

Memorandum

To: CHAIR AND COMMISSIONERS
CALIFORNIA TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

CTC Meeting: June 27-28, 2012

Reference No.: 2.8a.(1)
Action Item

From: NORMA ORTEGA
Chief Financial Officer

Prepared by: Denix D. Anbiah
Division Chief
Local Assistance

Subject: **REQUEST TO EXTEND THE PERIOD OF PROJECT ALLOCATION FOR
LOCALLY-ADMINISTERED STIP PROJECTS, PER STIP GUIDELINES
WAIVER 12-34**

RECOMMENDATION:

The Department of Transportation (Department) recommends the California Transportation Commission (Commission) extend the period of project allocation for the projects listed on the attached document for the time periods shown.

ISSUE:

The attached document identifies ten projects totaling \$2,102,000 that are programmed in the State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) for delivery in Fiscal Year 2011-12. The agencies will not be able to request an allocation of funds by the June 30, 2012 deadline. The attachment displays the details of the projects and the explanation for the delays. The project sponsors are requesting extensions, and the regional planning agencies concur.

BACKGROUND:

Current STIP Guidelines adopted by the Commission stipulate that funds that are programmed for all components of local grant projects or for Department construction costs are available for allocation only until the end of the fiscal year identified in the STIP. The Commission may approve a waiver to the timely use of funds deadline one time only for up to 20 months in accordance with Section 14529.8 of the Government Code.

Attachment

Time Extension/Waiver – Project Allocation Deadline
Local Streets and Roads Projects

Project #	Applicant County PPNO Project Description Reason for Project Delay	Extension Amount (\$ in thousands) PA&ED (Project Approval & Environment Document) PS&E (Plans, Specifications & Estimate: ROW (Right of Way) CON (Construction) TOTAL	Number of Months Requested Extended Deadline CT Recommendation
1	County of Tehama Tehama County PPNO: 2-2430 99W at Thomes Creek Bridge project	\$0 \$0 \$6 \$0 \$6	20 Months 2/28/2014 Support
<p>The County of Tehama (County) is requesting a 20-month extension to the period of allocation for the right of way (R/W) phase of the 99 West at Thomas Creek Bridge project. The City has experienced unforeseen delays with environmental processes and approvals for CEQA.</p> <p>The County has experienced a 12-month delay in the development of the Environmental Document due to additional studies requested by the CEQA internal review process. The County originally prepared a Historic Resources Evaluation Report; the scope of the report was limited to the railroad property through discussions with Department staff and did not include the nearby historic structure since it could have been initially avoided. In additionally, the green house gases created during construction will need to be evaluated due to recently added CEQA requirements, thus creating an additional three-month delay. Finally, an additional five months is requested to mitigate potential federal resource agency review from endangered species habitat biological opinions for valley elderberry longhorn beetles and salmonids. The county anticipates completing the PA&ED phase by February 2014. Therefore, the County is requesting a 20-month extension to February 28, 2014.</p>			
2	City of Dunsmuir Siskiyou County PPNO: 02-2478 Tauhindauli River Park, Accessible Trail and Viewing Platform, TE	\$0 \$0 \$0 \$130 \$130	12 Months 6/30/2013 Support
<p>The City of Dunsmuir (City) is requesting a 12-month extension to the period of allocation for construction for the Tauhindauli River Park – Accessible Trail and Viewing Platform Transportation Enhancement project. The City has experienced unforeseen delays with environmental processes and approvals for the NEPA clearance and consequently, cannot proceed with the construction phase of the project.</p> <p>The Department has requested the City to revise the Preliminary Environmental Studies to address sensitive cultural resources located near the project. These revisions require additional studies. The City anticipates obtaining NEPA clearance by June 2013. Therefore, the County is requesting a 12-month extension to June 30, 2013.</p>			
3	City of Placerville El Dorado County PPNO: 03-1215 Class I Bike Path Clay Street and Bedford Avenue, TE	\$0 \$0 \$0 \$95 \$95	16 Months 10/31/2013 Support
<p>The City of Placerville (City) is requesting a 16-month extension to the period of allocation for the construction phase of the Class I Bike Path between Clay Street and Bedford Avenue project. The City has experienced delays due to legal challenges to the environmental documents beyond their control.</p> <p>The proposed Class I Bike Path project was combined with the Clay Street/Cedar Ravine Realignment and Clay Street Bridge Replacement at Hangtown Creek project. The City certified the project's Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration in February 2011. The Mitigated Negative Declaration was challenged in court and the judge ordered the City to prepare an Environmental Impact Review (EIR) addressing additional areas of impact. The City of Placerville anticipates that development of the EIR will take a minimum of 12 months. The City has released a request for proposal for environmental consultant services and anticipates the award of a contract in May 2013. The City is adding a four-month contingency to allow for any unforeseen issues. Therefore, the City is requesting a 16-month time extension to October 31, 2013.</p>			

