



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

FEDERAL HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION

CALIFORNIA DIVISION

650 Capitol Mall, Suite 4-100

Sacramento, CA. 95814

March 9, 2005

IN REPLY REFER TO

HDA-CA

Document #: S46807

Mr. Will Kempton, Director
California Department of Transportation
1120 N Street
Sacramento, CA 95814

Attention: Federal Resources Office, Room 3500
For Ross A. Chittenden, Transportation Programming

Dear Mr. Kempton:

SUBJECT: SANDAG 2004/05-2006/07 FSTIP AMENDMENT NUMBER 4

We have completed our review of Amendment Number 4 to the San Diego Association of Governments (SANDAG) 2004 Regional Transportation Improvement Program (RTIP) that was submitted by your letter dated February 23, 2005. The SANDAG Board of Directors adopted Resolution No. 2005-16 on January 28, 2005, approving these RTIP modifications and reaffirming the conformity of the transportation improvement program with the State Implementation Plan (SIP) for air quality. As detailed in the enclosure to your letter, this SANDAG RTIP amendment proposes to modify funding for six projects listed in the triennial element of California's 2004/05-2006/07 Federal Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (FSTIP). Based on our review, Amendment No. 4 to the SANDAG RTIP increases RTIP/FSTIP funding commitments to projects in the SANDAG region by \$34.589 million in program year 2004/05, decreases funding commitments by \$15.7 million in year 2005/06, and increases funding commitments by \$366,000 in year 2006/07. Pursuant to 23 CFR 450.216, project programming information provided for additional years beyond the current FSTIP triennial element is accepted by the Federal Highway Administration and Federal Transit Administration (FTA) for information purposes.

We find that SANDAG's 2004/05-2006/07 RTIP, including Amendment No. 4, was developed through a continuing, cooperative and comprehensive transportation planning process in accord with the metropolitan transportation planning provisions of 23 USC §134 and 49 USC Chapter 53. We have determined that the adopted modifications to the SANDAG FTIP, proposed for inclusion in California's FSTIP by this amendment, are exempt from the regional emissions analysis and conformity determination requirements of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA's) Transportation Conformity Rule as amended. Our transportation planning and air quality conformity findings have been coordinated with the regional offices of the U.S.



EPA and FTA. We are approving this amendment to the 2004/05-2006/07 FSTIP for the SANDAG region pursuant to the Federal statewide and metropolitan transportation planning regulations codified in 23 CFR Part 450, and in accord with the July 15, 2004, *Memorandum of Understanding between the Federal Highway Administration, California Division, and the Federal Transit Administration, Region IX*.

If you have questions or need additional information concerning our FSTIP approval for this SANDAG RTIP amendment, please contact Wade Hobbs of the FHWA California Division office at (916) 498-5027, or by email at wade.hobbs@fhwa.dot.gov.

Sincerely,

/s/ Wade Hobbs

/s/ Leslie T. Rogers

Leslie T. Rogers
Regional Administrator
Federal Transit Administration

For
Gene K. Fong
Division Administrator
Federal Highway Administration

cc: (e-mail)

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SANDAG FTIP Binder

WHobbs/jf