

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
 DIVISION OF TRANSPORTATION PROGRAMMING
 1120 N STREET M.S. 82
 P. O. BOX 942873
 SACRAMENTO, CA 94273-0001
 PHONE (916) 654-4013
 FAX (916) 654-2738
 TTY (916) 653-4086



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February 8, 2007

Gene K. Fong
 Division Administrator
 Federal Highway Administration
 650 Capitol Mall, Suite 4-100
 Sacramento, CA 95814

Attention: Ms. Sue Kiser

Dear Ms. Kiser:

With this letter, and pursuant to the authority delegated to me, I approve the following amendment of the Tulare County Association of Governments' (TCAG) 2006/07 - 2008/09 Federal Transportation Improvement Program (FTIP):

<u>No.</u>	<u>Description</u>
4	<p>Local and State Element</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Modifies the Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement Program (CMAQ) by delaying four projects from Fiscal Year (FY) 2005/06 to FY 2006/07, delaying two projects from FY 2006/07 to FY 07/08, delaying six projects from FY 2006/07 to FY 2008/09, and delaying one project from FY 2006/07 to FY 2009/10. • Modifies funding for a State Route (SR) 198 and SR 65 traffic signal, and intersection improvement project. The revised funding is as follows: \$140,000 in federal Hazard Elimination Safety funds for preliminary engineering; \$49,000 in State Highway Operations and Maintenance Protection Program (SHOPP) Minor A state cash for right of way; \$271,000 of Regional Improvement Program state cash for construction, and \$1,034,000 of SHOPP Minor A state cash for construction. A total of \$1,494,000 is being programmed for this project in FY 2006/07. • Delays a City of Exeter Transportation Enhancement project from FY 2005/06 to FY 2006/07.

I am also recommending that the Federal Highway Administration approve this FTIP Amendment No. 4 for inclusion into California's 2006/07 - 2008/09 Federal Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (FSTIP). Projects included in this FTIP, in fiscal years beyond the three-year cycle of the current FSTIP, are not approved as part of this FTIP amendment and are for information only.

Please note that the approval of this amendment does not constitute eligibility determination for the projects from this amendment that are funded from the CMAQ program.

The updated programming has been found by TCAG to conform to applicable air quality regulations, and satisfy the requirements of 40 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) 93.126. As a result, no additional conformity determination is needed. The projects also conform to the applicable State Implementation Plans and meet all applicable transportation planning requirements per 23 CFR Part 450, and do not interfere with the timely implementation of any approved Transportation Control Measures and maintain the financial constraint of the 2007 FTIP. These projects are included and submitted by TCAG through the California Transportation Improvement Program System (CTIPS). The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) concerns, if any, are reflected in the "Caltrans comment" section of the FTIP Project Data Entry screen in CTIPS project by project.

In accordance with existing law, public involvement procedures are a part of the project selection process. TCAG prepared this FTIP amendment under that process permitting citizens, affected local agencies, other public agencies, and other interested parties reasonable opportunity for comment.

Please address any questions on this FSTIP approval request to Penny Gray, of my staff, at (916) 654-3521.

Sincerely,



RACHEL FALSETTI
Acting Chief
Division of Transportation Programming

Enclosures

c: Karina O'Connor - EPA Office of Air Planning (w/enclosure)
Lisa Hanf- EPA Office of Air Planning (w/enclosure)
Ted Smalley, Deputy Executive Director, TCAG
Rachel Falsetti - Caltrans