



Transportation Committee

Meeting Date: August 1, 2024

Agenda Item No. 3

Public Hearing: 2025 Metropolitan Transportation Improvement Program, Amendment #1 to the 2023 Metropolitan Transportation Plan/Sustainable Communities Strategy and Air Quality Conformity Analysis

Action

Author: Miguel Mendoza

Attachments: Yes

Referring Committee: Not Applicable

Issue:

A public hearing is required on the Draft 2025 Metropolitan Transportation Improvement Program (MTIP), Amendment #1 to the 2023 Metropolitan Transportation Plan/Sustainable Communities Strategy (MTP/SCS), and Air Quality Conformity Analysis.

Request:

Approve

Recommendation for Board:

None.

Recommendation for Committee:

That the Transportation Committee hold a public hearing to receive comments.

Background:

The Draft 2025 MTIP, Amendment #1 to the 2023 MTP/SCS, and Air Quality Conformity Analysis are available for public review from July 1, 2024 through August 2, 2024. The draft documents are available on SACOG's website at www.sacog.org, under Funding and Draft 2025 MTIP, are attached.

The MTIP contains near-term transportation projects that are either federally funded or regionally significant regarding air quality impacts. Inclusion in the federally approved MTIP is an essential step for delivering federally funded transportation projects. All projects in the MTIP are included, either individually or as part of lump sums, in the 2023 MTP/SCS. Federal rules require that the MTP/SCS and MTIP be consistent and that they conform to the region's plan for attaining clean air.

The 2025 MTIP is necessary for all federally funded transportation projects in the six-county region to start federally reimbursable work. The 2025 MTIP is an administrative programming document that formalized funding decisions already made by federal, state, and local agencies. State and supporting federal regulations require that we adopt a new MTIP every two years.

The Draft 2025 MTIP adds, deletes, marks completed, and revises many projects from the current 2023 MTIP. These changes also count as a revision to the 2023 MTP/SCS and, therefore, require that we amend the 2023 MTP/SCS project list accordingly for consistency. Also, in the Air Quality Conformity Analysis, we must demonstrate to the federal government that the changes do not affect our ability to attain clean air standards. In developing the MITP, staff contacted sponsors directly and reviewed their project submittals for accuracy, clarify, financial constraint, air quality conformity, and consistency with the 2023 MTP/SCS.

The 2025 MTIP and Amendment #1 to the 2023 MTP/SCS will also include the Air Quality Conformity Determination demonstrating the plan's conformity with the State Implementation Plans for air quality, in accordance with the Transportation Conformity Requirements in 40 C.F.R. 51 and 93, as required by the 1990 Clean Air Act Amendments.

Discussion/Analysis:

SACOG is currently circulating for public review the following documents, which can be found online at www.sacog.org under **Funding and Draft 2025 MTIP:**

1. Draft 2025 MTIP/Draft Amendment #1 to the 2023 MTP/SCS
2. Draft Air Quality Conformity Analysis on both the Draft 2025 MTIP and Amendment #1 to the 2023 MTP

These documents were released for public review on July 1, 2024, with comments due by August 2, 2024.

Both the 2025 MTIP and Amendment #1 to the 2023 MTP/SCS necessitate that SACOG model and determine whether they conform for the purposes of air quality. SACOG used an emissions modeling process to determine that the proposed changes in the Draft 2025 MTIP and Draft Amendment #1 to the 2023 MTP/SCS would not impede the region's plan to attain air quality goals and standards. The Draft Air Quality Conformity Analysis documents that determination.

SACOG must circulate both the Draft 2025 MTIP, Draft Amendment #1 to the 2023 MTP/SCS, and Air Quality Conformity Analysis for at least 30 days of public review and hold a public hearing. Any comments received at the Transportation Committee's hearing will be considered prior to final Board action, anticipated on September 19, 2024.

Fiscal Impact/Grant Information:

Included in OWP/Budget

List of Attachments:

1. Draft 2025 Metropolitan Transportation Improvement Program/Draft Amendment #1 to the 2023 MTP/SCS
2. Draft Air Quality Conformity Analysis