U.S. Department of Transportation
Federal Highway Administration

California Division

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August 23, 2017

In Reply Refer To:
HDA-CA

Mr. Bruce de Terra
Chief,Division of Transportation Programming
California Department of Transportation
1120 N Street, M.S. 82
Sacramento, CA 92814

Attention: Muhaned Aljabiry, Chief
Office of Federal Transportation Management Program

SUBJECT: MCAG FY 2016/ 2017 – 2019/ 2020 FTIP/ FSTIP Amendment No. 5

Dear Mr. Aljabiry:

The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) have completed our review of the Merced County Association of Governments' (MCAG) FY 2016/ 2017 – 2019/ 2020 FTIP/ FSTIP Amendment No. 5 submitted by your letter dated August 18, 2017. MCAG adopted Amendment No. 5 with Resolution 2017/ 08-17-04 on August 17, 2017. With that action, the MCAG Governing Board approved the program revisions and made the determination that MCAG's 2017 FTIP remains in conformity with the applicable State Implementation Plan (SIP) for air quality. This amendment proposes to modify the source and/or amount of funding for highway projects.

We have determined that this program revision 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 MCAG's 2017 FTIP through Amendment No. 5 continues to conform to the applicable State Implementation Plan (SIP).

Per the December 15, 2014 *Memorandum of Understanding between the Federal Highway Administration, California Division, and the Federal Transit Administration, Region IX*, we accept the revisions to the FY 2016/ 2017 – 2019/ 2020 FTIP/ FSTIP for the MCAG region in accordance with the Final Rule on Statewide and Metropolitan Transportation Planning published in the May 27, 2016 Federal Register. We find that the MCAG FY 2017 FTIP, including Amendment No. 5, was developed through a continuing, cooperative, comprehensive transportation planning process in accordance with 23 U.S.C. §134 and 49 U.S.C. Chapter 53.

This amendment was coordinated with FTA and since it includes no Transit Element projects, no concurrence is needed from the FTA Region IX office.

Based upon our review, we find the FTIP financial constraint documentation submitted with this amendment is financially constrained as required by the Federal surface transportation programs authorizing legislation and statewide and metropolitan planning and programming regulations. Accordingly, FHWA and FTA approve this amendment in accordance with 23 CFR 450. This letter also constitutes approval and inclusion of MCAG's 2017 FTIP Amendment No. 5 into California's 2017 FSTIP.

If you have any questions regarding this action, please call Stew Sonnenberg at (916) 498-5889 or stew.sonnenberg@dot.gov .

Sincerely,

Tashia J. Clemons

Tashia J. Clemons
Director Program Development
Federal Highway Administration