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4	City of Concord Contra Costa County PPNO: 04-2119A Monument Corridor Pedestrian and Bikeway Network, TE	\$0 \$0 \$0 \$944 \$944	12 Months 06/30/2013 Support
<p>The City of Concord (City) is requesting a 12-month extension to the period of allocation for the construction phase of the Monument Corridor Pedestrian and Bikeway Network TE project. The City has experienced delays due to unforeseen mitigation measures required to be incorporated in the project's design phase.</p> <p>The project was split into two projects, one funded by Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement funds (Phase I) and the other by STIP TE funds (Phase II). The City received joint NEPA approval in February 2012. The approval process revealed requirements for a Site Specific Risk Assessment (Assessment) to be prepared due to the presence of arsenic in the area. The City anticipates completing the assessment in July 2012 wherefrom the scope of mitigation measures in terms of both physical extent and required level of mitigation will be determined. These measures will require revisions to the PS&E package that the City estimates to be completed by October 2012.</p> <p>The right of way certification is being processed separately for each phase. Phase I was approved March 2, 2012, Phase II's certification is contingent on an executed right of way agreement between the City and Contra Costa County. Details regarding both agencies' responsibilities for arsenic mitigation will be included in the agreement. These details will be available at the completion of the assessment anticipated to be completed in July 2012. Following its completion, the agreement must be presented to the City, city council and the county Board of Supervisors for approval, which is expected to occur in September 2012. Right of way certification for Phase II is estimated to be obtained in January 2013. The City anticipates advertising the project in May 2013. Therefore, the City is requesting a 12-month time extension to June 30, 2013.</p>			
5	City of American Canyon Napa PPNO: 04-2130G Napa Junction Elementary School Pedestrian Improvement, TE	\$0 \$0 \$0 \$197 \$197	6 Months 12/31/2012 Support
<p>The City of American Canyon (City) is requesting a 6-month extension to the period of allocation for the construction phase of the Napa Junction Elementary School Pedestrian Improvement Transportation Enhancement project. The City has experienced delays due to unforeseen coordination efforts of projects located near the proposed project.</p> <p>The recent adoption of a traffic calming policy, a proposed apartment complex and circulation needs in the area have required extraordinary coordination efforts. The development project and adoption of a traffic calming policy has required staff to reevaluate the design, delaying the project approximately ten months from its original schedule. The City is working diligently and anticipates finalizing the Plans, Specifications and Estimate phase in October 2012. The City anticipates advertising the project in December 2012. Therefore, the City is requesting a six-month time extension to December 31, 2012.</p>			

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6	Town of Yountville Napa County PPNO: 04-2130H North Yountville Bike Route, Sidewalk Extension, Enhancements, TE	\$0 \$0 \$0 \$154 \$154	6 Months 12/31/2012 Support
<p>The Town of Yountville (Town) is requesting a six-month extension to the period of allocation for the Construction (CON) phase of the North Yountville Bike Route, Sidewalk Extension, Enhancements, Transportation Enhancement (TE) project. The Town has experienced delays due to unforeseen environmental processes and approvals for the NEPA clearance and consequently cannot proceed with the CON phase of the project.</p> <p>The delay is due primarily to additional environmental studies other than originally planned. The proposed bike route passes through an area with a historic brick church; which triggered a Historic Property Survey Report, Archaeological Survey Report, and a public meeting to discuss potential impacts of constructing a path to park users. The studies delayed the certification of the NEPA document by 12 months. Furthermore, this type of construction work is typically performed during the non-rainy season, pushing construction to the Summer of 2013. The Town has revised their delivery schedule and anticipates finalizing the Plans, Specifications and Estimate phase in October 2012. The Town anticipates advertising the project in December 2012. Therefore, the Town is requesting a six-month time extension to December 31, 2012.</p>			
7	City of Dinuba Tulare County PPNO: 06-6537 Dinuba Downtown Streetscape 'K' Street and Kern Avenue TE	\$0 \$0 \$0 \$100 \$100	12 Months 06/30/2013 Support
<p>The City of Dinuba (City) is requesting a 12-month extension to the period of allocation for the Construction (CON) phase of the Dinuba Downtown Streetscape 'K' Street and Kern Avenue Transportation Enhancement (TE) project. The City has experienced delays due to securing funding for the balance of the project costs.</p> <p>In May 2011, the City's original TE application submittal requested \$170,681.40 for construction of the project. The TE allocation in June 2011 was reduced to \$100,000. The City identified local sources for the unfunded balance in February 2012; this effort delayed the project by several months. The revised TE application, indicating these funds, was submitted to the Department on February 14, 2012 by the Tulare County Association of Governments (TCAG) for final approval. Additional revisions to the application were indicated and reviewed by the City. The application was approved by the Department's TE Coordinator on May 1, 2012. The City has started the Project Approval & Environmental Document phase and anticipates completion by November 2012 and completion of PS&E by May 2013. Therefore, The City is requesting a 12-month time extension to June 30, 2013.</p>			

