U.S. Department of Transportation
Federal Highway Administration

California Division

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December 14, 2012

In Reply Refer To:
HDA-CA

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

Attention: Rachel Falsetti, Chief, Division of Transportation Programming

Dear Mr. Dougherty:

SUBJECT: 2013 FEDERAL STATEWIDE TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

We have completed our review of California's proposed 2012/13 - 2015/16 Federal Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (2013 FSTIP) and Statewide and Metropolitan Planning Certifications and related supporting documentation that was submitted by the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) by letter dated November 5, 2012. The Federal Transit Administration (FTA) and the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) approve the 2013 FSTIP and this approval supersedes California's 2011 FSTIP and all subsequent amendments to the 2011 FSTIP that were approved by the FHWA and FTA on or after December 14, 2010.

Section 450.218 of Title 23, Code of Federal Regulations, requires the State to submit the updated FSTIP concurrently to the FTA and the FHWA at least every four years for joint approval. With the exception of the Lake Tahoe planning area, California's proposed 2012/13 FSTIP includes the project and project phase listings for proposed transportation projects located outside the planning area boundaries of the State's designated Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPOs). California's proposed 2013 FSTIP also incorporates by reference: those projects included in the transportation improvement program developed and adopted by the Tahoe Regional Planning Agency (formerly the Tahoe MPO); those projects included in FFY 2012/13 and 2013/14 of the 2010/11 Federal Transportation Improvement Program adopted by the Metropolitan Transportation Commission; and those projects included in the 2012/13 Federal Transportation Improvements Programs (FTIPs), and related FTIP amendments to the 2013 FTIPs, adopted by the other sixteen designated MPOs in California.

The FHWA and the FTA have completed the air quality conformity determinations required by 23 CFR 450.216(b) for the MPO FTIPs in areas of the State designated as nonattainment or maintenance for national ambient air quality standards (NAAQS).

Based on our review of the information submitted with the State's proposed 2013 FSTIP, including revenue and proposed project funding information required to demonstrate financial constraint, and documentation for statewide and metropolitan planning process in support of California's Statewide Planning Certification, we are approving the 2013 FSTIP as proposed.

Any project or project phase listed in a MPO FTIP that is not included in the MPO's Regional Transportation Plan, is not approved for inclusion in the FSTIP pursuant to 23 CFR §§450.216(k) and 450.324(g).

Our FSTIP approval action includes project listings that indicate no funds are proposed for obligation during the four-year program period from 2012/13 to 2015/16. These projects and project phases cannot be advanced to implementation without an action by the FHWA and the FTA on the FSTIP pursuant to 23 CFR 450.216(l) and 450.328(e). Further, project or project phase funding included in the 2013 FSTIP that is listed/proposed for obligation outside the four year program cycle is accepted by the FHWA and the FTA as 'informational' in accord with 23 CFR §§450.216(a) and 450.324(a).

We are approving the 2013 FSTIP with the understanding that the eligibility of individual projects for funding is subject to the applicant's satisfaction of all federal requirements. This joint FHWA and FTA approval of the FSTIP does not constitute an eligibility determination for the federal funds proposed for obligation on any of the listed projects.

If you have questions or need additional information concerning our approval of the 2013 FSTIP, please contact Wade Hobbs in the FHWA California Division office at (916) 498-5027, or by email at Wade.Hobbs@dot.gov; or Ted Matley in the FTA Region IX office at (415) 744-2590, or by email at Ted.Matley@dot.gov.

Sincerely,

For Leslie T. Rogers
Regional Administrator
Federal Transit Administration

For
Vincent P. Mammano
Division Administrator
Federal Highway Administration

c: (email)
EPA, Region IX
ARB
CALTRANS:
  Fardad Falakfarsa, Office Chief, Office of Federal Resources
  Denix Anbiah, Division Chief, Division of Local Assistance
  Muhaned Aljabiry, Office Chief, Office of Federal Transportation Management Program
  Garth Hopkins, Office Chief, Office of Regional and Interagency Planning
Bureau of Indian Affairs, Pacific Region Roads Engineer
All California MPOs (17)
FTA Region IX, Ray Sukys
FHWA:
  LA Metro Office
  CFLHD
  NVDO

cc:
2012/13 FSTIP Binder

WEH/