



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

California Division

March 1, 2016

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

Mr. Bruce de Terra
Chief
Division of Transportation Programming
California Department of Transportation
1120 N Street, M.S. 82
Sacramento, CA 92814

Attention: Muhaned Aljabiry, Chief
 Office of Federal Transportation Management Program

**SUBJECT: SANDAG 2015 FTIP AMENDMENT NO. 9 AND CONFORMITY
 DETERMINATION**

Dear Mr. de Terra:

The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and Federal Transit Administration (FTA) have completed our review of Amendment No. 9 to the San Diego Association of Governments' (SANDAG) 2015 – 2018 Federal Transportation Improvement Program (FTIP), which was submitted by your letter dated January 28, 2016. As detailed in your letter's enclosure, this amendment requests to modify thirty-one (31) individual and seven (7) grouped project listings to SANDAG's FTIP as previously approved for inclusion in the California Federal Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (FSTIP).

We have determined the project listings from this amendment are from SANDAG's adopted 2015 Regional Transportation Plan/Sustainable Communities Strategy (RTP/SCS) – *San Diego Forward: The Regional Plan including SCS*, and that the modifications requested rely on a previous regional emissions analysis. Acceptance of this amendment and the air quality conformity determination have been coordinated with Region IX of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) in accordance with the procedures outlined in the *National Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the Department of Transportation (DOT) and EPA on Transportation Conformity*, dated April 25, 2000. Accordingly, we find that SANDAG's 2015 – 2018 FTIP, including Amendment No. 9, conforms to the applicable State Implementation Plan (SIP) for air quality.

Pursuant the December 15, 2014 *MOU, between the FHWA – California Division and FTA – Region IX*, and based on our review of information submitted with the State's proposed 2015 – 2018 FSTIP, which includes revenues, proposed project funding information to demonstrate financial constraint, and statewide and metropolitan planning process documentation, we accept

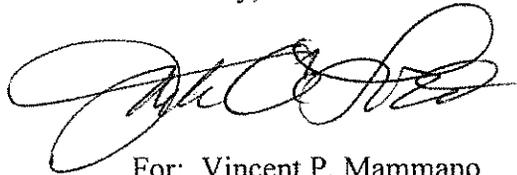
this FSTIP modification proposed for the SANDAG region in accordance with the Final Rule on Statewide and Metropolitan Transportation Planning that was published in the February 14, 2007 Federal Register. We have determined the amended SANDAG FTIP, including Amendment No. 9, is financially constrained as required by the Federal surface transportation programs authorizing legislation and statewide planning, metropolitan planning, and programming regulations. SANDAG's FTIP was developed through a continuing, cooperative, and comprehensive transportation planning process in accordance with the metropolitan transportation planning provisions of 23 United States Code (U.S.C.) § 134 and 49 U.S.C. Chapter 53.

We are approving SANDAG's FTIP with understanding that eligibility of individual projects for funding is subject to the applicant's satisfaction of all administrative and statutory requirements. This joint FHWA and FTA approval of the FSTIP does not constitute an eligibility determination for the federal funds proposed for obligation on the listed projects. If you have questions or need additional information concerning our FSTIP approval for this SANDAG FTIP amendment, please contact Michael Morris of the FHWA California Division's Cal-South office at (213) 894-4014, or by email at michael.morris@dot.gov; or Alex Smith of the FTA Region IX office at (415) 744-2599, or by email at alexander.smith@dot.gov.

Sincerely,

/s/ Leslie T. Rogers

Leslie T. Rogers
Regional Administrator
Federal Transit Administration



For: Vincent P. Mammano
Division Administrator
Federal Highway Administration