project entered for delivery monitoring.	Portola Rd in the Town of Woodside, 0.25 mile east of SR 84.	Safety - Widening narrow pavements or reconstructing bridges (no additional travel lanes)
SON	SON110031	Petaluma	Washington Street Bridge Seismic Rehabilitation	Petaluma: Washington St Bridge (Bridge #20C0045): Voluntary seismic retrofit	Perform seismic retrofit of Washington Stret Bridge to meet the current seismic guidelines/Code.	Safety - Hazard elimination program



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Memorandum

TO: Air Quality Conformity Task Force

DATE: April 14, 2020

FR: Harold Brazil

W. I.

RE: Transportation Air Quality Conformity Determination for the Amended Plan Bay Area 2040 and the Amended 2019 Transportation Improvement Program

Background

The Alameda County Transportation Commission in cooperation with the Caltrans District 4, proposed an amendment to include the Interstate 680 Express Lanes Gap Closure Project in Alameda County. The Interstate 680 Gap Closure Project was not included in the adopted Plan's financially constrained transportation investment strategy and consequently not assessed in Plan's two companion technical documents. The proposed project will add an express lane to the southbound and northbound travel lanes of Interstate 680 between Alcosta Boulevard and State Route 84, closing the gap between existing and in-progress express lane projects directly to the north and south. The accelerated project development would allow for coordinated project delivery with a planned rehabilitation project on the same corridor.

This conformity analysis was prepared in accordance with U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) conformity rules and MTC Resolution 3757. It was also vetted with the Air Quality Conformity Task Force, which is comprised of staff from U.S. EPA, Federal Highway Administration, Federal Transit Administration, Caltrans, and other partner agencies. The estimated total emissions projected for the amended Plan and amended TIP are consistent with ("conform to") the purpose of the state air quality implementation plan (SIP). In addition, the timely implementation of federal transportation control measures is not affected.

Public Comment Period and Next Steps

Federal regulations also require an opportunity for public comment on the draft Transportation-Air Quality Conformity Analysis (redetermination) for the Amended Plan Bay Area 2040 and the 2019 TIP prior to Commission approval and the draft document was released for public review and comment beginning on March 26, 2020. The close of the comment period is on April 24, 2020 and MTC staff will review and respond to comments submitted during the public comment period.

Staff consulted with the Air Quality Conformity Task Force on the development of this draft Conformity Analysis at their meeting on March 26, 2020 and will share with the Task Force comments received as of their April 23, 2020 meeting and MTC will share any additional comments received after the Task Force meets and prior to the deadline via email.

The final documents, comments received, and the agency's responses will be presented at the May 2020 Joint MTC Planning Committee with the ABAG Administrative Committee meeting.

The final documents are scheduled to be presented for approval at the May 21, 2020 ABAG Executive Board meeting and at the May 27, 2020 Commission meeting. Final federal approval of the Transportation-Air Quality Conformity Determination for the Amended Plan Bay Area 2040 and the Amended 2019 Transportation Improvement Program is expected in early June 2020.

Attachment A: Schedule for the Transportation Air Quality Conformity Analysis for Draft Amended Plan Bay Area 2040 and the Amended 2019 Transportation Improvement Program

Activity	Timeline
<i>Draft Plan Bay Area (PBA) Amendment, TIP Amendment and Conformity Analysis released for public review</i>	<i>Thu, March 26, 2020</i>
<i>First presentation of the Draft Conformity Analysis to the Air Quality Conformity Task Force (AQCTF)</i>	<i>Thu, March 26, 2020</i>
April AQCTF Meeting Packet mailout	Tues, April 14, 2020
Second presentation of the Draft Conformity Analysis to the AQCTF	Thu, April 23, 2020
Deadline for comments and close of the public review period	Fri, April 24, 2020
AQCTF briefing on comments received and proposed responses - distributed via email	Mon, April 27, 2020
Joint MTC Planning Committee with the ABAG Administrative Committee Recommendation based on review of comments, responses, final Conformity Analysis, final EIR Addendum, final PBA Amendment and TIP Amendment	Fri, May 08, 2020
ABAG Executive Board approval of the final EIR Addendum and PBA Amendment	Thu, May 21, 2020
Commission approval of the final Conformity Analysis, EIR Addendum, PBA Amendment and TIP Amendment	Wed, May 27, 2020
Forward final documents to Caltrans, FHWA, FTA, and EPA	Wed, May 27, 2020
Proposed federal approval final Transportation-Air Quality Conformity Determination of the amended TIP and PBA	After Wed, May 27, 2020



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Memorandum

TO: Air Quality Conformity Task Force

DATE: April 23, 2020

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.

Changes Staff is Proposing to Include in the 2019 TIP

Staff has received requests from sponsor to add four individually listed project to the 2019 TIP.

One of the proposed new individually listed projects may be considered non-exempt from regional conformity. The details of the project are as follows:

US-101 Managed Lanes North of I-380

TIP ID: SM-190009

Sponsor: CCAG

Description: San Mateo County: On US-101 from I-380 to logical termini near SF/SM County line: Install managed lane in each direction. SMCTA is co-sponsoring the project.

