



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

FEDERAL HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION

CALIFORNIA DIVISION

650 Capitol Mall, Suite 4-100

Sacramento, CA. 95814

May 27, 2005

IN REPLY REFER TO

HDA-CA

Document #: S47423

Mr. Will Kempton, Director
California Department of Transportation
1120 N Street
Sacramento, CA 95814

Attention: Federal Resources Office, MS 82
For Ross A. Chittenden, Division of Transportation Programming

Dear Mr. Kempton:

SUBJECT: SANDAG 2004/05-2006/07 FSTIP AMENDMENT NUMBER 8

The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) has completed its review of Amendment No. 8 to the San Diego Association of Governments (SANDAG) 2004 Regional Transportation Improvement Program (RTIP) that was submitted by your letter dated May 27, 2005. The SANDAG Board of Directors adopted Resolution No. 2005-25 on May 20, 2005, approving these RTIP modifications and reaffirming the conformity of the transportation improvement program with the State Implementation Plan (SIP) for air quality. As detailed in the enclosure to your letter, this SANDAG RTIP amendment proposes to modify the grouped project listing for the Highway Bridge Rehabilitation and Replacement (HBRRP) program of projects and to modify the proposed funding for the implementation phases of the State Route 905 project that are currently listed in the triennial element of California's 2004/05-2006/07 Federal Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (FSTIP). Based on our review, Amendment No. 8 to the SANDAG RTIP decreases RTIP/FSTIP funding commitments to projects in the SANDAG region by \$3.431 million in program year 2004/05, increases funding commitments by \$8.099 million in program year 2005/06, and reduces funding commitments by \$7.561 million in program year 2006/07. Pursuant to 23 CFR 450.216, project programming information provided for additional years beyond the current FSTIP triennial element is accepted by the FHWA and Federal Transit Administration (FTA) for information purposes only.

We find that SANDAG's 2004/05-2006/07 RTIP, including Amendment No. 8, was developed through a continuing, cooperative and comprehensive transportation planning process in accord with the metropolitan transportation planning provisions of 23 USC §134 and 49 USC Chapter 53. We have determined that the adopted modifications to the SANDAG FTIP, proposed for inclusion in California's FSTIP by this amendment, are exempt from the regional emissions analysis and conformity determination requirements of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA's) Transportation Conformity Rule as amended. Our transportation planning and air quality conformity findings have been coordinated with the regional offices of the U.S.



EPA and the FTA. We are approving this amendment to the 2004/05-2006/07 FSTIP for the SANDAG region pursuant to the Federal statewide and metropolitan transportation planning regulations codified in 23 CFR Part 450, and in accord with the July 15, 2004, Memorandum of Understanding between the FHWA, California Division, and the FTA, Region IX.

If you have questions or need additional information concerning our FSTIP approval for this SANDAG RTIP amendment, please contact Wade Hobbs of the FHWA California Division office at (916) 498-5027, or by email at wade.hobbs@fhwa.dot.gov.

Sincerely,

/s/ Wade Hobbs

For
Gene K. Fong
Division Administrator
Federal Highway Administration

cc: (e-mail)
Sookyung Kim, SANDAG
Karina O'Connor, EPA Region IX
Hymie Luden, FTA Region IX
Randy Steen, Caltrans, Federal Resources Branch,
Abhijit Bagde, Caltrans, Transportation Programming
Terry Abbott, Caltrans, Office of Local Programs

cc: (other)
SANDAG FTIP Binder

WHobbs/jf