



METROPOLITAN
TRANSPORTATION
COMMISSION

Joseph P. Bort MetroCenter
101 Eighth Street
Oakland, CA 94607-4700
TEL 510.817.5700
TDD/TTY 510.817.5769
FAX 510.817.5848
E-MAIL info@mtc.ca.gov
WEB www.mtc.ca.gov

Memorandum

TO: Air Quality Conformity Task Force

DATE: June 5, 2015

FR: Harold Brazil

W.I.:

RE: Release of Draft Transportation Conformity Analysis for the Amendments to Plan Bay Area and 2015 Transportation Improvement Program

MTC staff completed the Draft Transportation Conformity Analysis for the Amended Plan Bay Area and 2015 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). The analysis includes I-580 access improvements to the Richmond-San Rafael (RSR) Bridge which yielding traffic congestion benefits (in the eastbound direction of I-580 in Marin County) and provides bicycle and pedestrian access between Contra Costa and Marin Counties. The project results in negligible changes in the air quality conformity analysis as compared to that completed in December 2014 for the 2015 TIP and Plan Bay Area.

Consistent with the performance framework established in Plan Bay Area for all major regional transportation projects, the I-580 Access Improvements Project will be evaluated using the performance framework established in Plan Bay Area. This will include a benefit-cost assessment to identify the cost-effectiveness of the proposed investment, as well as a targets assessment to evaluate the project's support for the adopted targets included in the Plan. Performance results for the project will be presented to MTC and ABAG in September 2015 in advance of their consideration and approval.

This draft conformity analysis demonstrates that both the Draft Amended Plan Bay Area and 2015 TIP 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 Amended Plan Bay Area and 2015 TIP are lower than the air quality emissions budgets and meet the requirements related to carbon monoxide, ozone, PM_{2.5}, and the implementation of transportation control measures.

This TIP Amendment (2015-18) adds the I-580 Access Improvement Project to the financially constrained 2015 TIP. **Attachment 4a** lists the new project, the regional air quality conformity category that staff believes best fits this project and the air quality conformity analysis year for the project. The revision made pursuant to this Amendment will not conflict with the financial constraint requirements of the Plan. The TIP Amendment will require MTC Commission approval. This Amendment will be transmitted to Caltrans after the Commission's approval; after its review, Caltrans will forward the Amendment to FTA/FHWA as required for final federal agency review and final approval.

MTC staff plans to release the Draft Transportation Conformity Analysis for public review and comment beginning on June 19, 2015 and ending on July 20, 2015 and the document will be available on the internet at: www.mtc.ca.gov and at the MTC/ABAG Library. Key dates leading up to approval of these amendments and technical documents are listed below.

Project Schedule	
Activity	Tentative Dates
Release of the Draft Amendments to Plan Bay Area and Transportation Improvement Program (TIP Amendment 2015-18), Draft Conformity Analysis , and Draft Plan Bay Area EIR Addendum for public review and comment	June 19, 2015
30-Day Public Review and Comment Period	June 19, 2015 through July 20, 2015
Review and approval by MTC Planning Committee and ABAG Administrative Committee of the Amendment to Plan Bay Area and Plan Bay Area EIR Addendum	September 11, 2015
Review and approval by MTC Planning Committee of TIP Amendment 2015-18 and Conformity Analysis	
Review and approval by MTC Commission and ABAG Executive Board of the Amendment to Plan Bay Area and Plan Bay Area EIR Addendum	September 23, 2015 And September 17, 2015
Review and approval by MTC Commission of TIP Amendment 2015-18 and Conformity Analysis	September 23, 2015
Review and approval by Caltrans of TIP Amendment 2015-18	October 2015
Review and approval of Federal Highway Administration/Federal Transit Administration (FHWA/FTA) of TIP Amendment 2015-18 and the Conformity Analysis for Plan Bay Area and 2015 Transportation Improvement Program	November 2015