



U.S. Department  
of Transportation  
**Federal Highway  
Administration**

**California Division**

November 4, 2013

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Sacramento, CA 95814  
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In Reply Refer To:  
HDA-CA

Mr. Ahron Hakimi  
Executive Director  
Kern Council of Governments  
1401 19th Street, Suite 300  
Bakersfield, CA 93301

Ms. Rachel Falsetti  
Chief  
California Department of Transportation  
Division of Transportation Programming  
1120 N Street  
Sacramento, CA 95814

Attention: Federal Resources Office, M.S. 82  
For Muhaned Aljabiry, Division of Transportation Programming

SUBJECT: KCOG 2013 FTIP Amendment # 9 and Amendment # 5 to the 2011 RTP

Dear Mr. Hakimi and Ms. Falsetti:

The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) have completed the review of the Kern Council of Governments' (KCOG) 2013 Federal Transportation Improvement Program (FTIP) Amendment # 9 and Amendment # 5 to the 2011 Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) and the accompanying conformity analysis that was submitted by your letter dated October 21, 2013. KCOG approved KCOG's 2013 FTIP Amendment # 9 and Amendment #5 to the 2011 RTP and the accompanying conformity analysis on October 17, 2013. This amendment to KCOG's FTIP and RTP:

- Adds or modifies individual and grouped projects in Kern County. It includes projects funded from the State Transportation Improvement Program, National Corridor Infrastructure Improvement Program, High Priority Projects Program, Projects of National and Regional Significance Program, and Transportation and Community and System Preservation Program.

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 2012/13 – 2015/16 Federal Statewide Transportation

Improvement Program (FSTIP) for the KCOG region in accordance with the Final Rule on Statewide and Metropolitan Transportation Planning published in the February 14, 2007 Federal Register. We find that KCOG's 2013 FTIP through Amendment # 9 and Amendment # 5 to the 2011 RTP were developed through a continuing, cooperative and comprehensive transportation planning process carried out in accordance with the metropolitan planning provisions of 23 CFR Part 450.

This amendment acceptance is pursuant to a joint FHWA and FTA air quality conformity determination for the amended KCOG 2013 FTIP and 2011 RTP. This joint FHWA/FTA air quality conformity determination for the amended KCOG 2013 FTIP and 2011 RTP is required by the 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 KCOG's 2013 FTIP Amendment # 9 and Amendment # 5 to the 2011 RTP conforms to the applicable State Implementation Plan (SIP).

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 action does not provide a Federal eligibility determination for CMAQ projects or any other project funding source included in this amendment.

If you have questions or need additional information concerning our approval for this KCOG FTIP amendment, please contact Joseph Vaughn ([Joseph.Vaughn@dot.gov](mailto:Joseph.Vaughn@dot.gov)) of the FHWA California Division office at (916) 498-5346.

Sincerely,

*/s/ Leslie T. Rogers*

Leslie T. Rogers  
Regional Administrator  
Federal Transit Administration



For: Vincent P. Mammano  
Division Administrator  
Federal Highway Administration