



**METROPOLITAN  
TRANSPORTATION  
COMMISSION**

Bay Area Metro Center  
375 Beale Street, Suite 800  
San Francisco, CA 94105  
415.778.6700  
[www.mtc.ca.gov](http://www.mtc.ca.gov)

## **Air Quality Conformity Task Force Meeting**

Metropolitan Transportation Commission

Join Zoom Meeting @

<https://bayareametro.zoom.us/j/84383698853>

**Meeting ID: 843 8369 8853**

(Additional Zoom Meeting Call-In Info on Next Page)

**August 25, 2022**

**9:30 a.m. –11:00 a.m.**

### **AGENDA**

1. Welcome and Introductions
2. PM<sub>2.5</sub> Project Conformity Interagency Consultations
  - a. Confirm Projects Are Exempt from PM<sub>2.5</sub> Conformity  
Projects Exempt Under 40 CFR 93.126 – Not of Air Quality Concern
3. Projects with Regional Air Quality Conformity Concerns
  - a. Review of the Regional Conformity Status for New and Revised Projects  
3a\_Regional\_AQ\_Conformity\_Review\_082522.pdf  
3a\_Attachment-A\_List\_of\_Proposed\_New\_Projects\_082522.pdf
4. Conformity Analysis for the 2023 Transportation Improvement Program (update)
5. Consent Calendar
  - a. July 28, 2022 Air Quality Conformity Task Force Meeting Summary
6. Other Items

Next Meeting: September 22, 2022

MTC Staff Liaison: Harold Brazil [hbrazil@bayareametro.gov](mailto:hbrazil@bayareametro.gov)

Harold Brazil is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Topic: Air Quality Conformity Task Force Meeting

Time: This is a recurring meeting Meet anytime

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://bayareametro.zoom.us/j/84383698853>

Meeting ID: 843 8369 8853

One tap mobile

+16699006833,,84383698853# US (San Jose)

+14086380968,,84383698853# US (San Jose)

Dial by your location

+1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose)

+1 408 638 0968 US (San Jose)

+1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)

+1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)

+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

+1 646 876 9923 US (New York)

+1 301 715 8592 US (Washington DC)

888 788 0099 US Toll-free

833 548 0276 US Toll-free

833 548 0282 US Toll-free

877 853 5247 US Toll-free

Meeting ID: 843 8369 8853

Find your local number: <https://bayareametro.zoom.us/u/koavVecev>

Join by SIP

84383698853@zoomcrc.com

Join by H.323

162.255.37.11 (US West)

162.255.36.11 (US East)

115.114.131.7 (India Mumbai)

115.114.115.7 (India Hyderabad)

213.19.144.110 (Amsterdam Netherlands)

213.244.140.110 (Germany)

103.122.166.55 (Australia Sydney)

103.122.167.55 (Australia Melbourne)

64.211.144.160 (Brazil)

69.174.57.160 (Canada Toronto)

65.39.152.160 (Canada Vancouver)

207.226.132.110 (Japan Tokyo)

149.137.24.110 (Japan Osaka)

Meeting ID: 843 8369 8853



METROPOLITAN  
TRANSPORTATION  
COMMISSION

Bay Area Metro Center  
375 Beale Street  
San Francisco, CA 94105  
TEL 415.778.6700  
WEB www.mtc.ca.gov

## *Memorandum*

TO: Air Quality Conformity Task Force

DATE: August 22, 2022

FR: Harold Brazil

W. I.

RE: PM<sub>2.5</sub> Project Conformity Interagency Consultation

A project sponsor representing one project, seeks interagency consultation from the Air Quality Conformity Task Force (AQCTF) at today's meeting and the project is as follows:

No.	Project Sponsor	Project Title
1	City of San Jose	Autumn Street Extension Project

**2ai\_Autumn\_Street\_Extension\_Project\_Assessment\_Form.pdf** (for the Autumn Street Extension project)

In addition, MTC requests the review and concurrence from the Task Force on projects which project sponsors have identified as exempt and likely not to be a POAQC.

