



NORTHEAST OHIO AREAWIDE COORDINATING AGENCY

MEMORANDUM

TO: NOACA Board of Directors

FROM: Grace Gallucci, Executive Director

DATE: March 3, 2017

RE: **Resolution 2017-008 – Air Quality Conformity Determination for the IR-480 Bridge Project (CUY IR 480-18.42)**

ACTION REQUESTED

The Board of Directors is asked to approve submittal of conformity analyses for the IR-480 Bridge Project. Specifically this item will approve the air quality conformity determination for CUY-480-18.42.

The Air Quality Subcommittee and Planning and Programming Committee support this recommendation.

BACKGROUND

Air quality determination for an Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) sponsored bridge project on IR-480 (CUY IR 480-18.42 (L&R) Deck: PID 90591) is required before The Northeast Ohio Areawide Coordinating Agency (NOACA) and the Akron Metropolitan Area Transportation Study (AMATS) can revise their Transportation Plans and SFY 2016 - 2019 TIPs.

The IR-480 bridge project was originally amended to the NOACA Long-Range Transportation Plan as a deck replacement of the twin I-480 bridges, over the Cuyahoga River Valley in Valley View and Independence. As part of the environmental analysis required by the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), alternatives for the proposed bridge improvements were developed and evaluated. Based on the Alternatives Evaluation Report, the construction of a new four lane bridge structure to be built within the existing I-480 highway median was chosen as the preferred Build Alternative.

The proposed project will build a new, four lane bridge structure within the existing I-480 median (between the existing eastbound and westbound bridges). The new bridge will maintain four travel lanes in each direction during construction with minimal disruption to traffic. Once constructed, the new bridge will be used for eastbound and westbound traffic while the respective directional bridge is being rehabilitated. New decks will be constructed on the existing eastbound

and westbound structures. Following rehabilitation of the existing bridges, the new center bridge will be reconfigured to carry two lanes of eastbound traffic and two lanes of westbound traffic. Under this reconfiguration, this section of IR-480 will consist of three bridges with six travel lanes in each direction improving the overall capacity of this section of roadway. In accordance with federal Transportation Conformity Regulations (40 CFR Parts 51 and 93), the planning process has determined the revised project adds capacity and requires a conformity determination.

NOACA initiated an interagency consultation process in November 2016 to agree upon the parameter for the analyses, in consultation with AMATs, the Erie Regional Planning Commission (ERPC), ODOT, the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency (Ohio EPA), Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (US EPA). The results (see following tables) demonstrate that projected future emissions are less than the relevant budgets. This means that the project conforms to the intentions of the State Implementation Plan (SIP) for ground-level ozone and fine particulates.

Results of Conformity Analyses for the 2008 8-Hour Ozone Standard*

8-Hour Ozone Test	2020 8-Hour Budget	2020 Emissions	2030 8-Hour Budget	2030 Emissions	2035 Emissions
AMATS	tons / year				
VOC		5.26		4.23	3.04
NOx		5.91		5.31	3.78
NOACA					
VOC		21.13		13.57	11.02
NOx		26.09		11.71	8.78
Ashtabula Co.					
VOC		0.93		0.58	0.43
NOx		1.56		0.84	0.67
Totals					
VOC	38.85	27.33	30.80	18.38	14.50
NOx	61.56	33.57	43.82	17.87	13.24

Results of Conformity Analyses for the 2006 Fine Particulate Matter Standard*

PM _{2.5} Test	2015 Budget	2020 Emissions	2022 Budget	2022 Emissions	2030 Emissions	2035 Emission
AMATS	tons / year					
Direct PM		157.06		134.98	109.32	88.77
NOx		3,187.69		2,729.62	1,876.72	1,412.40
NOACA						
Direct PM		586.88		506.00	367.70	321.89
NOx		13,606.14		11,532.80	6,329.25	4,481.14
Ashtabula Twp.						
Direct PM		2.59		2.19	1.68	1.53
NOx		60.48		50.33	35.26	29.75
Area Totals						
Direct PM	1,371.35	746.53	880.89	643.17	478.70	412.19
NO	35,094.70	16,854.31	17,263.65	14,312.75	8,241.23	5,923.29

Results of Conformity Analyses for the 2012 Fine Particulate Matter Standard*

PM_{2.5} Test	2015* Budget	2021 Emissions	2022* Budget	2022 Emissions	2030 Emissions	2035 Emissions
NOACA	tons/year					
Direct PM	659.35	378.36	463.02	376.10	267.11	232.87
NOx	18,202.07	9,119.20	8,957.18	8,463.95	4,544.80	3,156.45
*Cuyahoga and Lorain County budget totals from the 1997/2006 PM _{2.5} SIP Maintenance Plan						

* Emissions must be less than the established budgets in order to pass the conformity test.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

There is no financial impact.

