

**Executive Summary -- Air Quality Conformity Determination
Draft 2031 RTP and FY08-11 MTIP**

State and Federal Conformity Requirements

In accordance with the Clean Air Act, the Oregon Environmental Quality Commission (EQC) adopted rules and standards for determining the air quality conformity of transportation plans, programs and projects within Oregon. By meeting the Oregon standards for purposes of demonstrating air quality conformity, the federal standards of the Clean Air Act are also met.

Following state and federal rules, LCOG staff have prepared a conformity determination (AQCD) on the draft RTP and the MTIP. The determination must be made for each transportation pollutant of significance to the region as determined by USEPA. In the Central Lane MPO area, the transportation regional conformity determination must address only carbon monoxide emissions. Each plan and program must comply with all conformity requirements of the State Implementation Plan (SIP) in order to be found in conformity. In addition, the Oregon Transportation Conformity regulations and procedures must be satisfied.

In particular, the RTP and MTIP must be found to be consistent with the Federal ruling on demonstration of financial constraint as stated in OAR 340-252-0090. The financial constraint requirement states that each RTP and MTIP must contain projects with reasonably sound financial commitment. The RTP and MTIP meet this financial constraint requirement, as documented in those documents, and as reiterated in the AQCD.

Also, the RTP and MTIP must be consistent with the motor vehicle emissions budget as stated in OAR 340-252-0190. The following table shows the results of the analysis performed:

Analysis Year	Tons/Year of Carbon Monoxide	
	SIP motor vehicle budget	Projected Emissions
		All facilities
1990	6,021*	
2004		2,401
2015		1,186
2025		1,060
2031		1,088

* Federal Register, Vol. 58, No. 232, Page 64163, December 6, 1993.

The conformity determination concludes that the emissions from projects listed in the draft 2031 RTP and the FY08-11 MTIP are expected to be well below the carbon monoxide motor vehicle emissions budget as set forth in the Federal Register, Vol. 58, No 232, page 64163, December 6, 1993. This requirement is thus met.

Public Review and Interagency Consultation

The state rule also requires establishment of a public involvement process. OAR 340-252-0060(4) requires a public comment period wherein citizens or interested parties can submit oral or written

comments on the conformity determination. The draft AQCD report was posted to the LCOG website on September 29, 2007, and advertised as available for public review through October 29, 2007. A web notice, an electronic mailing to an interested parties list of over 750 persons, and a newspaper advertisement were used. The draft document has been placed at the reference desks of the Eugene and Springfield public libraries, and at the LCOG reception desk.

In addition, OAR 340-252-0060 requires that conformity determinations be made according to the interagency consultation procedures. LCOG's Transportation Planning Committee (TPC) has been designated as the standing committee for the Central Lane MPO for purposes of interagency consultation. TPC membership includes representatives from Eugene, Springfield, Coburg, Lane County, Lane Transit District (LTD), Lane Regional Air Protection Agency (LRAPA), ODOT, and Federal Highway Administration (FHWA). A 30-day comment period is required for TPC review of the conformity determination. In accordance with this requirement, the draft conformity document was provided to TPC on September 27, with the comment period extending through October 26.

Further, required interagency consultations were initiated on September 25 with FHWA, Federal Transit Authority (FTA), Environmental Protection Agency, ODOT, LRAPA and LCOG. Review of the analysis and the draft conformity report is ongoing to ensure that it meets the federal and state requirements.

Comments received from any party will be addressed by staff and included in the final conformity determination draft for approval by MPC on 8 November, 2007.