

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

FEDERAL HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION

CALIFORNIA DIVISION

650 Capitol Mall, Suite 4-100

Sacramento, CA. 95814

June 21, 2006

IN REPLY REFER TO

HDA-CA

Document #: S49250

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 NO. 16

The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) have completed our reviews of amendment number 16 to the San Diego Association of Governments (SANDAG) *2004 Regional Transportation Improvement Program (RTIP)* that was submitted by your letter dated May 25, 2006. The SANDAG Board of Directors adopted Resolution No. 2006-18 on May 19, 2006, approving this amendment to the 2004 RTIP and reaffirming the conformity of SANDAG's amended *2004 RTIP* and *2030 Regional Transportation Plan: 2006 Update* with the applicable State Implementation Plans for air quality. As detailed in the enclosure to your letter, SANDAG RTIP amendment number 16 proposes to add nine new project listings to the RTIP and modify the listing for four projects previously included in the RTIP and Federal Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (FSTIP).

A joint FTA/FHWA air quality conformity determination for the SANDAG amended *2004 RTIP* and *2030 Regional Transportation Plan: 2006 Update* is required by the United States Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) Transportation conformity Rule, 40 CFR Parts 51 and 93, and the FHWA/FTA Metropolitan Planning Rule, 23 CFR Part 450. The conformity analysis submitted to the FHWA/FTA by SANDAG indicates that all air quality conformity requirements have been met. Based on our review, we find that the *2030 Regional Transportation Plan: 2006 Update* and the *2004 RTIP* as amended conform to the applicable state implementation plan for air quality in accordance with the provisions of 40 CFR Parts 51 and 93, and meet the statewide and metropolitan planning rule requirements codified in 23 CFR Part 450. In accordance with the *July 15, 2004, Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the Federal Highway Administration, California Division and the Federal Transit Administration, Region IX*, the FTA has concurred with this conformity determination. Additionally, this approval is being made in consultation with the United States Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA), Region 9 office, pursuant to the *Transportation Conformity Rule*.



Pursuant to the *July 15, 2004, Memorandum of Understanding between the Federal Highway Administration, California Division, and the Federal Transit Administration, Region IX*, we accept these modifications to the 2004/05-2006/07 FSTIP for the SANDAG region in accordance with the Federal statewide and metropolitan transportation planning regulations. We find that the SANDAG 2004 RTIP, including amendment number 16, 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.

If you have questions or need additional information concern 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/ Leslie T. Rogers

Leslie T. Rogers
Regional Administrator
Federal Transit Administration

/s/ K. Sue Kiser

For
Gene K. Fong
Division Administrator
Federal Highway Administration

Cc: (e-mail)

Sookyung Kim – SANDAG

John Kelly – EPA Region IX

Hymie Luden – FTA Region IX

Randy Steen, Caltrans – Federal Resources Branch

Terry Abbott, Caltrans – Office of Local Programs

Abhijit Bagde, Caltrans – Transportation Programming

WEH/ac