

Memorandum

To: CHAIR AND COMMISSIONERS
CALIFORNIA TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

CTC Meeting: August 10-11, 2011

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

From: NORMA ORTEGA
Chief Financial Officer

Prepared by: William D. Bronte, Chief
Division of Rail

Subject: **REQUEST TO EXTEND THE PERIOD OF CONTRACT AWARD FOR ONE STIP
INTERCITY RAIL PROJECT, PER RESOLUTION G-06-08
WAIVER-11-51**

RECOMMENDATION:

The California Department of Transportation (Department) recommends the California Transportation Commission (Commission) approve the request by the San Diego Association of Governments (SANDAG) to extend the period of contract award for the Encinitas Grade-Separated Pedestrian Crossing (PPNO 2072) project for four months, to January 31, 2012.

ISSUE:

On March 24, 2011, the Commission approved Resolution MFP-10-16, allocating \$1,248,000 for the Construction phase of the Encinitas Grade-Separated Pedestrian Crossing project. SANDAG will not be able to award the construction contract by the award deadline of September 30, 2011. SANDAG is requesting a four-month time extension to January 31, 2012.

The Encinitas Grade-Separated Pedestrian Crossing project is located within the City of Encinitas (City) along the Los Angeles-San Diego-San Luis Obispo (LOSSAN) corridor. The project would provide safe pedestrian access that is compliant with Americans with Disabilities Act standards across the railroad tracks to the Pacific Coast Highway and the adjacent beach area. This will reduce illegal trespassing by pedestrians and lower the risk of pedestrian/train collisions. The project, which is being implemented by SANDAG, is a joint project between SANDAG, the City and North County Transit District (NCTD), which owns the rail right of way.

During negotiations between the three parties, new issues arose that caused delays. Details of the ultimate ownership and maintenance of the new facility required prolonged and difficult negotiations by the three agencies before a final agreement could be reached. Additionally, the City requested that the final design package for the project incorporate elements of the Coastal Rail Trail (CRT). The CRT is a region-wide Class I bike path running from San Diego to Oceanside that is currently under development within the city of Encinitas. The CRT runs parallel with the LOSSAN corridor and is adjacent to the project. The City contributed funds for this additional scoping as a part of the final bid package for the pedestrian crossing project. By incorporating plans for the CRT into the plans for the pedestrian crossing project, the City realized a savings in its costs for design. The total delay caused by these issues was four months.

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.