U.S. Department of Transportation
Federal Highway Administration

Federal Highway Administration
California Division

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February 19, 2010

In Reply Refer To:
HDA-CA

Gary L. Gallegos, Executive Director
San Diego Association of Governments
401 B Street, Suite 800
San Diego, California 92101

Mr. Randell Iwasaki, Director
California Department of Transportation
1120 N Street
Sacramento, California 95814

Attention: Federal Resources Office, M.S. 82
For Rachel Falsetti, Division of Transportation Programming

Dear Messrs.Gallegos and Iwasaki:

SUBJECT: SANDAG 2008/09 RTIP/FSTIP AMENDMENT NO. 16 AND ASSOCIATED AIR QUALITY CONFORMITY DETERMINATION

The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) have completed our reviews of Amendment No. 16 to the San Diego Association of Governments (SANDAG) 2008/09 Regional transportation improvement program (RTIP) and Federal statewide transportation improvement program (FSTIP) that was submitted on January 27, 2010. The SANDAG Board of Directors adopted Resolution No. 2010-07 on January 22, 2010, approving these RTIP modifications and reaffirming the conformity of the transportation improvement program with the State Implementation Plan (SIP) for air quality. As detailed in the SANDAG documentation provided by SANDAG, this amendment adds eight new project listings, removes funding for one project listing, and modifies 53 project listings that were previously approved for inclusion in the 2008/09 FSTIP.

Pursuant to the July 15, 2004, *Memorandum of Understanding between the Federal Highway Administration, California Division, and the Federal Transit Administration, Region IX*, we accept the modifications to the 2008/09 – 2011/12 FSTIP for the SANDAG region in accordance with the Final Rule on Statewide and Metropolitan transportation Planning published in the February 14, 2007, Federal Register. We find that the SANDAG FY 2008/09 RTIP, through

Amendment No. 16, was developed through a continuing, cooperative and comprehensive transportation planning process carried out in accord with the metropolitan planning provisions of 23 U.S.C. 134, and 49 U.S.C. Chapter 53 as amended by Section 6001 of Public Law 109-59, the *Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users* (SAFETEA-LU).

This amendment acceptance is pursuant to a joint FHWA and FTA air quality conformity determination for the amended SANDAG 2008/09 RTIP. This joint FHWA/FTA air quality conformity determination for the amended SANDAG 2008/09 RTIP is required by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Transportation Conformity Rule, 40 CFR Parts 51 and 93, and the FHWA/FTA Metropolitan Planning Regulations, 23 CFR Part 450. This finding has been coordinated with EPA Region 9 in accordance with the procedures outlined in the National Memorandum of Understanding between DOT and EPA on Transportation Conformity, dated April 25, 2000. Therefore, we find that SANDAG's 2008/09 RTIP through Amendment No. 16 conforms to the applicable State Implementation Plan (SIP) for air quality.

This approval is provided with the understanding that the FTA funding approval on the individual projects contained in the FSTIP are subject to grantees meeting all necessary FTA administrative requirements, and that approval of this programming request does not provide a federal eligibility determination for CMAQ projects or any other project funding source included in this amendment.

If you have any questions concerning this FSTIP programming approval, please contact Wade Hobbs in the FHWA California Division office at (916) 498-5027, or by email at wade.hobbs@dot.gov. If you have questions regarding the associated air quality conformity determination for this amendment, please contact Stew Sonnenberg in the FHWA California Division office at (916) 498-5066, or by email at Stew.Sonnenberg@dot.gov.

Sincerely,

/s/ Leslie T. Rogers

Leslie T. Rogers
Regional Administrator
Federal Transit Administration

For
Walter C. Waidelich, Jr.
Division Administrator
Federal Highway Administration

c: (e-mail)
Hymie Luden, FTA Region IX
Dennis Jacobs, Caltrans HQ Programming
Sookyung Kim, SANDAG
John Kelly, EPA Region IX
Fardad Falakfarsa, Caltrans

cc:
SANDAG 2008/09 RTIP/FSTIP Binder

WEH/