



6/3/2026

# Comment Lookback

Patterns and Lessons from Recent Conformity Determinations

TWG Meeting June 4<sup>th</sup>, 2026

## Just Following the Template

- Always use the latest **AQ Portal template**
- Remove **unused or placeholder language**
- Verify **links and references** work

### 5. EMISSIONS FACTOR ESTIMATION

A regional emissions analysis must be conducted for multiple analysis years to satisfy the requirements of [40 CFR 93.109](#) of the conformity rule for ozone nonattainment areas. Specifically, the regional emissions analysis is used to conduct the emission budget test (or interim <https://www.ecfr.gov/current/title-40/section-93.109>) to determine any contributions to emission reductions. The procedures for determining regional transportation-related emissions are described in [40 CFR 93.118](#) of the conformity rule. This section discusses the analysis years, and the modeling processes used to conduct the analysis.

### 3. RTP/MTP AND TIP

#### 3.1 [NAME OF RTP/MTP] AND [NAME OF TIP]

##### 3.1.1 Overview

[MPO Name] serves [X number of counties in the YYY metropolitan area]. This region includes the [areas under nonattainment (e.g., 2008 8-hour ozone 10-county nonattainment area)], which covers [XX, YY, and ZZ county(s)].

On [approval date], [Name of RTP/MTP] and the [Name of TIP] were considered for approval by the [MPO Name] Policy Board. The [Name of RTP/MTP] update covers a planning period of [beginning year] through [end year] and contains a list of projects fiscally constrained by estimates of reasonably available revenues. This update reflects the priorities for transportation investments within the [MPO Name] metropolitan planning area (MPA). A complete listing of fiscally constrained projects, as proposed under this conformity determination, is provided in Appendix Section B.1 Project Listings. This listing denotes projects that are regionally significant or otherwise subject to transportation conformity and those projects that are exempt from transportation conformity, are exempt from regional emissions analysis, or have been determined to be not regionally significant.



### Common Issue

Leftover template language and broken links require unnecessary back-and-forth

## A Plan for A Plan

- Use the **approved PACP as your guide**
- Ensure consistency throughout documentation
- Discuss **any deviations early with partners**

### APPENDIX F—INTERAGENCY CONSULTATION PROCESS

#### F.1 APPROVED PRE-ANALYSIS CONSENSUS PLAN

#### F.2 CONSULTATION REVIEW AND MEETING SUMMARY



### Common Issue

Documentation drifts from the PACP, causing confusion and rework during review.

## Well... It Was Accurate At One Point

- Conformity = a **point-in-time determination**
- Documentation must reflect that exact moment

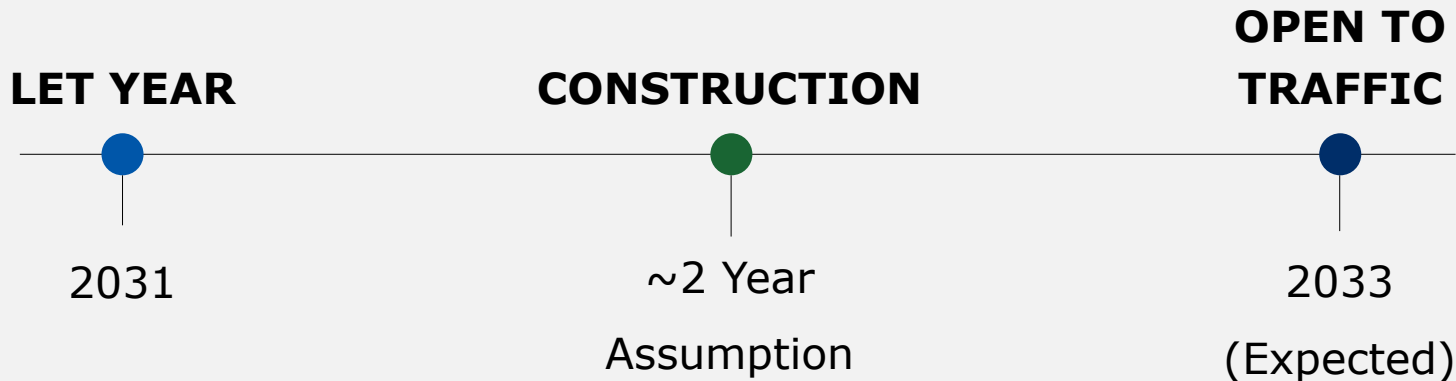


### Common Issue


Provided project lists do not reflect the list at the time of determination.

## All Roads Lead to the Open-to-Traffic Date

**Analysis  
Years:**  
2030  
2035  
2040  
2050



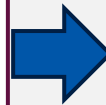
Project is listed with an analysis year of 2040 → **Needs Explanation**

 **Common Issue**  
No explanation for analysis year leads to questions of accuracy

## Wait...How Many Lanes?

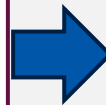
- Use “**X to Y lanes**” format
- Show when **no capacity is added (X to X)**
- Specify **managed lane type (HOV, HOT, etc.)**

Expand expressway with added managed lanes.



Expand from **4 to 8 lane** expressway – **2 new general purpose lanes & 2 new HOV lanes**

Reconstruct roadway, including sidewalks and drainage system updates.



Reconstruct roadway **4 to 4 lanes**, including sidewalks and drainage system updates.



**Common Issue**  
Unclear descriptions lead to extra back-and-forth delaying approval.

## Call It What It Is – And Prove It

- Project classification must align with definitions
- Must be **defensible if questioned**
- Document the **reasoning behind the decision**

Not Regionally Significant (NRS)


Reflects definition in conformity documentation

Exempt from conformity

40 CFR §93.126 –  
Table 2

Exempt From Regional Emissions Analysis (EREA)

40 CFR §93.127 –  
Table 3

 **Common Issue**  
No backup for project classification can delay review.

## Contact Information

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