

Memorandum

To: CHAIR AND COMMISSIONERS

CTC Meeting: July 8-9, 2009

Reference No.: 2.1c.(6b) - **REVISED**
Action Item

From: CINDY McKIM
Chief Financial Officer

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Traffic Operations

Subject: **TRAFFIC LIGHT SYNCHRONIZATION PROGRAM BASELINE AMENDMENT**
RESOLUTION TLSP-PA-0910-02, AMENDING RESOLUTION TLSP-P-0809-01

RECOMMENDATION:

The California Department of Transportation (Department) recommends the California Transportation Commission (Commission) approve baseline agreement amendments for 16 Traffic Light Synchronization Program (TLSP) projects, as identified on the attached list.

ISSUE:

Due to risks associated with the Pooled Money Investment Board freeze in December 2008, TLSP funding was delayed. This created many issues with local agencies that affected their delivery schedules. Some agencies did not request allocation because of the confusion caused by the fiscal uncertainty. Other agencies were at risk of having match funding expire and had to encumber those funds elsewhere to avoid losing them. Local agencies in this situation will be able to obtain match funding, but will delay the project beyond the original construction start date. Had revised construction start dates been used in the evaluation and scoring of projects, it would have caused a reduction in project scoring for these projects, however not significant enough to disqualify them from TLSP funding.

BACKGROUND:

On May 28, 2008, the Commission approved 21 traffic light synchronization projects totaling \$147,000,000 for the City of Los Angeles and 62 additional traffic light synchronization projects totaling \$98,000,000 for agencies other than Los Angeles. The project lists were subsequently amended in October 2008 to reflect the executed baseline agreements.

The project baseline agreements have been received and reviewed by the Department, and signed by Director Kempton. The financial contribution and construction schedules originally proposed by some of the agencies have been updated, as shown on the Attachment. Some of the reasons for the updates include: delay in receiving match funding, delay in negotiations with contractor, unforeseen issues that have arisen, as well others.

Baseline amendments are needed for the following projects.

City of Fresno – Clovis Avenue and Shaw Avenue (2 projects)

The City of Fresno was relying on Fiscal Year 2008-09 federal funding (Congestion Management and Air Quality [CMAQ]) for both of these projects. At the time the City had to make a decision to encumber the federal funds, there was still considerable uncertainty about the availability of State Proposition 1B bond funds. The City decided to encumber their CMAQ funds on an adjacent section of the Shaw Avenue corridor. They intend to delay the project until the start of Federal Fiscal Year 2009-10. The decision to delay federal funding is not an unreasonable action on the City's part given the uncertainty about when bond funds might be available. Furthermore, using the federal funds, in effect, to extend the corridor is consistent with the intent of the TLSP.

City of Culver City – Citywide TLSP

The project schedule changed due to unavailability of State Proposition 1B bond funds and communication issues. These issues have been resolved and the funds request is now proceeding.

City of Inglewood – La Brea Avenue

This project has been delayed because of the State's budget situation. Design is complete, but the City chose to postpone work until funding was made available. Currently, Design is in review by the Department's District 7 office for final approval. Construction of this project is expected to begin in October 2009.

City of Long Beach – Long Beach Area TLSP

There were problems getting the City of Long Beach's environmental document cleared through the Department. There was discussion whether a previous environmental document would suffice or there was need for a new document. The issue has been resolved and the City requested a funding allocation at the June 2009 CTC meeting. The allocation has been deferred until State Proposition 1B bond funds are available.

City / County Association of Governments of San Mateo County (C/CAG) – San Mateo County Smart Corridors

The original cost for construction was \$17,605,000 (\$10,000,000 TLSP and \$7,605,000 match). C/CAG is adding \$1,000,000 from the State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) towards the design to account for increased design cost and adding \$4,395,000 STIP funds towards construction. The revised total project cost including environmental, design, right of way, and construction is \$25,770,000 (total STIP funding will be \$11,000,000). C/CAG requested to add \$1,000,000 in the STIP for design. That request was approved at the June 2009 Commission meeting. Reasons for the cost increases are due to unanticipated design and construction costs. It was found that field conditions were different from identified in the project study report. This also required more fiber optics than originally planned.

