

2012 Spokane Region Metropolitan Transportation Plan ***Summary of Assumptions for Air Quality Analysis***

Transportation Model Assumptions

The transportation modeling will include the latest planning assumptions as outlined in “SRTC Travel Forecasting Documentation” previously reviewed by the interagency consultation group on the October 20, 2011 conference call.

Transportation Networks

The transportation networks for the conformity modeling include the existing transportation network and projects from the Spokane Metropolitan Planning Area MTP 2011-2035. The analysis years are 2008, 2015, 2025, and 2035.

Selecting Projects to be Modeled

Projects which are on, or affect, the regional transportation network are included in the transportation model. This includes any roadway projects that add or modify capacity. Also included are non-roadway projects such as increased transit service and non-motorized projects. SRTC staff will determine the modelability of all projects

Emissions Model

For the CO air quality conformity analysis, EPA’s MOBILE6.2 will be used, with the most current vehicle registrations, fuel properties, and Inspection and Maintenance (I/M) settings from Washington State Department of Ecology. The key assumptions used in these input files are as follows:

- Vehicle registrations are assumed to have the same distribution in the future, i.e., the same fraction of age 1, age 2, etc. vehicles.
- Current gasoline contains 10% ethanol; the same assumption was made for the future year runs.
- Gasoline RVP was held constant for all years, and is based on recent estimates provided by Ecology.
- Fuel sulfur content is consistent with current fuel regulations.
- Inspection and Maintenance (I/M) program parameters were provided by Ecology; since the program will terminate in 2019 all runs after 2020 did not include the I/M program.

Interagency Consultation

Interagency consultation meeting dates and a brief description of the topics discussed at each meeting are as follows:

October 11, 2011 – interim MTP update timeline and the financial plan

October 20, 2011 – planning assumptions and the financial plan

November 10, 2011 – draft financial plan, project list, and air quality assumptions

Consistency with Motor Vehicle Emissions Budget

The 2002 emissions budget for the Spokane CO maintenance area is 279 tons per winter day, effective February 14, 2005 (Federal Register: January 28, 2005 (Volume 70, Number 18)).