



Land Use & Natural Resources Committee

Item #14-12-5 Information

November 26, 2014

Transportation Control Measures Programming

Issue: Should SACOG program flexible federal funds to the Spare The Air and SECAT programs, both Transportation Control Measures contained in the 1997 Ozone State Implementation Plan?

Recommendation: For information only. The Transportation Committee will take action on this item.

Discussion: In December 2013, the Board approved the 2013-2014 Flexible Federal Programming Round, which, under the category “Other Funding Commitments,” set aside \$10.8 million for the years 2015, 2016, and 2017 for the Spare The Air and SECAT programs. These funds were intended to be programmed by the Board at a later date. Staff is now requesting that the Board program \$2,701,756 from the four-county shares of these funds for the two programs. This amount, combined with anticipated pro-rata funding from the Placer County Transportation Planning Agency (PCTPA) and the El Dorado County Transportation Commission (EDCTC), will ensure the continued operation of both programs through 2018.

The Spare The Air program is a six-county, public education program implemented by the Sacramento Metropolitan Air Quality Management District (SMAQMD). Although it operates throughout the year, it focuses on reducing extreme ozone episodes during the summer. It is designed to protect public health and reduce emissions by informing people when air quality is unhealthy and encouraging motorists to reduce vehicle trips. Funding for this program has historically come from the Congestion Management and Air Quality (CMAQ) program, a flexible federal fund controlled by SACOG, with local matching funding provided by each air district’s DMV fees and/or Sacramento County’s Measure A.

The Sacramento Emergency Clean Air & Transportation (SECAT) program, also implemented by SMAQMD in the six-county region, provides grant funds to replace or upgrade on-road heavy-duty diesel vehicles. The goal of the SECAT program is to reduce NOx and other harmful surplus emissions from such vehicles. Currently, SECAT is funded by CMAQ and local matching funds provided by vehicle owners.

Both programs are Transportation Control Measures (TCMs) that were specifically identified and committed to in the 1997 Ozone State Implementation Plan (SIP). TCMs are strategies for reducing vehicle trips, vehicle use, vehicle miles traveled, vehicle idling, or traffic congestion for the purpose of reducing motor vehicle emissions. SACOG is required to “timely implement” TCMs in order for the region to be determined to conform to federal air quality standards. Consequently, these projects receive special priority for funding in SACOG’s Air Quality Funding Program.

Approved by:

Mike McKeever
Chief Executive Officer

MM:JLC:gg

Key Staff: Matt Carpenter, Director of Transportation Services, (916) 340-6276
Kacey Lizon, Acting Planning Manager, (916) 340-6265
Renée DeVere-Okie, Team Manager, Programming and Project Delivery, (916) 340-6219
José Luis Cáceres, MTIP Team Manager, (916) 340-6218