

Memorandum

To: CHAIR AND COMMISSIONERS

Date: September 28, 2009

From: BIMLA G. RHINEHART
Executive Director

Reference No. 2.1c(5a)
Action

Ref: Trade Corridors Improvement Fund (TCIF) – Project Baseline Amendment Resolution TCIF-P-0910-03

ISSUE

Should the Commission approve the proposed TCIF Project Baseline Amendment for TCIF Project 44: *Magnolia Avenue Grade Separation (UPRR) Project*, to delay the completion date for the PS&E phase from August 2008 to September 2009, the Right of Way completion date from February 2009 to June 2009, the Construction start date from June 2009 to February 2010 and the Construction completion date from May 2011 to January 2012 due to unexpected delays in the PS&E phase as a result of the discovery of soil and groundwater contaminants and a delay in allocation due to the state's financial crisis?

RECOMMENDATION

Commission staff recommends that the Commission approve the proposed TCIF Project Baseline Amendment.

BACKGROUND

The Riverside County Transportation Commission (RCTC) and the City of Riverside propose to amend the Project Baseline Agreement for TCIF Project 44: *Magnolia Avenue Grade Separation (UPRR) Project* to delay the completion date for the PS&E phase from August 2008 to September 2009, the Right of Way completion date from February 2009 to June 2009, the Construction start date from June 2009 to February 2010 and the Construction completion date from May 2011 to January 2012 due to unexpected delays in the PS&E phase as a result of the discovery of soil and groundwater contaminants and a delay in allocation due to the state's financial crisis.

The PS&E phase was essentially complete (95%) when onsite soil, soil vapor and groundwater contaminants were discovered. The design was put on hold while characterization of the contaminants was completed. The characterization is now sufficiently complete and PS&E is scheduled for completion in September 2009.

Although the City of Riverside has possession of all parcels necessary for the project, completion of the Right of Way phase was delayed to allow the City to address and plan

for the relocation of the remaining three businesses. The Right of Way was completed in June 2009.

The Construction phase was scheduled to begin in June 2009 and accordingly, the City requested an allocation from the Commission in early 2009. However, due to the state's financial crisis and related delays in bond sales during the spring of 2009, the Commission was unable to approve the allocation for this project until May 2009, which delayed advertisement and award. The project is currently scheduled for award in November 2009 and to begin Construction in February of 2010.