

Memorandum

*Serious drought.
Help Save Water!*

To: RIHUIZHANG, Chief
Division of Local Assistance

Date: March 27, 2015

File: P2535-0025

From: MARSUE MORRILL, Chief
External Audit - Contracts
Audits and Investigations

Subject: **AUDIT OF TULARE COUNTY**

Attached is the audit report pertaining to the audit performed on Tulare County, relative to funding received from Caltrans using Proposition 1B (Prop 1B) State-Local Partnership Program Funds. The name of the project audited is "Road 108 Widening," Project No. SLPPFL09-5946(103). The Prop 1B programmed amount was \$2,295,000. The audit was for the period of July 8, 2008, through June 30, 2014.

As required by the Governor's Executive Order S-02-07 and SB88, the expenditures of bond proceeds and outcomes are subject to audit. The audit was performed by the State Controller's Office on behalf of Caltrans. Deputy Directive 100-R1, "Departmental Responses to Audit Reports" cites responsibilities of Division Chiefs relative to audits performed. However, as this audit report did not disclose any deficiencies there is no subsequent action required on your part.

If you have any questions please contact Luisa Ruvalcaba, Audit Manager, at (916) 323-7888.

Attachment(s)

c: Stephen Maller, Deputy Director, California Transportation Commission
Teresa Favila, Assistant Deputy Director, California Transportation Commission
Bruce De Terra, Acting Division Chief, Transportation Programming
Doris M. Alkebulan, Prop 1B Specialist, Transportation Programming
Sharon Ropp, Prop 1B Coordinator, Division of Local Assistance
Luisa Ruvalcaba, Audit Manager, Audits and Investigations

TULARE COUNTY

Audit Report

**STATE LOCAL PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM
PROPOSITION 1B BOND-FUNDED PROJECT
EA No. 06-4C3054L/P2535-0025**

July 8, 2008, through June 30, 2014



BETTY T. YEE
California State Controller

March 2015



BETTY T. YEE
California State Controller

March 23, 2015

MarSue Morrill, Chief
Audits and Investigations
California Department of Transportation
P.O. Box 942874
Sacramento, CA 94274-0001

Dear Ms. Morrill:

The State Controller's Office (SCO) audited the Tulare County's (implementing agency) financial management system relative to projects funded and reimbursed by Proposition 1B bond funds during the audit period of July 8, 2008, through June 30, 2014.

The SCO performed the audit in accordance with generally accepted government auditing standards and based on audit procedures performed, we determined that the implementing agency's accounting system and internal controls appear adequate to accumulate and segregate reasonable, allocable, and allowable project costs as required by Title 2, *Code of Federal Regulations*, Part 225, and California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) and Transportation Commission (Commission) program guidelines and agreements.

We audited the Proposition 1B bond-funded project, Road 108 (Demaree/Hillman) Widening, EA No. 06-4C3054L, and determined that:

- The implementing agency complied with applicable federal and state procurement requirements as required by Title 49, *Code of Federal Regulations*, Part 18, and/or California Public Contract Code sections 10140-10141.
- The project costs incurred and reimbursed were in compliance with required Caltrans and Commission program guidelines, procedures, agreements, or approved amendments; contract provisions; and/or applicable state and federal laws and regulations.
- The project deliverables (outputs) and outcomes were consistent with the project scope, schedule, and benefits described in the executed project baseline agreements or approved amendments thereof.

Schedule 1 of this report is a summary of project costs programmed, approved, expended, and audited during the audit period.

Our audit did not disclose any findings.

If you have any questions, please contact Andrew Finlayson, Chief, State Agency Audits Bureau, by telephone at (916) 324-6310.

Sincerely,

Original signed by

JEFFREY V. BROWNFIELD, CPA
Chief, Division of Audits

JVB/kw

cc: Jan Goto, Audit Manager
Division of Audits – Bond Unit
State Controller's Office
Nick McCarty, Auditor-in-Charge
Division of Audits – Bond Unit
State Controller's Office

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Audit Report

Summary

The State Controller's Office (SCO) audited the Tulare County's (implementing agency) financial management system relative to projects funded and reimbursed by Proposition 1B bond funds during the audit period of July 8, 2008, through June 30, 2014.

The SCO performed the audit in accordance with generally accepted government auditing standards and based on audit procedures performed, we determined that the implementing agency's accounting system and internal controls appear adequate to accumulate and segregate reasonable, allocable, and allowable project costs as required by Title 2, *Code of Federal Regulations*, Part 225 (2 CFR 225), and California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) and Transportation Commission (Commission) program guidelines and agreements.

We audited the Proposition 1B bond-funded project, Road 108 (Demaree/Hillman) Widening, and determined that:

- The implementing agency complied with applicable federal and state procurement requirements as required by Title 49, *Code of Federal Regulations*, Part 18 (49 CFR 18), and/or California Public Contract Code sections 10140–10141.
- The project costs incurred and reimbursed were in compliance with required Caltrans and Commission program guidelines, procedures, agreements, or approved amendments; contract provisions; and/or applicable state and federal laws and regulations.
- The project deliverables (outputs) and outcomes were consistent with the project scope, schedule, and benefits described in the executed project baseline agreements or approved amendments thereof.

Our audit did not disclose any findings.

Background

In accordance with Caltrans and Commission-executed project agreement(s) or approved amendments, the project, Road 108 (Demaree/Hillman) Widening, EA No. 06-4C3054L, was programmed and approved to receive \$2,295,000 in Proposition 1B bond funds, for one or more phases of work, under the State Local Partnership program.

