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**TRANSPORTATION CONFORMITY WORKING GROUP  
of the  
SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS**

**February 23, 2016  
Minutes**

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**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 at the SCAG office in Los Angeles.

**In Attendance:**

Abrishami, Lori	LA Metro
Cooper, Keith	ICF
Culberson, Steve	Ricondo & Associates
Deming, Devon	Los Angeles World Airports
Eren, Selim	City of Santa Monica
Liu, Rebecca	Los Angeles World Airports
Morris, Michael	FHWA
Nord, Greg	OCTA
Pehrson, John	CDM Smith
Sherwood, Arnie	UC Berkeley
Trifiletti, Lisa	Los Angeles World Airports

**SCAG:**

Asuncion, John  
Au, Anita  
Luo, Rongsheng  
Gutierrez, Pablo  
Tran, Daniel  
Zhou, Yanlin

**Via Teleconference:**

Alvaraz, Grace	RCTC
Cacatian, Ben	VCAPCD
Castro, Fernando	Caltrans District 7
Chu, Wayne	Caltrans District 12
Dana, Neil	SANBAG
DeHate, Eric	RCTC
Dwedle, Kevin	Caltrans Headquarters
Gallo, Ilene	Caltrans District 11
Globa, Victor	Federal Aviation Administration
Hosseini, Ehsan	Terry A. Hayes Associates
Hudson, Kerrie	Caltrans, District 8
Jaffery, Edison	Caltrans, District 8

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Kelly, Tom	EPA Region 9
Louka, Tony	Caltrans District 8
O'Connor, Karina	EPA Region 9
Putnam, John	LAWA
Sheffer, Melissa	SCAQMD
Silverman, Sam	SANBAG
Speirs, David	Parsons
Tax, Wienke	EPA Region 9
Tisopulos, Tara	OCTA
Tracy, Suzanne	City of Los Angeles
Vaughn, Joseph	FHWA
Vigillani, Mary	LAWA
Walecka, Carla	TCA
Wong, Jillian	SCAQMD
Yoon, Andrew	Caltrans District 7

**1.0 CALL TO ORDER AND SELF-INTRODUCTION**

Greg Nord, OCTA, called the meeting to order at 10:05 am.

**2.0 PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD**

There were no public comments.

**3.0 CONSENT CALENDAR**

3.1 Revised October 27, 2015 TCWG Meeting Minutes

The revised meeting minutes were approved.

3.2 TCWG January 26, 2016 Meeting Minutes

The meeting minutes were deferred to the next meeting.

**4.0 INFORMATION ITEMS**

4.0 Review of PM Hot Spot Interagency Review Forms

1) **Interstate 10 Corridor Project**

It was reaffirmed that this is not a POAQC (Caltrans Headquarters concurrence was received via email after meeting).

2) **LA000800**

It was determined that this is not a POAQC (Caltrans Headquarters concurrence was received via email after meeting).

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4.1 Los Angeles World Airports – Landside Access Modernization Program (LAMP)  
Overview

Lisa Trifiletti, Los Angeles World Airports (LAWA), reported the following:

- Significant growth and worsening traffic congestion are projected to occur at Los Angeles World Airports and LAMP is proposed as a solution
- LAWA staff has been working with SCAG over last two years on 2016 RTP/SCS which assumes a range of capacity for LAWA
- LAMP consists of an Automated People Mover (APM) system, a consolidated rental car facility (CONRAC), and two Intermodal Transportation Facilities (ITF)
- LAWA's intent is to do early outreach to TCWG, keep TCWG apprised of LAMP, and have a good working partnership moving forward
- LAWA are in process of preparing EIR for LAMP
- LAWA staff will work with TCWG on NEPA approval and conformity determination for LAMP

Steve Culberson, Lead LAMP Environmental Consultant, reported the following:

