

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

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April 20, 2009

To: Regional Transportation Planning Agencies
Metropolitan Transportation Planning Organizations

On March 16, 2009, in line with the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) Section 1511 requirements, Governor Schwarzenegger certified, via a letter to Secretary LaHood, that ARRA funds requested under the act for infrastructure investment will receive the full review and vetting required by law and that he accepts responsibility for assuring that each dollar is appropriately invested. He further delegated responsibility for the vetting process and for providing subsequent certifications to the Director of the California Department of Transportation (Department), Will Kempton.

As the Director has been delegated this responsibility by the Governor, Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPOs) and Regional Transportation Planning Agencies (RTPAs) have already begun to certify ARRA projects within their region to the Department. However, for the most part, certifications have not included transit projects. As you know, 49 USC Sections 5307, 5309, and discretionary transit funding programs are not administered through the Department. Instead, funds from these grant programs for large urban and small urban areas are transmitted directly to grant recipients, with transportation planning and programming oversight usually provided by the MPOs and/or RTPAs.

While the Department is aware that the Federal Transit Administration's 1511 certification process only requires that the existing March 16, 2009, letter and corresponding State Transportation Improvement Program be posted on the Recovery website, this does not fulfill the Governor's commitment for certifying all ARRA projects, nor does it mirror the 1511 certification process currently underway for Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) ARRA funds.

Therefore, we ask that you complete the 1511 Certification and the corresponding ARRA Project Spreadsheet posted on our website at <http://www.dot.ca.gov/hq/MassTrans/ARRA-new.html> and submit to Caltrans.Recovery@dot.ca.gov. If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact Kimberly Gayle at (916) 654-8074. Please note that the ARRA FTA Section 5311 Non-Urban Transit 1511 certification process will be handled separately by the Division of Mass Transportation through the grant application process.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Sharon Schuyler".

KOME AJISE
Deputy Director (Interim)
Planning and Modal Programs

Enclosures ✓

c: Ray Sukys, Federal Transit Administration
Kimberly Gayle, California Department of Transportation