



METROPOLITAN
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COMMISSION

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Memorandum

TO: Air Quality Conformity Task Force

DATE: January 5, 2011

FR: Grace Cho

W. I.

RE: PM2.5 Project Conformity Interagency Consultation

On December 14, 2009, EPA designated the Bay Area region as non-attainment for the criteria pollutant Particulate Matter 2.5 (PM_{2.5}). As a designated non-attainment area, the Bay Area will be subject to new conformity requirements, which includes individual project level conformity for PM_{2.5}. Starting on December 14, 2010 Bay Area project sponsors will be required to undergo project level conformity determinations for PM_{2.5} if their project meets certain criteria.

MTC developed and adopted PM_{2.5} interagency consultation procedures (MTC Resolution No. 3946). The meetings of the Air Quality Conformity Task Force will serve as the forum for the interagency consultation. The Air Quality Conformity Task Force is responsible for determining whether a project qualifies as a project of air quality concern (POAQC) and for reviewing the assumptions, methods, and analysis to be included in the PM_{2.5} hot-spot analysis.

With new conformity requirements in effect, project sponsors began the conformity process by responding to a set of questions and submitting a PM_{2.5} Project Assessment Form through the air quality module of MTC's Fund Management System (FMS). Several project sponsors completed the initial steps of the project level conformity process and have requested interagency consultation on their projects. The following project sponsors seek interagency consultation from the Air Quality Conformity Task Force at this time:

| No. | Project Sponsor | Project Title |
|-----|---|---|
| 1 | City of Novato | Novato Boulevard Improvements – Diablo to Grant |
| 2 | San Mateo County Transportation Authority (SMCTA) | US 101/Broadway Interchange Improvements |
| 3 | Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority (VTA) | I-880/I-280/Stevens Creek Interchange Improvements |
| 4 | Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority (VTA) | US 101 Auxiliary/HOV Lanes – SR 85 to San Mateo County Line |
| 5 | Caltrans | Jameson Canyon Road Widening Project/Napa SR 12/SR 29 Interchange |

Attachment A includes descriptions of the above projects and corresponding Project Assessment Forms. Please note that Caltrans only submitted one project assessment form which provides information about the Jameson Canyon Road Widening and Napa SR 12/SR 29 Interchange projects.

Additionally, MTC requests the review and concurrence from the Air Quality Conformity Task Force of a set of projects that project sponsors have identified as exempt and likely to not be POAQC. **Attachment B** lists these exempt projects.

Lastly, **Attachment C** is a summary of Solano County's I-80 Cordelia Truck Scales Project which is ready to undergo hot-spot analysis consultation. Attached in the packet is the project assessment form. For the full hot spot analysis, please see the link on the agenda to access the document.

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