

# Metropolitan Transportation Commission Programming and Allocations Committee

July 9, 2014

Agenda Item 3b

## Public Hearing on the Draft 2015 TIP and Draft Transportation-Air Quality Conformity Analysis for the Plan and the Draft 2015 TIP

---

**Subject:** Public Hearing on the Draft 2015 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) and Draft Transportation-Air Quality Conformity Analysis for *Plan Bay Area* (Plan) and the Draft 2015 TIP.

**Background:** The Draft 2015 TIP includes 1,005 transportation projects, and approximately \$9.4 billion in committed federal, state, regional and local funding over the four-year TIP period from FY2014-15 through FY2017-18. The federally required TIP is a comprehensive listing of Bay Area surface transportation projects that receive federal funds, are subject to a federally required action, or are regionally significant. As the federally designated Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for the nine-county San Francisco Bay Area Region, MTC is required by the State to prepare and adopt an updated TIP every two years. The 2013 TIP was adopted by the Commission on July 18, 2013 and approved by the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) and the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) on August 12, 2013. It is valid through August 11, 2017.

To align with the state-wide schedule for TIP updates, MTC has developed the Draft 2015 TIP. Since the 2015 TIP period is entirely contained within the period previously approved by the Commission, there are few projects being added that have not previously received a Commission TIP action. The 2015 TIP is simply updating the project costs, scopes and schedules, and identifying two years of project funding (FY2012-13 and FY2013-14) as prior years, with corresponding updates to other elements of the TIP. Further description is provided in the attached, "A Guide to the San Francisco Bay Area's Transportation Improvement Program."

To further assist in the public assessment of the Draft 2015 TIP, and specifically to address the equity implications of the proposed TIP investments, MTC staff has conducted an investment analysis with a focus on minority and low-income residents (attached). The key question addressed is: "Are low-income and minority populations sharing equitably in the TIP's financial investments?" To answer this question, the investment analysis uses a population/use-based methodology to calculate the shares of 2015 TIP investments that will flow to the identified populations, and compares those shares to the populations' proportionate shares of the region's population or trip-making as a whole. Mapping overlays showing all mapped projects in the region are also used to analyze the geographic distribution of projects. Overall, the analysis concludes that there is a relatively higher proportionate investment in the draft 2015 TIP in minority and low-income populations than the proportionate share of trips taken by minority and low-income populations. See the attached Investment Analysis for further details. Staff will be presenting the investment analysis to the Policy Advisory Council on July 9, 2014.

Federal regulations require that MPOs conduct an analysis to determine that the region is in compliance with federal air quality requirements as part of the TIP approval process. MTC has prepared the *Draft Transportation-Air Quality Conformity Analysis for the Plan and the Draft 2015 TIP* in accordance with the latest U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (US EPA) transportation conformity regulations and the Bay Area Air Quality Conformity Protocol (MTC Resolution

No. 3757). The conformity analysis addresses only those projects identified in the financially constrained *Plan Bay Area* and the Draft 2015 TIP.

The *Draft Transportation-Air Quality Conformity Analysis for the Plan and the Draft 2015 TIP* includes updates to project schedules to reflect current information provided by project sponsors. The updates were primarily related to projects that were originally scheduled to be complete by the 2015 analysis year but will now be complete after 2015 and therefore shift to the 2020 conformity analysis year. The updated project information resulted in negligible changes in the air quality conformity analysis as compared to that completed in 2013 for the 2013 TIP and *Plan Bay Area*.

This draft conformity analysis demonstrates that both the Draft 2015 TIP and *Plan Bay Area* are consistent with (“conform to”) the federal air quality plan, which is referred to as the State Implementation Plan (SIP), meaning that the transportation activities will not cause new air quality violations, worsen existing violations, or delay timely attainment of the federal air quality standards. The draft conformity analysis finds that emissions in the Draft 2015 TIP and *Plan Bay Area* are lower than the air quality emissions budgets and meet the requirements related to carbon monoxide, ozone, PM2.5, and the implementation of transportation control measures.

Federal regulations also require an opportunity for public comment prior to TIP approval. The draft TIP and draft Air Quality Conformity Analysis documents were released for public review and comment beginning on June 26, 2014 and are available on the internet at: <http://www.mtc.ca.gov/funding/tip/>, at the MTC/ABAG Library and at major libraries throughout the Bay Area. The close of the comment period is scheduled for July 31, 2014. MTC staff will review and respond to comments submitted during the public comment period. In addition, the Air Quality Conformity Task Force has been consulted on the conformity analysis. Staff shall review with the Task Force comments received and the agency’s response prior to final recommendations to the Commission for approval, as outlined in the Bay Area Air Quality Conformity Protocol (MTC Resolution No. 3757). The final documents, comments received and the agency’s responses are scheduled to be considered at the September Programming and Allocations Committee meeting. The final documents are scheduled to be presented for approval at the September 24, 2014 Commission meeting. Final federal approval of the 2015 TIP is expected in December 2014.

**Issues:** None.

**Recommendation:** Receive Public Comment.

**Attachments:** A Guide to the San Francisco Bay Area’s Transportation Improvement Program Draft 2015 TIP Investment Analysis