



U.S. Department
of Transportation
**Federal Transit
Administration**

REGION IX
Arizona, California,
Hawaii, Nevada, Guam
American Samoa,
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Ross A. Chittendon, Chief
Caltrans Division of Transportation Programming, MS 82
P.O. Box 942874
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AUG 31 2005

RE: Amendment Number 7 to Merced County
Association of Governments (MCAG) 2004/2005-
2006/2007 Federal Transportation Improvement
Program (FTIP)

Dear Mr. Chittenden:

We have completed our review of Amendment Number 7 of the Merced County Association of Governments' (MCAG) 2004/2005-2006/2007 Federal Transportation Improvement Program (FTIP). This amendment was adopted by MCAG on July 21, 2005.

We find this amendment in accordance with 23 CFR 450 and to be based on a continuing, comprehensive, and coordinated transportation planning process in accordance with the provisions of 23 USC 134 and 49 USC 5303. We further find that amendment is categorically exempt from a regional air quality analysis, does not affect MCAG's existing air quality conformity determination, and is consistent with the State Implementation Plan. In addition, the funds programmed are consistent with anticipated revenues and the amendment does not conflict with current financial planning expectations.

This letter also constitutes approval of this amendment for inclusion in California's 2004/2005- 2006/2007 Federal Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (FSTIP).

This letter constitutes approval of the amendment with the understanding that FTA funding approval on individual projects is subject to the grantees meeting the necessary administrative requirements.

Should you have any question please contact Ted Matley at (415) 744-2590.

Sincerely,

Leslie T. Rogers
Regional Administrator

Cc: Steve Barhite, EPA Office of Air Planning
Jesse B. Brown, Merced County Association of Governments
Sue Kiser, FHWA