

Improving Air Quality Through Land Use Activities: Transportation Conformity

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Including Land Use Policies in the Conformity Determination

- What is a conformity determination?
- How is conformity demonstrated?
- Does the guidance impose new requirements on conformity?

Relationship to the SIP

- If the land use activity is included in the SIP, it must be included in subsequent conformity determinations
- Land use activities can be accounted for in a conformity determination without having them in the SIP

Including Land Use Activities in Conformity Determinations

- Land use assumptions
 - Reasonable
 - Based on best available information
 - Consistent with planned transportation system
- Assurance that land use activity will occur
- Interagency consultation

Including Land Use Activities in Conformity Determinations

- Control Strategies

- Requires regulatory actions
 - Adopted, in SIP, or written commitment
- Doesn't require regulatory action
 - Written commitment

Land Use Assumption Versus Control Strategy

- Primary purpose to improve air quality?
- Primary purpose to reduce emissions for conformity analysis?

Other Considerations

- “Double counting”
- Activity is too small to have an impact on travel demand modeling
- Area doesn't use travel demand model

Accounting for Land Use Activities through Conformity

- Conformity must be redetermined every three years
- Conformity looks at the effects of land use further into the future
- Reductions surplus to SIP
- Changes in land use activity

More Information on Conformity:

- Please visit the FHWA website at:

www.fhwa.dot.gov/environment/conform.htm