**2b\_POAQC\_Exempt\_List\_08192022.pdf** lists exempt projects under 40 CFR 93.126.

**40 CFR 93.126 Exempt Projects List**

<b>County</b>	<b>TIP ID</b>	<b>Sponsor</b>	<b>Project Name</b>	<b>Project Description</b>	<b>Additional Description</b>	<b>Project Type under 40 CFR 93.126</b>
REG	REG110039	MTC	GL: 5307 JARC Set-aside FY13-FY14 Large UA	GL: 5307 JARC Set-aside FY13 Large UA. Various 5307 (former JARC) projects in large urbanized areas. Project is consistent with 40 CFR Part 93.126, 127, 128, Exempt Tables 2 & 3.	Archive this grouped listing as the funding has been put into grants	Mass Transit - Operating assistance to transit agencies
VAR	VAR150001	MTC	GL: FTA 5311 Rural Area FY16	GL: FTA Section 5311 Rural Area Program, Non-ITS portion. Projects include capital and operating assistance. Projects consistent with 40 CFR Part 93.126 Exempt Table 2	Archive this grouped listing as the funding has been put into grants	Mass Transit - Operating assistance to transit agencies
VAR	VAR170026	MTC	GL: FTA 5311 Rural Area FY19 and FY20	GL: FTA Section 5311 Rural Area Program, Non-ITS portion. Projects include capital and operating assistance. Projects consistent with 40 CFR Part 93.126 Exempt Table 2	Archive this grouped listing as the funding has been put into grants	Safety - Safer Non-Federal-Aid system roads



METROPOLITAN  
TRANSPORTATION  
COMMISSION

Bay Area Metro Center  
375 Beale Street, Suite 800  
San Francisco, CA 94105  
415.778.6700  
[www.mtc.ca.gov](http://www.mtc.ca.gov)

TO: Air Quality Conformity Task Force

DATE: August 25, 2022

FR: Adam Crenshaw

RE: Review of the Regional Conformity Status for New and Revised Projects

Staff has prepared the following information in an effort to streamline the review of the regional air quality conformity implications of projects that staff proposes to add into the 2021 TIP and 2023 TIP through current or future revisions. This item is for advisory purposes only. The inclusion of these projects and project changes in a proposed revision to the TIP is subject to Commission approval in the case of amendments and MTC's Executive Director or Deputy Executive Director in the case of administrative modifications. The final determination of the regional air quality conformity status of these projects will be made by the Federal Highway Administration, the Federal Transit Administration and the Environmental Protection Agency as part of their review of proposed final TIP amendments and by the Executive Director or Deputy Executive Director as part of their review for TIP administrative modifications.

#### Changes Staff is Proposing to Include in the 2021 TIP or 2023 TIP

Staff is proposing to add some projects to the 2021 TIP or 2023 TIP. The description of the new projects along with the regional air quality category that staff believes best describes the projects are included on Attachment A.

MTC staff is not seeking a determination on the status of these projects for project-level conformity purposes with this item.

**Review of the Regional Conformity Status for New and Revised Projects - Attachment A**

<b>#</b>	<b>County</b>	<b>TIP ID/FMS ID</b>	<b>Sponsor</b>	<b>Project Name</b>	<b>Project Description</b>	<b>Project Expanded Description</b>	<b>Project Type</b>
1	Regional	REG210201	MTC	Priority Conservation Area Grant Implementation	Regionwide: Administration of grant program for planning, design, and implementation of bike, pedestrian, and vehicular access projects.	Regionwide: Administration of the Priority Conservation Area (PCA) grant program, which funds the planning, design, and implementation of projects that improve access to priority habitats, open spaces, and recreational opportunities.	EXEMPT (40 CFR 93.126) - Planning activities conducted pursuant to titles 23 and 49 U.S.C.
2	Various	REG210202	Caltrain	Caltrain Mini-High Platforms	Caltrain: San Francisco, San Mateo and Santa Clara Counties: Installation of Mini-High platforms at Caltrain stations to improve accessibility.	Caltrain: Systemwide: Install mini-high platforms at 13 stations to improve ADA Access and reduce dwell times at stations. Work will include installation of the precast platforms and modifications as needed to the existing infrastructure as needed to accommodate the installation. Grounding and bonding will be required at all of the stations within the areas that will be electrified. Upgraded stations include: Bayshore, Burlingame, Hayward Park, Belmont, California Avenue, San Antonio, Lawrence, Tamien, Capitol, Blossom Hill, Morgan Hill, San Martin, Gilroy	EXEMPT (40 CFR 93.126) - Reconstruction or renovation of transit buildings and structures (e.g., rail or bus buildings, storage and maintenance facilities, stations, terminals, and ancillary structures)

