

# Memorandum

To: CHAIR AND COMMISSIONERS

CTC Meeting: July 25-26, 2007

Reference No.: 2.8b.(1)  
Action Item

From: CINDY McKIM  
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Subject: **REQUEST TO EXTEND THE PERIOD OF CONTRACT AWARD FOR ONE SHOPP PROJECT, PER RESOLUTION G-06-08 WAIVER-07-21**

## **RECOMMENDATION:**

The Department of Transportation (Department) recommends the California Transportation Commission (Commission) approve Waiver-07-21, extending the period of contract award by four months, to December 31, 2007, for the construction of a new traffic signal and widening of the intersection of State Route 165 and August Avenue near Hilmar in Merced County (PPNO 0082, EA 0C5701).

## **ISSUE:**

On February 1, 2007, the Commission allocated \$329,000 for a new traffic signal and widening project programmed in the State Highway Operation and Protection Program (SHOPP). In accordance with Resolution G-06-08, the deadline to award contracts for projects allocated on February 1, 2007, is August 1, 2007. The Department will not be able to meet the deadline for this project and is requesting a time extension for the period of contract award.

The original schedule assumed that the project costs could be updated under an informal Federal Transportation Improvement Program (FTIP) amendment shortly after Commission action to allocate the funds. However, on March 27, 2007, it was determined that the cost increase for this program category exceeded what FHWA considers "informal." This project, along with others, was required to go through the formal FTIP amendment. The amendment request was sent to FHWA for approval on June 20, 2007. Meanwhile, the Authorization to Proceed to Construction (E-76) has been put on hold due to the pending FTIP amendment. Once the E-76 is approved, the Department will be able to receive federal authorization and advertise the project. The Department is requesting a four-month time extension to allow time to advertise and award the project. Advertisement October 8, 2007, bid opening November 7, 2007, award December 5, 2007.

## **BACKGROUND:**

In June 2006, the Commission adopted Resolution G-06-08, making the six-month period to award a permanent requirement under the STIP Guidelines.