

Tier 2 Consultation Meeting

Thursday, May 2, 2002, 11:00 AM
CATS Conference Room

Participants

Vanessa Adams-Donald	FTA
Patricia Berry	CATS
Don Kopec	CATS
Linda Bolte	CATS
Steve Call	FHWA
Sid Weseman	RTA
Patricia Morris	USEPA
Mark Pitstick	RTA
Mike Rogers	IEPA
Susan Stitt	IDOT
Luann Hamilton	CDOT
Joy Schaad	CATS
Kermit Wies	CATS

1. Schedule of 2030 RTP

Ms. Bolte outlined the schedule for completing the 2030 RTP. The current schedule calls for a draft plan to be presented for public comment in the Spring of 2003, conformity during the early summer 2003, public hearings in late summer 2003 and approval by the Policy Committee at its October 2003 meeting.

All agreed that, if no new issues arose, this would allow for the plan to be completed and accepted by the federal agencies before the November 2nd lapse date.

2. Plan Structure Issues

Ms. Bolte outlined how staff proposed each of the following issues be handled in the 2030 RTP primary plan document.

-treatment of EJ assessment

EJ measures would be handled as part of the overall plan assessment section. Mr. Wies indicated that the assessment would be stratified by race and income. The detailed data tables would appear in the plan process document.

-air quality conformity analysis

The conformity results would also be included in the overall plan assessment section. Again detailed data tables would appear in the process document and the conformity reports prepared in the past.

-planning factors/emphasis areas

Highlights of the compliance would appear in the primary plan document but the detailed assessment would appear in the process document. Ms. Adams-Donald suggested that a summary might be displayed as a dialogue box in the plan report. The participants agreed that this techniques should be explored in when the plan design was developed.

-congestion management

The assessment of the impact on congestion is reflected in the evaluation measures. There will not be a separate congestion management section in the 2030 RTP.

-external travel

The 2030 RTP will include a section on travel patterns across state lines and with counties outside northeastern Illinois. The section will focus on the coordinated planning that exists between SEWRPC and NIRPC.

-planning process documentation

The planning process document will include materials similar to the one developed for the 1997 version of the 2020 RTP. As noted in the above comments, less of the process description will appear in the plan itself.

Participants agreed with the staff's approach. All agreed that streamlining the primary plan document would be a good idea as long as references to the more detailed process document were included.

2. Latest Planning Assumptions

CATS staff indicated that NIPC's Common Ground effort would not be completed before the 2030 RTP due date. The 2030 RTP will reflect policies that have been approved by the Commission consistent with the RTP schedule. It is expected that the full incorporation of Common Ground results will occur in the three-year 2030 update. For example, NIPC has submitted goal issue areas for consideration in the 2030 RTP. The Commission has not approved any Common Ground results to date.

NIPC is developing 2030 growth forecasts based on the continuation of the modified trends scenario adopted as part of the 2020 RTP/forecasts processes. NIPC has developed new 2030 control totals and is waiting for a combined airport scenario from the city of Chicago and IDOT. CATS staff hopes only one airport scenario will be needed for the 2030 evaluation and conformity assessments.

Mr. Call and Ms. Adams-Donald indicated that the 2030 RTP will not need to address potential new planning boundaries during this cycle.

3. Issues Related to New Air Quality Designation

Mr. Rogers indicated that the 8-hour standard was several years away and would not impact the 2030 RTP. A new SIP covering the new standards was probably 3-5 years away.

Tentative analysis years for conformity were discussed. With a base year of 1999 or 2000, analysis years might be 2005, 2007 2010/12, 2020 and 2030. There was a question of whether 2020 needed to be included. A further discussion of this issue was deferred until the next meeting.

Mr. Rogers indicated that the status of the maintenance designation requirements would not occur until the end of the year.

4. New TIP in conjunction with the 2030 RTP

Ms. Berry said that a new FY 2004-2008 or FY 2004-2009 TIP would be prepared in conjunction with the 2030 RTP. The TIP Procedures Committee will be developing a schedule and CATS will send out the call for non-exempt TIP projects so that they may be included in the conformity analysis.

5. Other Issues

The federal and state agencies agreed to conduct a concurrent review of the TIP and RTP as they are being developed and during the public comment period.

The participants agreed to include the public involvement documentation in the upcoming conformity supplement report.

Mr. Rogers reported on the status of the MOBILE5 budgets and the attainment submissions.