

Memorandum

To: CHAIR AND COMMISSIONERS

CTC Meeting: March 2-3, 2004

Reference No.: 2.1c.(4)

Action Item

From: CINDY McKIM
Chief Financial Officer

Prepared by: Ross A. Chittenden
Division Chief
Transportation Programming

Ref: **TRAFFIC CONGESTION RELIEF (TCR) PROGRAM LETTER OF NO PREJUDICE
APPROVALS
RESOLUTION TL-05-01**

ISSUE:

Riverside County Transportation Commission requests approval of the attached Resolution for one AB 1335 Letter of No Prejudice (Letter) request for \$21,000,000 for Phase 4 – Construction for Traffic Congestion Relief (TCR) Project #63 – Route 60; add seven mile of HOV lanes west of Riverside, Route 15 to Valley Way in Riverside County.

RECOMMENDATION:

The California Department of Transportation (Department) recommends approval.

BACKGROUND:

Government Code Section 14556.33 allows an applicant agency, that is either a regional or local entity, to seek approval of an AB 1335 Letter of No Prejudice (Letter). If approved by the California Transportation Commission (Commission), the Letter allows the applicant agency to expend its own funds for any component of the transportation project, and seek allocation and reimbursement from the Traffic Congestion Relief Fund in future years. On August 14, 2003, the Commission approved Resolution G-03-12 adopting the Guidelines for Letter of No Prejudice, Traffic Congestion Relief Program (Guidelines).

Attachment

CALIFORNIA TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION
Approval of Traffic Congestion Relief Program
Letters of No Prejudice

RESOLUTION TL-05-01

- 1.1 WHEREAS the Traffic Congestion Relief Act of 2000 (herein after referred to as “statute”), which was established by Chapters 91 (AB 2928) and 656 (SB 1662) of the Statutes of 2000, establishes the Traffic Congestion Relief Program, providing \$5.39 billion for projects throughout the State of California to reduce traffic congestion, provide for safe and efficient movement of goods, and provide system connectivity; and
- 1.2 WHEREAS in accordance with Government Code Section 14556.11 the California Transportation Commission (Commission) has adopted guidelines, in consultation with the Department of Transportation (Department) and regional agencies, to implement the Traffic Congestion Relief (TCR) Program; and
- 1.3 WHEREAS Government Code Section 14556.33, established by Chapter 908 (AB1335) of the Statutes of 2001 allows the California Transportation Commission (Commission) to establish guidelines regarding AB 1335 Letter of No Prejudice (Letter) approval for lead applicant agencies allowing the regional or local entity to expend its own funds for any component of said agency’s TCR project; and
- 1.4 WHEREAS on August 14, 2003, the Commission adopted the Guidelines for Letter of No Prejudice, Traffic Congestion Relief Program (Guidelines), allowing applicant agencies to seek alternate sources of funding under Resolution G-03-12; and
- 1.5 WHEREAS within the Letter request, the applicant agencies identify the alternate local funds that will be substituted for TCRP funds and provide a demonstration that the stated alternate funds are available; and
- 1.6 WHEREAS those Letter requests for construction or procurement phase of a project that expands or extends transit service (rail, bus, or ferry), are accompanied by demonstration by applicant agency of financial capability to operate the expanded service once the project has been completed; and
- 1.7 WHEREAS those Letter requests for capital phases (right of way and/or construction) are accompanied by documentation of Commission review of the Final Environmental Document, as appropriate, and approval for consideration of future funding; and
- 1.8 WHEREAS the Commission, with assistance from the Department, has reviewed and finds the following submitted TCR project Letter request to comply with the statute and guidelines.
- 2.1 NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED the Commission does hereby approve the following Traffic Congestion Relief Program Letter request for \$21,000,000 as submitted, with subsequent clarifications and revisions:
 - Project #63 – \$21,000,000 for Phase 4, for Route 60; add seven mile of HOV lanes west of Riverside, Route 15 to Valley Way in Riverside County.
Applicant Agency: Riverside County Transportation Commission
Alternate fund source: CMAQ;and

- 2.2 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that all conditions stipulated at time of application and/or application amendment approval are still in effect; and
- 2.3 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that agencies proceed at their own risk and that reimbursement is dependent on availability of TCR funding; and
- 2.4 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that within 6 months following this date, the agency shall report to the Department on progress in executing agreements and third-party contracts needed to execute the work on the phase(s) covered by the approved Letter; and
- 2.5 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that all applicant agencies shall provide the Commission and the Department with a progress report on April 1st and October 1st of each year on actual expenditures and status of work, until the projects have been completed; and
- 2.6 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that upon completion of the phase(s) of a Letter approved by the Commission, the lead applicant agency may request to have its Letter liquidated with an allocation by the Commission, or at the Commission's direction by the Department, and
- 2.7 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that reimbursement of eligible costs is subject to the policies, restrictions and assurances as set forth in the Commission's policy for allocating, monitoring, and auditing TCR projects, and is governed by the terms and conditions of the Fund Transfer Agreement, Program Supplement or Cooperative Agreement, and subsequent amendments to the same if required, as executed between the Implementing Agency and the Department; and
- 2.8 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that it is the responsibility of the lead applicant agency to disperse funds to all contributors of the alternate local funds.