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8	City of Los Angeles Los Angeles County PPNO: 07-4315 Chinatown/El Pueblo/C. Chavez/Main/Green Corridor, Landscape Medians, TE	\$0 \$0 \$0 \$349 \$349	12 Months 06/30/2013 Support
<p>The City of Los Angeles (City) is requesting a 12-month extension to the period of allocation for the Construction (CON) phase of the Chinatown/El Pueblo/C. Chavez/Main/Green Corridor, Landscape Medians, Transportation Enhancement (TE) project. The City has experienced an unforeseen delay due to legal and/or political events as well as environmental processes and approvals for the NEPA clearance and consequently cannot proceed with the construction phase of the project.</p> <p>The project was initially awarded to the Community Redevelopment Agency (CRA) of the City of Los Angeles as part of the 2009 Metro Call for Projects. On December 29, 2011, the California Supreme Court issued its decision to uphold legislation dissolving the CRAs statewide. The CRA began working to identify a new lead agency project sponsor within the City; the project was reassigned to the City of Los Angeles' Bureau of Street Services (BSS) on March, 2011 and should be official by the end of July, 2012.</p> <p>In addition to delays during reassignment of this project, the BSS submitted for NEPA clearance in March 2012 with an anticipated approval date of May 2012. However, in April, 2012, the Department requested that a Historic Properties Survey Report, Historic Properties Evaluation Report, and an Archaeological Survey Report be conducted for this project. These additional requirements will delay the NEPA clearance to October 2012. The City is requesting a 12-month time extension to complete the additional studies/reports required by the Department, acquire NEPA approval and complete right of way certification.</p>			
9	County of Inyo Inyo County PPNO: 09-2034 South Bishop Resurfacing Project	\$0 \$65 \$0 \$0 \$65	18 Months 12/31/2013 Support
<p>The County of Inyo (County) is requesting an 18-month extension to the period of allocation for the Plans, Specifications and Estimate (PS&E) phase of the South Bishop Resurfacing project. The County has experienced delays due to unforeseen additional environmental studies required for NEPA clearance.</p> <p>The County submitted the Preliminary Environmental Studies to the Department for review in January 2012, and assumed that no environmental issues would be identified because the project is within the maintained and previously disturbed prescriptive right-of-way. However, the Department's Archaeology Specialist identified potential cultural resource issues in the project. An archaeological survey and records search will be required to comply with NEPA; the County expects the results to require additional studies/reporting. The County requires contracting with a consultant to perform the additional environmental work due to the lack of qualified staff. The County anticipates selecting a consultant by August 2012 and to obtain final NEPA clearance by December 31, 2013. Therefore, the County requests an 18-month time extension to December 31, 2013.</p>			

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10	County of Inyo Inyo County PPNO: 09-2586 Sunland Drive Bicycle Lanes Project, TE	\$0 \$62 \$0 \$0 \$62	18 Months 12/31/2013 Support
<p>The County of Inyo (County) is requesting an 18-month extension to the period of allocation for the Plans, Specifications and Estimate (PS&E) phase of the Sunland Drive Bicycle Lanes project which has the same issue as South Bishop Resurfacing project above. The County has experienced delays due to unforeseen additional environmental studies required for NEPA clearance.</p> <p>The County submitted the Preliminary Environmental Studies to the Department for review in January 2012, and assumed that no environmental issues would be identified because the project is within the maintained and previously disturbed prescriptive right-of-way. However, the Department's Archaeology Specialist identified potential cultural resource issues in the project. An archaeological survey and records search will be required to comply with NEPA; the County expects the results to require additional studies/reporting. The County requires contracting with a consultant to perform the additional environmental work due to the lack of qualified staff. The County anticipates selecting a consultant by August 2012 and to obtain final NEPA clearance by December 31, 2013. Therefore, the County requests an 18-month time extension to December 31, 2013.</p>			