



December 23, 2020

To: Interagency Consultation Partners and Public
From: Raquel Pacheco, Regional Planner
Subject: **Availability of Draft 2021 FTIP, Draft 2018 RTP Amendment No. 1, and Draft Conformity Analysis for Interagency Consultation and Public Review**

Kern Council of Governments (Kern COG) is proposing a Draft 2021 Federal Transportation Improvement Program (2021 FTIP), Draft 2018 Regional Transportation Plan Amendment No. 1 (2018 RTP Amendment No. 1), and the corresponding Draft Conformity Analysis. Associated documentation is provided as indicated below.

- 2021 FTIP: Attachment 1 includes the 2021 FTIP, which is a near-term listing of capital improvement and operational expenditures utilizing federal and state monies for transportation projects in Kern County during the next four years.
- 2018 RTP Amendment No. 1: Attachment 2 includes a summary of the programming change to the 2018 RTP and corresponding financial table update. Draft 2018 RTP Amendment No. 1 is necessary to update the start date for a project in the Metropolitan Bakersfield area.
- Conformity Requirements: Attachment 3 includes the Draft Conformity Analysis, which supports a finding that the 2021 FTIP and 2018 RTP Amendment No. 1 meet air quality conformity requirements for ozone and particulate matter. The Draft Conformity Analysis also addresses upcoming conformity budgets in the SJV 2018 PM 2.5 plan addressing the 1997 and 2012 PM 2.5 standards that are currently undergoing EPA review. Should EPA act on these additional SIP elements, this conformity analysis includes an “upcoming budget test” in case the new transportation conformity budgets become available prior to federal approval of the 2021 FTIP.
- Public Involvement: Attachment 4 includes the Draft Public Notice and Adoption Resolution.

The public review and comment period is open for 30 days commencing on December 23, 2020 and ending on January 22, 2021. A public hearing will be held 6:30 P.M. January 21, 2021; comments are due by 5:00 P.M. January 22, 2021. These documents can also be viewed on the Kern COG website at www.kerncog.org

Kern Council of Governments Board of Directors will consider adoption of the Draft 2021 FTIP, 2018 RTP Amendment No. 1, and Draft Conformity Analysis 6:30 P.M. February 18, 2021. Kern COG Board meeting accessibility instructions will be posted to the Kern COG website no less than 72 hours prior to the meeting.

In conclusion, Draft 2021 FTIP, 2018 RTP Amendment No. 1, and Draft Conformity Analysis meet all applicable transportation planning requirements per 23 CFR Part 450, 40 CFR Part 93, and conforms to the applicable SIPs. If you have questions or would like to submit comments, please contact:

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Vincent Liu, (661) 635-2913 or vliu@kerncog.org, for the Conformity Analysis