The implementing agency is responsible for implementation and successful completion of each project component and activities as defined in the project's agreement(s). The project's construction completion date was May 15, 2013.

**Objectives, Scope,
and Methodology**

The SCO audited the implementing agency's financial management system relative to projects funded and reimbursed by the Proposition 1B Bond Fund during the audit period of July 8, 2008, through June 30, 2014.

The objectives of our audit were to determine whether:

- The implementing agency's accounting system and internal controls were adequate to accumulate and segregate reasonable, allocable, and allowable project costs as required by 2 CFR 225, and Caltrans and Commission program guidelines, procedures, project agreements, or approved amendments.
- The implementing agency complied with applicable federal and state procurement requirements as required by 49 CFR 18, California Public Contract Code sections 10140–10141, and/or provisions stated in the contract.
- The project costs incurred and reimbursed were in compliance with required Caltrans and Commission program guidelines, procedures, agreements, or approved amendments; contract provisions; and/or applicable state and federal laws and regulations.
- The project deliverables (outputs) and outcomes were consistent with the project scope, schedule, and benefits described in the executed project baseline agreements or approved amendments thereof.

To achieve our audit objectives, we performed the following audit procedures:

- Reviewed the implementing agency's prior audits and single audit reports;
- Reviewed the implementing agency's written policies and procedures relating to accounting systems, construction project management, and contract management; and
- Interviewed employees, completed the internal control questionnaire, and performed a system walk-through in order to gain an understanding of the implementing agency's internal controls, accounting systems, timekeeping and payroll systems, and billing processes related to transportation projects; specifically, projects funded by Proposition 1B.

For the project under review, we performed the following audit procedures:

- Obtained project files and reviewed preliminary information to ensure that the implementing agency complied with applicable state and federal procurement requirements;
- Obtained project expenditure reports, selected a sample of activities that were funded by Proposition 1B, and obtained and reviewed

supporting documentation to ensure that project expenditures were reasonable, allocable, and allowable in accordance with Caltrans and Commission program guidelines, procedures, agreements, and applicable state and federal requirements;

- Reviewed significant contract change orders to ensure that they were properly approved and supported;
- Reviewed project final reports, close-out documents, finance letters, and baseline agreements to ensure that variances or changes to the project's scope, schedule, costs, and benefits were properly approved and supported; and
- Reviewed the project payment history file and/or invoices sent to the Caltrans accounting office to ensure that the implementing agency properly prepared and/or billed Caltrans for reimbursement of project expenditures as required by Caltrans' local assistance procedures.

We conducted this performance audit in accordance with generally accepted government auditing standards. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain sufficient, appropriate evidence to provide a reasonable basis for our findings and conclusions based on our audit objectives. We believe that the evidence obtained provides a reasonable basis for our findings and conclusions based on our audit objectives.

We did not audit the implementing agency's financial statements. We limited our audit scope to planning and performing audit procedures necessary to achieve our audit objectives.

Conclusion

We determined that the implementing agency's accounting system and internal controls appear adequate to accumulate and segregate reasonable, allocable, and allowable project costs as required by 2 CFR 225, and Caltrans and Commission program guidelines and agreements.

We audited the Proposition 1B bond-funded project, Road 108 (Demaree/Hillman) Widening, EA No. 06-4C3054L, and determined that:

- The implementing agency complied with applicable federal and state procurement requirements required by 49 CFR 18, California Public Contract Code sections 10140–10141, and/or provisions stated in the contract.
- The project costs incurred and reimbursed were in compliance with required Caltrans and Commission program guidelines, procedures, agreements, or approved amendments; contract provisions; and/or applicable state and federal laws and regulations.

- The project deliverables (outputs) and outcomes were consistent with the project scope, schedule, and benefits described in the executed project baseline agreements or approved amendments thereof.

Our audit did not disclose any findings.

**Views of
Responsible
Officials**

We discussed our audit results with the county's representative during the exit conference conducted on January 6, 2015. Sophia Almanza, Fiscal Manager agreed with the audit results.

Restricted Use

This report is solely for the information and use of Tulare County, Caltrans, and the SCO; it is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than these specified parties. This restriction is not intended to limit distribution of this report, which is a matter of public record.

Original signed by

JEFFREY V. BROWNFIELD, CPA
Chief, Division of Audits

March 23, 2015

**Schedule 1—
Summary of Project Costs
Approved, Expended, and Audited
July 8, 2008, through June 30, 2014**

Project No./EA No.:

SLPPFL10-5946(103)/06-4C3054L

Project Information:

Road 108 (Demaree/Hillman) Widening Project

Project Financial Information:

<u>Phases Reimbursed by Proposition 1B Bond Fund</u>	<u>Programmed and Approved</u>	<u>Actual Expended</u>	<u>Audited</u>
Construction	\$ 2,180,250	\$ 2,180,250	\$2,180,250
Construction Engineering	114,750	114,750	114,750
Total	<u>\$ 2,295,000</u>	<u>\$ 2,295,000</u>	<u>\$2,295,000</u>

Project Delivery Baseline:

<u>Project Phase(s):</u>	<u>Approved</u>	<u>Actual</u>
Beginning Construction	2/07/11	2/07/11
End Construction	8/01/12	5/15/13
Beginning Closeout	8/02/12	5/16/13
End Closeout	3/30/13	7/31/13

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<http://www.sco.ca.gov>