

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
DIVISION OF TRANSPORTATION PROGRAMMING
P.O. Box 942873, MS-82
SACRAMENTO, CA 94273-0001
PHONE (916) 654-2983
FAX (916) 654-2738
TTY-711



*Flex your power!
Be energy efficient!*

September 22, 2011

Mr. Jesse B. Brown
Executive Director
Merced County Association of Governments
369 West 18th Street
Merced, CA 95340

Dear Mr. Brown:

The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) received the Merced County Association of Governments' (MCAG) request for delegated authority from Caltrans to approve Administrative Modifications to the Federal Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (FSTIP). The board action attached to your request indicates that the MCAG Executive Director is delegated authority to approve the approval of Administrative Modifications to the Federal Transportation Improvement Program (FTIP) and the FSTIP.

With the acknowledgement of your board action, Caltrans hereby delegates to MCAG the authority to approve Administrative Modifications to the FSTIP in accordance with the revised FSTIP/FTIP Amendments and Administrative Modification Procedures dated June 7, 2011.

The following procedures apply to all MPOs that receive Caltrans' delegation:

1. Prior to approving the FTIP/FSTIP administrative modifications, the MCAG may consult with Caltrans on proposed changes.
2. The MCAG may request Caltrans to provide a cursory review of the administrative modification prior to MCAG's approval.
3. The MCAG shall send copies of the approved administrative modifications to Caltrans, Federal Highway Administration, Federal Transit Administration, and other stakeholders. Caltrans will post the approved administrative modifications on the Division of Transportation Programming Website.
4. Caltrans will routinely review the MCAG's approved administrative modifications and will reject changes that do not comply with the attached procedures. In such cases MCAG must correct all items of noncompliance.
5. Caltrans will withdraw its delegation from MCAG if it is found to be consistently noncompliant with the revised FSTIP/FTIP Amendments and Administrative Modification Procedures.

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Thank you for requesting this delegation that will undoubtedly streamline your region's programming process and thus expedite projects. My staff is looking forward to working with your staff to ensure a successful implementation of this delegation. If you have any questions, please call Muhaned Aljabiry at (916) 654-2983.

Sincerely,



RACHEL FALSETTI
Chief
Division of Transportation Programming

Attachments

- c: Scott Carson, Federal Highway Administration (w/attachments)
- Eric Eidlin, Federal Transit Administration (w/attachments)

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bc: Ty Phimmasone, MCA
Denix Anbiah, Caltrans Division of Local Assistance
Fardad Falakfarsa, Caltrans Division of Budgets
Kimbery Gayle, Caltrans Division of Mass Transportation
Sinaren Pheng, Caltrans District 10 Local Assistance

September 16, 2011

Rachel Falsetti, Chief
Department of Transportation
Division of Transportation Programming
P.O. Box 924873, MS 82
Sacramento, CA 92473-0001

Attn: Muhaned Aljabiry

Subject: Approve Administrative Modifications to the FSTIP in Accordance with the Revised Amendment and Administrative Modifications Procedures and Delegation Authority to Approve Administrative Modifications to the FSTIP

Dear Ms. Falsetti,

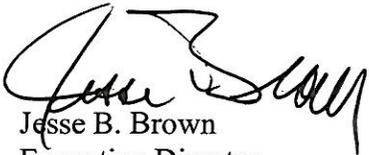
Please accept for your review the Merced County Association of Governments (MCAG) July 21, 2011 Minute Order for Board Action on this subject. As shown on the minute order, the MCAG Board unanimously accepted the motion to approve administration modifications to the Federal Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (FSTIP) in accordance with the June 3, 2011 Federal Highway Administration revised Federal Statewide Transportation Improvement Program and Federal Transportation Improvement Program Amendment and Administrative Modification Procedures.

In addition, the MCAG Board accepted the motion to delegate the approval of administrative modifications to the executive director. With this minute order, the MCAG is requesting delegation authority from Caltrans to approve administrative modifications to the FSTIP.

The MCAG Public Participation Plan (PPP), with the MCAG Board adoption of the revisions on September 15, 2011, is now consistent with this new process and the revised amendment and administrative modification procedures.

If you have any questions regarding the attached board minute order, please contact: Ty Phimmasone, Associate Planner at ty.phimmasone@mcagov.org or 209-723-3153 ext. 309.

Sincerely,



Jesse B. Brown
Executive Director

Attachment: Minute Order for July 21, 2011, MCAG Board Meeting
Minute Order for September 15, 2011, MCAG Board Meeting

ITEM 15b

MEMORANDUM

DATE: SEPTEMBER 8, 2011

TO: MCAG GOVERNING BOARD

FROM: MATT FELL, SENIOR PLANNER

RE: PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PLAN MODIFICATION #1

MCAG adopted a Public Participation Plan (PPP) in February 2008. The Public Participation Plan provides direction for public participation activities to be conducted by MCAG and contains the procedures, strategies and techniques used by MCAG for public participation.

Modification #1 changes the procedures for Administrative Modifications (“Type 1”) to the Federal Transportation Improvement Program (FTIP) and also adds language noting that the PPP satisfies the Transit Joint Powers Authority’s public participation requirements for the Program of Projects.

A 45-day public review and comment period on the draft PPP commenced on August 2, 2011, and will conclude on September 15, 2011. A public hearing was held on the Plan at the Governing Board meeting on August 18, 2011. No comments were received at the public hearing.

Public comments may be submitted in writing to MCAG staff by 3:00 p.m. on September 15, 2011.

REQUESTED ACTION

Adopt Modification #1 to the Public Participation Plan.

Attachments: Public Participation Plan – Final Draft of Modification #1

MINUTE ORDER

MERCED COUNTY ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS

EXCERPT FROM MINUTES, MEETING HELD:

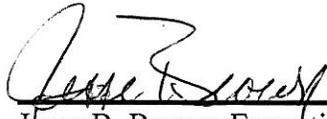
September 15, 2011

RE: PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PLAN MODIFICATION #1

Item 15b Public Participation Plan Modification #1

Director Faul moved to adopt Modification #1 to the Public Participation Plan.
Seconded by Director Blake.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.



Jesse B. Brown, Executive Director
Merced County Association of Governments