Expanded Description: San Mateo County: On US-101 from I-380 to logical termini near SF/SM County line: Install managed lane in each direction. SMCTA is co-sponsoring the project. Alternatives include (minimum) converting inside travel lane in each direction to managed lane & maintaining standard shoulder width to the extent feasible or (maximum) adding a lane in each direction plus outside widening to accommodate aux lanes where necessary. Modify under/over crossings of existing structures where necessary.

RTP ID: 17-06-0008

RTP Description: Add northbound and southbound modified auxiliary lanes and/ or implementation of managed lanes on U.S. 101 from I-380 to San Francisco County line.

Conformity Issue: The proposed project includes the implementation of managed lanes it cannot be considered exempt from regional conformity under 40 CFR 93.126 or 40 CFR 93.127. However, the project is included in Plan Bay Area 2040 and in the network model used for the approved transportation air quality conformity analysis. Since the

proposed addition of this project to the TIP does not conflict with the current conformity analysis staff is seeking the Task Force's concurrence that the addition of this project to the 2019 TIP does not require an update to the regional conformity analysis on the 2019 TIP.

The description of the remaining new projects along with the regional air quality category that staff believes best describes the project is 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	
Proposed New Individually-Listed Projects for Regional Air Quality Conformity Status Review							
1	Contra Costa	CC-190012	CC County	Treat Boulevard Corridor Improvements	Contra Costa County: Along Treat Blvd between N Main St and Jones Rd: Implement bicycle infrastructure and pedestrian enhancements	Contra Costa County: Along Treat Blvd between N Main St and Jones Rd: Implement bicycle infrastructure and pedestrian enhancements including creating buffered bicycle lanes and a new shared use path, enhancing existing crosswalks, closing three free right-turn lanes, and eliminating a traffic bottle-neck.	EXEMPT (40 CFR 93.127) - Intersection channelization projects
2	Santa Clara	7094	VTA	VTA: Bus & LR Vehicle Mobile Router Replacement	VTA: Systemwide: Replace mobile routers	VTA: Systemwide: Replace approximately 700 Mobile Routers used to provide passenger Wifi, live look-in CCTV, CAD/AVL and other technology system communication needs on LRVs and buses that are currently operating with an end-of-life Moovbox M340 mobile routers.	EXEMPT (40 CFR 93.126) - Purchase of operating equipment for vehicles (e.g., radios, fareboxes, lifts, etc.)
3	Santa Clara	7087	Cupertino	McClellan Road Separated Bike Lane	Cupertino: McClellan Rd from Stelling Rd to Torre Ave and between Byrne Ave and Imperial Ave: Implement separated bike lane improvements and traffic signal modifications	Cupertino: McClellan Rd from Stelling Rd to Torre Ave and between Byrne Ave and Imperial Ave: upgrade 1 Mile of class 2 bike lanes along McClellan Road to class 4 separated bike lanes between Stelling Rd to Torre Ave and between Byrne Ave and Imperial Ave. The project also include traffic signal modifications to minimize the number of conflicts between bicycles and right turning movements. McClellan Road serves Monta Vista High School, Abraham Lincoln Elementary School, Kennedy Middle School and De Anza College. The project will include barrier separated bike lanes.	EXEMPT (40 CFR 93.126) - Bicycle and pedestrian facilities

**Air Quality Conformity Task Force
Summary Meeting Notes
March 26, 2020**

Participants:

Panah Stauffer – EPA

Dick Fahey – Caltrans

Dominique Kraft – FTA

Cedric Novenario – City of Pleasanton

Rodney Tavitias – Caltrans

Alexus Arellano– Caltrans

Andrea Gordon – BAAQMD

John Saelee – MTC

Adam Crenshaw – MTC

Harold Brazil – MTC

1. Welcome and Self Introductions: Harold Brazil (MTC) called the meeting to order at 9:33 am.

2. PM_{2.5} Project Conformity Interagency Consultations

a. Consultation to Determine Project of Air Quality Concern Status

i. I-680/Sunol Interchange Improvements Project

Cedric Novenario (City of Pleasanton) began the I-680/Sunol Interchange Improvements project presentation by identifying the location in the East Bay in Alameda County in southwest Pleasanton. Mr. Novenario went on to discuss the purpose and needs of the I-680/Sunol Interchange Improvements project by mentioning it would:

- Improve traffic operations and reduce congestion on Sunol Blvd
- Accommodate future traffic growth
- Promote safer and more efficient pedestrian and bicycle travel through the interchange.

