



Regional Planning Partnership

May 17, 2007

PM₁₀ Qualitative Analysis for I-80 Project

Issue: Sacramento County is a designated PM-10 nonattainment area. As a result, projects in Sacramento County that are “of air quality concern” (i.e., non-exempt from regional air quality conformity analysis) are subject to qualitative hot spot analysis. Interagency consultation is required for determining how this will be accomplished. This item was previously discussed at the March 22 Regional Planning Partnership meeting.

Recommendation: That the Partnership, in its air quality conformity consultation role and using the criteria discussed below, make the finding that the I-80 Bus/Carpool Lanes project does not require a qualitative PM-10 hot spot analysis (i.e., the project is not a project of air quality concern).

Discussion: The guidance issued by EPA and FHWA requires qualitative hot spot analysis for the five following types of projects:

- I. New or expanded highway projects that have a significant number of or significant increase in diesel vehicles;
- II. Projects affecting intersections that are at Level-of-Service D, E, or F with a significant number of diesel vehicles, or those that will change to Level-of-Service D, E, or F because of increased traffic volumes from a significant number of diesel vehicles related to the project;
- III. New bus and rail terminals and transfer points that have a significant number of diesel vehicles congregating at a single location;
- IV. Expanded bus and rail terminals and transfer points that significantly increase the number of diesel vehicles congregating at a single location; and
- V. Projects in or affecting locations, areas, or categories of sites which are identified in the PM_{2.5} or PM₁₀ applicable implementation plan or implementation plan submission, as appropriate, as sites of violation or possible violation.

The project in question would install new eastbound and westbound bus/carpool lanes in the median of the existing freeway (I-80). No additional mixed-flow general-purpose lanes would be constructed, and no substantial realignment of mixed-flow (diesel truck) traffic closer to sensitive receptors is proposed. Therefore, the project does not meet any of the above the criteria for a Project of Concern as described in the EPA Final Rule of 3/10/2006 and the EPA Guidance of 3/29/2006 and thus a PM-10 hot spot analysis is not required.

Ben Tam and Mike Brady from Caltrans will be at the partnership meeting to discuss this item and answer questions.

JPC:DHY:ts

Attachment

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RTIP ID# <i>(required)</i> CAL18450				
Project Description <i>(clearly describe project)</i> The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) and the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) propose construct bus/carpool lanes in the median of Interstate 80 (I-80) in Sacramento County from east of the Sacramento River to Watt Avenue (PM M0.3 – M10.4). The project also includes auxiliary lanes in the eastbound and westbound directions between the West El Camino Avenue interchange and the Interstate 5 (I-5)/I-80 separation and between Northgate Boulevard and Norwood Avenue. The total length of the project is approximately 10 miles. One build alternative and the No-Build Alternative were evaluated for the project.				
Type of Project <i>(use Table 1 on instruction sheet)</i> Change to existing state highway				
County Sacramento	Narrative Location/Route & Postmiles: West El Camino Avenue to Watt Avenue, I-80, PM M0.3 – M10.4 Caltrans Projects – EA# 37970			
Lead Agency: Caltrans				
Contact Person Jeremy Ketchum	Phone# 916-274-0621	Fax# 916-274-0602	Email jeremy_ketchum@dot.ca.gov	
Hot Spot Pollutant of Concern <i>(check one or both)</i> PM2.5 PM10				
Federal Action for which Project-Level PM Conformity is Needed <i>(check appropriate box)</i>				
Categorical Exclusion (NEPA)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EA or Draft EIS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> FONSI or Final EIS	PS&E or Construction	Other
Scheduled Date of Federal Action: March 2007				
Current Programming Dates <i>as appropriate</i>				
	PE/Environmental	ENG	ROW	CON
Start	July 2003	July 2007	Jan 2008	April 2010
End	July 2007	Jan 2009	April 2009	Nov 2012
Project Purpose and Need (Summary): <i>(attach additional sheets as necessary)</i> The purpose of this project is to reduce congestion, increase capacity, improve safety, promote ride sharing, and provide greater conductivity with the existing and proposed bus/carpool network in the Sacramento region.				

Surrounding Land Use/Traffic Generators *(especially effect on diesel traffic)*

The project is located in an urbanized area of Sacramento. Land uses include residential, commercial, office, retail, industrial, institutional, recreational, and park/open space. Major adjacent land uses include McClellan Air Park, commercial uses between Truxel Road and Northgate Blvd., access to ARCO Arena, and various retail at the Truxel Road interchange.

Opening Year: Build and No Build LOS- AM 2-Hr, % and # trucks, truck AM 2-Hr of proposed facility

2014	LOS	AM 2-Hr	Truck AM 2-Hr, % and #
Build	E	26,200	6.1% - 1,600
No-Build	E/F	22,500	6.1% - 1,375

RTP Horizon Year / Design Year: Build and No Build LOS, AM 2-Hr, % and # trucks, truck AM 2-Hr of proposed facility

2034	LOS	AM 2-Hr	Truck AM 2-Hr, % and #
Build	F	30,300	6.3% - 1,910
No-Build	F	27,800	6.3% - 1,750

Opening Year: If facility is an interchange(s) or intersection(s), Build and No Build cross-street AADT, % and # trucks, truck AADT

NA

RTP Horizon Year / Design Year: If facility is an interchange (s) or intersection(s), Build and No Build cross-street AADT, % and # trucks, truck AADT

NA

Describe potential traffic redistribution effects of congestion relief *(impact on other facilities)*

The impact on other facilities is negligible. Traffic will re-distribute within the freeway as the bus/carpool lanes are added, with most high-occupancy vehicles using the interior lanes. The new lanes will provide congestion relief and existing freeway bottlenecks will adjust downstream.

Comments/Explanation/Details *(attach additional sheets as necessary)*