

# Memorandum

To: CHAIR AND COMMISSIONERS  
CALIFORNIA TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

CTC Meeting: May 11-12, 2011

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

From: NORMA ORTEGA  
Chief Financial Officer

Prepared by: Jane Perez  
Division Chief  
Mass Transportation

Subject: **REQUEST TO EXTEND THE PERIOD OF PROJECT ALLOCATION FOR  
LOCALLY-ADMINISTERED STIP TRANSIT PROJECTS, PER STIP GUIDELINES  
WAIVER-11-16**

## **RECOMMENDATION:**

The California Department of Transportation recommends the California Transportation Commission (Commission) extend the period of project allocation for 18 months, to November 30, 2012, for the Santa Cruz Branch Rail Right-of-Way & Improvements project (PPNO 0932) in Santa Cruz County.

## **ISSUE:**

The Commission has programmed \$5,350,000 in the State Transportation Improvement Program in Fiscal Year 2010-11 to the Santa Cruz County Regional Transportation Commission (RTC) for the Santa Cruz Branch Rail Right-of-Way & Improvements project. RTC will not be ready to request an allocation by the June 30, 2011 deadline due to delays in the acquisition of the rail right-of-way. Initially, RTC had anticipated the allocation of funds for right-of-way acquisition by June 30, 2010. However, purchase and operating agreements which were set by the Commission as conditions to be met prior to an allocation approval for right-of-way, took significantly longer than originally expected. Consequently, engineering work could not be initiated until funding for the Plans Specifications and Estimates (PS&E) phase was secured using alternative sources of funding. RTC has taken steps to streamline the process by securing an engineering consultant to complete the PS&E phase. Construction is scheduled to begin September 2012. Therefore, RTC respectfully request an 18-month extension for the period of project allocation.

## **BACKGROUND:**

Current State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) Guidelines stipulate that funds programmed for all components are available for allocation only until the end of the fiscal year identified in the STIP. The Commission may, however, approve waivers to the timely use of funds deadline one time only for up to 20 months in accordance with Government Code Section 14529.8.