Mr. Novenario stated the I-680/Sunol Interchange Improvements project addressed needs local transportation needs such as:

- Congestion and extensive vehicular spill back onto Sunol Blvd from the southbound I-680 on-ramp during the AM peak.
- Improve access safety from on and off ramps on Sunol Blvd (coming from the west and east)
- Improve safety for non-motorized facilities through the interchange.
- Sunol Blvd is a popular road for recreational and commuter cyclists to access Pleasanton-Sunol Road and Foothill Road.
- The interchange has been in the top ten for annual for collisions

In addition, Mr. Novenario pointed out that the City of Pleasanton City Council has identified the I-680/Sunol Interchange Improvements project as a high priority and the project is identified in the

City's General Plan. In summary, Mr. Novenario indicated that the I-680/Sunol Interchange Improvements project will:

- Improve the interchange by adding capacity for the southbound on-ramp, adding intersection controls (either traffic signal or roundabout), and adding improved bike facilities through the interchange.
- Make no changes to I-680 mainline
- Improve congestion and safety on Sunol Blvd for both westbound and eastbound traffic
- Add southbound ramp will improve ramp efficiency

Mr. Novenario also noted that the NB 680 on-ramp and the intersection at Sunol and Arlington both go to level-of-service D. (information on no-build level-of-service at these locations was not available due to technical difficulties)

Final Determination: With input from EPA, FTA, Caltrans and FHWA (deferring their determination to Caltrans), the Task Force concluded that the I-680/Sunol Interchange Improvements project was not of air quality concern.

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

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

Task Force members had no comments.

Final Determination; With input from FTA, FHWA (via email), EPA, Caltrans and MTC, the Task Force agreed that the projects on the exempt list **2b_Exempt List 03202020.pdf** are exempt from PM_{2.5} project level analysis.

3. Approach to the Conformity Analysis for the Amended Plan Bay Area 2040 and the Amended 2019 Transportation Improvement Program

Harold Brazil (MTC) stated that staff was preparing an amendment to Plan Bay Area 2040 (PBA2040) and will conduct a regional conformity analysis on the Amended Plan and the 2019 Amended TIP. Mr. Brazil further said MTC staff was seeking the Task Force's review of the proposed approach to conduct the regional conformity analysis.

Mr. Brazil added the regional conformity analysis will include an amended project which adds express lanes in the northbound and southbound directions of Interstate 680 between State Route 85 and Alcosta Boulevard (herein referred to as "I-680 Gap Closure Project"). The project has been included in prior regional plans but was not prioritized for inclusion in PBA 2040 (adopted in 2017). Mr. Brazil followed by saying the project has become a near-term priority for ACTC due to an opportunity to coordinate project delivery with Caltrans, who is scheduled to deliver a State Highway Operations and Protection Program (SHOPP) project on the same segment of I-680 beginning in 2020.

The amendment would allow ACTC to explore and secure a funding plan to accelerate project delivery of the I-680 Gap Closure Project in coordination with the Caltrans SHOPP project. Rodney Tavitas (Caltrans) offered Caltrans' support to expedite the PBA 2040 amendment process due to the

upcoming SAFE Rule Part 2 issuance which Panah Stauffer (EPA) concurred with. Ms. Stauffer also asked for a general description of what was being added in the amendment and Adam Crenshaw (MTC) responded by indicating the 2019 TIP amendment occurring with the conformity analysis reflects cost and schedule changes and phase one of the I-680 Gap Closure project will start construction within the TIP funding period.

Mr. Brazil provided an overview to the regional conformity analysis schedule as shown below:

Activity	Timeline
Conformity Task Force Reviews Proposed Conformity Approach	March 20, 2020 thru March 26, 2020
MTC Staff Conducts Technical Analysis & Report Preparation	March 2020
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Release Draft Conformity Analysis for Public Review and Begin Public Comment Period 2. Discuss Draft Conformity Analysis with AQCTF 	March 26, 2020
Discuss Draft Conformity Analysis with AQCTF	April 23, 2020
End of Public Comment Period	April 24, 2020
AQCTF Briefing on Responses to Comments	Via Email after – April 24, 2020
Committee Approval	May 8, 2020
Commission Approval	May 27, 2020
Expected FHWA/FTA Final Approval of 2017 TIP and AQ Conformity Analysis	TBA

Mr. Tavitas asked if MTC had been in contact with Sonoma Marin Area Rail Transit (SMART) about their potential amendment to PBA 2040 and Mr. Crenshaw indicated MTC staff has been working with SMART on this issue.

4. 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 a request from sponsors to add four individually listed project and add 52 group listed projects to the 2019 TIP. Mr. Crenshaw when on to say that MTC staff is not seeking a determination on the status of these projects for project-level conformity purposes with this item. The Task Force had no comments on this item.

5. Consent Calendar

a. February 27, 2020 Air Quality Conformity Task Force Meeting Summary

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

6. Other Items – Revision to the Bay Area Conformity Protocol and Interagency Consultation Procedures

Harold Brazil (MTC) stated that MTC approved the procedures for conducting and consulting on the air quality conformity analysis for regional transportation plans and the TIP at their February 26, 2020 Commission meeting and the Air District Board of Directors approved the procedures at their March 4, 2020 meeting.

On April 16, 2020, ABAG's Executive Board will be requested to approve the conformity procedures and pending their approval – the procedures will be submitted (by the Air District) to CARB for their approval and then sent to EPA as a revision to the State Implementation Plan (SIP) for the San Francisco Bay nonattainment area.