RESOLUTION
of the
METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION BOARD
of the
MID-REGION COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS OF NEW MEXICO
R-15-03 MTB

APPROVING THE TRANSPORTATION CONFORMITY WITH
AIR QUALITY PLANS FOR
FUTURES 2040, THE 2040 METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION
PLAN (2040 MTP), AND THE
FFY 2016-2021 TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (TIP),
FOR THE ALBUQUERQUE METROPOLITAN PLANNING AREA

WHEREAS the Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century Act (MAP-21) of
2012 and the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act-A Legacy
for Users (SAFETEA-LU) of 2005 requires metropolitan planning organizations to
develop a long range intermodal/multimodal financially constrained transportation plan
for each metropolitan area; and

WHEREAS, the Metropolitan Transportation Board (MTB) is the metropolitan
planning organization (MPO) for the Albuquerque Metropolitan Planning Area (AMPA);
and

WHEREAS, Futures 2040, the 2040 MTP, identifies transportation facilities for
the AMPA to the year 2040 and includes a financial plan which demonstrates how the
plan will be implemented and is shown to be fiscally constrained; and

WHEREAS, the 2040 MTP has an associated FFY 2016-2021 Transportation
WHEREAS, the MPO received a copy of a letter (Attachment A-1) from the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to the FHWA-NM Division which states: "The current design value for Carbon Monoxide (CO), based on the latest quality-assured data available at this time is 1.6 parts per million (ppm) for the 8-hour National Ambient Air Quality Standard (NAAQS) for CO and 2.4 ppm for the 1-hour CO NAAQS. These values represent 18% and 7% of the relevant standards, respectively. Therefore, the design value for Albuquerque/Bernalillo County is well below the NAAQS threshold, and thus this criterion of the conformity rule is met."); and

WHEREAS, the MPO received a copy of a letter (Attachment A-2) from the FHWA-NM Division to the City of Albuquerque Environmental Health/Air Quality Division which reiterates the statement above and adds: "With this confirmation that the design values for CO are in line with the Limited Maintenance Plan..."; and

WHEREAS, the 2040 MTP and the FFY 2015-2021 TIP were developed in accordance with federal metropolitan transportation planning process requirements, as prescribed in Title 23, Code of Federal Regulations, Part 450 (23 CFR 450) and other relevant regulations, including requirements for interagency consultation, financial constraint, and public participation; and

WHEREAS, the 2040 MTP and the FFY 2016-2021 TIP conform to Air Quality Plans, which include the Transportation Conformity State Implementation Plan (SIP) and the 2006-2016 Limited Maintenance Plan for Carbon Monoxide: Albuquerque-Bernalillo County; and

WHEREAS, the MTB is responsible for local approval of the Transportation Conformity for the 2040 MTP, and the FFY 2016-2021 TIP;
Now therefore, be it resolved by the Metropolitan Transportation Board of the Mid-Region Council of Governments of New Mexico that the 2040 MTP and the FFY 2016-2021 TIP are hereby found to conform to the State Implementation Plans for the Albuquerque/Bernalillo maintenance area;

And be it further resolved, it is certified the 2040 MTP and the FFY 2016-2021 TIP were developed in conformance to 23 CFR 450 and other applicable regulations and are fiscally constrained.

Passed, adopted and approved this 20th day of March 2015 by the Metropolitan Transportation Board of the Mid-Region Council of Governments of New Mexico.

ATTEST:

Dewey V. Cave
Executive Director, Mid-Region Council of Government
Executive Secretary, Metropolitan Transportation Board

Debbie O'Malley, Chair
Metropolitan Transportation Board
Mr. J. Don Martinez  
Division Administrator  
U.S. Department of Transportation  
Federal Highway Administration  
604 West San Mateo Road  
Santa Fe, New Mexico  87505

Dear Mr. Martinez:

In preparation for the planned transportation conformity determination currently underway by the Mid-Region Council of Governments (MRCOG), the Albuquerque Environmental Health Department has requested my office confirm the current carbon monoxide design value for Albuquerque/Bernalillo County. Albuquerque/Bernalillo County is under an EPA-approved Limited Maintenance Plan for carbon monoxide (CO) and thus must demonstrate that the design value is sufficiently below the National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) for CO in order to support a finding of conformity by the MRCOG or by the Federal Highway Administration.

The current design value for CO, based on the latest quality-assured data available at this time, is 1.6 ppm for the 8-hour CO NAAQS and 2.4 ppm for the 1-hour CO NAAQS. These values represent 18% and 7% of the relevant standards, respectively. Therefore, the design value for Albuquerque/Bernalillo County is well below the NAAQS threshold, and thus this criterion of the conformity rule is met.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me of Jeff Riley of my staff at (214) 665-8542.

Sincerely yours,

Guy Donaldson  
Chief  
Air Planning Section
cc: Ms. Margaret Nieto
City of Albuquerque Environmental Health Department

Mr. Dave Penella
Mid-Region Council of Governments

Mr. Greg Heitmann
Federal Highway Administration

Mr. Rodolfo Monge-Oviedo
Federal Highway Administration

Mr. Tony Ogboli
Federal Transit Administration
Ms. Margaret Nieto  
City of Albuquerque  
Environmental Health/Air Quality Division  
P.O. Box 1293  
Albuquerque, NM 87103

Dear Ms. Nieto:

This letter is to acknowledge the Environmental Protection Agency’s (EPA) review of the design values for Carbon Monoxide (CO). The review is provided for the on-going transportation conformity determination by the Mid-Region Council of Governments (MRCOG) 2040 Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP). As described in the EPA letter dated December 1, 2014, the Albuquerque/Bernalillo County area is under an EPA-approved Limited Maintenance Plan for CO. Under this plan, the design value for CO must be below the National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) for CO in order to demonstrate conformity by MRCOG and the Federal Highway Administration.

The EPA has reviewed the design values associated with the MRCOG managed Metropolitan Planning Organization area for Albuquerque/Bernalillo County. They have noted that the CO design value for the area of concern is well below NAAQS thresholds and thus meets the criterion of the conformity rule and requirements for the Limited Maintenance Plan. For this determination, based on the latest quality-assured data available at this time, the values were 1.6 ppm for the 8-hour CO NAAQS and 2.4 ppm for the 1-hour CO NAAQS. These values represent 18% and 7% of the relevant standards respectively.

With this confirmation that the design values for CO are in line with the Limited Maintenance Plan, we expect MRCOG to complete the transportation conformity determination associated with the 2040 MTP as scheduled. If you have questions, please contact me at (505) 660-7626 or by email at greg.heitmann@dot.gov.

Sincerely yours,

[Signature]
Gregory L. Heitmann  
Environmental Specialist

For: J. Don Martinez  
Division Administrator

Enclosure

cc:  
Mr. Dave Penella, Mid-Region Council of Governments  
Ms. Anne McLaughlin, NMDOT, Planning  
Mr. Tony Ogboli, FTA