- APM system is completely elevated, 2.25 miles long, runs from west end of Central Terminal Area (CTA) to west of I-405 freeway where consolidated rental facility will be located, and six stations of which three will be located within CTA. There will be walkway from each terminal to one of the three stations.
- CONRAC will eliminate 1 million one way shuttle trips and includes a Customer Service building, a Ready-Return Area, an Idle Storage building, and a Quick Turn Around and light maintenance area.
- Two ITFs, ITF West and ITF East, are proposed to provide new choices for passengers to access LAX via APM system.
- LAMP includes proposed 2 miles of new roads and 4.5 miles of improved roads to improve access to the new intermodal facilities and consolidated rental car facility and to shift traffic out off CTA.
- LAMP also includes improvement to ramps to I-405 at La Cienega Blvd., as well as improvement to I-105 and Aviation intersection.
- SCAG's 2012 RTP/SCS included only APM system, CONRAC and an ITF, while Draft 2016 RTP/SCS includes entire LAMP.
- Transportation conformity applies to large part of LAMP including elements included in 2016 RTP/SCS, elements affecting other regional significant projects, and elements directly caused by projects in 2016 RTP/SCS; while all the other elements should be subject to general conformity.
- Approach that LAWA outlined and discussed with FAA is to 1) identify which project element is subject to transportation conformity and which element is subject to general conformity; and 2) discuss with all involved federal agencies

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including EPA, FHWA, FTA, and FAA for their concurrence before LAWA would proceed with a protocol and actual air quality impact analysis.

Ms. Trifiletti, LAWA, added that LAWA has been closely working with Metro and Caltrans on connection between their respective facilities and LAMP; LAWA has received a letter of concurrence from Caltrans on LAMP's traffic assumptions and methodology for EIR analysis; LAWA is working simultaneously on EIR and NEPA to speed up planning for and implementation of LAMP with target completion deadline of 2024 as set by Los Angeles City Mayor; and LAWA would like to receive concurrence from TCWG especially EPA on LAMP transportation conformity approach.

In response to a question, Mr. Culberson, Lead LAMP Environmental Consultant, stated that analysis to identify elements for transportation and general conformity analysis would be done within two weeks or so.

In response to a question, Karina O'Connor, EPA Region 9, stated that multiple EPA staff will be involved and she will provide a list of names.

Victor Globa, Federal Aviation Administration, stated that the key factor is to have EPA staff on board to figure out which elements are subject to transportation vs. general conformity and to make sure that the various agencies all sign off on the process.

Karina O'Connor, EPA Region 9, recommended to include FHWA and FTA staff in the meeting because they are the key decision maker of transportation conformity.

Joseph Vaughn, FHWA, recommended to include Caltrans staff in the meeting because they play a paramount role.

In response to a question, Ms. Trifiletti, LAWA, clarified that at Caltrans Ronald Kosinski is NEPA lead, Andrew Yoon is conformity lead, and Gary Slater is project lead.

Andrew Yoon, Caltrans District 7, stated that LAMP probably would come to Caltrans local assistance program so Caltrans would serve as NEPA lead in transportation conformity and prepare conformity air quality analysis.

Ms. Trifiletti, LAWA, stated that LAWA staff will also work with SCAG staff to move LAMP forward from RTP/SCS to FTIP.

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4.2 FTIP Update

John Asuncion, SCAG, reported the following:

- 2017 FTIP submittal was under analysis and review by SCAG staff and on schedule for federal approval by mid December 2016.
- 2015 FTIP Amendment #15-15 was anticipated to be posted for public review by end of February 2016.

4.2.1 Status Update on SR-241 TCM (ORA052) Substitution

Rongsheng Luo, SCAG, reported the following:

- Per 2015 FTIP, SR-241 (ORA052) is a committed TCM scheduled to be completed by 2021. Its first segment, Tesoro Extension, was required to break ground by June 2015 to demonstrate timely implementation of SR-241 TCM.
- Tesoro Extension didn't break ground in June 2015 due to environmental permitting issues.
- As a result, a TCM substitution was initiated as documented in Draft 2016 RTP/SCS Transportation Conformity Analysis Appendix.
- OCTA, upon TCA recommendation, has proposed FTC-S to SR-241/91 Express Lanes Connector project (ELC) (FTIP Project ID #: ORA111207) as substitute TCM.
- ELC Project is an existing TCM project with no funding programmed for right of way or construction in first two years of 2015 FTIP. Per SCAG's Final 2015 FTIP Guidelines, the ELC project is eligible as a substitute TCM.
- Initial TCM Substitution analysis by OCTA was tentatively scheduled to be presented to TCWG in March 2016.
- Upon TCWG concurrence on proposed analysis methodology, OCTA will complete TCM Substitution analysis and submit a formal TCM Substitution Request to SCAG.
- TCM substitution analysis will be presented to TCWG for interagency consultation and will also be released for public review.
- After public review, TCM substitution will be presented to SCAG's Energy and Environment Committee (EEC) for recommendation to SCAG's Regional Council (RC) for adoption.
- Upon Regional Council's adoption, final TCM substitution will be submitted to U.S. EPA and California ARB for their respective concurrence.
- Upon EPA and ARB's concurrence, TCM substitution will become effective and will be reflected in an FTIP amendment.
- SCAG staff will ensure that TCM substitution and subsequent FTIP amendment are completed in a timely manner so that new substitute TCM will contribute to attainment of revoked one-hour ozone standard, for which SR-241 TCM was committed for, by 2021.

