

**Fact Sheet: City of Yakima Overview of 2002 Application
for Congestion Mitigation Air Quality (CMAQ) Funds
Council of Governments Metropolitan Planning Organization Meeting of 11-19-01**

- The City of Yakima application is for \$310,000 of FY 2002 funding from the Congestion Mitigation Air Quality (CMAQ).
- Subject of the application is Phase 2 of the CBD Signal Enhancement Project which includes 16 of the 40 CBD signalized intersections. Phase 1 of the project is currently under construction and will upgrade 24 of the 40 signalized intersections.
- For each of the 40 signalized intersections the upgrade includes new signal controllers (computers and cabinets); video cameras for vehicle detection and buttons for pedestrian actuation. These improvements will allow each traffic signal to respond to the presence of actual vehicle traffic and pedestrians, rather than the current “fixed time” system.
- In order to get Yakima County qualified to receive CMAQ funding, the City of Yakima worked closely with the Clean Air Authority to develop the “Limited Maintenance Plan for Carbon Monoxide”. City of Yakima traffic improvements to these 40 CBD intersections were modeled and showed an estimate of 17% reduction of Carbon Monoxide vehicle emissions by eliminating the unnecessary delay caused by the current “fixed time” system. A more efficient traffic flow pattern results in improved air quality and lower Carbon Monoxide emissions.
- In March, 2001, the City of Yakima received \$1,087,000 in CMAQ funding to begin Phase 1 improvements. This first CMAQ allocation represented 1999 – 2001 funding available to Yakima which had been held in an account until a qualified Limited Maintenance Plan, with transportation mitigation measures was submitted.
- An additional \$1.5 million was received by the City of Yakima from Washington State Department of Transportation Corridor Congestion Program to match the CMAQ funds. Additionally, the City of Yakima was able to use the remaining Public Works Trust Fund from the Yakima Avenue YR 2000 Grind and Overlay program to repair sidewalks and other concrete work related to the signal project.
- With the requested \$310,000 the first two phases of construction will be secured and significant traffic flow enhancements will occur. Additional funding will need to be identified to install the fiber optic signal interconnect system in Phase 3 for efficiency and improved maintenance.
- Portions of the Yakima Urban Area are included in the Non-attainment area for Particulate Matter of 10 microns (PM10) for which no Limited Maintenance Plan has been developed. Over the past two years there has been some discussion about the use of CMAQ funding for PM10 projects. The Yakima County Conference of Governments is seeking clarification on this matter.
- In order to have any project qualified for CMAQ funding, the project must already be listed on the jurisdiction 6-Year Plan, the Regional Transportation Plan or in some other official planning document. This is a Federal requirement for receiving the CMAQ funds. The City of Yakima CBD Project is listed on the 6-year Plan, the Regional Transportation Plan and the need recognized in the current Transportation element of the Comprehensive Plan.