

# Memorandum

To: Chairman and Commissioners

Date: March 14, 2001

From: Robert I. Remen

File No:  
Book Item 2.1e(2)  
Action

Ref: Project Application Approval for San Joaquin Regional Rail Commission's - Altamont Commuter Express (ACE) Station Improvement Projects

## Issue:

1. Should the Commission approve the San Joaquin County Council of Governments' request to change applicant status for Proposition 116 Rail Bond funds under PUC Section 99644 to San Joaquin Regional Rail Commission? The San Joaquin Regional Rail Commission has accepted applicant status from San Joaquin County COG to apply for \$173,659 in Proposition 116 funds.
2. Should the Commission approve the San Joaquin Regional Rail Commission's Proposition 116 application for capital improvements to three ACE stations in San Joaquin County?

The total project cost is \$347,400, which includes \$173,659 in Proposition 116 Bond funds and \$173,740 in Measure K matching funds. The following are the total amounts for the SJRRC's request for Proposition 116 funds by project element breakdown:

- \$75,400 – Stockton Station improvements;
- \$125,000 - Lathrop/Manteca Station improvements; and
- \$137,000 - Tracy Station improvements
- \$ 10,000 - San Joaquin RRC HQ - security camera equipment

A cost savings of \$12,859 and availability of \$160,800 from the completed San Joaquin County Council of Governments' Stockton-Livermore Corridor Preliminary Engineering and Economic Study project provides a total of \$173,659 to be programmed to this project, which is located within the San Joaquin Region. (See Item 2.1e(1))

## Recommendation:

Commission staff has reviewed the San Joaquin Regional Rail Commission's Proposition 116 application, as well as subsequent clarifications that appear to meet all basic requirements specified in Proposition 116, as well as the Commission's policies and guidelines. Staff recommends that the Commission approve the attached resolution, which would grant approval of the San Joaquin Regional Rail Commission's Proposition 116 application for capital improvements to three ACE stations in San Joaquin County.

## Background:

Proposition 116 in PUC Section 99644 authorizes \$14,000,000 to the San Joaquin Council of Governments for expenditure for rail projects along the Stockton-Manteca-Tracy corridor to the Alameda County line, including \$300,000 for a preliminary engineering and economic study of passenger rail service along the Stockton-Livermore (Altamont) corridor.

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In September 1991, the Commission approved PA-91-0B for the San Joaquin County Council of Governments in the amount of \$300,000 for the Stockton-Livermore Preliminary Engineering and Economic Study project, which included \$139,200 for preliminary engineering and an economic study, and \$160,800 for an Altamont corridor study. Both elements of the project have been completed either with other funds or with a cost savings resulting in a remaining balance of \$173,659.

The San Joaquin County Council of Governments has requested a change in applicant status to the San Joaquin Regional Rail Commission (SJRRRC) and the SJRRRC has accepted the change in applicant status to expend the remaining \$173,659 on San Joaquin county projects along the Altamont Corridor. In February 2001, the San Joaquin Regional Rail Commission submitted a Proposition 116 application requesting the \$173,659 made available from the Stockton-Livermore Preliminary Engineering and Economic Study project.

The San Joaquin Regional Rail Commission is one of three agencies that formed a JPA to operate the Altamont Commuter Express (ACE) train service. The ACE train starts in San Joaquin County travels through Alameda County, and completes the trip in Santa Clara County. The SJRRRC is responsible for maintaining and improving each of the three train stations located in San Joaquin County. The stations are located in Stockton, Manteca and Tracy.

Capital improvements to the three stations will include, but not limited to, installing ticket kiosks, increasing the number of ticket validation machines, providing passenger shelters, installing security cameras, providing parking lot and station signage, and adding some landscape upgrades and bicycle lockers at the Lathrop/Manteca and Tracy stations.

In summary, the approval of the attached resolution will authorize \$173,659 in Proposition 116 funds (PUC Section 99644) for the SJRRRC's Altamont Commuter Express (ACE) Station Improvements project.

CALIFORNIA TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

Commission Project Application Approval  
San Joaquin Regional Rail Commission  
Proposition 116 Application for the  
Altamont Commuter Express (ACE) Station Improvements

Resolution PA-00-

- 1.1 WHEREAS, in June 1990 the voters approved Proposition 116, the Clean Air and Transportation Improvement Act, for \$1.99 billion for rail and mass transportation purposes; and
- 1.2 WHEREAS, the California Transportation Commission is designated in Proposition 116 to oversee the five grant programs over the 20-year term of the Proposition; and
- 1.3 WHEREAS, Proposition 116 calls for the Commission to establish an application process and to develop and adopt guidelines to implement those programs; and
- 1.4 WHEREAS, Proposition 116 establishes as a purpose of the application process that it "facilitate implementation of improved cost-effective transit service to the maximum number of Californians and to prevent the funds provided for by this part from being spent on needlessly costly features"; and
- 1.5 WHEREAS, Proposition 116 requires applications to specify full and complete capital plans, financial plans, and operating plans, including schedules and funding sources; and
- 1.6 WHEREAS, the financial plans include a back-up funding plan, should the project exceed the cost approved by the Commission the increased cost shall be covered by funds other than Proposition 116; and
- 1.7 WHEREAS, the Commission has established a Hazardous Waste Identification and Clean-up Policy (#G-91-2) that requires the local agency to have performed full due diligence in identifying the hazardous waste in the right-of-way and easements and properties as well as clean-up, and that the state has been indemnified from clean-up liability of damages, both present and future; and
- 1.8 WHEREAS, in December 1990 the Commission adopted policy and application guidelines (#G-90-23) for the Proposition 116 rail program; and
- 1.9 WHEREAS, Proposition 116 (PUC Section 99644) authorizes \$14,000,000 to the San Joaquin County Council of Governments for expenditure for rail projects along the Stockton-Manteca-Tracy corridor to the Alameda County line; and
- 1.10 WHEREAS, in February 2001, the San Joaquin County Council of Governments requested that its applicant status be transferred to the San Joaquin Regional Rail Commission for its remaining Proposition 116 Rail Bond funds under PUC Section 99644 and the San Joaquin Regional Rail Commission has accepted the change in applicant status; and

- 1.11 WHEREAS, in February 2001, the San Joaquin Regional Rail Commission submitted a Proposition 116 application requesting \$173,659 in Proposition 116 Rail Bond funds (PUC Section 99644) for the Altamont Commuter Express (ACE) Station Improvements project; and
- 2.1 BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED, that the Commission hereby approves the February 2001, request from the San Joaquin County Council of Governments to transfer its applicant status to the San Joaquin Regional Rail Commission and the San Joaquin Regional Rail Commission's acceptance; and
- 2.2 BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED, that the Commission hereby approves the February 2001 Proposition 116 application from the San Joaquin Regional Rail Commission in the amount of \$173,659 for its Altamont Commuter Express (ACE) Station Improvements project, which includes capital improvements at the Stockton, Lathrop/Manteca and Tracy Stations, as well as security equipment at the San Joaquin RRC headquarters; and
- 2.4 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a Proposition 116 project approval by the Commission reserves the State funding within the Program, and allows project development work to be undertaken by the applicant agency, which will be subject to state reimbursement pursuant to the Commission's "Guidelines for Allocating, Monitoring, and Auditing Funds for Local Assistance Projects" and subsequent fund transfer agreement.