

Memorandum

To: CHAIR AND COMMISSIONERS

CTC Meeting: May 12-13, 2004

Reference No.: 2.6e.
Action Item

From: ROBERT L. GARCIA
Chief Financial Officer

Prepared by: Ross Chittenden
Program Manager
Traffic Congestion Relief Program

Ref: **ALLOCATIONS FOR TRAFFIC CONGESTION RELIEF (TCR) PROGRAM PROJECTS,
RESOLUTION TFP-04-**

ISSUE:

On September 25, 2003, the California Transportation Commission (Commission) approved an AB 1335 Letter of No Prejudice (Letter) for the San Diego North County Transit District (NCTD) for \$3,288,000 for Phase 4 – Construction (TCR Project #74.5 – Pacific Surfliner; double track intercity rail line within San Diego County, add maintenance yard in San Diego County). The project has been completed and is operational. Although final costs are still being processed, the NCTD does not anticipate the full amount needed to reimburse costs incurred and is requesting a reduced allocation of \$2,000,000 to convert the Letter for reimbursement from the TCR Fund.

RECOMMENDATION:

Due to uncertainties in the current cash forecast, the California Department of Transportation (Department) recommends that the Commission defer approval of this Resolution at this time and add this project to the list of allocation amendments submitted by applicant agencies that are pending further action by the Commission.

BACKGROUND:

On August 14, 2003, the Commission approved the Guidelines for Letter of No Prejudice, Traffic Congestion Relief Program (Guidelines) under Resolution G-03-12. Under the Guidelines, upon completion of the phase(s) of an approved Letter, an applicant agency may request to have its Letter liquidated with an allocation by the Commission; with the proviso that up to one-half the resources appropriated in a given fiscal year to the TCR Fund will be reserved for the allocation and reimbursement for approved Letters. However, included in the Guidelines is Section 1.1, which states, “It should be noted that agencies proceed at their own risk, and that reimbursement is dependent on availability of TCR funding”.

On January 10, 2004, the Administration released its budget proposals for FY 2004-05. The proposals include the transfer of \$189,000,000 from the TCR Fund to the General Fund, the elimination of TCR project definitions from statutes, and the rescission of all allocations and approvals for AB 1335 TCRP Letter of No Prejudice.

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Given the uncertainties of the TCR Program, the Department recommends that requests to allocate TCR funds or transfer previously allocated TCR funds be deferred until future funding for TCR projects can be assessed.

Attachment

Mass Transportation Financial Matters

Project # Allocation Amount Implementing Agency District-County	BREF # and Project Description Description of Amendment	Item # Program Code	Total Allocation Amount
2.6e. Traffic Congestion Relief Program Projects		Resolution TFP-04-	
1 \$2,000,000 San Diego North County Transit District 11 – San Diego	<p>Project #74.5 – Pacific Surfliner; double track intercity rail line within San Diego County, add maintenance yard in San Diego County.</p> <p>The project will construct a 1.7-mile passing track on the east side of the existing main track in the City of Encinitas. This allocation seeks to convert and reimburse previously approved AB1335 Letter of No Prejudice in amount of \$2,000,000 for Phase 4– Construction using Traffic Congestion Relief Funding.</p> <p><u>The Department cannot recommend approval because of uncertainties in the current cash forecast.</u></p>	Chapter 91 of the Statutes of 2000 899 -3007 30.20.710.000	\$2,000,000