

Memorandum

To: CHAIR AND COMMISSIONERS

CTC Meeting: September 28-29, 2005

Reference No.: 2.6e.(2)
Action Item

From: CINDY MCKIM
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Ref: **ALLOCATIONS FOR TRAFFIC CONGESTION RELIEF PROGRAM (TCRP) PROJECTS
RESOLUTION TFP-05-13**

ISSUE:

Attached is a Vote List for three Traffic Congestion Relief (TCRP) project allocation requests to "re-allocate" a total \$18,634,000 in previously allocated TCRP funding for the projects identified.

RECOMMENDATION:

The California Department of Transportation (Department) recommends that the California Transportation Commission (Commission) consider these allocation requests.

BACKGROUND:

On September 28, 2000, the Commission adopted the TCRP Guidelines (Guidelines) under Resolution G-00-23. Section 3.3 of the Guidelines outline states allocated TCRP funds be available for expenditure and reimbursement for up to five years after the date of the allocation.

TCRP funding is derived from Proposition 42. However, this funding was partially suspended in FY 2003-04 and fully suspended in FY 2004-05 in response to the fiscal crisis experienced by the State at that time. In response to the future availability of TCRP funds being in doubt, both applicant and implementing agencies decelerated the expenditure rate of some projects and/or in some cases suspended all activities pending future funds becoming available. In FY 2005-06, Proposition 42 funds were restored and projects are once again proceeding.

Initial allocations of TCRP funds were made beginning in September of 2000, and the unspent portions of those allocations are set to expire beginning in September of 2005. Projects ready to continue will be a risk of further delays and incurring higher costs if these expiring allocations are not re-allocated. Allocations for projects not ready to proceed can be allowed to expire, and re-allocated at a future time when justified.

The following list identifies two projects for a total \$728,000 in TCRP allocations that will expire at the end of September 2005. Upon review of both the current project schedule and expenditure rate, the Department has determined the following projects are inactive at this time and the allocations will be allowed to expire; please note however, they may return for re-allocation at a future date:

- \$50,000 – Project #32.7 – NCRA; Sub-paragraph (g) local match funds.
- \$678,000 – Project #61 – Rte 10; Apache Trail IC east of Banning in Riverside County.

The following list summarizes those projects that are ready to proceed, or will continue to need, previously allocated TCRP funds set to expire at the end of September 2005:

- \$8,574,000 – Project #15 – Route 24; Caldecott Tunnel; add fourth bore tunnel with additional lanes in Alameda and Contra Costa Counties.
- \$9,421,000 – Project #39 – Route 405; add northbound HOV lane over Sepulveda Pass, Route 10 to Route 101.
- \$639,000 – Project #87.2 – Routes 94/125; build two new freeway connector ramps.

Approval of these re-allocation requests extends the availability of the TCRP funds, and allows these TCRP projects to continue to expend funds beyond the current 5-year time limit.

Justification:

TCRP #15

The original allocation in September 2000 was to the Department to begin environmental studies. The Department entered into a contract with a consultant to assist in preparing the environmental document. Due to the uncertainty of funds caused by previous financial crises faced by the State, the Department was unable to continue work through this contract. From the time of the original allocation a 22-month gap existed where no consultants were on board. This resulted in a significant slow down of activities required to finalize the environmental document.

In April 2003, in an effort to keep the project moving, an application was approved to change the implementing agency to Contra Costa Transportation Authority (CCTA). The remaining allocation was transferred to CCTA in September 2004, and CCTA entered into an agreement with a consultant to continue the environmental studies.

TCRP #39

After the original allocation in September 2000, work on the environmental phase began. Due to the uncertainty of funds caused by previous financial crises faced by the State, the Department delayed work on this project.

Recently approved Federal earmark funds, along with the re-allocated TCRP funds, will enable the Department to resume the environmental and project report preparation phase. During this phase, the Department will identify individual construction segments that will be delivered using the funds.

TCRP #87.2

After the original allocation in September 2000, the Department committed staff to begin the effort required for the environmental phase. Staff made significant progress preparing the preliminary engineering layouts for various alternatives and provided an environmental footprint. With this information, a number of the formal environmental studies were initiated. However, due to the uncertainty of funds caused by previous financial crises faced by the State, the Department delayed work on this project.

In November of 2004, the San Diego voters passed the San Diego Association of Governments (SANDAG) TransNet half-cent transportation sales tax extension. The measure specifically identified this project as a priority for the region and included it for funding through TransNet. These funds together with the re-allocated TCRP funds will allow this project to move forward.

Attachment

Mass Transportation Financial Matters

Project # Allocation Amount Implementing Agency District-County	BREF # and Project Description Description of Allocation	Item # Program Code	Total Allocation Amount
2.6e.(2) Traffic Congestion Relief Program Projects		Resolution TFP-05-13	
1 \$8,574,000 Contra Costa Transportation Authority 04 – Alameda/ Contra Costa	Project #15 – Route 24; Caldecott Tunnel; add fourth bore tunnel with additional lanes in Alameda and Contra Costa Counties. Improve the movement of people and goods along Route 24 via the Caldecott Tunnels – a fourth bore is currently being evaluated in the environmental process. Re-allocate \$8,574,000 in previously allocated TCRP funding.	Chapter 91 of the Statutes of 2000 899 -3007 20.10.710.870	\$8,574,000
2 \$9,421,000 Department 07 – Los Angeles	Project #39 – Route 405; add northbound HOV lane over Sepulveda Pass, Route 10 to Route 101. Widen freeway to 6 mix-flow lanes and construct HOV lanes in each direction on Northbound Route 405 in Los Angeles County. Re-allocate \$9,421,000 in previously allocated TCRP funding.	Chapter 91 of the Statutes of 2000 899 -3007 20.10.710.870	\$9,421,000
3 \$639,000 Department 11- San Diego	Project #87.2 – Routes 94/125; build two new freeway connector ramps. Construct freeway-to-freeway connectors from westbound Route 94 to northbound Route 125 and from southbound Route 125 to eastbound Route 94 in San Diego County. Re-allocate \$639,000 in previously allocated TCRP funding.	Chapter 91 of the Statutes of 2000 899 -3007 20.10.710.870	\$639,000