

**Example 1: Application of Criteria for a Project of Air Quality Concern**  
**Project Title: Kirker Pass Road Northbound Truck Lanes**  
**Project Summary for Air Quality Conformity Task Force Meeting: May 22, 2014**

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**Description**

- Project will construct a truck climbing lane in the northbound direction along Kirker Pass Road beginning north of the Concord Pavilion and ending at the northern Hess Road intersection.
- Kirker Pass Road is a route of regional significance connecting Central and East Contra Costa County.
- The roadway navigates through hilly terrain and has limited sight distances and sustained grades steeper than 8%.
- Additional truck climbing lane will improve safety and reduce congestion along the roadway by reducing conflicts with slow moving trucks and providing wider shoulders.

**Background**

- Project is just beginning environmental studies and preliminary design.
- NEPA process is not expected to be complete until April 2015.
- No comments received on air quality thus far.
- Seeking air quality conformity determination on or before December 2014.
- Schedule based on deadline for STIP funding allocation

**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

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

- Truck traffic represents approximately 6.7% of average daily traffic along roadway.
- Roadway at LOS B and will be maintained with project.
- No project changes to land use or traffic patterns that would affect diesel traffic.

*(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 PM<sub>10</sub> or PM<sub>2.5</sub> implementation plan as site of violation?*

- No state implementation plan for PM<sub>2.5</sub>
- Therefore, not identified in plan as an area of potential violation

<b>RTIP ID#</b> <i>(required)</i> 230291				
<b>TIP ID#</b> <i>(required)</i> CC-070075				
<b>Air Quality Conformity Task Force Consideration Date</b>				
<b>Project Description</b> <i>(clearly describe project)</i> The Kirker Pass Road Northbound Truck Lanes Project will improve safety and reduce congestion along Kirker Pass Road by constructing a truck climbing lane in the northbound direction. The project is approximately 1 mile in length, beginning north of the Concord Pavilion and ending at the northern Hess Road intersection. Pavement widening is proposed on the east side of the roadway to provide a 12-foot truck lane and 8-foot paved shoulder for future Class 2 bicycle lanes. Widening will require significant retaining walls due to the existing slopes and drainage adjacent to the roadway.  The majority of the project lies outside of the urbanized area in unincorporated Contra Costa County. The project begins in the City of Concord with approximately 1,600 linear feet of the roadway within the City limits.				
<b>Type of Project:</b> Safety				
<b>County</b> Contra Costa	<i>Narrative Location/Route &amp; Postmiles</i> Local Road <b>Caltrans Projects – EA#</b> N/A			
<b>Lead Agency:</b> Contra Costa County Public Works Department				
<i>Contact Person</i> Chris Lau	<i>Phone#</i> (925) 313-2293	<i>Fax#</i> (925) 313-2333	<i>Email</i> clau@pw.cccounty.us	
<b>Federal Action for which Project-Level PM Conformity is Needed</b> <i>(check appropriate box)</i>				
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <i>Categorical Exclusion (NEPA)</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> <b>EA or Draft EIS</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> <b>FONSI or Final EIS</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>PS&amp;E or Construction</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Other</i>
<b>Scheduled Date of Federal Action:</b> NEPA approval expected by 4/20/15				
<b>NEPA Delegation – Project Type</b> <i>(check appropriate box)</i>				
<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Exempt</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>Section 6004 – Categorical Exemption</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Section 6005 – Non-Categorical Exemption</b>		
<b>Current Programming Dates</b> <i>(as appropriate)</i>				
	<b>PE/Environmental</b>	<b>ENG</b>	<b>ROW</b>	<b>CON</b>
<b>Start</b>	9/2013	5/2015	9/2015	4/2017
<b>End</b>	4/2015	8/2015	9/2016	9/2017
<b>Project Purpose and Need (Summary):</b> <i>(please be brief)</i> Kirker Pass Road is a 4-lane principal arterial and route of regional significance between Central and East Contra Costa County. It connects the City of Concord on the west end through the Meridian Hills to the City of Pittsburg on the east end. With a speed limit of 55 mph, it is frequently used by commuters and experiences heavy truck traffic. With limited sight distances and sustained grades steeper than 8%, trucks are unable to match the speed of other vehicles on the roadway, causing significant congestion and creating a safety hazard along the roadway. The project will improve safety and reduce congestion along Kirker Pass Road by constructing a truck climbing lane and wider shoulders in the northbound direction.				

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

Kirker Pass Road is located in a rural area surrounded by agricultural lands and connecting urban areas to the City of Pittsburg to the north and the City of Concord to the south.

**Brief summary of assumptions and methodology used for conducting analysis**

Actual volume counts assumed for Opening Year and taken in June 2013.  
2040 volumes from CCTA Travel Demand Model assumed for RTP Horizon Year.

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

18,065 AADT  
1,213 truck AADT, 6.7% trucks  
No Build – LOS B  
Build – LOS B

**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**

31,593 AADT

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

N/A

**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**

N/A

**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**

N/A

**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**

N/A

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

Kirker Pass Road is route of regional significance and currently a major commuter route and truck route used to connect Central and East Contra Costa County. The primary purpose of the project is to improve safety along the roadway and traffic redistribution as a result of the project is not expected.

**Comments/Explanation/Details (please be brief)**