INTER AGENCY CONSULTATION GROUP
Tuesday, April 29, 2014
East-West Gateway Board Room

Members Present:
Michael Coulson, Chair - East-West Gateway Council of Governments
Joe Winkelmann - Missouri Department of Natural Resources
Mike Henderson - Missouri Department of Transportation
Joe Gray - Illinois Department of Transportation, District 8
Christopher Schmidt - Illinois Department of Transportation
Betsy Tracy - Federal Highway Administration, Illinois Division
Brad McMahon - Federal Highway Administration, Missouri (telephone)
Mike Rogers - Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (telephone)

Others:
Sara Chappell - Illinois Department of Transportation
Curtis Jones - Illinois Department of Transportation

Staff:
Lubna Shaib - Jason Lange - Carol Lawrence

1. Call to Order

The meeting of the Inter Agency Consultation Group (IACG) was called to order by Mike Coulson, East-West Gateway Council of Governments (EWG).

2. Status Report Conformity Determination and FY 2015 - 2018 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)
   - East-West Gateway Council of Governments

Mr. Coulson, EWG, said that everyone should have received the project classification list
Staff has identified the air quality status of all project proposals EWG received as regionally significant, not regionally significant but not exempt or exempt from Conformity Determination’s regional emissions analysis.

Mr. Lange, EWG, said that the project list contains information on new projects to be included in the travel demand model. Asked if there were any comments on how staff classified these projects. EWG did not send out any classification information for projects from last year’s TIP or projects in out years which had been included in the travel demand model.

The Systems Evaluation staff has begun the travel demand model runs. Once these runs are completed and emissions estimates developed for the analysis years, the Environmental Services staff will assemble a draft of the Conformity Determination for preview by the IACG.

Mr. Coulson, EWG, indicated that the draft for preview should go out in early May.
Mr. Lange, EWG, said that at this time the FY 2015-2018 TIP is also being assembled. The Draft Conformity Determination and the draft FY 2015-2018 TIP will be presented this month to the EWG Executive Advisory Committee and the Board of Directors. These documents will go out for public comment starting May 29. The comment period will run through July 3. At the March IACG meeting a list of the open house schedule and locations was distributed. The drafts and public comment period information will be posted on the EWG website. The EWG Board will act on the final Conformity Determination and final FY 2015-2018 TIP at their July meeting.

Mr. Coulson, EWG, said that had received a minor comment from Cody Brown of U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) Region 7 about classifying intersection improvement/signalization as regionally significant. Believe our answer satisfied him. Mr. Lange, EWG, said that an individual intersection improvement signalization would be exempt. However, if amending the TIP to include signal interconnection at multiple intersections project the regulations ask that when conformity is done, these projects be included in the travel demand model. EWG is erring on the side of caution and identifying them as regionally significant.

Mr. McMahon, Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) Missouri, said that he had some comments on how information is presented in the table and would send them to EWG. These comments do not impact the project classification or what goes into the travel demand model. Mr. Henderson, Missouri Department of Transportation (MoDOT), asked if his questions focused on the table format. Mr. McMahon, FHWA MO, said yes and that one column did not appear to have a heading. He is interested in adding clarity to the table concerning investment types. Mr. Lange, EWG, said that some of the column headings and descriptions are the result of how the project database is set up.

Ms. Shoaib, EWG, said that needed project information had been received April 28. This information will be incorporated into the travel demand model and model runs will begin shortly. As long as there are no more changes to projects, anticipate emission estimates for the conformity determination could be ready next week.

3. Other Business

Mr. Henderson, MoDOT, announced that next week he will be attending an ASHTO Air Quality Peer Review for State Department of Transportation in Washington, D.C. Air quality topics to be discussed include Congestion Mitigation Air Quality program, hot-spot analysis and other air quality topics. It is an opportunity to learn what other states are doing and to identify new efforts the states would like to focus on.

There being no other business, the meeting of the Inter Agency Consultation Group was adjourned.