

# Memorandum

To: CHAIR AND COMMISSIONERS

CTC Meeting: August 17-18, 2005

Reference No.: 2.1b.(3)  
Information Item

From: CINDY McKIM  
Chief Financial Officer

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Ref: **STIP AMENDMENT 04S-077**

The Department of Transportation (Department) is requesting that this proposed State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) amendment be noticed at the August 2005 California Transportation Commission (Commission) meeting and be considered for approval in September 2005. This Notice is an informational item allowing the Commission to review the proposal, comment and/or ask questions prior to taking formal action in September 2005 or later.

The Department proposes to change the implementing agency from the Department to the United States Forest Service (USFS) for the East Sierra Interagency Visitor Center Expansion project (PPNO 0456). The Department also proposes to reprogram \$36,000 in the Interregional Improvement Program (IIP) from FY 2004-05 to FY 2005-06 and reprogram \$35,000 in the IIP in FY 2005-06 from Construction Support to Construction.

## **RECOMMENDATION**

The Department recommends the item be placed on the consent calendar for approval at the September 2005 Commission meeting.

## **BACKGROUND**

The East Sierra Interagency Visitor Center Expansion project (PPNO 0456) includes landscaping enhancements and supplemental exhibits to the visitor center. The visitor center is located in Inyo County at the junction of Route 395 and Route 136. This project is programmed in the IIP for \$400,000. A total of \$36,000 is programmed in FY 2004-05 as follows: \$1,000 for Environmental (PA&ED); \$34,000 for Design (PS&E); and \$1,000 for Right of Way (R/W) Support. A total of \$364,000 is programmed in FY 2005-06 as follows: \$35,000 for Construction Support and \$329,000 for Construction.

The East Sierra Interagency Visitor Center Expansion project (PPNO 0456) is one portion of a larger project to construct a new visitor center in Inyo County. The Interagency Visitor Center has been developed and funded by eight agencies, including the USFS and the Department. The USFS is the lead agency for the development and construction of the visitor center. The building and needed infrastructure have been completed.

The proposal is to change the implementing agency from the Department to the USFS and to reprogram the amount programmed for support to Construction in FY 2005-06. The Department proposes the USFS become the implementing agency for the East Sierra Interagency Visitor Center Expansion project. The Department will incur significant cost increases associated with the administration and management of the project if it remains the implementing agency. Since the USFS is the lead agency for the original project, the costs for support and overhead will be substantially reduced.

There have been no Department expenditures to date on the East Sierra Visitor Center Expansion project. The USFS has completed project development and anticipates requesting a construction allocation in September 2005.

**RESOLUTION**

Resolved, that the California Transportation Commission revise the 2004 State Transportation Improvement Program at the end of the 30-day notice period as follows:

**Revises:**

County	District	PPNO	EA	Element	Const. Year	PM Back	PM Ahead	Route/Corridor					
Inyo	9	0456	32760	CO	2005-06	--	--	395					
Implementing Agency: (by component)	PA&ED	Caltrans				PS&E	Caltrans						
	R/W	Caltrans				CON	Caltrans United States Forest Service (USFS)						
RTPA/CTC:	Inyo County Local Transportation Commission												
Project Title:	East Sierra Interagency Visitor Center Expansion												
Location	Near Lone Pine - Route 395 at Route 136												
Description:	Phase II expansion of the Eastern Sierra Interagency Visitor Center												
<b>(DOLLARS IN THOUSANDS)</b>													
FUND	TOTAL	Project Totals by Fiscal Year						Project Totals by Component					
		Prior	04/05	05/06	06/07	07/08	08/09	R/W	CON	PA&ED	PS&E	R/W Supp	CON Supp
<b>IIP</b>													
Existing	400		36	364					329	1	34	1	35
Change	0		(36)	36					71	(1)	(34)	(1)	(35)
Proposed	400		0	400					400	0	0	0	0
<b>Total</b>													
Existing	400		36	364					329	1	34	1	35
Change	0		(36)	36					71	(1)	(34)	(1)	(35)
Proposed	400		0	400					400	0	0	0	0

