

# Appendix J Air Quality Conformity Letter

---

**THIS PAGE INTENTIONALLY LEFT BLANK.**



U.S. Department  
of Transportation  
**Federal Highway  
Administration**

**Federal Highway Administration  
California Division**

March 31, 2010

650 Capitol Mall, Suite 4-100  
Sacramento, CA 95814  
(916) 498-5001  
(916) 498-5008 (fax)

In Reply Refer To:  
HDA-CA  
EA 0A7100

Bijan Sartipi, District Director  
California Department of Transportation  
111 Grand Avenue  
P.O. Box 23360  
Oakland, CA 94612

Attention: Allen Baradar, Chief of Environmental Engineering

Dear Mr. Baradar:

SUBJECT: FHWA Project Level Conformity Determination for the I-880 Operational and Safety Improvements at 23<sup>rd</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup> Avenue Overcrossings

On March 1, 2010, the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) submitted to the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) a request for a project level conformity determination for the I-880 operational and safety improvements project at the 23rd and 29th Avenue overcrossings in Alameda County. The project is in an area that is designated Nonattainment for Ozone and PM 2.5 and Maintenance for Carbon Monoxide (CO). While the area is designated as non-attainment for PM2.5, transportation conformity requirements are not effective and therefore do not apply until December 14, 2010.

The project level conformity analysis submitted by Caltrans indicates that the transportation conformity requirements of 40 C.F.R. Part 93 have been met. The project is included in the Metropolitan Transportation Commission's (MTC) currently conforming *Transportation 2035 Plan (RTP)* and the *2009 Regional Transportation Improvement Program (RTIP)*. The current conformity determinations for the RTP and RTIP were approved by FHWA and the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) on May 29, 2009. The design concept and scope of the preferred alternative have not changed significantly from those assumed in the regional emissions analysis.

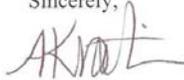
As required by 40 C.F.R. 93.116 and 93.123, the localized CO analyses are included in the documentation. The CO hotspot analysis was conducted using the *Transportation Project-Level Carbon Monoxide Protocol*. The analyses demonstrate that the project will not create any new violation of the standards or increase the severity or number of existing violations.



Based on the information provided, FHWA finds that the Conformity Determination for the I-880 Operational and Safety Improvements at the 23<sup>rd</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup> Avenue Overcrossings project in Alameda County conforms to the State Implementation Plan (SIP) in accordance with 40 C.F.R. Part 93.

If you have any questions pertaining to this conformity finding, please contact Stew Sonnenberg, FHWA Air Quality Specialist, at (916) 498-5889.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "AKM", with a horizontal line extending to the right.

For  
Vincent Mammano  
Acting Division Administrator

---

cc: (email)  
Glenn Kinoshita, Caltrans D-4  
Mike Brady, Caltrans HQ  
Aimee Kratovil, FHWA

SSonnenberg/ac