

2016 Metropolitan Transportation Plan/Sustainable Communities Strategy Update

DRAFT WORK PLAN

Federally-required four year update of the Metropolitan Transportation Plan/Sustainable Communities Strategy (MTP/SCS).

Project Details

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Background

This work plan proposes to focus the required 2016 update of SACOG's long-range transportation plan, the MTP/SCS, on maintaining the high performing characteristics of the current MTP/SCS and implementing the supporting policies and strategies. Adopted in April 2012, the coordination of land use and transportation planning in the current MTP/SCS results in notable performance outcomes. Highlights include: being the first plan to achieve a reduction in the amount of heavy congestion per capita (congested vehicle miles traveled per capita); providing significant increases in the productivity of the transit system, with more riders and a higher percentage of total operating budgets coming from user fares; realizing greater levels of investment in a truly multi-modal system, including complete streets, and bicycle and pedestrian facilities; better integrating future land use patterns, transportation investments and air quality impacts, including higher levels of development near current and future transit corridors; implementing the first phase of findings from the ongoing Rural-Urban Connections Strategy; achieving the target reductions in per capita passenger vehicle greenhouse gas emissions established by the California Air Resources Board.

The 2016 update of the MTP/SCS must satisfy a number of federal and state requirements including:

- The MTP/SCS must be updated every four years to reflect the latest planning assumptions for growth, transportation revenues, and air quality conformity.
- The SCS component of the plan must, if feasible, meet a greenhouse gas reduction target per SB 375.
- An environmental impact report must be prepared to analyze the impacts of the MTP/SCS on the environment.
- Updates to the plan must meet federal and state requirements for public outreach.

Audience

- Air district partner agencies
- Federal and state partner agencies
- General public
- Member agencies (cities and counties)
- Non-profit stakeholders
- Partner transportation agencies
- Private sector stakeholders
- Tribal governments

Draft Staff Recommended Strategies, to be revised based on Board input

- Develop and implement an integrated MTP/SCS that efficiently accommodates the long-term population and economic growth of the region, in a manner that implements the Blueprint growth strategy and satisfies federal and state statutory and regulatory requirements.
- Implement adopted policies and strategies of the current plan focused on improving performance monitoring and impact assessment, developing analysis and decision-making support tools, and pursuing financial tools & incentives
- Engage the public and stakeholders on implementation and fine-tuning of the current plan.
- Recheck assumptions for regional population and employment growth as well as financial revenues to verify that regional-level growth trends remain consistent with prior plan.
- Refine land use forecast and transportation investments to reflect latest planning assumptions.
- Improve impact assessment methods to accurately estimate the impacts of the MTP/SCS on different issue areas, including the transportation system, air quality, environmental justice, and natural resources.

Outcomes

- Maintain or improve upon the high performance of the 2012 MTP/SCS
- Make progress in implementing the policies and strategies of the 2012 MTP/SCS
- Better evaluation tools that measure the effects of MTP/SCS investments on different issue areas
- Better members, stakeholders and public understanding of and participation in MTP/SCS
- Maintain or improve upon SB 375 CEQA streamlining activation

Activities and Timeline

Major Work Program Areas:

1. Public, Stakeholder and Partner Agencies Outreach
 - a. Update Public Participation Plan
 - b. Conduct stakeholder focus groups and online polling
 - c. Conduct public workshops on policy issues and themes of the update
 - d. Conduct ongoing inter-jurisdictional consultation and communication
 - e. Provide regular presentations to SACOG policy and advisory committees
 - f. Provide ongoing communication on key process milestones and explicit direction on commenting to interested parties through project website and email lists
 - g. Provide required public notice per Public Participation Plan (2013)
 - h. Coordinate with Regional Transportation Plan updates of Placer County Transportation Planning Agency and El Dorado County Transportation Commission
 - i. Conduct Tribal Government Outreach
2. Policy Framework
 - a. Frame policy issues to be addressed in 2016 update
 - b. Solicit Board, public, stakeholder input on policy issues
 - c. Update adopted policies and strategies as necessary
3. Technical Assumptions of Plan
 - a. Update Regional Growth Projections
 - b. Update Financial Forecast as necessary
 - c. Update Land Use Forecast as necessary
 - d. Update Transportation Investments as necessary
4. Plan Analysis
 - a. Assess emerging tools and metrics with potential to enhance plan analysis
 - b. Performance and results analysis
 - c. Environmental Justice analysis
5. Environmental Impact Report
 - a. Develop Draft Environmental Impact Report
 - b. Develop Final Environmental Impact Report

