

State of California
Business, Transportation and Housing Agency
Department of Transportation

POLICY MATTERS
TCRA Exchange Program Applications
Information Item

Prepared By:
Terry Abbott
Acting Chief
Division of Local Assistance
(916) 653-1776

CTC Meeting: May 2-3, 2001

Agenda Item: 4.4

Original Signed by _____

W. J. EVANS
Chief Financial Officer
May 1, 2001

SUBMISSION OF EXCHANGE PROGRAM APPLICATIONS
TRAFFIC CONGESTION RELIEF ACT EXCHANGE PROGRAM

SUMMARY

At its February 2001 meeting, the California Transportation Commission (Commission) adopted the Traffic Congestion Relief Act (TCRA) Exchange Program Guidelines. The TCRA Exchange Program was established by Chapter 91, Statutes of 2000, Streets & Highways Code, Section 182.8. This program provides regional agencies with the ability to exchange a portion of their locally controlled federal Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) and/or Regional Surface Transportation Program (RSTP) funds for state funds from the Traffic Congestion Relief Fund (TCRF). On March 1, 2001, regional agencies were notified of the amount available for the TCRA Exchange Program for federal fiscal year 2001/02. Applications to exchange funds were to be submitted to the Commission with a copy to the Department of Transportation (Department) by April 16, 2001.

Applications were received from the following two regional agencies: Transportation Agency for Monterey County (TAMC) and Santa Cruz County Regional Transportation Commission (SCRTC). These agencies have requested a total exchange of \$1.6 million in CMAQ apportionments. State fund payments to the regional agencies for the exchanged federal apportionments would be \$1.2 million. The Department can obligate up to \$291.7 million of exchanged federal funds. The applications to participate in the TCRA Exchange Program fall within this amount.

The Department will concurrently review all applications and forward recommendations to the Commission no later than May 21, 2001. The Department will present recommendations for approval of the applications at the Commission's June 2001 meeting. The Commission must review and approve exchange applications before the end of the State fiscal year.