

Memorandum

To: CHAIR AND COMMISSIONERS

CTC Meeting: October 14-15, 2009

Reference No.: 4.11
Action Item

From: NORMA ORTEGA
Chief Financial Officer (Interim)

Prepared by: William D. Bronte
Chief
Division of Rail

Subject: **HIGHWAY-RAILROAD CROSSING SAFETY ACCOUNT PROGRAM AMENDMENT
RESOLUTION GS1B-P-0910-01, AMENDING RESOLUTION GS1B-P-0809-04**

RECOMMENDATION:

The California Department of Transportation (Department) recommends that the California Transportation Commission (Commission) approve the attached Resolution GS1B-P-0910-01 and the amended project list for the Proposition 1B Highway-Railroad Crossing Safety Account (HRCSA) Program.

ISSUE:

The City of Sacramento is proposing an amendment to the HRCSA program to reflect scope and schedule adjustments for the 6th Street Overcrossing and the 7th Street Undercrossing projects.

This amendment proposes the following changes to the existing program:

- Delete the 7th Street Undercrossing project.
- Split the 6th Street Overcrossing project into two components--a bridge component and a roadway component. The bridge component can be ready for construction in February 2010; the roadway component can be ready for construction by the end of June 2010.

All of the above changes do not effect the original scoring of the projects. Commission approval of the amendment is needed to allow project sponsors to proceed with the project.

BACKGROUND:

Withdrawal of 7th Street Undercrossing Project

Since its approval, several factors in the light rail and track relocation projects have changed, and as a result of these changes, the new 7th Street pedestrian/bicycle tunnel is not needed at this time.

Light rail will initially have single-track operation through the existing 7th Street undercrossing that will enable the street to be utilized as now configured with the current sidewalks and bike paths. Union Pacific Railroad also is requiring a more complex track design and elaborate construction workaround alternative than previously was thought to be needed. As a result, costs have significantly increased and there is the possibility that the project may not be deliverable by the HRCSA deadline of June 30, 2010 for funding allocations. Therefore, although it may be a future endeavor, the City wishes to withdraw this project from the current HRCSA funding program. Since the existing grade-separated crossing at 7th Street will continue in use, there is no change in overall public benefits, and the merits and need for the 6th Street Overcrossing would not be affected and should continue to be a project in the HRCSA program. The HRCSA funds (\$1.44 million) no longer needed for this undercrossing could be reprogrammed.

6th Street Overcrossing Project Amendment

Track relocation, which will realign the rail tracks, and the 6th Street Overcrossing (which will provide a grade-separated crossing over the new tracks) are both critical transportation improvements that will work together to improve conditions.

During the past year, the design and approval processes for track relocation and the 6th Street Overcrossing has been underway. Plans, specifications and estimates and right of way work are nearing completion and are anticipated to be finalized for both projects by late November 2009. Additionally, Union Pacific Railroad is requiring that the construction of any public facility crossing over or under the rail corridor be completed prior to the new UPRR tracks becoming operational. At a minimum, the bridge segments of the 6th Street Overcrossing must be constructed before or at the same time as track relocation in order to obtain UPRR approvals and license agreements. During construction, coordination among the separate projects that are being constructed within the same timeframe and in the same geographic area would also typically need to occur.

To comply with and surmount these constraints, the City is proposing that the 6th Street Overcrossing project be divided into two components--bridge and roadway. This will enable the work over the rail corridor to proceed and be completed in conjunction with other work in the rail corridor while the roadway work can follow. The bridge segments of the overcrossing project (bridge over the rail corridor and bridge over F Street) have been advanced in design and could be ready for construction in February 2010. Design for the roadway segment is projected to be complete in April 2010; a request for HRCSA funding is planned for the June 2010 Commission meeting. Since the components generally involve different types of construction, it is logical to bid and construct them individually. Further, separating the construction allocations and treating them as separate construction projects would also lead to easier tracking and accountability.

The revised project and roadway will be approximately \$27.344 million. This is less than the original total project cost estimate of \$33.545 million. The lower estimate is a result of a more favorable bid climate and better defined plans.

On November 7, 2006, the voters approved Proposition 1B. Per its implementing legislation (Senate Bill 88), the Commission is the administrative agency for \$250 million authorized for the two HRCSA sub-programs. Part 1 provides \$150 million for highway-railroad grade separations derived from the Public Utilities Commission (PUC) Section 190 grade separation priority list. Part 2 provides \$100 million for non-Section 190 high-priority grade crossing improvements. Projects to be funded under Part 2 may be, but need not be, on the PUC priority list.

On August 28, 2008, the Commission adopted the initial HRCSA program. The current program (as amended June 11, 2009, under Resolution GS1B-P-0809-004) includes 12 high-priority grade separation projects totaling \$143.933 million from the PUC list under Part 1, and 11 grade separation and railroad crossing safety improvement projects totaling \$94.836 million under Part 2.

