
SUMMARY
TWG Meeting
5 October, 2017
10:00am – 3:00pm
Thompson Center
2405 Robert Dedman Dr., Room 2.110
Austin, TX 78712

Follow-up Actions from THIS MEETING

- **Chris Sasser** will prepare a summary of this meeting and post on the TWG website.
- Sasser will post all presentations from this meeting.
- Sasser will work with the TWG members to develop the agenda for the February meeting.
- Sasser will work with the subcommittee chairs to develop topics to discuss for the February meeting.

Next Meeting

Thursday, February 1, 2018

Participants

There were 32 TWG members in attendance, and approximately 12 members attending via WebEx.

The meeting was led by **Laura Norton** and **Madhu Venugopal**. **Joe Zietsman** began the meeting by welcoming attendees to Austin and presenting an overview of the day. Attendees were then asked to introduce themselves.

Primary Discussion Items

Carl Fulper, Chemical Engineer with the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), presented on "Using Partnerships to Gather Real-World Vehicle Activity and Emissions to Support EPA's Modeling Efforts."

Fulper's presentation included:

- Overall Research and Development, Integrated "Real World" Test Design
- Developing a "Suite of Tools"
- Large Data Sets and Data Analysis Improvements, and
- Partnerships

[View "Using Partnerships to Gather Real-World Vehicle Activity and Emissions to Support EPA's Modeling Efforts" presentation](#) (PDF)

Jeremy Johnson, Research Specialist with TTI, presented on "Collection and Analysis of Vehicle Activity Data to Improve Transportation and Air Quality Planning."

Johnson's presentation focused on 3 current projects TTI is engaged in as part of an EPA cooperative research and development agreement:

- Texas A&M (TAMU) Bus Project
- Dallas Area Rapid Transit (DART) Electric Bus Project
- HGAC Drayage Loan Program Project

Johnson's presentation then provided more detail on the HGAC drayage loan project including preliminary results and the next steps.

[View "Collection and Analysis of Vehicle Activity Data to Improve Transportation and Air Quality Planning" presentation](#) (PDF)

(Break for lunch. The meeting resumed at 1:00.)

TWG Subcommittees Breakout Sessions Updates

Near Nonattainment/Ozone Advance Subcommittee — Darcie Shipull

Shipull discussed Rider 7 and the impact it has on the near non-attainment areas. CAPCOG was able to get their funding covered through 2018 with their local government. AACOG was able to work with the city of San Antonio and Bexar County and other industries to get their funding covered through 2018.

Shipull reported that the committee discussed who was keeping up with the Ozone Advance Program. Shipull said that CAPCOG has not submitted theirs for this year but AACOG has.

Shipull reported that if there were any opportunities for training or air quality education available from TxDOT to let the group know.

MOSERS Subcommittee — Chair: Madhu Venugopal

Venugopal reported they are going to work with TWG members to identify a timeline to hold a workshop and get a consensus on equations.

Documentation Subcommittee — Chair: Jenny Narvaez

Narvaez had no updates. All documents have been updated and posted on the TWG website.

Agency Information & Updates

EPA (Jeff Riley)

Riley was unable to attend the meeting.

In an email distributed 10/4, Riley stated: "I've included links to the EPA regulatory update & MOVES development presentations that were given at the 8/29-30 STAQS2017 conference at NCTCOG, both are still the most current status updates from EPA."

http://www.nctcog.org/trans/air/Conferences/STAQS/GDonaldson_EPAReg.pdf

http://www.nctcog.org/trans/air/Conferences/STAQS/BVanGessel_MOVES.pdf

FHWA (Barbara Maley)

Maley provided the following updates:

- The Division is providing their comments on the Transportation Conformity documentation to EP by close of business on October 5.
- 2040 Plan and 2017-2020 Program comments will be provided under separate cover.
- The next consultative call is in the works.
- On August 21, a productive FHWA/TxDOT/EP visualization meeting as led by EP was held in Austin.
- TPP (Michelle, Casey) and PPD (Jose, Barbara) are jointly reviewing 2016 CMAQ information.
- Suggested improvements for 2017 CMAQ reporting purposes should result from this initiative.
- TxDOT/FHWA project-level reviews and approvals are on-going.
- TxDOT-ENV-AQ (Tim W.) has published an updated POAQC form.
- There is a TTI/TxDOT-ENV-AQ distant based approach to MSAT under review/comment by FHWA (Resource Center, Division).
- The Aug-Sep edition of FHWA Air Quality and Sustainable Transport Highlights is available and will be provided to Chris Sasser for TWG posting.

TxDOT TPP

Field representative updates (Raymond Sanchez, El Paso; Nick Page, NCTCOG; and Leanna Shepherd, HGAC)

Sanchez reported that their consultative partners are reviewing an amendment that has been submitted and gone past the 90-day time period. In the near future, there will be a continuation of meetings with the consultative partners to review information again; the MPO staff is setting up those meetings for October/November. Sanchez reported that the MPO is concerned about going over time period; wanting to set up a strategy to review procedures.

