

To: Chair and Members of the Metro Vision Issues Committee

From: Jennifer Schaufele, Executive Director
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Meeting Date	Agenda Category	Agenda Item #
November 6, 2013	Action	6

SUBJECT

This item concerns air quality modeling of proposed 2013 Cycle 2 amendments.

PROPOSED ACTION/RECOMMENDATIONS

Staff recommends including all proposed projects in air quality conformity modeling for the 2013 Cycle 2 amendments to the 2035 Fiscally Constrained Regional Transportation Plan (FC-RTP).

ACTION BY OTHERS

N/A

SUMMARY

DRCOG amends the 2035 FC-RTP twice a year. We are starting the 2013 Cycle 2 amendment process now. Several requested amendments were received (see Table 1).

These projects are consistent with the goals, policies, and action strategies in the RTP; staff assumes all projects modeled as part of the Cycle 2 air quality conformity process will be amended into the 2035 FC-RTP by the DRCOG Board of Directors.

NOTE: [Per adopted Board policy \(January 2009\)](#) the sponsors of the C-470 Toll Highway amendments are required to provide additional information as part of their application submittal. CDOT is also required to provide this information for the I-70 project (see links below).

PREVIOUS DISCUSSIONS/ACTIONS

N/A

PROPOSED MOTION

Move to recommend to the DRCOG Board of Directors including all proposed projects shown in Table 1 in air quality conformity modeling for 2013 Cycle 2 amendments to the 2035 Fiscally Constrained Regional Transportation Plan.

ATTACHMENTS

- Table 1: DRCOG 2013 Cycle 2 Fiscally Constrained Regional Transportation Plan Amendments (Non-RAMP)
- Additional required tolling information for [I-70](#) and [C-470](#) FC-RTP amendments
- [C-470 Corridor Coalition Draft Revenue Memo](#) (October 29, 2013)

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

If you need additional information, please contact Jennifer Schaufele, Executive Director, at 303-480-6701 or jschaufele@drcog.org or Jacob Riger, Long Range Transportation Planning Coordinator at 303-480-6751 or jriger@drcog.org

Table 1: DRCOG 2013 Cycle 2 Fiscally Constrained (FC)-RTP Amendments (Non-RAMP)

Last Revised: October 29, 2013

Agency	Project Description	Amend. Source	Current FC-RTP Status	Cycle 2 Amendment
CDOT/C-470 Coalition (Non-RAMP)	C-470: new managed toll express lanes: • Eastbound: Kipling Pkwy. to Platte Canyon Rd. (1 new lane) • Westbound: Wadsworth Blvd. to Kipling Pkwy. (1 new lane)	Toll/Local	Not in	Add to FC network (<2025), locally funded
	C-470: additional managed toll express lanes: • Eastbound: Broadway to I-25 (1 additional lane) • Westbound: I-25 to Lucent Blvd. (1 additional lane)	Toll/Local	Not in	Add to FC network (<2035), locally funded
RTD	North Metro Rail Line (extension from 72nd Ave. to _____?)	RTD Request	Not in	TBD
	I-225 LRT: Move location of Montview (Fitzsimons) Station	RTD Request	In	Move Station to new site
Brighton	Bridge St./I-76 new interchange	Local Request	Not in	Add to FC network, 100% local funding
Centennial	Arapahoe Rd. remove interchanges at Havana St. and Revere St.	Local Request	In	Remove from FC network
Broomfield	120th Ave.: Allison St. to Emerald St. new road	Staff Review	In	Change completion to the 2015 to 2024 staging period. Will not be completed prior to 2015.
Denver	Central Park Blvd: 47th Ave. to 56th Ave. new road	Staff Review	In	
	Broadway: Exposition Ave. to Mississippi Ave. widening and I-25 interchange	Staff Review	In	
	MLK Blvd.: Havana St./Iola St. to Peoria St. new road	Staff Review	In	
	56th Ave.: Havana St. to Pena Blvd. widening	Staff Review	In	
Parker	Chambers Rd: Stroh Rd. to Hess Rd. new road	Staff Review	In	
	Stroh Rd.: Chambers Rd. to Crowfoot Valley Rd. new road	Staff Review	In	

Move to recommend to the DRCOG Board of Directors including all proposed projects shown in Table 1 in air quality conformity modeling for 2013 Cycle 2 amendments to the 2035 Fiscally Constrained Regional Transportation Plan

Elise Jones raised an issue with whether or not DRCOG should adopt a general policy regarding managed lanes: should they include free use by high-occupancy vehicles (HOV), and whether or not the policy should apply to the C-470 project. She noted that when there is a public investment of tax dollars everyone should have an opportunity to use the corridor. With publicly funded managed lanes that don't include HOV access, there's an opportunity missed to incentivize the use of carpools and provide an opportunity for lower-income residents to use the lanes. Jack Hilbert stated that these issues have been studied. He noted that on C-470 specifically, HOV 3 would be costly and difficult to enforce, as it would need to be done manually, adding to the cost of the project. He noted that this project is not converting an existing roadway, it is adding new capacity. He further noted that RTD buses would have free use of the lane; however there is no bus route on C-470.

Commissioner Jones stated that the fact there is no bus service emphasizes the need to include HOV access. Members stated some agreement with adopting a policy, some did not agree with adopting a policy to target a specific project. A question was asked if the with-HOV component could be modeled. Staff noted that it is possible; however it would not result in a discernible difference due to the regional aspect of the model.

Robin Kniech stated that perhaps the policy could express impacts as changes to VMT and reductions in single-occupancy vehicle. Nancy Sharpe stated concern with a policy that requires HOV on every corridor, without taking into account the differences between corridors.

Elise Jones **moved, seconded** by Marjorie Sloan, to direct staff to draft a policy for members to review and discuss. There was discussion. After discussion, the motion was **withdrawn**.

Elise Jones **moved, seconded** by Sue Horn, to recommend to the DRCOG Board of Directors including all proposed projects shown in Table 1 in air quality conformity modeling for 2013 Cycle 2 amendments to the 2035 Fiscally Constrained Regional Transportation Plan. The motion **passed unanimously**.

Staff was directed to provide information and policy options about managed lanes and HOV access.

Move to recommend to the DRCOG Board of Directors improvements to the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) as agreed to during the meeting

Steve Cook distributed a printed version of Table 3 for this agenda item, so that members could view it more easily. Staff reviewed the items agreed to at the October meeting where members requested additional information on six different topics for review. The Chair asked that action on these items be taken as one motion at the end of the discussion.

1. Pools – staff recommends retaining the current pools and set-asides with discussion on funding levels to be held after overall TIP revenue estimates are available.