



**EAST-WEST GATEWAY**  
**Council of Governments**

Creating Solutions Across Jurisdictional Boundaries

**AGENDA**

**INTER AGENCY CONSULTATION GROUP**

Tuesday, June 25, 2024

11:45 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

East-West Gateway and Virtual – GoToMeeting

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- 1. Call to Order**  
- Carol Lawrence, East-West Gateway Council of Governments
- 2. Update on the FY 2025 – 2028 Transportation Improvement Program and Conformity Determination**  
- East-West Gateway Council of Governments
- 3. Other Business**
- 4. Adjournment**

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Barbara Geisman  
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**Non-voting Members**

Holly Bieneman  
Illinois Department of Transportation

Vacant  
Illinois Department of Commerce  
and Economic Opportunity

Patrick McKenna  
Missouri Department of Transportation

Taulby Roach  
Bi-State Development

Aaron Willard  
Missouri Office of Administration

**Executive Director**

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**Meeting Minutes**  
**Inter Agency Consultation Group**  
Tuesday, May 28, 2024  
11:45 am – 12:30 pm  
East-West Gateway Board Room and Virtual Meeting

Members

Carol Lawrence – East-West Gateway Council of Governments  
Kevin Jemison – Illinois Department of Transportation  
Mike Henderson – Missouri Department of Transportation  
Jason Heitman - U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Region 7  
Rory Davis – Illinois Environmental Protection Agency  
Tom Caldwell – Illinois Department of Transportation  
Alicia Daniels – Missouri Department of Natural Resources  
Cecelie Cochran – Federal Highway Administration, Missouri

Staff

Mary Grace Lewandowski, Melissa Theiss, Rachael Pawlak, Maureen McCarthy, Alex Hartig, Lubna Shoaib

**1. Call to Order**

The meeting of the Inter Agency Consultation Group (IACG) was called to order by Carol Lawrence, East-West Gateway Council of Governments (EWG).

**2. Update on the FY 2025 – 2028 Transportation Improvement Program and Conformity Determination**

- East-West Gateway Council of Governments

The FY 2025 – 2028 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) process began in November when East-West Gateway released the STP-S/CMAQ/CRP applications. The applications were due on February 8, 2024, when the project evaluations began. Information is sent to the modelers. In February, EWG requested that partner project applications (MoDOT, IDOT, Metro, MCT) be provided in April. IDOT provides information about its projects for use in regional emissions analysis, but it cannot be released to the public until after the governor has done so.

Once the partner projects are received, they will be sent to the Systems Evaluation modelers. The preparation for running the travel demand and MOVES models will be completed between April and June. Modeling requires a minimum of six weeks.

At their May meetings, the MO and IL Transportation Planning Committees (TPC) recommended local projects for inclusion in the FY 2025 – 2028 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). That information will be presented at the May Board of Directors meeting.

In early June, the IACG will be sent a list of new projects that will be included in the TIP and asked to reach a consensus on their air quality classifications. Depending on when the regional emissions analysis

is completed, the Preview Draft for Public Comment Air Quality Conformity Determination (AQCD) will be sent to the IACG for review sometime between June 10 and June 25. The Draft for Public Comment AQCD and draft TIP will be shared with the Executive Advisory Committee on June 18th and the Board of Directors on June 26th.

The public comment period will run from June 28 to August 1, with five open-house public meetings. The Presented for Approval AQCD document will be sent to the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) Missouri in August, presented to the EAC on August 20th, and presented to the Board of Directors on August 28th. The Board-Approved AQCD and TIP will be transmitted to MoDOT on August 29th.

Typically, IDOT provides project information for inclusion in the modeling effort, but information about specific projects will not be released for publication until after the governor has done so.)

Staff have been working on the text part of the Conformity Determination. Transportation is working on Appendix A—New Transportation Planning Projects and the Systems Evaluation group is working on travel demand and emissions modeling. The AQCD and TIP will be acted upon by the EWG Board of Directors at their August 28 meeting.

At the March meeting, we discussed proposed legislation (MO SB1516) to remove vehicles registered in Franklin, Jefferson, and St. Charles Counties from GVIP and how to address the MOVES inputs. The consensus was to be conservative and indicate in the emissions model that Jefferson and St. Charles were not part of the MO I/M program. Franklin County was previously excluded. Since March, there has been no action on this legislation.

**3. Amending the FY 2024 – 2027 Transportation Improvement Program and Conformity Determination – Missouri I-70 Improvement Project from Wentzville Parkway to Warrenton**  
- East-West Gateway Council of Governments

Last week, the IACG members were sent a write-up about amending FY 2024 – 2027 TIP for MoDOT's Improve I-70 project and conformity. The Missouri Department of Transportation (MoDOT) is designing/building the Improve I-70 project, which will widen the I-70 to six lanes across the state. The next portion of this project will be from Wentzville Parkway in Wentzville (St. Charles County) to Warrenton (Warren County). A segment of the I-70 widening is located within St. Charles County in the East-West Gateway (EWG) region from Wentzville Parkway to the Warren County line (west of Foristell).

MoDOT plans to issue the RFP for the design/build for the entirety of the Wentzville Parkway to Warrenton I-70 segment in July. Issuing an RFP is the trigger to obligate federal funds for design/build projects. MoDOT's selection of the design/build team is scheduled for late 2024.

In the FY 2024-2027 TIP/Connected 2050 Air Quality Conformity Determination (AQCD), this segment of I-70 is included in the 2023, 2025, 2030, and 2035 analysis years in EWG's travel demand model as four lanes, and for the 2045 and 2050 conformity analysis years as six lanes. The action/motor vehicle emissions budget tests from the FY 2024-2027 TIP/Connected 2050 AQCD were estimated to be markedly less than the motor vehicle emissions budgets for all conformity analysis years.

EWG will add the segment of I-70 with six lanes to the travel demand model for the 2030 and 2035 conformity analysis years as part of the regional emissions analysis for the conformity determination for the FY 2025-2028 TIP/Connected 2050 AQCD. The draft for public comment conformity determination should be completed in early to mid-June. The EWG Board of Directors will act on the FY 2025-2028 TIP/Connected 2050 AQCD at their August meeting. OneDOT concurrence on the conformity determination is anticipated to occur in late September/early October.

EWG did not want to be the hang-up for this important statewide project – conformity-wise. EWG staff is planning to amend the I-70 widening project into the FY 2024 – 2027 TIP at the June EWG Board of Directors meeting so that FHWA could conditionally approve and obligate the federal funds for the project based on the results of the draft FY 2025-2028 TIP/Connected 2050 AQCD and because the segment of I-70 is included in the 2045 and 2050 conformity analysis years of the FY 2024-2027 TIP/Connected 2050 AQCD. That way, MoDOT can move forward with issuing the RFP for the Wentzville to Warrenton Improve I-70 project.

EWG staff, FHWA MO, MoDOT, and EPA Region 7 met earlier this month and reached an agreement on a path forward and that there was not a conformity issue. There was consensus from the IACG on this approach.

#### **4. Other Business and Adjournment**

In March, Christie Holland discussed FHWA's GHG Emissions Performance Measure and its next steps. On March 27, the U.S. District Court of North Texas vacated and remanded the GHG final rule back to DOT/FHWA. States and MPOs are no longer required to develop performance measures. Stay tuned for FHWA's next steps.

There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned. The next meeting will be on May 28, 2024.