**Air Quality Conformity Task Force  
Summary Meeting Notes  
July 28, 2022**

Participants:

Lexie Arellano – Caltrans	
Dick Fahey – Caltrans	Genay Markham – MTC Policy Advisory Council
Kevin Krewson – Caltrans	Rodney Tavitas – Caltrans
Dominique Kraft – FTA	Karishma Becha – Caltrans
Jacqueline Kahrs – Caltrans	Tom Kelly – EPA
Erika Espinosa Araiza – Caltrans	Michael Dorantes – EPA
Andrea Gordon – BAAQMD	Ramesh Sathiamurthy – AECOM
Joseph Vaughn – FHWA	Lucas Sanchez – Caltrans
Abhijit Bagde – Caltrans	Ravi Puttagunta – Caltrans
Catherine Clark – AECOM	John Saelee – MTC
Mir Alikhan- City of San Mateo	Adam Crenshaw – MTC
Bethany Lopez - City of San Mateo	Harold Brazil – MTC

**1. Welcome and Self Introductions:** Harold Brazil (MTC) called the meeting to order at 9:35 am.

**2. PM<sub>2.5</sub> Project Conformity Interagency Consultations**

**a. Consultation to Determine Project of Air Quality Concern Status**

**i. US 101/Peninsula Avenue Interchange Project**

Bethany Lopez (City of San Mateo) began the presentation for the US 101/Peninsula Avenue Interchange project by indicating the ramps at East Poplar Avenue to Peninsula Avenue ramps were constructed over 50 years ago and that they're now non-standard. Ms. Lopez went on to indicate that the City of San Mateo has constructed single and multifamily residences (within a quarter mile of four schools) in the project area and the City of San Mateo is seeking to relocate these ramps to Peninsula Avenue both to improve safety and operations in the project area. Ms. Lopez introduced Catherine Clark (AECOM) and said Ms. Clark would be conducting the presentation for the US 101/Peninsula Avenue Interchange project in San Mateo.

Ms. Clark stated the US 101/Peninsula Avenue Interchange project would relocate the southbound US 101 on- and off-ramps from East Poplar Avenue to Peninsula Avenue in the City of San Mateo to improve traffic flow in the area by:

- Constructing new southbound on- and off-ramps that connect to the existing elevated Peninsula Avenue overcrossing
- Widening the overcrossing to add a travel lane
- Constructing new bridges, sound walls and retaining walls
- Removing light industrial/commercial and possibly residential structures
- Realigning the existing frontage road by upgrading an existing alleyway

---

## PENINSULA VS. POPLAR



- Two lanes in each direction
- No parking, no driveways
- 5-foot shoulders/bike lane



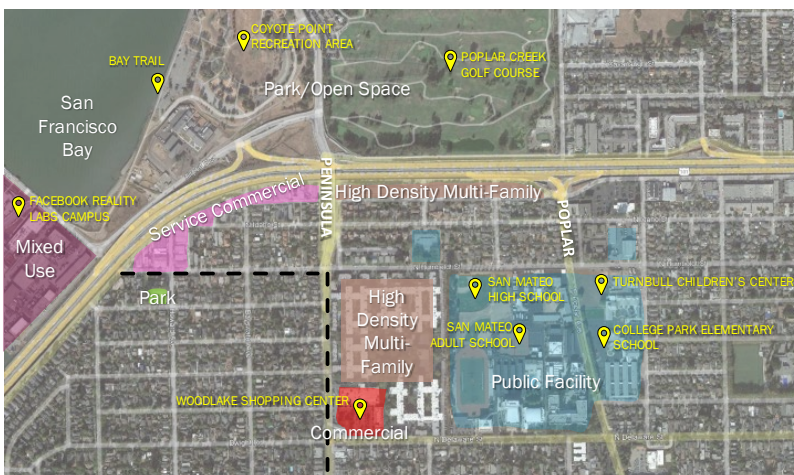
- One lane in each direction
- On-street parking and driveways
- No shoulders

Ms. Clark went on to discuss the purpose and need for the US 101/Peninsula Avenue Interchange project as follows:

- Improve the safety of southbound US 101 and the off/on-ramps to/from East Poplar Avenue.
- Improve the safety and traffic operations of the intersection at East Poplar Avenue and North Amphlett Boulevard.
- Improve access into north San Mateo.
- Improve bicycle and pedestrian circulation within the project limits.
- Improve local circulation in the project limits.

