

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

FEDERAL HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION

CALIFORNIA DIVISION

650 Capitol Mall, Suite 4-100

Sacramento, CA. 95814

June 27, 2005

IN REPLY REFER TO

HDA-CA

Document #: S47520

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. 9

The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) have completed our reviews of Amendment No. 9 to the San Diego Association of Governments (SANDAG) 2004 Regional Transportation Improvement Program (RTIP) that was submitted by your letter dated June 10, 2005. The SANDAG Board of Directors adopted Resolution No. 2005-26 on June 3, 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 add five new project listings and modify the funding or description for nineteen previously listed projects, in the triennial element of California's 2004/05-2006/07 Federal Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (FSTIP). Based on our review of the RTIP financial constraint documentation that was submitted with this amendment, we have determined that the amended RTIP is financially constrained as required by 23 CFR 450.324. 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 the FTA for information purposes.

We find that SANDAG's 2004/05-2006/07 RTIP, including Amendment No. 9, 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 RTIP, 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 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, or Hymie Luden of the FTA Region IX office at (415) 744-2732, or by email at hymie.luden@fta.dot.gov.

Sincerely,

/s/ K. Sue Kiser

/s/ Leslie T. Rogers

Leslie T. Rogers
Regional Administrator
Federal Transit Administration

For
Gene K. Fong
Division Administrator
Federal Highway Administration

cc: (e-mail)

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

cc: (other)

SANDAG FTIP Binder

WHobbs/jf