

# Memorandum

To: CHAIR AND COMMISSIONERS  
CALIFORNIA TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

CTC Meeting: May 7, 2013

Reference No.: 2.8d.(2)  
Action Item

From: NORMA ORTEGA  
Chief Financial Officer

Prepared by: Rachel Falsetti  
Division Chief  
Transportation Programming

Subject: **REQUEST TO EXTEND THE PERIOD OF PROJECT DEVELOPMENT EXPENDITURES FOR LOCALLY-ADMINISTERED STIP PROJECTS, PER RESOLUTION G-06-08 WAIVER 13-18**

## **RECOMMENDATION:**

The California Department of Transportation (Department) recommends the California Transportation Commission (Commission) approve the request by the Calaveras Council of Governments (CCOG) to extend the period of project development expenditure for the Environmental phase of the Wagon Trail Bypass project (PPNO 3067) in Calaveras County by 20 months, from June 30, 2013 to February 28, 2015.

## **ISSUE:**

At its June-July 2010 meeting, the Commission approved an allocation of Regional Improvement Program (RIP) funds for the Environmental phase. The CCOG and the Department were committed to obtaining voluntary rights of entry for environmental studies, and did not view pursuit of legal access through the courts as a potential option for moving the project forward. This commitment to voluntary action was recently confirmed and supported by the Calaveras County Board of Supervisors in January 2013. The CCOG underestimated the time needed to secure voluntary rights of entry for environmental studies. It became apparent that additional community outreach was necessary. Over the past two years, numerous community and property owner meetings have been held to gather feedback and address concerns. The additional community outreach has been successful and the CCOG has now received rights of entry from nearly 98 percent of the property owners. The necessary environmental field studies are now underway, but the Environmental phase will not be complete until February 2015.

## **BACKGROUND:**

Current STIP Guidelines stipulate that funds allocated for local project development or right of way costs must be expended by the end of the second fiscal year following the fiscal year in which the funds were allocated. The Commission may approve a waiver 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.