

Memorandum

To: CHAIR AND COMMISSIONERS
CALIFORNIA TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

CTC Meeting: June 11, 2013

Reference No.: 2.8a.(4)
Action Item

From: NORMA ORTEGA
Chief Financial Officer

Prepared by: William D. Bronte
Division Chief
Rail

Subject: **REQUEST TO EXTEND THE PERIOD OF PROJECT ALLOCATION FOR STIP INTERCITY RAIL AND LOCALLY ADMINISTERED RAIL PROJECT, PER STIP GUIDELINES WAIVER 13-25**

RECOMMENDATION:

The California Department of Transportation (Department) recommends that the California Transportation Commission (Commission) extend the period of project allocation for the Stockton Intercity Passenger Rail Station Relocation project (PPNO 2081) in San Joaquin County for 20 months, extending the allocation request to February, 2015.

ISSUE:

This project is programmed for \$650,000 in Plans, Specifications and Estimates (PS&E) and \$10,750,000 in Right of Way in the State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) in Fiscal Year 2012-13. The request is for 20-month extension to the period of project allocation. Additional time is required from all involved parties to determine the final site determination of a new station location in the city of Stockton.

BACKGROUND:

Six daily round trips serve Stockton on San Joaquin Corridor, which operates between Bakersfield and Oakland. Four of the round trips stop at the Stockton Amtrak station along the Burlington Northern Santa Fe Railway line; two round trips stop at the Altamont Commuter Express station on Weber Street, along the Union Pacific Railroad line. This Project will allow all six round trips to use a single station, which will improve connecting service to the commuter and high-speed rail network.

The recently released 2012 California High Speed Rail Business Plan proposes a blended system of intercity, urban/commuter and high-speed rail service within the state. The Commission and the California High Speed Rail Authority are working cooperatively with the Department and other northern California rail operators to develop this new blended system. The Northern California Blended Passenger Rail Memorandum of Understanding (MOU), which is currently being developed by these parties, will provide a framework for implementing this blended system. This project will be a part of the MOU. Negotiations for the MOU are being finalized. Identifying a Project site will require an additional time, after which environmental work can begin. Therefore, the Department requests a 20-month extension for the period of project allocation for both PS&E and Right of Way components.

STIP guidelines stipulate that funds that are programmed for all components of local rail/transit 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 waivers 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.