

Questions and Answers

Session #12: Air Quality and the 2018 Court Ruling

June 13, 2018

- Q. Many projects are being either accelerated or delayed. How much does the schedule have to shift in order to trigger conformity and an amendment to the MTP / TIP?**
- A. *If you are accelerating or delaying your project within the first four years of the TIP / STIP, then there are no conformity implications. However, if you are advancing a project that is currently outside of the first four year window into that time frame, then there could be conformity implications. Likewise, if a project that is currently included in the first four years of the TIP / STIP gets pushed outside of that window, then there could be conformity implications. If you have any questions related to conformity implications, please contact Eddie Dancausse (FHWA) or Heather Hildebrandt (NCDOT).*
- Q. Does this apply to federally funded projects only?**
- A. *It applies to federally-funded projects, and also applies to state funded, regionally significant projects. A regionally significant project is a principal arterial or greater, or a project that meets regional transportation needs, such as a sporting complex, concert venue, or a large business park.*
- Q. What is meant by the term “donut area”?**
- A. *A “donut” area is when the non-attainment area (or maintenance area) is larger than the MPO area. An area that is outside of the MPO boundary, but up to the non-attainment area is considered the “donut”.*
- Q. If there are no changes to the scope of the project, can we move forward with environmental document approval?**
- A. *Yes, that is correct.*