

## Air Quality Subcommittee (AQS) Meeting Notes

August 14, 2014

### Attendees (Teleconference)

Greg Beacoat, EPA  
Kevin Black, FHWA  
Deanna Cuccinello, DNREC  
Marc Dixon, FHWA  
Gene Donaldson, DelDOT  
Heather Dunigan, WILMAPCO  
Mike DuRoss, DelDOT  
Jim Galvin, D/KC MPO  
Tamika Graham, WILMAPCO  
Valerie Gray, DNREC  
Molla Sarros, MDE  
Jack Sipple, DNREC  
Cathy Smith, DTC  
Bill Swiatek, WILMAPCO

### Proposed FY 2015 CMAQ Spending

- Mr. Swiatek provided an overview of this agenda item.
- Handouts: *Listing of WILMAPCO CMAQ priority projects; Proposed CMAQ spending in Delaware packet, including: July 10, 2014 letter to Tigist Zegeye (WILMAPCO) from Bill Geronimo (DelDOT) regarding proposed STP, FTA Urbanized Area, CMAQ, 5310, and Transportation Enhancement Program funding; ITMS FY 2015 Obligation Plan; August 5, 2014 e-mail from Bill Geronimo to Heather Dunigan (WILMAPCO) regarding details about ITMS and TE funding; Spend Plan for Statewide Trail Program (FY 2013 – FY 2015); listing of TE projects; map of C and D Canal Recreational Trail Project; Proposed PM 2.5 Weighted Population Determination and PM 2.5 Set Aside Calculation*
- Mr. Swiatek provided a general review of CMAQ and the WILMAPCO CMAQ Prioritization Process. He then reviewed a July 10 letter from DelDOT regarding proposed CMAQ spending. The following projects were included:
  - o Bike and pedestrian improvements: \$1.25 million
  - o Rideshare: \$360,000
  - o Transit Vehicle Expansion: \$1,466,900
  - o Industrial Track Greenway phase 3: \$800,000

- Statewide Transportation Management Improvements: \$3 million
- Mr. Donaldson reviewed the elements of the ITMS proposal. He agreed with WILMAPCO's early assessment that some components – namely, "ITMS Planning and Engineering," "ITMS TMC Systems," and "ITMS field device support – civil air patrol" are not appropriate for CMAQ spending. He said these will be switched to the STP category. With that change, the group agreed that other elements of the ITMS proposal were CMAQ eligible.
- Mr. Swiatek reviewed available details about the nonmotorized and transit projects. He noted a concern with the C & D Canal Recreational Trail project – in that while there are some transportation elements (as required by CMAQ) the Trail seems to be more recreational in nature, given surrounding land uses. FHWA has already determined that it is CMAQ eligible, however. The group took no issue with the bicycle and pedestrian improvements, the transit vehicle expansion, and the Industrial Track Greenway.
- Mr. Swiatek noted that Ms. Gray had a concern about the eligibility of Rideshare. The project has been in existence for nearly two decades – long past the cutoff date for operational spending. Additional detail for the project was not readily available. Ms. Smith agreed to provide additional details about this project. The AQS suspended its support of the Rideshare program until details proving its eligibility are provided.
- Ms. Gray noted several general concerns with CMAQ:
  - Overall amount available for CMAQ spending is unclear.
  - Some projects are statewide, and breakouts for what will be spent by County are not evident.
  - Emissions benefits by project are not presented.
  - Clearer project descriptions for bicycle and pedestrian projects are needed.
- Mr. Swiatek agreed that these are all problems, and that we must continue to work to resolve them.
- Mr. Dixon reviewed the proposed PM 2.5 Weighted Population Determination and PM 2.5 Set Aside Calculation. This would add additional weight for CMAQ projects in counties that are in nonattainment or maintenance for PM2.5. More details: <http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2014-08-04/pdf/2014-17786.pdf>

## New Castle County PM2.5 Attainment

- Mr. Beacoat provided an overview of this agenda item.
- Handouts: *none*
- Mr. Beacoat said that EPA has approved the PM 2.5 attainment request for New Castle County – effective in September. New Castle County will now be in PM 2.5 Maintenance.
- From a conformity standpoint, not much changes. The budgets established for 1997 and 2006 for PM 2.5 are the budgets that must be tested against. Conformity must be shown for 20 years – two 10 year maintenance plans. More information: <http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2014-08-05/pdf/2014-18205.pdf>

## Other

- Mr. Swiatek said that the NTAQS conference will be held on August 19 and 20 in Pittsburgh.
- Mr. Swiatek thanked Mr. Simons for putting together a draft Cecil County Conformity document.
- Mr. Swiatek noted that WILMAPCO's Our Town outreach event will be on September 3. The draft air quality conformity results will be presented, along with information about the long range plan update and an exploration of transportation funding difficulties.