

Memorandum

To: CHAIR AND COMMISSIONERS
CALIFORNIA TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

CTC Meeting: November 3-4, 2010

Reference No.: 2.8b.(4)
Action Item

From: NORMA ORTEGA
Chief Financial Officer

Prepared by: Jane Perez
Division Chief (Interim)
Mass Transportation

Subject: **REQUEST TO EXTEND THE PERIOD OF CONTRACT AWARD FOR
PROPOSITION 116 RAIL PROGRAM PROJECTS,
WAIVER-10-52**

RECOMMENDATION:

The California Department of Transportation (Department) recommends the California Transportation Commission (Commission) extend the period of contract award for the time periods identified for each project on the attached document.

ISSUE:

The Commission allocated a total of \$34,304,000 for the construction of the two Proposition 116 rail program projects identified on the attachment. The responsible agencies have been unable to award the contracts by the deadlines. The attachment describes the details of the projects and the explanations for the delays. The respective agencies request extensions and the planning agencies concur.

BACKGROUND:

In June 2006, the Commission adopted Resolution G-06-08, which requires the agency implementing a project to request a time extension if the project will not be awarded within six months of the allocation. STIP Guidelines stipulate that the Commission may approve a waiver to the contract award deadline one time only for up to 20 months in accordance with Section 14529.8 of the Government Code. The Commission applied these requirements to projects funded by Proposition 116 program.

Attachment

Time Extension/Waiver – Contract Award
 Rail/Transit Projects

Project #	Applicant County PPNO Project Description Reason for Project Delay	Extension Amount Phase	Allocation Date Resolution Number Number of Months Requested Extended Deadline CT Recommendation
1	Orange County Transportation Authority Orange County PPNO: 12-9651 Sand Canyon Avenue Grade Separation	\$22,004,000 CONST	May 20, 2010 BFP-09-06 6 months 05/31/11 Support
<p>The Orange County Transportation Authority (OCTA) is requesting a six-month extension for the period of contract award of the Sand Canyon Avenue Grade Separation Project. The project contract award has been delayed due to the need to obtain approval of the E-76 obligation of federal funds.</p> <p>During the May and June Regional Transportation Planning Agency and CTC meetings, the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) Division of Local Assistance requested the regions to deliver additional federally eligible projects in order to ensure that the state did not lose Obligation Authority (OA) in FFY 2009-10. To comply with the request, OCTA positioned this project to use federal funds.</p> <p>To fast track the E-76 approval process, OCTA has taken a proactive approach by working closely with Caltrans at both the District and Headquarters level. This includes "all hands" meetings/conference calls with OCTA, City of Irvine, Caltrans District 12 and Caltrans Headquarters to address comments on the request for authorization (RA) package. In addition, OCTA has also provided revised RA submittals within a week of Caltrans' comments. OCTA has also provided the District with project funding and schedule information to facilitate discussions between the District and the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) to obtain FHWA buy-in prior to Headquarters processing the RA package.</p> <p>OCTA estimates that the approval of E-76 obligation of federal funds will be in October 2010. OCTA cannot advertise for construction until the E-76 is approved. Once approved, the advertisement process could take OCTA four to six months.</p> <p>A six-month extension for the period of contract award is being requested to extend the deadline to May 31, 2011.</p>			
2	Orange County Transportation Authority Orange County PPNO: 12-9523 Orange Metrolink Fiber Optics Installation	\$12,300,000 CONST	April 7, 2010 BFP-09-06 7 months 05/31/11 Support
<p>The Orange County Transportation Authority (OCTA) is requesting a seven-month extension for the period of contract award of the Orange County Metrolink Fiber Optics Installation Project.</p> <p>The contract award of the project has been delayed due to revisions in the final design of the project, related mainly to the Pomona digital microwave link and system interface with the Positive Train Control (PTC) system. The Southern California Regional Rail Authority (SCRRA), who is working with OCTA is responsible for the design and construction of the project. In addition, SCRRA made revisions to the System Fiber Optic Backbone Equipment Standards and Integration and to locations of Signal Control Points and verification of as-built fiber conduit locations.</p> <p>SCRRA has taken the following steps to rectify the delay. SCRRA accelerated the resolution of the Fiber Optic Backbone Standards and Integration from a monthly to weekly meetings and then accelerated/compressed the consultant designer's work efforts. SCRRA assigned additional dedicated work crews to verify as-built fiber conduit locations and resolve changes to Signal Control Points. SCRRA accelerated the location and alternative site for the Microwave Tower locations. In addition, the SCRRA limited the number of alternative sites considered. SCRRA staff met with local authorities (Cities) to resolve permitting issues.</p> <p>A seven-month extension for the period of contract award is being requested to extend the deadline to May 31, 2011.</p>			