

Memorandum

To: CHAIR AND COMMISSIONERS
CALIFORNIA TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

CTC Meeting: October 24, 2012

Reference No.: 2.8c.
Action Item

From: NORMA ORTEGA
Chief Financial Officer

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Mass Transportation

Subject: **REQUEST TO EXTEND THE PERIOD OF PROJECT COMPLETION FOR
LOCALLY- ADMINISTERED STIP TRANSIT PROJECTS, PER STIP GUIDELINES
WAIVER 12-65**

RECOMMENDATION:

The California Department of Transportation recommends the California Transportation Commission (Commission) extend the period of project completion by 20 months, to June 30, 2014, for the Metrolink Systemwide Infrastructure Upgrade project (PPNO 2921) in Ventura County.

ISSUE:

On October 15, 2009, the Commission approved Resolution MFP-09-04 allocating \$3,000,000 to the Southern California Regional Rail Authority (SCRRA) for the Metrolink Systemwide Infrastructure Upgrade project. Completion of the project has been delayed due to a change in the major work element relating to the refurbishment and procurement of the locomotive vehicles.

Initially, SCRRA had intended to rehabilitate some of the locomotives and passenger cars; however, SCRRA management has decided instead to procure new Tier 4 locomotive engines. These engines are estimated to emit up to 86 percent fewer emissions than current locomotives. At the same time, SCRRA is also expected to refurbish up to 30 locomotives with Tier 4 technology and increase the current horsepower on these vehicles. As a result, getting the Federal Transit Administration approval of SCRRA's application for the federal portion of the project's full funding plan has also been delayed. The Tier 4 engines procurement and locomotive refurbishment contract is set to be awarded by November 2012 and the drawdown of the unexpended funds to be completed by June 2014.

Therefore, a 20-month extension to the period of project completion to extend the deadline to June 30, 2014, is being requested.

BACKGROUND:

Current State Transportation Improvement Program guidelines stipulate that a local agency has up to 36 months from the award of the contract in which to complete the project. The Commission may approve waivers to the timely use of funds deadline one time only for up to 20 months in accordance with Government Code Section 14529.8.