

Memorandum

To: CHAIR AND COMMISSIONERS
CALIFORNIA TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

CTC Meeting: June 27-28, 2012

Reference No.: 2.8a.(10)
Action Item

From: NORMA ORTEGA
Chief Financial Officer

Prepared by: William D. Bronte
Division Chief
Rail

Subject: **REQUEST TO EXTEND THE PERIOD OF PROJECT ALLOCATION FOR STIP INTERCITY RAIL AND LOCALLY ADMINISTERED RAIL PROJECT, PER STIP GUIDELINES WAIVER 12-43**

RECOMMENDATION:

The California Department of Transportation (Department) requests that the California Transportation Commission (Commission) extend the period of project allocation for the Stockton Intercity Passenger Rail Station Relocation project (PPNO 2081) in San Joaquin County for 20 months, to February 2014, per STIP Guidelines.

ISSUE:

The Commission has programmed \$100,000 in the State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) for the Stockton Intercity Passenger Rail Station Relocation project (Project). Six daily round trips serve Stockton on San Joaquin Corridor, which operates between Bakersfield and Oakland. Four of the round trips stop at the Stockton Amtrak station along the Burlington Northern Santa Fe Railway line; two round trips stop at the Altamont Commuter Express station on Weber Street, along the Union Pacific Railroad line. This Project will allow all six round trips to use a single station, which will improve connecting service to the commuter and high-speed rail network.

The recently released 2012 California High Speed Rail Business Plan proposes a blended system of intercity, urban/commuter and high-speed rail service within the state. The Commission and the California High Speed Rail Authority are working cooperatively with the Department and other northern California rail operators to develop this new blended system. The Northern California Blended Passenger Rail Memorandum of Understanding (MOU), which is currently being developed by these parties, will provide a framework for implementing this blended system. This Project will be a part of the MOU. Negotiations for the MOU should be finalized within 12 months. Identifying a Project site will require an additional eight months, after which environmental work can begin. Therefore, the Department requests a 20-month extension for the period of project allocation.

BACKGROUND:

Current STIP guidelines stipulate that funds that are programmed for all components of local rail/transit grant projects or for Department construction costs are available for allocation only until the end of the fiscal year identified in the STIP. The Commission may approve waivers to the timely use of funds deadline one time only for up to 20 months in accordance with Section 14529.8 of the Government Code.