Meeting Agenda

Welcome

Overview of the MPO

Overview of Transportation Conformity

Q&A *(for questions to clarify schedule and comment process)*

Citizens to be Heard *(official form of comment)*
Overview of the MPO
AAMPO Study Area

2 million residents
10,000 lane miles
51 million miles traveled daily
MPO Plans and Documents

Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP): MPO staff budget and regional planning studies over a two year timeframe; FY 2020-2021 UPWP was adopted in June 2019

Transportation Improvement Program (TIP): Funded transportation projects within a four year timeframe; adoption of FY 2021-2024 TIP is scheduled for April 27, 2020

Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP): Future goals, strategies and transportation projects for 25 years; updated MTP list (Mobility 2045) scheduled for April 27, 2020

Transportation Conformity Document (TCD) Evaluates future transportation projects to ensure they cause no further harm to air quality; approved through a significant interagency consultation process; adoption is scheduled for April 27, 2020
Where does ozone come from?

Local emission source contribution to ozone (2017)

- On-Road Mobile: 39%
- Non-Road Mobile: 20%
- Point: 23%
- Area: 9%
- Biogenics: 4%
- Oil & Gas: 5%

Source: Alamo Area Council of Governments and Texas Commission on Environmental Quality
In the San Antonio region, ozone that forms at the ground level is the most common form of air pollution.

Good ozone (30 miles high)

Bad ozone (10 miles high)

NOx + VOC + Sunlight = Ozone
Clean Air Act

Requires the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to set standards for six common air pollutants including ozone. The EPA:

• Sets, reviews and revises standards to protect human health and public welfare
• Determines whether areas meet standards
• Works with areas to attain and maintain standards

NAAQS – National Ambient Air Quality Standards (“Ambient Air” means outside air)
Design Value: The fourth-highest eight-hour average ozone concentration averaged over a consecutive three-year period

NAAQS: National Ambient Air Quality Standards

ppb: parts per billion
Effective September 24, 2018, Bexar County was designated **marginal nonattainment** (lowest level of air pollution exceedance)

Nonattainment areas have new requirements placed on them that are intended to help the area attain the standard for healthy air

One of these requirements is called **transportation conformity**
What is transportation conformity?

- Transportation conformity ensures that federally-funded or approved transportation projects in an MPO’s short- and long-range plans are consistent with air quality goals.
Who makes the transportation conformity determination?

Local Level

MPO’s Transportation Policy Board

Federal Level

U.S. Department of Transportation
Federal Highway Administration

U.S. Department of Transportation
Federal Transit Administration
The MPO and partners at Texas A&M Transportation Institute undertook a **two-part analysis** to estimate how the transportation projects in our long-range plan will contribute to air pollution.

**How is transportation conformity determined?**

- **Travel Demand Model**
- **Emissions Analysis**
- **Results**
Transportation conformity requirements

• Metropolitan Transportation Plan and Transportation Improvement Program content
• Latest planning assumptions
• Latest emissions model
• Interim emissions test
• Consultation
# Bexar County Summer Weekday Emissions Estimates

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>NO$_x$</th>
<th>VOC</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>36.50</td>
<td>21.70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2025</td>
<td>18.24</td>
<td>15.83</td>
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<tr>
<td>2035</td>
<td>11.25</td>
<td>10.25</td>
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<tr>
<td>2045</td>
<td>11.48</td>
<td>10.15</td>
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Source: Texas A&M Transportation Institute analysis using MOVES2014a (January 17, 2020)

**NO$_x$:** Nitrogen Oxides  
**VOCs:** Volatile Organic Compounds

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Remember: Emissions modeled for analysis years must be below 2017 (base year) emissions.
Consultation

- IAC partners review draft Transportation Conformity Document after local conformity determination
- FHWA/FTA determination of transportation conformity is required before FHWA enactment of FY 2021-2024 TIP
When is conformity required?

- At least **every four years**
- With **updates of the MTP or TIP**
- After **new NAAQS**
- With certain changes to projects of **regional significance**
MPO is doing our part to attain ozone standard

Broad community partners are addressing other ozone sources

EPA will reassess the area’s air quality in 2021 using monitor data from 2018, 2019 and 2020

Even if Bexar County attains ozone standard in 2021, a “Maintenance” period of 20 years applies with the same transportation conformity requirements for MPOs and partners building transportation projects
Public Comment Process
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Task</th>
<th>Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Beginning of Public Comment Period</td>
<td>February 14, 2020</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transportation Conformity Public Meeting</td>
<td>February 27, 2020</td>
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<tr>
<td>Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) Presentation)</td>
<td>March 6, 2020</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>End of Public Comment Period</td>
<td>March 15, 2020</td>
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<tr>
<td>Transportation Policy Board (TPB) Presentation)</td>
<td>March 23, 2020</td>
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<tr>
<td>TAC Action</td>
<td>April 3, 2020</td>
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<tr>
<td>TPB Action</td>
<td>April 27, 2020</td>
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<tr>
<td>Interagency Consultation Review Begins</td>
<td>May 2020</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FHWA-FTA Joint Conformity Determination (Approval)</td>
<td>No later than October 1, 2020</td>
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</table>
Transportation Conformity Document Structure

- **Chapter 1:** Executive Summary
- **Chapter 2:** Air Quality
- **Chapter 3:** Conformity
- **Chapter 4:** Mobility 2045 and 2019-2022 Transportation Improvement Program
- **Chapter 5:** Estimation of Vehicle Activity
- **Chapter 6:** Estimation of Off-Network Activity
- **Chapter 7:** Emission Factors / Motor Vehicle Emission Simulator (MOVES) Model
- **Chapter 8:** Mobile Source Emission Reduction Strategies (MoSERS)
- **Chapter 9:** Determination of Regional Emissions
- **Chapter 10:** Interagency Consultation
- **Chapter 11:** Public Participation
- **List of Appendices**
Public Comment

30-day public comment period:
February 14 – March 15, 2020

Official comments are accepted:

1. **Verbally** as a Citizen to be Heard during tonight’s meeting
2. **Written** on a comment card at tonight’s meeting
3. **Online** at [www.alamoareampo.org/airquality/conformity](http://www.alamoareampo.org/airquality/conformity)
4. **By email** to Allison Blazosky: blazosky@alamoareampo.org
5. **By mail** to the Alamo Area MPO: 825 South Saint Mary’s Street, San Antonio, TX 78205

Social media is *not* an official form of comment for this process
30-day public comment period: 
**February 14 – March 15, 2020**

- All comments received at the meeting and during the public comment period will be appropriately addressed and documented in the Transportation Conformity Document

- No responses will be given at the meeting

- If you would like a personal response, be sure to indicate on the sign-in sheet or your comment card and provide your email or mailing address
Public Comment

30-day public comment period:  
February 14 – March 15, 2020

• Please state your name

• Please let us know if you are representing a third-party organization

• A three (3) minute time limit applies per person
Meeting Agenda

Welcome

Overview of the MPO

Overview of Transportation Conformity

Q&A (for questions to clarify schedule and comment process)

Citizens to be Heard (official form of comment)
Thank you!

Allison “Allie” Blazosky, AICP
AAMPO Transportation Planning Program Manager
blazosky@alamoareampo.org | 210-230-6911