

# Memorandum

To: CHAIR AND COMMISSIONERS

CTC Meeting: April 7-8, 2010

Reference No.: 2.1a.(2)  
Action Item

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Subject: **TRAFFIC CONGESTION RELIEF PROGRAM PROJECT APPLICATION  
AMENDMENT APPROVAL  
RESOLUTION TAA-09-16, AMENDING RESOLUTION TAA-07-47**

## **RECOMMENDATION:**

The Department of Transportation (Department) recommends the California Transportation Commission (Commission) consider an application amendment for Traffic Congestion Relief Program (TCRP) Project 32.3, as described below.

## **ISSUE:**

The North Coast Railroad Authority (NCRA) requests an application amendment to update the project schedule for TCRP Project 32.3 – North Coast Railroad; completion of rail line from Willits to Arcata and Canyon Geotechnical study and mapping (PPNO T0323).

## **BACKGROUND:**

On February 14, 2008, the Commission approved Resolution TAA-07-47, which changed the project scope and updated the project schedule. The original scope, a “Canyon EIR/EIS”, wasn’t completed due to insufficient funding. The new scope, a “Canyon Geotechnical study and mapping” (originally part of NCRA’s TCRP Project 32.9) was to be funded with \$600,000 from Project 32.3 and \$240,000 from Project 32.9. It is being implemented under Environmental (PA&ED) and was to be completed in Fiscal Year (FY) 2007-08.

The work is 95 percent complete. The Canyon Geotechnical study and mapping is taking place in the Eel River Canyon, where fish passage assessments at railroad crossings will be conducted (not as part of the TCRP scope). Because canyon access is limited due to seasonal water flows and private property concerns, NCRA is delaying its final field reviews for the Canyon Geotechnical study and mapping until May 2010 to coincide with the fish passage assessments being conducted by others.

NCRA requests a project application amendment to update the project schedule in order to change the completion date for PA&ED from FY 2007-08 to FY 2010-11. NCRA did not make this request prior to the end of FY 2007-08, and so requests approval for reimbursement of PA&ED work from end of FY 2007-08 through FY 2010-11.

**RESOLUTION TAA-09-16**

Be it Resolved, that the California Transportation Commission does hereby amend Traffic Congestion Relief Program Project 32.3 - North Coast Railroad; completion of rail line from Willits to Arcata and Canyon Geotechnical study and mapping (PPNO T0323) to update the project schedule for Environmental (PA&ED), as described above.