

Tab 196

STATE CAPITOL  
P.O. BOX 942849  
SACRAMENTO, CA 94249-0037  
(916) 651-4037  
FAX (916) 327-2187

DISTRICT OFFICE  
5225 Canyon Crest Dr. Suite 360  
Riverside, CA 92507  
(951) 680-6750  
FAX (951) 680-6757

SENATE  
CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE



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**BILL EMMERSON**  
SENATOR, THIRTY SEVENTH DISTRICT

June 22, 2011

California Transportation Commission  
Chair and Commissioners

Subject: City of Moreno Valley, Proposition 1B State Local Partnership Program  
Cactus Avenue Improvement Project [Project Ref. No.: 08-RIV-0-MORV SLPPCL10-5441(049) EA:08-  
0G0564L]

Dear Chair and Commissioners:

I fully support the time extension requested by the City of Moreno Valley for the Proposition 1B State Local Partnership Program Cactus Avenue Improvement Project.

Unfortunately, unforeseen circumstances have caused a delay to this project. The challenging economy has caused the developer to delay this project because of a significant downturn in the residential development market. The City, as the lead agency on this project, has decided that it is in the best interest of the community to continue with the Cactus Avenue street improvements especially in light of the new Economic Development Plan that was recently adopted by Moreno Valley's City Council. This Economic Development Plan outlines the creation of a medical corridor along this section of Cactus Avenue in order to create job opportunities in Moreno Valley. The City is currently working with adjacent property developers to establish this medical corridor and ensure the necessary street improvement plans meets the needs of the community.

Furthermore, the City as the lead agency is currently finalizing construction plans and the necessary permits to proceed with bidding the project by the end of summer.

Additionally, the improvements to Cactus Avenue requires 38 Southern California Edison (SCE) power poles to be relocated approximately 25 feet south of their current locations in order to place them out of the street widening area. SCE's policy states that the pole relocation process can not begin until a project has been approved for construction. SCE is unwilling to commit the time, materials, and financial investment required by them to relocate these poles without final plans and construction guarantees. This work load has created an extraordinary circumstance for SCE which would extend the construction start time for the Cactus Avenue street improvement project by an estimated 15 months.

The City of Moreno Valley is committed to the construction of the Cactus Avenue street improvements. Funding for the project is in the City's recently adopted Capital Improvement Plan. When completed, the Cactus Avenue improvements will greatly enhance the public's vehicular, pedestrian and public transit access as well as facilitate additional development in the area which will ultimately stimulate job growth. The project will greatly enhance the Riverside Regional Medical Center, Kaiser Community Hospital, and Moreno Valley College. I fully support the request for a time extension for the allocation of these grant funds and respectfully request that you approve the request made by the City of Moreno Valley.

Sincerely,

**BILL EMMERSON**  
Senator, 37th District

Tab 196

STATE CAPITOL  
P.O. BOX 942849  
SACRAMENTO, CA 94249-0065  
(916) 319-2065  
FAX (916) 319-2165

DISTRICT OFFICE  
34932 YUCAIPA BLVD.  
YUCAIPA, CA 92399  
(909) 790-4196  
FAX (909) 790-0479

E-MAIL  
assemblymember.cook@assembly.ca.gov

# Assembly California Legislature



**PAUL COOK**  
ASSEMBLYMEMBER, SIXTY-FIFTH DISTRICT

COMMITTEES  
VETERANS AFFAIRS, CHAIR  
ACCOUNTABILITY AND  
ADMINISTRATIVE REVIEW  
GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATION  
SUNSET REVIEW

June 21, 2011

California Transportation Commission  
Chair and Commissioners

Subject: City of Moreno Valley, Proposition 1B State Local Partnership Program  
Cactus Avenue Improvement Project [Project Ref. No.: 08-RIV-0-MORV SLPPCL10-  
5441(049) EA:08-0G0564L]

Dear Chair and Commissioners:

Please allow this letter to serve as an affirmation of support for the City of Moreno Valley's Proposition 1B State Local Partnership Program request for time extension to the construction contract award for your consideration at the June 22 & June 23 Commission meeting at Long Beach, California {Agenda Tab #196 and Ref. # 2.8(b).(4)}.

Cactus Avenue is one of the most important arterial highway links in the City's Circulation Plan. It presently extends east-to-west through the south-central portion of the City of Moreno Valley and provides a direct link to the regional freeway system, intersecting with Interstate 215 at its westerly end and connecting to several north-south roadways that meet State Route 60. The route serves as a primary commuter link across Moreno Valley and as a critical emergency response route for the adjacent Regional County Medical Center as well as other emergency services. The Regional Medical Center is located at the north-west corner of the Cactus Avenue and Nason Street intersection. When completed, the Cactus Avenue improvements will greatly enhance the public's vehicular, pedestrian, and public transit access, as well as serve a greater volume of multi-modal local traffic demand, eliminating constriction of traffic in the area. Making these major improvements to Cactus Avenue will also facilitate additional development, which will stimulate job growth and serve employment centers in this area.

The improvements to Cactus Avenue require 38 Southern California Edison (SCE) power poles to be relocated approximately 25 feet south, out of the street widening area. SCE estimates that the planning, logistics, and relocation process will take up to 12 months. The establishment of a medical corridor zone is also being considered for job creation opportunities. A local developer spearheaded the street project originally, but the City has since taken over the project with the necessary funding and is working to resolve all issues associated with the street improvements. The City is working out the details with the adjacent developers and interested new employment centers, as well as with the utility companies, to reduce the 15-month timeline extension request to award the construction contract. There is a good possibility that the construction contract may be awarded in the early part of 2012. If you need any additional information, please call Guy Pegan, P.E., Senior Engineer for the City of Moreno Valley at 951.413.3115.

Sincerely,

Paul Cook  
65<sup>th</sup> Assembly District