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4.3 RTP Update

Daniel Tran, SCAG, reported the following:

- Draft 2016 RTP/SCS public review period officially began on December 4, 2015 and concluded on February 1, 2016.
- Throughout January, SCAG held a total of 14 elected official briefing and 4 public hearings, which were video conferenced simultaneously to regional offices to make them more accessible to residents in SCAG region.
- Most of comments received addressed broad themes such as transportation investments, growth and development patterns, and environmental issues such as air quality, plan implementation, and roles of local and regional governments.
- SCAG received 159 separate communications containing nearly 1,000 public comments related to Draft 2016 RTP/SCS.
- Staff was still reviewing these comments and planned to share a summary of comments received, proposed strategies, and Plan revisions at March 2016 Joint Policy Committee Meeting.

4.3.1 2012 RTP/SCS & 2015 FTIP Conformity Re-determination for 2012 Annual PM<sub>2.5</sub> NAAQS - Status Update

Rongsheng Luo, SCAG, reported the following:

- Conformity re-determination for 2012 RTP/SCS and 2015 FTIP for 2012 Annual PM<sub>2.5</sub> standards was presented to SCAG's EEC and RC for their respective approvals in early February 2016.
- As recommended by EEC, RC adopted the conformity re-determination on February 4, 2016.
- Subsequently, the conformity re-determination was submitted to FHWA and FDA for approval.
- Final conformity re-determination needs to be issued by FHWA and FTA by April 15, 2016.

4.4 EPA Update

Wienke Tax, EPA Region 9, reported the following:

- Consent decree deadline for EPA to finalize its action on South Coast 2006 PM<sub>2.5</sub> NAAQS SIP was on March 15, 2016.
- "Bump up" reclassification of some Marginal nonattainment areas under 2008 8-hour ozone standards was anticipated to be filed in coming weeks. The bump up only affects Imperial County in SCAG region.

Karina O'Connor, EPA Region 9, reported that EPA concurrence letter regarding RCTC's TCM Substitution was expected to be signed in late February 2016.

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4.5 ARB Update  
None.

4.6 Air Districts Update

Ben Cacatian, VCAPCD, reported the following:

- In 2008, Ventura County was classified as a “Serious” nonattainment area under 2008 8 hour Ozone NAAQS.
- As a result, Ventura County is required to attain 2008 Ozone NAAQS by 2021 and to submit Ventura County AQMP/Ozone SIP to EPA by July 2016.
- As part of the AQMP/SIP, VCAPCD is required to undertake a RACM analysis to consider all possible TCMs and determine whether these measures were economically and technologically feasible for Ventura County and, if implemented, whether these measures would advance attainment by at least one year.
- VCAPCD staff analyzed TCMs implemented in Ventura County as well as TCMs in ozone nonattainment area SIPs from South Coast, San Joaquin, Sacramento and Washington D.C.
- VCAPCD had received input from Ventura County Transportation Commission, Transportation Technical Advisory Committee, and Transit Operators Committee.
- The RACM analysis demonstrated that all TCMs that were found feasible are being implemented in Ventura County but these measures would not advance ozone attainment by one year.
- The RACM analysis would be included in Draft 2016 Ventura County AQMP and available for public review.

In response to a question, Mr. Cacatian stated that Draft 2016 Ventura County was anticipated to be released in late March 2016 pending final planning emission inventory from ARB.

**5.0 INFORMATION SHARING**  
None.

**6.0 ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 11:30 am.

The next Transportation Conformity Working Group meeting will be held on Tuesday, March 22, 2016 at the SCAG office in downtown Los Angeles.