

Memorandum

To: CHAIR AND COMMISSIONERS
CALIFORNIA TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

CTC Meeting: January 29, 2014

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

From: STEVEN KECK
Acting Chief Financial Officer

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Local Assistance

Subject: **REQUEST TO EXTEND THE PERIOD OF PROJECT COMPLETION FOR LOCAL BRIDGE SEISMIC RETROFIT ACCOUNT, PER LBSRA GUIDELINES WAIVER 14-05**

RECOMMENDATION:

The California Department of Transportation (Department) recommends the California Transportation Commission (Commission) approve the request by the City of Los Angeles (City) to extend the period of project completion for the Vanowen Street and Los Angeles River Bridge project for 20 months, from January 31, 2014 to September 30, 2015, per LBSRA Guidelines.

ISSUE:

In July 2007, the Commission approved Resolution LBS1B-A-0708-001, allocating \$13.5 million in LBSRA bond funds, and delegated authority to the Department to sub-allocate funds to projects. In January 2011, the Department sub-allocated \$208,750 to the City for the Vanowen Street and Los Angeles River Bridge project. The City is unable to complete project construction by the deadline of January 31, 2014, and is requesting a 20-month time extension to September 30, 2015.

BACKGROUND:

The construction contract was awarded in January 2011 and the work began in February 2011. However, in March 2011, it was discovered that the Southern California Gas Company (SCG) and the American Telephone & Telegraph (AT&T) had utility service lines under the bridge, and that the SCG and AT&T lines must remain operational and access continuous throughout construction on the bridge. The design and submittal review of temporary platform by SCG and AT&T for the utility lines was from March 2011 through August 2011.

In addition, due to the permit requirements by Los Angeles County and the Regional Water Quality Control Board, the rainy season was from October 2011 through April 2012 resulting in no work being allowed in the channel. Therefore, the design and submittal review of the platform added six month to the project timeline and an additional rainy season delay of seven months.

The installation of the platform and relocation of the SCG and AT&T utilities was completed in June 2012. The project continued to progress on the north side of the bridge. The north side bridge widening work was completed in October 2012. Again, however, due to the rainy season from October 2012 through April 2013, no work was allowed.

In May 2013, during the pre-drilling work the contractor identified a sewer siphon releasing air bubbles and odors. In order to reduce the risk of potential damage to the siphon, pre-drilling was performed from May 2013 through July 2013 at the existing bridge foundations therefore work would be extended in the river. Also due to this finding, an additional river dry season of work had to be added to the contract.

The construction activities continued for widening of the south side of the bridge from July 2013 through October 2014, and again the rainy season from October 2013 through April 2014 will cause delays to the project. In total, the project has experienced a six-month delay due to design and two rainy season delays of seven months each for total of 20 months.

Once construction is complete on this project, the City needs to perform street lighting work on the bridge and close out the project, which is estimated to take place from March 2015 to September 2015. Therefore, the City is requesting a 20-month time extension through September 2015.

In May 2008, the Commission adopted the LBSRA Guidelines (Resolution LBS1B-G-0708-001), which requires the implementing agency to request a time extension if the project will not meet project completion within 36 months of the sub-allocation date. The LBSRA Guidelines stipulate that the Commission may approve a waiver to the timely use of funds deadline one-time only for up to 20 months.