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## *Memorandum*

TO: Air Quality Conformity Task Force

DATE: May 8, 2014

FR: Adam Crenshaw

W. I.

RE: Interagency Consultation for Non-Exempt Projects in Proposed TIP Amendment 2013-16

The purpose of this memo is to seek the Air Quality Conformity Task Force's concurrence that certain changes staff proposes to make to the 2013 TIP in May as part of TIP Amendment 2013-16 will not significantly impact regional transportation air quality and that these changes will not trigger a revision to the Transportation Air Quality Conformity Analysis for *Plan Bay Area* and the 2013 TIP.

MTC staff requests the Task Force's concurrence that the addition of one project and the revision to one other project will not require an update to the Transportation Air Quality Conformity Analysis for *Plan Bay Area* and the 2013 TIP as the proposed addition and revision are consistent with the current analysis. The projects below include a brief discussion regarding the conformity issues pertaining to each project and an explanation of staff's recommendation. MTC staff is not seeking a determination on the status of these projects for project-level PM<sub>2.5</sub> air quality conformity purposes at this time.

### **Proposed 2013 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Amendment**

The 2013 TIP is financially constrained and covers the six fiscal years FY 2012-13 through FY 2017-2018. MTC adopted the 2013 TIP on July 18, 2013 (Resolution No. 4075). In addition, MTC made a conformity determination that finds the 2013 TIP and *Plan Bay Area* conform to applicable federal air quality standards and implementation plans (Resolution No. 4076). Both the 2013 TIP and conformity determination were approved by FTA/FHWA on August 12, 2013.

The new project and the revision to the existing projects outlined below are not currently reflected in the 2013 TIP. MTC staff is proposing an amendment to the 2013 TIP (TIP Revision 2013-16) to add this project and revise this existing project. Both of the projects outlined below will have funding for capital phases within the six years of the TIP as a result of Amendment 2013-16. Amendment 2013-16 is scheduled to be considered by the Commission at its May 28, 2014 meeting.

**1. I-80 Express Lanes – Fairfield & Vacaville Phase II and III**

TIP ID: SOL110001

Sponsor: MTC

Description: I-80 in Solano County from Red Top Rd to I-505: Convert existing HOV to HOT & Construct new HOT lanes from Air Base Parkway to I-505. Project also references RTP ID 230660

Expanded Description: I-80 in Solano County from Red Top Rd to I-505: Convert existing HOV to HOT & Construct new HOT lanes by widening to add an express lane in each direction from I-505 to Air Base Parkway.

**Conformity Issue**

The I-80 Express Lanes – Fairfield & Vacaville Phase II and III project is currently included in the 2013 TIP as two non-exempt projects (SOL110001 and SOL110002) with all funding for construction programmed in FY2016/17 and FY2018/19, which is outside of the four active years of the 2013 FSTIP. Staff is proposing a revision to the 2013 TIP to combine these projects and to reprogram a portion of the construction funds from FY2016/17 to FY2015/16, which would include this project in the four active years of the 2013 FSTIP. The scope of this project is already included in the Transportation Air Quality Conformity Analysis as part of RTP IDs 240581 and 230660 (see Attachment A). Both RTP ID 240581 and 230660 were modeled for the 2020 analysis year in the conformity analysis (when the project would be deemed operational and open for traffic) and the proposed revision to this project does not conflict with the scheduled completion of that project as the construction phase remains programmed between the conformity analysis years of 2015 and 2020. Staff is requesting the Task Force's concurrence that including this revision in the 2013 TIP will not require an update of the Transportation Air Quality Conformity Analysis as the changes are consistent with the current analysis.

**2. Mountain View Double Track Improvements – Phase II**

TIP ID: SCL130046

Sponsor: VTA

Description: Mountain View: On the Mountain View to Winchester Light Rail Transit line from the west side of the State Route 85 overcrossing to Whisman Station: Double track the current single track section

Expanded Description: Phase II of the Mountain View Double Track Improvements project will include the following: (1)Extend a second light rail track over a distance of approximately 3,000 feet from the west side of the State Route 85 overcrossing to Whisman Station. (2)Change operations at Evelyn Light Rail Station.

**Conformity Issue**

The Mountain View Double Track Improvements – Phase II project is not currently included in the 2013 FSTIP. Staff is proposing a revision to the 2013 TIP that would add this project with funding for capital phases in the four active years of the 2013 FSTIP. The scope of this project is already included in the Air Quality Conformity Analysis under RTP ID 240518 (see Attachment B). RTP ID 240518 is a larger transit expansion project that includes the Mountain View Double Track Improvements – Phase II along with other changes. The full RTP project was modeled for the 2040 analysis year in the conformity analysis. While the Mountain View Double Track Improvements – Phase II TIP project is being delivered before this analysis year, the full RTP project remains scheduled to be completed between 2030 and

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2040 and the proposed addition of this TIP project does not conflict with the scheduled completion of the full RTP project. Staff is requesting the Task Force's concurrence including this revision to the 2013 TIP will not require an update of the Transportation Air Quality Conformity Analysis as the new TIP project is consistent with the current analysis.

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