U.S. Department of Transportation
Federal Highway Administration

California Division

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Sacramento, CA 95814
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May 26, 2011

In Reply Refer To:
HDA-CA

Mr. Malcolm Dougherty, Acting Caltrans Director
California Department of Transportation
1120 N Street
Sacramento, CA 95814

Attn: Federal Resources Office, M.S. 82
For Rachel Falsetti, Division of Transportation Programming

SUBJECT: TCAG FY 2010/11-2013/14 FTIP Amendment # 9

Dear Mr. Dougherty:

The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) have completed the review of Amendment # 9 to the Tulare County Association of Governments (TCAG) FY 2010/11-2013/14 Federal Transportation Improvement Program (FTIP) that was submitted by your letter dated May 23, 2011. TCAG adopted Amendment # 9 on May 16, 2011. This amendment to TCAG's FTIP:

- Modifies 3 projects in the Grouped Projects Listing and 1 individual project in Tulare County. The amendment also deletes 2 projects. Funding sources include Highway Bridge Program, the State Transportation Improvement Program, FTA Section 5307 and local funds.

Pursuant to the July 17, 2004, *Memorandum of Understanding between the Federal Highway Administration, California Division, and the Federal Transit Administration, Region IX,* we accept the modifications to the 2010/11 – 2013/14 Federal Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (FSTIP) for the TCAG region in accordance with the Final Rule on Statewide and Metropolitan Transportation Planning published in the February 14, 2007 Federal Register. We find that the TCAG's FTIP, through Amendment # 9, was developed through a continuing, cooperative and comprehensive transportation planning process carried out in accordance with the metropolitan planning provisions of 23 U.S.C. 174, and 49 U.S.C. Chapter 53 as amended by Section 6001 of Public Law 109-59, the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU).

We have determined that this program modification does not require a new regional emissions analysis because the projects were found to conform as part of a previous analysis, pursuant to the transportation conformity provisions found in 40 CFR Part 93 section 122(g). This finding has been coordinated with Region 9 of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) in accordance with the procedures outlined in the *National Memorandum of*

Understanding between DOT and EPA on Transportation Conformity, dated April 25, 2000. Therefore, we find that the FTIP continues to conform to the applicable State Implementation Plan (SIP).

This approval is provided with the understanding that the FTA funding approval on the individual projects contained in the FSTIP are subject to grantees meeting all necessary FTA administrative requirements, and that approval of this programming action does not provide a federal eligibility determination for CMAQ projects or any other project funding source included in this amendment.

If you have questions or need additional information concerning our approval for this TCAG FSTIP amendment, please contact Scott Carson (Scott.Carson@dot.gov) of the FHWA California Division office at (916) 498-5029.

Sincerely,

/s/ Leslie T. Rogers

Leslie T. Rogers
Regional Administrator
Federal Transit Administration

For
Robert F. Tally Jr.
Acting Division Administrator
Federal Highway Administration

cc: (e-mail)
Ray Sukys, FTA
Alex Smith, FTA
Muhaned Aljabiry, Caltrans
Dennis Jacobs, Caltrans
Dennis Wade, CARB
Ted Smalley, TCAG
Eddie Wendt, TCAG
Joseph Vaughn, FHWA
Karina O'Connor, EPA
Cari Anderson, CA Consulting

cc: (other)
TCAG FTIP Binder

SCarson/km