Major Deliverables and Milestones	SACOG Action	Complete By
FY13/14 – Focused on: Issue Identification, Policy Framework Development and Public Workshops		
Update Public Participation Plan	Board action	August 2013
Early public and stakeholder outreach on planning and policy issues; Board consideration and identification of policy issues	Board direction	Sept. 2013 – Nov. 2013
Develop draft regional growth projections	Board direction	Sept. 2013 - Nov. 2013
Adopt policy and framework for 2016 MTP/SCS update; Adopt draft regional growth projections for use in plan update	Board action	December 2013
Release Notice of Preparation for Environmental Impact Report	Staff work	January 2014
Board direction ²	Board direction	January 2014
Technical work to refresh land use and transportation planning assumptions including <i>Call for Review of Transportation Projects</i> ¹	Staff work with local agencies	Oct. 2013 – Apr. 2014
Board direction ²	Board direction	June 2014
Conduct at least 8 public workshops on policy choices and issues related to the MTP/SCS	Board receive & consider	June 2014 – July 2014
FY 14/15 – Focused on: Update of Planning Assumptions and Draft Plan Development		
Conduct at least 8 public workshops on policy choices and issues related to the MTP/SCS	Board receive & consider	June 2014 – July 2014
Review public workshop results	Board direction	Aug. 2014 – Sept. 2014
Create Framework for Draft 2016 MTP/SCS	Board action	Sept. 2014
Develop draft land use forecast and transportation project list assumptions	Staff work with local agencies	Sept. 2014 – Jan. 2015
Board direction ²	Board direction	November 2014
Endorse draft land use forecast and transportation project list assumptions for use in development of Draft Plan, Draft EIR, and Draft Air Quality Conformity	Board action	Feb. 2015
Direction on Draft Plan Policies and Strategies	Board action	Jan. 2015 – Mar. 2015
Draft Plan and Draft EIR development	Staff work	Mar. 2015 - Aug. 2015
Board direction ²	Board direction	June 2015
FY 15/16 – Focused on: Draft Plan and Draft EIR Completion, Public Comment Period on Draft Plan, Adoption		
Draft Plan and Draft EIR development	Staff work	Mar. 2015 - Aug. 2015
Board direction ²	Board direction	August 2015
<i>Adoption of RTPs/EIRs by El Dorado County Transportation Commission and Placer County Transportation Agency</i>	<i>Coordination</i> ³	<i>Fall 2015</i>

¹ There are ongoing meetings with the California Air Resources Board (CARB) to determine when CARB will revisit the SB 375 greenhouse gas targets for all California MPOs.

² Staff anticipates periodic check-ins with the Board in addition to major actions noted in the calendar. Some key check-ins with the Board during the 2012 MTP/SCS update included input on revenue forecast assumptions, updating policies and strategies, direction on CARB greenhouse gas target-setting scenarios, and coordination with the Regional Housing Needs process.

³ This milestone is included in the Work Plan for reference. The SACOG Board does not act on the RTPs of either PCTPA or EDCTC. SACOG coordinates with PCTPA and EDCTC to incorporate their adopted plans into the SACOG MTP/SCS.

Release Draft 2016 MTP/SCS for 30-day public comment period	Board action	September 2015
Release Draft EIR for public comment (60-day comment period)	Staff work	September 2015
Hold at least 6 information meetings with local elected officials	Board receive & consider	Sept. 2015 – Dec. 2015
Hold 3 public hearings on Draft 2016 MTP/SCS	Board receive & consider	Sept. 2015 – Dec. 2015
Review public comments and recommendations on Final Draft Plan and Final EIR	Board direction	January 2016
Certify Final EIR Adopt 2016 MTP/SCS Adopt Air Quality Conformity Determination	Board action	February 2016

Financial Resources Available

As a core function of the agency's annual work program the 2016 MTP/SCS update is funded under element 14-006-04 of the Overall Work Program for FY 13/14. Budget for this project in FY 14/15 and FY 15/16 will be proposed through annual budgeting and Overall Work Program processes.