City of San Ramon – Bollinger Canyon Road and Crow Canyon Road (2 projects)

The City of San Ramon had already applied for the Bay Area Air Quality Management District (BAAQMD) grant funding for both projects when it executed its TLSP baseline agreements, but had not yet received word regarding the outcome of the grant application process. The BAAQMD delayed the final announcement of the grant recipients, and then further delayed the execution of the agreement significantly beyond the published schedule. The City did not receive an agreement until early March 2009. If the BAAQMD had followed the schedule originally published, the project schedule dates in the original baseline agreement could have easily been met. There was no problem or schedule conflict with the way the project was planned as of the baseline agreement date. The primary reason for the delay was the delay with BAAQMD funding. The freeze of Proposition 1B funding also led the City to believe that the delays it experienced would be inconsequential to its TLSP projects. The City is requesting allocation for funding at the July Commission meeting, but will likely be deferred.

City of Pasadena - California Boulevard, Del Mar Boulevard, Fair Oaks Boulevard, Hill Avenue, Los Robles Avenue, Orange Grove Boulevard, San Gabriel Boulevard, Sierra Madre Boulevard (8 projects)

Back in February 2009, the City of Pasadena decided to place their eight TLSP projects on “stand-by” mode pending a clearer resolution of State Budget. The City is now aware that TLSP projects will be funded as bonds are sold. The City has kept the local monies available for their TLSP projects and has already established project accounts in its capital improvement program (CIP), which was adopted by City Council this month. Projects are 90 percent designed and can be package for construction in November 2009. The City is currently working with the Department’s Local Assistance office in District 7 to submit an allocation request to the Commission.

Attachment

**TRAFFIC LIGHT SYNCHRONIZATION
PROGRAM PROJECT AMENDMENT LIST
(other than City of LA)**

Reference No.: 2.1c.(6b)
July 8-9, 2009
Attachment

RESOLUTION TLSP-PA-0910-02, AMENDING RESOLUTION TLSP-P-0809-01

County	Applicant Name	Corridor Name	Current Project Cost	Revised Project Cost	Current Match Amount	Revised Match Amount	Approved TLSP CONST Funding	Current CONST Start Date	Revised CONST Start Date
Contra Costa	San Ramon	Crow Canyon	\$ 404,700	N/C	\$ 94,700	N/C	\$ 310,000	May-09	September-09
Contra Costa	San Ramon	Bollinger Canyon	\$ 709,450	N/C	\$ 234,450	N/C	\$ 475,000	May-09	September-09
Fresno	Fresno	Shaw Avenue	\$ 3,003,000	N/C	\$ 903,000	N/C	\$ 2,100,000	June-09	March-10
Fresno	Fresno	Clovis Avenue	\$ 3,087,400	N/C	\$ 987,400	N/C	\$ 2,100,000	June-09	March-10
Los Angeles	Culver City	Citywide TLSP	\$ 550,000	N/C	\$ 110,000	N/C	\$ 440,000	December-08	November-09
Los Angeles	Inglewood	La Brea Avenue	\$ 606,000	N/C	\$ 180,000	N/C	\$ 426,000	December-08	October-09
Los Angeles	Long Beach	Long Beach Area TLSP	\$ 9,000,000	N/C	\$ 6,000,000	N/C	\$ 3,000,000	February-09	January-10
Los Angeles	Pasadena	Fair Oaks Avenue	\$ 95,000	N/C	\$ 17,000	N/C	\$ 70,000	March-09	December-09
Los Angeles	Pasadena	Hill Avenue	\$ 90,000	N/C	\$ 17,000	N/C	\$ 66,000	March-09	December-09
Los Angeles	Pasadena	Del Mar Boulevard	\$ 187,000	N/C	\$ 34,000	N/C	\$ 138,000	March-09	December-09
Los Angeles	Pasadena	California Boulevard	\$ 93,000	N/C	\$ 8,000	N/C	\$ 68,000	March-09	December-09
Los Angeles	Pasadena	Orange Grove Boulevard	\$ 256,000	N/C	\$ 47,000	N/C	\$ 188,000	March-09	December-09
Los Angeles	Pasadena	Los Robles Avenue	\$ 146,000	N/C	\$ 27,000	N/C	\$ 107,000	March-09	December-09
Los Angeles	Pasadena	Sierra Madre Boulevard	\$ 151,000	N/C	\$ 28,000	N/C	\$ 110,000	March-09	December-09
Los Angeles	Pasadena	San Gabriel Boulevard	\$ 57,000	N/C	\$ 10,000	N/C	\$ 42,000	March-09	December-09
San Mateo	San Mateo County (C/CAG)	Smart Corridor Projects	\$ 17,605,000	\$ 22,000,000	\$ 7,605,000	\$ 12,000,000	\$ 10,000,000	December-09	N/C