



Approve 2023 Metropolitan Transportation Improvement Program, Amendment #2 to the 2020 Metropolitan Transportation Plan/Sustainable Communities Strategy, and Air Quality Conformity Determination

Consent

Prepared by: Jose Luis Caceres

Attachments: Yes

Approved by: James Corless

Referring Committee: Transportation

1. Issue:

Staff has received and responded to comments on the Draft 2023 Metropolitan Transportation Improvement Program (2023 MTIP), an associated amendment to the 2020 Metropolitan Transportation Plan/Sustainable Communities Strategy (2020 MTP/SCS), and the accompanying Air Quality Conformity Determination. The Regional Planning Partnership, SACOG's Advisory Committee on transportation and air quality planning and programming processes, took consensus action on the Air Quality Conformity Analysis and Determination at its meeting August 23, 2022. Board approval is necessary in order to submit the package for state and federal approvals.

2. Recommendation:

The Transportation Committee recommended that the board approve the resolution (Attachment A) to do the following: (1) Adopt the 2023 MTIP (Attachment B) including changes made in response to public comments; (2) Adopt Amendment #2 to the 2020 MTP/SCS (also Attachment B); (3) Adopt the accompanying Air Quality Conformity Determination (Attachment C); and (4) Delegate authority to the SACOG Executive Director to make any necessary technical edits to secure state and federal approval.

3. Background/Analysis:

The 2023 MTIP is necessary for all federally funded transportation projects in the six-county region to start federally reimbursable work. Without it, sponsors in our region would not be able to access hundreds of millions in federal transportation dollars. The 2023 MTIP is an administrative programming document that formalizes funding decisions already made by federal, state, and local agencies. State and supporting federal rules require that we adopt a new MTIP every two years.

The Draft 2023 MTIP adds, deletes, marks completed, and revises many projects from the current 2021 MTIP. These changes also count as a revision to the 2020 MTP/SCS and, therefore, require that we amend the 2020 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 MTIP, staff contacted sponsors directly and reviewed their project submittals for accuracy, clarity, financial constraint, air quality conformity, and consistency with the 2020 MTP/SCS.

4. Discussion/Analysis:

The Transportation Committee did not have questions or significant comments on the item.

During the public review period we received comments in writing and on the phone on both the 2023 MTIP and the Air Quality Conformity Analysis (Attachment D). Staff has fully addressed all comments. In response to comments, staff made administrative-level changes to multiple projects. Most changes involved changing the programming year of federal funds in response to lists maintained and managed by Caltrans Local Assistance. None of the changes made in response to comments affect air quality conformity or impact the determination of financial constraint or consistency with the 2020 MTP/SCS.

Staff's analysis is that the package demonstrates that the 2023 MTIP is accurate, clear, financially constrained, demonstrates air quality conformity, and consistent with the 2020 MTP/SCS through Amendment #2.

5. Fiscal Impact/Grant Information:

There is no fiscal impact.

6. This staff report aligns with the following SACOG Work Plan Objectives:

Goal 1 : Advance Economic Prosperity

Objective 1: Invest in and protect the transportation infrastructure needed to implement the region's economic prosperity plan.

Goal 2 : Connected Communities

Objective 3: Prioritize cost-effective transportation investments that enhance mobility while improving safety, air quality, and the condition of transportation infrastructure and assets.