

## Memorandum

To: CHAIR AND COMMISSIONERS

CTC Meeting: February 1-2, 2006

Reference No.: 2.6e.(3)  
Action Item

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Ref: **FINANCIAL ALLOCATION FOR TRAFFIC CONGESTION RELIEF PROGRAM (TCRP) PROJECTS**  
**RESOLUTION TFP-06-02**

### **ISSUE:**

Attached is a vote box for three Traffic Congestion Relief Program (TCRP) project allocation requests to “reallocate” \$8,378,000 in previously allocated TCRP funds for the projects identified.

### **RECOMMENDATION:**

The California Department of Transportation (Department) recommends that the California Transportation Commission (Commission) consider this allocation request.

### **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 2000. The unspent portions of those early allocations started to expire in September 2005. Projects ready to continue are at risk of further delays and incurring higher costs if these expiring allocations are not reallocated. Allocations for projects not ready to proceed can be allowed to expire and reallocated at a future time when justified.

The following list identifies four projects for a total \$381,000 in TCRP allocations that will expire at the end of February 2006. Please note however, they may return for re-allocation at a future date:

- \$81,000 – Project #11 – San Francisco Bay Southern Crossing; complete feasibility and financial studies for new bay crossing.
- \$31,000 – Project #70.2 – Route 22; add HOV lanes on Garden Grove Freeway, Route I-405 to Route 55 in Orange County
- \$47,000 – Project #110 – Route 132; build 3.5 miles of new four-lane expressway from Route 33 to the San Joaquin County line.
- \$222,000 – Project #134 – Route 50/Sunrise Boulevard; interchange modifications.

The following are three projects ready to proceed and will continue to need previously allocated TCRP funds otherwise set to expire at the end of February 2006:

- \$3,196,000 – Project #29 – AC Transit; buy three fuel cell buses and fueling facility for demonstration.
- \$4,758,000 – Project #93 – Route 180; complete environmental studies to extend Route 180 westward from Fresno to I-5 in Fresno County.
- \$424,000 – Project #95 – Route 41; add auxiliary lane/operational improvements and improve ramps at Friant Road Interchange in Fresno County.

Approval of this reallocation request extends the availability of the TCRP funds, allowing the three TCRP projects identified above to continue to expend funds beyond the current five-year time limit.

**Justification:**

TCRP #29

In February 2001, the Alameda Contra Costa Transit District (AC Transit) received an allocation of \$8,000,000 for construction and acquisition. In June 2004, the Commission approved an amendment extending the project's scheduled completion date from FY 2003-04 to FY 2005-06. This schedule extension was justified due to the original supplier being unable to meet the project requirements and timeline, and a new vendor had to be identified. The reallocation of funds is necessary to meet the previously approved schedule.

TCRP #93

In February 2003, the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) expressed their concern that State Route 33 was not a logical terminus point for the project. Based on this concern, the Project Development Team stopped work on the Route Adoption Study and began work on the alternative of a "traversable highway".

However, in January 2004, the Council of Fresno Governments (Fresno COG) formed the Route 180 Steering Committee to consider a regional look at the entire Route 180 corridor and the concept of creating a four-lane expressway between Fresno and Interstate 5. The possibility of this new expressway required various alternatives to again be considered and, in July 2004, the Steering Committee re-initiated the Route Adoption Study extension from Interstate 5 to Brawley Avenue, not to State Route 33, as originally recommended by FHWA.

#### TCRP #95

The project experienced delays due to the previous temporary suspension of allocating new TCRP funds. In an effort to mitigate the delay, the project was split into two stages for delivery. The first stage is in construction using previously allocated TCRP funds and SHOPP funds. Right-of-Way costs were lower for this first stage, making a portion of the allocated TCRP funds available for redistribution to ongoing PS&E activities for the second stage. However, as these funds are set to expire, action to "re-allocate" must occur before the funds can be redistributed between project phases.

#### **FINANCIAL RESOLUTION**

##### **Resolved That:**

The project(s), as component phases or in their entirety, appear under Government Code Section 14556.40(a) and are entitled to participate in this allocation amendment.

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 TCRP 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.

Attachment

2.6 Mass Transportation Financial Matters

Project # Allocation Amount Implementing Agency District-County	BREF # and Project Description Description of Allocation	Item # Program Code	Total Allocation Amount
<b>2.6e.(3) Traffic Congestion Relief Program Projects</b>		<b>Resolution TFP-06-02</b>	
1 \$3,196,000 Alameda Contra Costa Transit District 04 – Alameda/ Contra Costa	<b>Project #29 - AC Transit; buy three fuel cell buses and fueling facility for demonstration project in Alameda and Contra Costa Counties.</b>  Purchase three zero-emission fuel cell buses and the supporting infrastructure (fueling and maintenance) facilities that will be used to demonstrate this technology in a large urban transit environment.  Re-allocate \$3,196,000 in previously allocated TCRP funding.	Chapter 91 of the Statutes of 2000  899-3007 30.10.710.020	\$3,196,000
2 \$4,758,000 California Department of Transportation 06 – Fresno	<b>Project #93 – Route 180; complete environmental studies to extend Route 180 westward from Mendota Fresno to I-5 in Fresno County.</b>  Preliminary engineering and environmental studies of various east-west connection alternatives for route adoption for the segment of State Route 180 between Fresno and Interstate 5.  Re-allocate \$4,758,000 in previously allocated TCRP funding.	Chapter 91 of the Statutes of 2000  899-3007 20.10710.870	\$4,758,000
3 \$424,000 Department 06 – Fresno	<b>Project #95 – Route 41; add auxiliary lane/operational improvements and improve ramps at Friant Road Interchange in Fresno County.</b>  This project will add auxiliary lanes and improve ramps at Friant Road interchange, construct a median lane along Route 41, and construct auxiliary lanes from both Herndon Avenue and El Paso Avenue to Friant Road.  Re-allocate \$424,000 in previously allocated TCRP funding.	Chapter 91 of the Statutes of 2000  899-3007 20.10710.870	\$424,000