

CMAQ COST-EFFECTIVENESS THRESHOLD DOCUMENTATION FOR THE KERN COG 2027 FTIP

The Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) program provides funding for transportation projects or programs that contribute to attainment or maintenance of the national ambient air quality standards. All San Joaquin Valley Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPOs) adopted policies in 2007 for distributing at least 20 percent of the CMAQ funds to projects that meet a cost-effectiveness threshold for emission reductions. For the 2027 Federal Transportation Improvement Program (FTIP), this applies to years 2026-2027 through 2029-2030. Kern Council of Governments (Kern COG) has made every effort to expend the minimum 20 percent funding for cost-effective projects over the course of the FTIP and the attached documentation demonstrates that Kern COG has met the 20 percent funding goal. Project eligibility continues to be based on federal CMAQ guidance.

Emission benefits and cost-effectiveness calculations are based on the applicable pollutants for the region, including the components of ozone (nitrogen oxides (NO_x) and reactive organic gases (ROG) and particulate matter (PM). The “Methods to Find the Cost-Effectiveness of Funding Air Quality Projects” document developed by the California Air Resources Board (CARB) is currently the appropriate methodology for calculating cost-effectiveness. In addition, FHWA has published “CMAQ Improvement Program Cost-Effectiveness Tables and Development Methodology” on December 3, 2015, and updated on July 20, 2020 and this methodology will be used to establish project eligibility for project types not addressed in the state guidance. Another appropriate cost-effectiveness calculation methodology may be used upon consultation with IAC partners. Cost-effectiveness is expressed as dollars spent per pound of pollutant reduced (ROG + NO_x + PM_{2.5} + PM₁₀). The cost-effectiveness threshold for the 2027 FTIP is \$88 per pound (\$176,000/ton) and is based on CMAQ dollars only, not total project cost.

Kern COG has identified, through existing programmed projects in those years or other selection methods, projects that qualify for the cost-effectiveness policy. The Kern COG Congestion Mitigation Air Quality Program Policy provides the scoring criteria developed in consultation with local jurisdictions and transit agencies in Kern County. The Kern COG Board of Directors approved the Kern COG Congestion Mitigation Air Quality Program Policy November 17, 2016. The Kern COG Board of Directors approved the Kern COG CMAQ Local Cost-Effectiveness Policy September 20, 2007.

Kern COG issued a call for projects in March 2025 that incorporated the CMAQ cost effectiveness policy to identify at least 20% of the CMAQ funds for projects that meet a cost-effectiveness threshold of \$88 per pound. The call for projects was initiated to program \$12,778,256 CMAQ funds in fiscal year 26/27 and \$14,461,584 CMAQ funds in fiscal year 27/28. Based on the CMAQ Policy approved by the Kern COG Board, Kern COG will allocate a minimum of \$5.4 million of those funds to projects that meet the cost effectiveness threshold. A draft CMAQ Program of Projects was circulated for review December 31, 2025 to the Transportation Technical Advisory Committee and presented on January 15, 2026 to the Transportation Planning Policy Committee. The Kern COG Board approved the final CMAQ Program of Projects February 19, 2026. Kern COG then incorporated the approved

program of projects into the 2025 Federal Transportation Improvement Program via amendments and Draft 2027 Federal Transportation Improvement Program.

As stated in the Cost-Effectiveness Policy, Kern COG has agreed to post information related to the implementation of the cost-effectiveness CMAQ policy on its website. Attached is documentation that fulfills this requirement and demonstrates that Kern COG has estimated the amount of funding in the 2027 FTIP necessary to meet the 20 percent cost-effectiveness goal and provided a summary of the CMAQ projects that meet the minimum cost-effectiveness threshold.

CMAQ Cost-Effectiveness Documentation for the Kern Council of Governments 2027 FTIP

<u>Year</u>	<u>Estimated CMAQ Apportionments</u>	<u>20 Percent Minimum</u>
FY 2026-2027	\$12,778,256	\$2,555,651
FY 2027-2028	\$14,461,584	\$2,892,317
FY 2028-2029		\$0
FY 2029-2030		\$0
Totals	\$27,239,840	\$5,447,968

<u>Year</u>	<u>FTIP ID</u>	<u>Agency</u>	<u>Project Description</u>	<u>CMAQ Funding Amount</u>	<u>Estimated Cost-Effectiveness⁽¹⁾</u>
2026-2027	KER260501	Kern COG	In Kern County: CommuteKern Rideshare Program	\$314,780	\$41.53
2027-2028	KER260501	Kern COG	In Kern County: CommuteKern Rideshare Program	\$336,341	\$40.48
2026-2027	KER260510	Delano	Delano: Timmons Avenue from Garces Hwy to Contessa Avenue; Pave westside unpaved shoulders and Timmons Ave from Garces Hwy to Camino Real Drive; Pave eastside unpaved shoulders	\$154,742	\$15.33
2027-2028	KER260510	Delano	Delano: Cecil Ave from Melcher Rd to Lytle Ave; Pave unpaved shoulders	\$442,625	\$2.17
2026-2027 2027-2028	KER260510	Kern County	Kern County: Rosedale Hwy (North Side) from 0.2-miles west of Renfro Rd to Allen Rd; Pave unpaved shoulder, ADA upgrades and other ancillary facilities	\$5,502,833	\$35.63
2026-2027	KER260510	Kern County	Kern County: Fruitvale Ave from Rosedale Hwy to Hageman Rd and Downing Ave from Fruitvale Ave to Henry Ln; Pave unpaved shoulder, ADA upgrades and ancillary facilities	\$3,137,236	\$58.82
2027-2028	KER260510	Shafter	Shafter: E Lerdo Hwy from Beech Ave to Cherry Ave; Pave unpaved shoulders	\$649,999	\$4.87
2026-2027 2027-2028	KER260510	Tehachapi	Tehachapi: E Tehachapi Blvd from 950 Ft east of Bailey Ct to Pilot Travel Center; pave southside unpaved shoulders	\$424,013	\$24.76
Total CMAQ Funding Amount				\$10,962,569	
CMAQ Cost-Effectiveness Goal				\$5,447,968	
CMAQ Cost-Effectiveness Goal Met?				YES	
Percent of CMAQ Funds Awarded to Cost-Effective Projects				40%	

(1) Cost-effectiveness for each project identified as meeting the cost effectiveness threshold must be below \$88 per pound, or \$176,000 per ton.