



charlotte regional **transportation** planning organization

**TO:** CRTPO Delegates & Alternates  
**FROM:** Neil Burke, AICP, PTP Secretary  
**DATE:** March 18, 2020

**SUBJECT:** **East-West Connector Conformity Analysis and MTP/TIP Amendments**

## **REQUEST**

Open a public comment period on an air quality conformity determination and amendments to the 2045 MTP and the 2020-2029 TIP for the East-West Connector project (U-6239) in Mooresville.

## **BACKGROUND**

- The Town of Mooresville was awarded a \$13.6 million federal BUILD grant to construct the East-West Connector from Langtree Road to NC 115 in November of 2019.
- The North Carolina Board of Transportation approved 2018-2027 and 2020-2029 STIP amendments during its meeting on February 6 to program the funding for the East- West Connector project (U-6239) to the FFY 2021 program year.
- The East-West Connector is included in the 2035 horizon year of the CRTPO's 2045 Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP).
- The project was classified as "not regionally significant" but "not exempt" from air quality conformity analysis in the 2045 MTP.

## **2045 MTP AMENDMENT**

- An amendment to the 2045 MTP will be required to move the East-West Connector project from the 2035 horizon year to the 2025 horizon year as a result of the project schedule funding of FFY 2021 in the STIP.

## **2020-2029 TIP AMENDMENT**

- An amendment to the 2020-2029 TIP will be required to program the funding for the East-West Connector project in FFY 2021.

## **CONFORMITY DETERMINATION**

- A "short form" conformity determination report is required to ensure that the Metrolina SIP budget has an adequate emissions budget to incorporate the East-West Connector project within the 2025 horizon year of the 2045 MTP.
- A regional emissions analysis is not required because the East-West Connector was classified as "not regionally significant" in the 2045 MTP.

## **SCHEDULE**

- March 18: CRTPO Board requested to open public comment period on the conformity determination, and amendments to the 2045 MTP and 2020-2029 TIP
- March 19-April 19: 30-day public comment period and interagency consultation process with DAQ, FHWA, NCDOT, and CRTPO staff
- May 7: TCC action requested to recommend the CRTPO Board make an air quality conformity determination and approve amendments to the 2045 MTP and 2020- 2029 TIP
- May 20: CRTPO Board action requested to make an air quality conformity determination and approve amendments to the 2045 MTP and 2020-2029 TIP
- May 22-June 22: Final draft conformity determination review by FHWA
- June 23: USDOT Conformity Determination