Page reported that the San Antonio MPO has begun planning for being non-attainment even though they haven't received designations. Page reported that they didn't lose any time with the three months that they took off as the MPO continued updating their model.

NCTCOG and FHWA recently had a conference call to discuss issues about conformity review and came out of it with a clear understanding of what responsibilities each agency has.

Shepherd reported that HGAC are in the middle of getting with consultative partners for the documentation format (using new template). They have been using their style; with new template they are getting moved over to the new outline with a few new tweaks that fit their style. Final printout with some comments that were made. The pre-analysis consensus is out for comments. Hiccup: dual process with update to existing TIP plan; but also use this conformity as their new one for the 2015 NAAQS. Their timeline is still the same; conformity by January.

TxDOT ENV (Jackie Ploch)

Ploch was unable to attend the meeting.

TCEQ (Jamie Zech)

SIP updates—Zech provided the following update:

Ozone

A letter updating the September 30, 2016 designation recommendation based on final 2016 monitoring data and information from exceptional events was submitted to the EPA on August 23, 2017. Updated recommendations include designating El Paso and Hood Counties as attainment/unclassifiable.

On July 19, 2017, the EPA proposed to conditionally approve the NOX RACT for the DFW 2008 Eight-Hour ozone standard nonattainment area (82 FR 33026). The conditional approval is based on a commitment to submit specific enforceable measures (i.e. an agreed order or rule) that incorporate certain permit conditions for the Martin Marietta cement manufacturing plant in Ellis County to limit NOX emissions. The SIP revision would be due to the EPA no later than one year after the date of the final conditional approval. The EPA

published final conditional approval on September 22, 2017 with an effective date of October 23, 2017 (82 FR 44320).

Infrastructure and transport SIP revisions to address the 2015 ozone NAAQS are due to the EPA by October 1, 2018. The TCEQ Executive Director has approved the concept memoranda for the infrastructure and transport SIP revisions with estimated timeframes for proposal in March 2018 and adoption in September 2018.

Lead

On June 29, 2017, the EPA published a direct final rule proposing that the Collin County Lead nonattainment area has attained the 2008 Lead NAAQS and to approve a request that the area be redesignated to attainment. The comment period closed on July 31, 2017 and the rule became effective on September 27, 2017.

Carbon Monoxide

In the September 8, 2017 Federal Register, the EPA published final approval of the CO limited maintenance plan SIP revision (82 FR 173).

RIDER 7

Governor Greg Abbott vetoed several sections of SB 1- the Appropriations Bill from the 85th Texas legislative session, including a provision for FY 2018-2019 funding for Rider 7 air quality planning grants. This program provided funding to metropolitan areas that are designated attainment for the ozone NAAQS to perform air quality planning activities at the local level. Areas receiving funds were: Austin-Round Rock, Beaumont-Port Arthur, Corpus Christi, El Paso, Hood County, Killeen-Temple, Northeast Texas, San Antonio, Victoria, and Waco.

Low Income Vehicle Repair Assistance, Retrofit, and Accelerated Vehicle Retirement Program (DACM & LIP)

Governor Abbott also vetoed a provision for FY 2018-2019 funding for LIRAP. So far, all but four participating counties have decided to opt out of LIRAP:

- Brazoria, Fort Bend, and Galveston (Harris and Montgomery have not opted out);
- Travis and Williamson; and
- Collin, Dallas, Johnson, Kaufman, Tarrant, Denton, and Parker (Rockwall and Ellis have not opted out).

For the counties that have opted out, the LIRAP fee will no longer be charged at vehicle registration as of December 1, 2017. All of the opt-out counties have selected to continue to spend pre-existing LIRAP allocations through the end the current biennium.

TTI (Joe Zietsman, Madhu Venugopal)

Zietsman reported that TTI's contract with TxDOT has been renewed for TWG and policy support and asked for input on meeting spots. TTI will make sure they provide better

support on the subcommittees and develop agendas beforehand on subcommittees. TWG can be a good venue to bring forward research needs and statements to TxDOT and can brainstorm ideas in future meetings.

- **MPO's (For those in attendance) – Status & Updates**

Jenny Narvaez with NCTCOG reported that she spoke with Janie Temple regarding the update on the registration data. They receive raw data for other projects and need to determine what and how this data may be used for conformity. Narvaez reported that they will look through their MOU and see what the restrictions may be.

Narvaez reported that the Air Quality Transportation Summit was held with about 50 people in attendance and another 40 online.

Narvaez reported that they are working on their 2018 conformity for mobility 2025 plan update.

Narvaez reported that NCTCOG submitted 6 topics for FY19 TxDOT research project statements. She concurs with Zietsman on the TWG being a good venue for discussion on research topics.

(Meeting Concluded)