Attachments:

Attachment 1 – Program List with Changes

Attachment 2 – Resolution GS1B-P-0910-004

Attachment 3 – Amended Program List

**Proposed Changes to
Highway-Railroad Crossing Safety Account (HRCSA) Program**
(Dollars in Thousands)

Reference No.4.11
October 14-15, 2009
Attachment 1

ID	Cnty	County	Nominated By	Project Title	PUC Rank	Baseline Enviro Clear	Baseline Const Start	Baseline Total Project Cost	HRCSA Amount Approved
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Recommended Program for Part 1 - Construction Start by December 2010 and PUC Ranked

8	KER	Kern	County of Kern	BNSF Grade Separation at 7th Standard Rd/Santa Fe Wa	89	May-06	Sep-09	\$ 28,853	\$ 9,926
44	SM	San Mateo	PCJPB	San Mateo Bridges Grade Separation	58	Aug-09	Dec-09	\$ 46,521	\$ 5,000
12	LA	Los Angeles	City of Los Angeles	North Spring Street Grade Separation Reconstruction	43	Dec-05	Jun-10	\$ 48,764	\$ 5,001
11	LA	Los Angeles	City of Los Angeles	Riverside Drive Grade Separation Replacement	66	Dec-05	Jun-10	\$ 57,965	\$ 5,000
14	LA	Los Angeles	ACE	Nogales Street Grade Separation	10	Jan-09	Mar-10	\$ 84,049	\$ 25,600
39	SF	San Francisco	PCJPB	Jerrold Avenue & Quint Street Bridges Grade Separation	81	Sep-09	Jul-10	\$ 41,619	\$ 10,000
18	MER	Merced	City of Merced	G Street Undercrossing	74	Jun-08	Mar-10	\$ 18,000	\$ 9,000
1	ALA	Alameda	City of Fremont	Warren Avenue Grade Separation	97	Jul-02	Apr-10	\$ 51,564	\$ 9,600
9	KER	Kern	County of Kern	Hageman Road/BNSF Railroad Grade Separation	69	Aug-08	Jun-10	\$ 35,300	\$ 17,650
47	TUL	Tulare	City of Tulare	Bardsley Avenue Grade Separation	83	Dec-08	Jun-10	\$ 14,486	\$ 7,156
43	SJ	San Joaquin	City of Stockton	Lower Sacramento Road at UPRR Grade Separation	63	Jul-07	Jul-10	\$ 34,000	\$ 10,000
45	SM	San Mateo	PCJPB	San Bruno Grade Separation	8	Jan-09	Jul-10	\$ 165,000	\$ 30,000
								\$ 626,121	\$ 143,933

Recommended Program for Part 2 - Construction Start by December 2010 with 50% or more Non-State Funding

33	SD	San Diego	City of San Diego	Park Boulevard at Harbor Drive/Pedestrian Bridge		Jun-06	Jun-08	\$ 27,000	\$ 6,000
13	LA	Los Angeles	SCRRA	Broadway-Brazil Street Grade Crossing Improvements		May-06	Nov-09	\$ 6,500	\$ 3,000
29	SAC	Sacramento	City of Sacramento	6th Street Overcrossing		Dec-07	Nov-09	\$ 33,545	\$ 16,824
29	SAC	Sacramento	City of Sacramento	6th Street Overcrossing - Bridge Work		Dec-07	Feb-10	\$ 11,974	\$ 5,987
29	SAC	Sacramento	City of Sacramento	6th Street Overcrossing - Road Work		Dec-07	Jun-10	\$ 15,970	\$ 7,685
29	SAC	Sacramento	City of Sacramento	7th Street Undercrossing		Dec-07	Nov-09	\$ 2,269	\$ 1,144
2	ALA	Alameda	City of Fremont	Kato Road Grade Separation	118	Apr-09	Apr-10	\$ 40,239	\$ 10,000
48	TUL	Tulare	City of Tulare	Cartmill Avenue Grade Separation	109	Dec-08	Jun-10	\$ 22,760	\$ 11,293
46	TUL	Tulare	County of Tulare	Betty Drive Grade Separation		May-09	Jun-10	\$ 28,075	\$ 12,175
40	SJ	San Joaquin	Port of Stockton	Port of Stockton Expressway	116	Nov-09	Jun-10	\$ 11,500	\$ 4,400
41	SJ	San Joaquin	City of Stockton	Eight Mile Road/UPRR (East) Grade Separation	100	Jul-07	Jul-10	\$ 31,000	\$ 8,500
42	SJ	San Joaquin	City of Stockton	Eight Mile Road/UPRR (West) Grade Separation	106	Jul-07	Jul-10	\$ 25,000	\$ 8,500
20	ORA	Orange	City of Irvine	Sand Canyon Grade Separation	35	Sep-03	Aug-10	\$ 54,604	\$ 8,000
								\$ 274,622	\$ 85,540
								\$ 900,743	\$ 229,473
								Admin Fees	\$ 5,000
								Total Program	\$ 234,473