CONCLUSION/NEXT STEPS

The Boards at ERPC and AMATS have affirmed the results of this conformity determination. Pending Board approval, the results will be submitted to ODOT, FHWA, and USEPA for acceptance, so that it can be added to the STIP.

GG/tk/2933b

**RESOLUTION 2017-008
(AIR QUALITY
CONFORMITY
DETERMINATION FOR THE
IR-480 BRIDGE PROJECT)**

Certified to be a true copy of a Resolution of the
Board of Directors of the Northeast Ohio
Areawide Coordinating Agency adopted this 11th
day of March 2016.

Secretary: *Nelly C. Brunda*

Date Signed: 3-10-2017

**Exhibit 1
Results of Conformity Analyses for the 2008 8-Hour Ozone Standard***

8-Hour Ozone Test	2020 8-Hour Budget	2020 Emissions	2030 8-Hour Budget	2030 Emissions	2035 Emissions
AMATS tons / year					
VOC		5.26		4.23	3.04
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Totals					
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**Exhibit 2
Results of Conformity Analyses for the 2006 Fine Particulate Matter Standard***

PM _{2.5} Test	2015 Budget	2020 Emissions	2022 Budget	2022 Emissions	2030 Emissions	2035 Emission
AMATS tons / year						
Direct PM		157.06		134.98	109.32	88.77
NOx		3,187.69		2,729.62	1,876.72	1,412.40
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**RESOLUTION 2017-008
(AIR QUALITY
CONFORMITY
DETERMINATION FOR THE
IR-480 BRIDGE PROJECT)**

**RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
OF THE
NORTHEAST OHIO AREAWIDE COORDINATING AGENCY**

WHEREAS, the Northeast Ohio Areawide Coordinating Agency (NOACA) is the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for the counties of Cuyahoga, Geauga, Lake, Lorain, and Medina, and the City of Cleveland; and the areawide water quality management agency for the same region; and

WHEREAS, the United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) establishes air pollutant standards pursuant to the Clean Air Act for the preservation public health and the environment; and

WHEREAS, the USEPA requires all MPOs in maintenance and nonattainment areas for these National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) to demonstrate that their transportation projects conform with the attainment and maintenance of the NAAQS; and

WHEREAS, this conformity determination is a pre-requisite for continued access to federal funds for the construction of transportation projects in our area; and

WHEREAS, NOACA has conducted the necessary analyses (results attached) in coordination with its other nonattainment area partners (AMATS for the Akron area, ODOT for Ashtabula County) to establish conformity; and

WHEREAS, the NOACA Air Quality Subcommittee and Planning and Programming Committee recommend this action.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Directors of the Northeast Ohio Areawide Coordinating Agency, consisting of 45 principal officials serving general purpose local governments throughout and within the counties of Cuyahoga, Geauga, Lake, Lorain, and Medina that:

Section 1: The conformity analyses for establishing transportation conformity for IR-480 Bridge Project (CUY-480-18.42) are approved for submittal.

Section 2: The Executive Director is hereby authorized to transmit a certified copy of this resolution and the analyses to appropriate Federal, State, and local agencies.

**RESOLUTION 2017-008
 (AIR QUALITY
 CONFORMITY
 DETERMINATION FOR THE
 IR-480 BRIDGE PROJECT)**

**Exhibit 3
 Results of Conformity Analyses for the 2012 Fine Particulate Matter Standard***

PM_{2.5} Test	2015* Budget	2021 Emissions	2022* Budget	2022 Emissions	2030 Emissions	2035 Emissions
NOACA	tons/year					
Direct PM	659.35	378.36	463.02	376.10	267.11	232.87
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