



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

California Division

June 6, 2014

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In Reply Refer To:
HDA-CA

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

Attention: Muhaned Aljabiry

SUBJECT: MCAG FY 2012/13-2015/16 FTIP Amendment # 22

Dear Ms. Falsetti:

The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) have completed the review of Amendment # 22 to the Merced County Association of Governments (MCAG) FY 2012/13-2015/16 Federal Transportation Improvement Program (FTIP) that was submitted by your letter dated May 16, 2014. MCAG Amendment # 22 was adopted by the MCAG Board with Resolution No. 2013/03-21-04 on May 15, 2014. This amendment to MCAG's 2013 FTIP programs the following project MCAG's 2013 FTIP:

• **(205-0000-0241): HBP: Arroya Ave Bridge Over West Delta Canal 0.9 Mi. N/O SR-152:** Replace one-lane bridge with a standard 2-lane bridge.

- Toll Credits programmed for PE, R/W, and CON. R/W and CON programming will be carried over and addressed in the 2015 FTIP;
- The project is located in a rural (non-urbanized) area on a road that is not part of the regionally modeled network. Also, the project does not include added lanes on the approaches to the bridge. Per FHWA guidance, Table 2 of 40 CFR §93.126, this project is EXEMPT from conformity requirements.

• **(205-0000-0243): Grouped Projects for Emergency Repair- SHOPP Emergency Response Program:** Per 2012 SHOPP Amend. 12H-452, add \$1.2 million Major Damage Restoration project in FFY 2013/14. The project will upgrade landscape irrigation controllers on Routes 5 and 99 to reduce water usage in accordance with California's drought emergency proclamation.

- **(205-0000-0126): Grouped Projects for SHOPP Bridge Rehabilitation & Reconstruction:** Adjust project (EA 0F740) cost figures to match current figures in 2012 SHOPP CTIPS database listing.
- **(305-0000-0000):** Grouped Projects for SHOPP Collision Reduction: Adjust project (EA 0U500) cost figures to match current figures in 2012 SHOPP CTIPS database listing.
- **FTIP Financial Revenue Table:** Adjust the FFY 2012/13 CMAQ apportionment figure to correspond to current estimate as provided on 04/09/2014 by Lima Huy.

This **2013 FTIP Amendment 22** also incorporates the Administrative Modifications 21: Highway Bridge Program (HBP) (executed April 11, 2014):

- **(205-0000-0037):** Grouped Projects for Bridge Rehab./Recon. (HBP): Updating the grouped projects programming to reflect changes in the latest 04/02/2014 HBP listing.

Formal Amendment No. 22 changes are ALL NON-TRANSIT.

Pursuant to the July 17, 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 MCAG region in accordance with the *Final Rule on Statewide and Metropolitan Transportation Planning* published in the February 17, 2007 Federal Register. We find that the MCAG's FTIP, through Amendment # 22, was developed through a continuing, cooperative and comprehensive transportation planning process carried out in accordance with the metropolitan planning provisions of 23 U.S.C. 174, and 49 U.S.C. Chapter 53 as amended by Sections 1201, 1202, 20005 and 20006 of Public Law 112-141, the Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century Act (MAP-21).

We have determined that this program modification is exempt from the regional emissions analysis requirements pursuant to the transportation conformity provisions found in 40 CFR Part 93. This finding has been coordinated with Region 9 of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) 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 the FTIP continues to conform to the applicable State Implementation Plan (SIP).

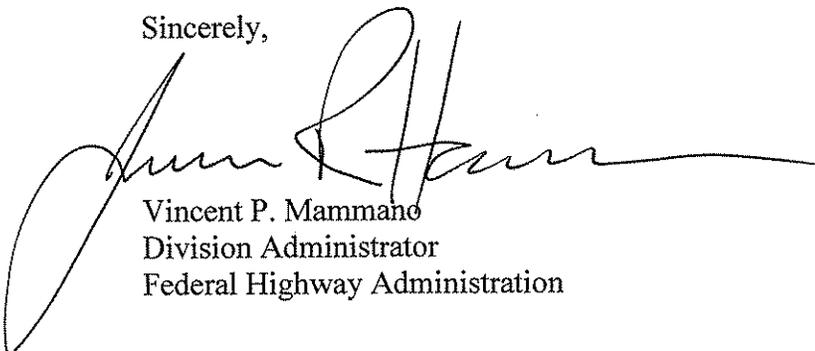
This approval is provided with the understanding that the FTA funding approval on the individual projects contained in the FSTIP are subject to grantees meeting all necessary FTA administrative requirements and that approval of this programming action does not provide a federal eligibility determination for Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (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 MCAG FSTIP amendment, please contact Cecilia Crenshaw of the FHWA California Division office by email at cecilia.crenshaw@dot.gov or by phone at (916) 498-5033.

Sincerely,

/s/ Leslie T. Rogers

Leslie T. Rogers
Regional Administrator
Federal Transit Administration



Vincent P. Mammano
Division Administrator
Federal Highway Administration