

Meeting Notes

Air Quality Subcommittee (AQS)

April 4, 2024

Attendees

Greg Becoat, EPA
Cooper Bowers, DelDOT
James Coverdale, DNREC
Heather Dunigan, WILMAPCO
Taylor Englert, DNREC
Catherine Salarano, MDE
Cathy Smith, DTC
Bill Swiatek, WILMAPCO
Tigist Zegeye, WILMAPCO

Meeting Recording (Zoom)

<https://wilmapco.sharefile.com/public/share/web-sed078eac937e4b39b3883b8d5f738123>

Meeting Agenda/Packet

<https://wilmapco.sharefile.com/public/share/web-s35e2c3be490547019b051f7aa1f40efe>

Acceptance of the notes from the February 15, 2024 meeting

- (0:30 into the Zoom recording)
- The notes were accepted.

Review of Proposed Amendments to the FY 2023-6 Transportation Improvement Program

- Ms. Dunigan presented this agenda item. (1:15 into the Zoom recording)
- Staff examined the following proposed TIP amendments as potential triggers for revising our conformity analysis:
 - o Beech St Maintenance Building (T201753108)
 - o US40, Salem Church Road to Walther Road (T201611902)
- Ms. Dunigan said these were funding adjustments to existing projects.

- Mr. Swiatek said that Beech Street project was exempt from air quality analysis. The US 40 project is regionally significant but is already included in the model. The funding adjustments proposed would not impact its modeled in-service year. For these reasons staff do not feel either project triggers a revised conformity analysis. The AQS concurred.

Review of Draft FY 2025-8 Transportation Improvement Program

- Ms. Dunigan presented this agenda item. (4:50 into the Zoom recording)
- Ms. Dunigan reviewed the new draft Transportation Improvement Program. Ms. Dunigan said 57% of projects are multimodal, with a decrease in roadway only projects from the current TIP. Only 5% of the proposed funding is for expansion-only funding.
- New projects include: a downstate rail study in Delaware, three roundabout conversions of existing intersections, a Governor Printz Boulevard road diet, Hares Corner Grade Separated Intersection (included in the air quality model already), Sears Boulevard Extension, US 40 bike/ped improvements, and, in Cecil County, National EV infrastructure funding.
- Public comment is running from March 16 to May 13.
- Mr. Swiatek said staff reviewed the draft TIP for air quality conformity triggers and did not find any. The AQS concurred.

MPO CMAQ Performance Plan

- Mr. Swiatek presented this agenda item. (13:50 into the Zoom recording). He reviewed the below project schedule for the 2024 CMAQ Performance Plan due this October. It was developed with MDOT, who suggested a quick timeline.

3/27/2024

WILMAPCO's 2024 CMAQ Performance Plan
Timeline

DRAFT

	March	April	May	June	July
DOTs submit FY 2023 project data to FHWA for validation	1				
DOTs submit draft FY 2023 project data to WILMAPCO		by May 1			
AQS reviews data			2		
TAC reviews data			16		
Draft plan produced			30		
AQS recommends endorsement				6	
TAC recommends endorsement				20	
FHWA releases FY 2023 project data, officially					1
Council endorsement					11
Submit CMAQ Performance Plan to DelDOT/MDOT					16

- Mr. Bowers said he did not believe meeting the May 1 deadline for draft project data would be an issue for DelDOT.

MPO GHG Performance Target Setting

- Mr. Swiatek presented this agenda item. (18:49 into the Zoom recording). He said that due to a recent court decision, the requirement for MPOs to set Greenhouse Gas (GHG) performance targets are on hold. We will revisit this agenda item, if needed, in the future.

Other Business

- There was no other business (20:49 into the Zoom recording).