Split and
Reduce Pgm'd
Amount
Delete

CALIFORNIA TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION
Proposition 1B
Highway-Railroad Crossing Safety Account (HRCSA) Program

Resolution GS1B-P-0910-01,
Amending Resolution GS1B-P-0809-04

- 1.1 WHEREAS, the Highway Safety, Traffic Reduction, Air Quality, and Port Security Bond Act of 2006, approved by voters as Proposition 1B on November 7, 2006, includes \$250 million for the Highway-Railroad Crossing Safety Account (HRCSA) Program, available to the Department of Transportation (Department) upon appropriation by the Legislature, as allocated by the California Transportation Commission (Commission), to fund priority grade separation and railroad crossing safety improvements; and
- 1.2 WHEREAS, the HRCSA program (the Program) is subject to the provisions of Government Code Section 8879.63, as enacted through implementing legislation in 2007 (SB 88) designating the Commission as the administrative agency responsible for programming HRCSA and the agency authorized to adopt guidelines for the Program; and
- 1.3 WHEREAS, on April 9, 2008, the Commission adopted the Program guidelines under Resolution GS1B-G-0708-01, that identified the Commission's policy and expectations for the Program, including program development timelines, requirements for project nomination, and criteria for project evaluation and scoring; and
- 1.4 WHEREAS, the Program includes \$150 million under Government Code Section 8879.23(j)(1), described in the Commission's guidelines as Part 1, for projects on the priority list established by the Public Utilities Commission (PUC) pursuant to the process established in Chapter 10 (commencing with Section 2450) of Division 3 of the Streets and Highways Code; and
- 1.5 WHEREAS, the Program includes \$100 million under Government Code Section 8879.23(j)(2), described in the Commission's guidelines as Part 2, for high-priority railroad crossing improvements that are not part of the PUC priority list process; and
- 1.6 WHEREAS, on August 28, 2008, the Commission adopted the initial list of HRCSA projects under Resolution GS1B-P-0809-01, to program \$244,817,000 for 23 projects; and
- 1.7 WHEREAS, the Program guidelines provide for amendments to the program of projects, and the implementing agency may request and the Commission may approve an amendment of the Program at any time; and

Resolution GS1B-P-0910-01

- 1.8 WHEREAS, on January 14, 2009, the Commission approved an amendment to the Program (Resolution GS1B-P-0809-02) revising the application for the Port of Stockton project to reduce its approved HRCSA amount from \$10,448,000 to \$4,400,000, and amending the Program to \$238,769,000 for 23 projects; and
- 1.9 WHEREAS, on March 12, 2009, the Commission amended the Trade Corridor Improvement Fund (TCIF) (Resolution TCIF-P-0809-10) to program \$18.975 million TCIF funds and add the City of Richmond's Marina Bay Parkway Grade Separation project; and
- 1.10 WHEREAS on June 11, 2009, the Commission approved an amendment to the Program (Resolution GS1B-P-0809-04) deleting the City of Richmond Marina Bay project, creating two separate sub-projects for the City of Sacramento 6th Street Overcrossing & 7th Street Undercrossing project, adjusting the construction start date for the Kern County 7th Standard Road/Santa Fe Way project, and approving the baseline agreement for the San Bruno Grade Separation project in San Mateo County; and
- 1.11 WHEREAS Department and Commission staff determined that the City of Sacramento 7th Street Undercrossing project should be deleted from the Program, reducing the Program to \$232,625,000 for 22 projects; and
- 1.12 WHEREAS Department and Commission staff reviewed the request by the City of Sacramento and determined that the funding for the 6th Street Overcrossing project should be reduced by \$3,152,000, from \$16,824,000 to \$13,672,000, thereby reducing the overall Program to \$229,473,000 for 22 projects; and
- 1.13 WHEREAS Department and Commission staff reviewed the request by the City of Sacramento to revise the construction start date for the 6th Street Overcrossing project from November 2009 to February 2010, and deliver the project with a bridgework phase and a roadwork phase, with a construction start date of June 2010 for the roadwork.
- 2.1 NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Commission does hereby amend the HRCSA Program of Projects to delete the City of Sacramento 7th Street Undercrossing project; and
- 2.2 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City of Sacramento 6th Street Overcrossing project is hereby split into two components, the amount programmed for the project is reduced by \$3,152,000, and the schedule is updated to reflect a construction start date of February 2010 for the bridgework phase and June 2010 for the roadwork phase; and
- 2.3 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED with the above changes, the HRCSA Program is hereby reduced to \$229,473,000 for 22 projects, leaving \$4,296,000 un-programmed and available for future programming; and
- 2.4 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Commission here by amends the HRCSA Program of Projects in accordance with the attached list.

Attachment

**Amended Program of Projects
Highway-Railroad Crossing Safety Account (HRCSA) Program
(Dollars in Thousands)**

ID	Cnty	County	Nominated By	Project Title	PUC Rank	Baseline Enviro Clear	Baseline Const Start	Baseline Total Project Cost	HRCSA Amount Approved
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