EAST-WEST GATEWAY
Council of Governments

Creating Solutions Across Jurisdictional Boundaries

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AGENDA
INTER AGENCY CONSULTATION GROUP
TUESDAY, August 27, 2019
NOON – 1:00 P.M.
EAST-WEST GATEWAY BOARD ROOM

1. **Call to Order**
   - Carol Lawrence, Chair, East-West Gateway Council of Governments

2. **Update on Conformity Determination for the FY 2020-2023 Transportation Improvement Program and related Amendments to Update to *Connected2045***
   - East-West Gateway Council of Governments

3. **Discussion - Need for Mid-Year Conformity Determination/Amendment to the FY 2020 – 2023 Transportation Improvement Program**
   - East-West Gateway Council of Governments

4. **Other Business – Discussion Items**
   - **A. Mid-Point Revision to Applicability Lists for the Congestion Mitigation Air Quality (CMAQ) Performance Measures – States, MPOs and Pollutants**
   - **B. Using VW Funds as a Match for CMAQ Projects**

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INTER AGENCY CONSULTATION GROUP
Tuesday, June 25, 2019
Noon – 1:00 P.M.
East-West Gateway Board Room

Members Present:
Carol Lawrence, Chair - East-West Gateway Council of Governments
Mike Henderson - Missouri Department of Transportation
Tom Caldwell – Illinois Department of Transportation
Jackie Covington – Bi-State Development Agency
Stacy Allen - Missouri Department of Natural Resources
Mark Leath – Missouri Department of Natural Resources
Tyler Bartimus – Missouri Department of Natural Resources

Staff:
Mary Grace Lewandowski Jason Lange Rachael Pawlak Jennifer Vuitel Josh Schwenk
Maureen McCarthy

1. Call to Order

- Carol Lawrence, Chair, East-West Gateway Council of Governments

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

2. Update on Conformity Determination for Update to *Connected2045*: Long Range Transportation Plan for the St. Louis Region

- East-West Gateway Council of Governments

The Board will be addressing the Conformity Determination and the Update to *Connected2045* at their June 26, 2019 meeting. The comment period ended on June 7 with no comments on conformity. The EPA re-designated the three Illinois counties and Baldwin Township to attainment of the 1997 $PM_{2.5}$ standard. The re-designation became effective on May 28, 2019 which allowed for the standard to be revoked and conformity requirements for the 1997 $PM_{2.5}$ standard are no longer needed. Both the plan and conformity documents were changed to include an explanation of the re-designation and its effects. There was a question about how this change in designation will affect the region's CMAQ funding due to the requirement that 25 percent of CMAQ funding must go towards $PM_{2.5}$ reduction. More information will be found and shared at a later time.

3. Update on Conformity Determination for the FY 2020 – 2023 Transportation Improvement Program and Related amendments to Update to *Connected2045*

- East-West Gateway Council of Governments

A project list and a preview draft of the conformity were sent out to all of the IACG. The project list contains all of the partner projects, except for projects from the Illinois Department of

Transportation (IDOT) since the Governor has not released their program yet. As mentioned in the discussion about the Update to Long Range Plan conformity, a regional emissions analysis no longer needs to be conducted for the 1997 $PM_{2.5}$ standard. Information about Jersey County will remain in the conformity document being presented to the Board on June 26, 2019 in order to explain the re-designation timing and process.

The FY 2020-2023 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) and Air Quality Conformity will go out for public comment starting Friday, June 28. All public comments can be submitted at any of the five open houses or on the East-West Gateway website and are due by August 5, 2019 (end of the comment period). Once the comment period closes, staff will summarize the comments received and add the summary to the plan. At this time there is not an IDOT program in the TIP. If the TIP is approved by the Board in August, IDOT can submit their program as an addendum to the TIP and it will be assessed to see if a conformity determination needs to be done. If needed, the IDOT program conformity determination would be done in a mid-year conformity.

All of the budget tests passed for this most recent conformity determination. When conducting the conformity determination process and project modeling it is crucial to make sure that the emissions budgets will not be exceeded. If the budget is exceeded then the project list needs to be reviewed to determine if anything was overlooked or incorrect.

4. SIP Updates

- Missouri Department of Natural Resources

(17:10) Missouri state agencies are subject to an executive order from the governor to review all their regulations and requirements (Red Tape Reduction effort). The Missouri Department of Natural Resources (MoDNR) has been evaluating all of the requirements that MoDNR has made. Two things the Air Pollution Control Program (APCP) of MoDNR were charged with were the federal Reformulate Gasoline (RFG) program requirements and the on-road motor vehicle emissions inspection and maintenance (I/M) program in the St. Louis area. MoDNR looked at the State Implementation Plans (SIPs) which rely on those measures and conducted modeling. It was found that the 1997 $PM_{2.5}$ standard and 2008 ozone standard maintenance plans contained these two control measures.

MoDNR can demonstrate that the St. Louis area can continue to attain and maintain these standards without the emissions benefit of reformulated gas (RFG) and I/M Missouri The APCP is going to revise the two plans. It is not anticipated that there will be a need to revisit the motor vehicle emission budgets used in Conformity Determination. Intend to revise just the 1997 $PM_{2.5}$ standard and 2008 ozone standard maintenance plans and remove RFG and I/M. However, these SIP revisions do not fully remove them completely from the SIP. In order to do so, Missouri's I/M SIP will have to be revised to remove the I/M requirement for Franklin and Jefferson Counties. If EPA approves this SIP revision, then the requirement for I/M can be removed from these two counties. It will remain for St. Charles and St. Louis Counties and the City of St. Louis.

As RFG is a federal fuel program, the Governor has to send a letter to the EPA Administrator requesting to “opt out” of it with the EPA Administrator making the final decision. It is the understanding of the APCP that MoDNR is going to recommend that the Governor prepare a memo requesting to “opt out” of the RFG program that the portion of the St. Louis area in attainment of 2015 ozone standard, i.e., all of Jefferson County and most of Franklin County, excluding Boles Township. For the 2015 ozone standard non-attainment area, APCP is still evaluating both programs moving forward.

The first SIP actions are just revisions to the Missouri maintenance plans and do not actually change the rules that are in place. Then, Missouri has to revise the I/M SIP and demonstrate that I/M is not needed. EPA action would be next. For RFG, Governor has to send a letter to EPA and EPA has to approve it. EPA actions make things happen.

There have been communications with the EPA on this matter. A public comment period will begin at the end of July, public hearing is planned for the August 2019 Missouri Air Conservation Commission (MACC) meeting and action by MACC will most likely occur in October 2019. Once the amendments to the plans are submitted to EPA it will take about 18 months before there is action on them.

5. Other Business

The next meeting of the IACG will be on August 27, 2019. There being no other business, the meeting of the Inter Agency Consultation Group was adjourned.