---

## LAND USES





## Comments and Questions:

- Tom Kelly (EPA) asked Ms. Clark about the residents' reaction to the project – Ms. Clark responded by stating the project development team had been working with residents in the impacted area and,
  - Held scoping meetings in 2021
  - Held a series of targeted community meetings
- Ms. Clark added that the goal of the project is to make the entire community safer, and while the project team has worked extensively with the City of Burlingame with extra traffic analyses. Residents in Burlingame have indicated that they feel the project will flood their community with traffic.
- Ms. Clark mentioned outreach to the community showed people on East Poplar Avenue thought the project is great and people on Peninsula Avenue are understandably concerned and there is a general nervousness about additional traffic – but no specific concerns about trucks.
- Andrea Gordon (BAAQMD) noted there should be concerns about truck traffic near residential areas impacted by the US 101/Peninsula Avenue Interchange project and Ms. Clark clarified some of the truck count data between Broadway and Third and Fourth Avenues.
- Mr. Kelly commented that he wasn't sure if the project could be of air quality concern (because of the project's proximity to homes and residences). As a result, Mr. Kelly stated he would like to check in with some other folks in his EPA office and would get back to the Task Force. Rodney Tavitas (Caltrans) added when Caltrans has had interchange project that are of air quality concern – it is because the project was construction of a new interchange and suggested Mr. Kelly consult with Karina O'Connor (EPA).

**Final Determination:** No project-level conformity determination was made on the US 101/Peninsula Avenue Interchange project at the July 28, 2022 Task Force meeting. EPA will follow-up (later) with their comments on the project and the Task Force determination on the project will be made at that time.

### **b. Confirm Projects Are Exempt from PM<sub>2.5</sub> Conformity**

#### **i. Projects Exempt Under 40 CFR 93.126 – Not of Air Quality Concern**

Multiple Task Force members asked Adam Crenshaw (MTC) for clarification on the following projects included on the (preliminary) list of exempt projects:

- TIP ID# **REG110039** - GL: 5307 JARC Set-aside FY13-FY14 Large UA
- TIP ID# **VAR150001** - GL: FTA 5311 Rural Area FY16
- TIP ID# **VAR170026** - GL: FTA 5311 Rural Area FY19 and FY20

Mr. Crenshaw apologized for the confusion on the projects in question and explained that these projects are part of MTC's group listings of projects and the sub projects within these group listings can be listed separately to provide specific project explanations.

**Final Determination;** With input from FTA, FHWA, EPA, Caltrans and MTC, the Task Force agreed that the remaining six projects on the **2a\_POAQC\_Exempt\_List\_08192022.pdf** list were exempt from PM<sub>2.5</sub>

project level analysis. MTC will follow-up with additional information for the 3 outstanding projects for the Task Force to make those exempt determinations.

### **3. Conformity Analysis for the 2023 Transportation Improvement Program (Update)**

Harold Brazil (MTC) noted the public comment period for the draft Conformity Analysis for the 2023 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) document ends on August 5<sup>th</sup> and then will go to MTC's Programming and Allocations committee on September 14<sup>th</sup> and then on to the full Commission at the end of September. Adam Crenshaw (MTC) added, if MTC does receive any comments, between now and the end the end of the comment period – we will bring both the comments and MTC's proposed responses back to the Task Force at the August meeting.

### **4. Consent Calendar**

#### **a. June 23, 2022 Air Quality Conformity Task Force Meeting Summary**

**Final Determination;** With input from all members, the Task Force concluded that the consent calendar was approved.

### **5. Other Items**

- The Task Force welcomed MTC policy advisory council member, Genay Markham's attendance to the meetings.
- Task Force members also said congratulations and good-bye to Dominique Kraft (FTA) as she will be leaving her post at FTA to move to her new position at the Federal Railroad Administration (FDA).
- Tom Kelly (EPA) introduced Michael Dorantes (EPA) and Mr. Dorantes will represent EPA at future Task Force meetings.