

## **AIR QUALITY RESOLUTION FOR THE SHENANGO VALLEY AREA TRANSPORTATION STUDY**

*Conformity of the Transportation Improvement Program in Accordance with the Clean Air Act Amendments of 1990, existing associated regulations at 40 CFR Parts 51 and 93 and the South Coast II decision, according to EPA's Transportation Conformity Guidance for the South Coast II Court Decision issued on November 29, 2018.*

**WHEREAS**, the Congress of the United States enacted the Clean Air Act Amendments of 1990 which were signed into law and became effective on November 15, 1990, hereafter referred to as "the CAAA"; and,

**WHEREAS**, transportation plans and programs are required to conform to the purposes of the State Implementation Plan and Sections 174 and 176 (c and d) of the CAAA (42 U.S.C. §§ 7504 and 7506(c)–(d)); and,

**WHEREAS** effective July 15, 2004, the Youngstown-Warren-Boardman OH-PA Metropolitan Area, which includes Mercer County, was designated by EPA as a nonattainment area under the 1997 8-hour ozone NAAQS; and,

**WHEREAS**, on July 25, 2007, the aforementioned Metropolitan Area was re-designated under the 1997 8-hour ozone standard as an attainment (maintenance) area by EPA with motor vehicle emissions budgets (MVEBs) established in the State Implementation Plan (SIP) maintenance plan revision; and,

**WHEREAS**, on April 6, 2015, EPA revoked the 1997 8-hour ozone NAAQS for all purposes and established anti-backsliding requirements for areas that remain designated nonattainment for the revoked NAAQS; and,

**WHEREAS**, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit issued a decision in *South Coast Air Quality Management District v. EPA* on February 16, 2018 addressing air quality requirements for former 1997 ozone areas, and this region was maintenance for the 1997 ozone standard at the time the 1997 ozone revocation in 2015. An air quality analysis and conformity determination of the TIP for the 1997 ozone standard has also been prepared. This conformity determination demonstrates that the requirements of 40 CFR Part 93 are met; and,

**WHEREAS**, the Shenango Valley Area Transportation Study (SVATS), the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for Mercer County, Pennsylvania, is responsible for the development of transportation plans and programs in accordance with Section 134 of Title 23, which requires coordination and public participation with the State DOT; and,

**WHEREAS**, the final conformity rule (and subsequent amendments) requires that the SVATS MPO Coordinating Committee determines that the transportation plans and programs conform with the CAAA requirements by meeting the criteria described in the final rule and applicable federal regulations.

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the SVATS MPO Coordinating Committee has found that the regional (Mercer County) Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) and Long-Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) contribute to the achievement and maintenance of the national ambient air quality standards; and,

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**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT** the SVATS MPO Coordinating Committee finds that the TIP and LRTP are consistent with the final conformity rule and subsequent amendments.

I hereby certify that this Resolution was adopted by the Coordinating Committee on June 16, 2026.

*ATTEST:*

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MPO Chairperson, Jeremy P. Coxe

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MPO Executive Director, Doniele J. Russell