

Memorandum

To: CHAIR AND COMMISSIONERS
CALIFORNIA TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

CTC Meeting: May 23, 2012

Reference No.: 2.8c.(1)
Action Item

From: NORMA ORTEGA
Chief Financial Officer

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Division Chief
Local Assistance

Subject: **REQUEST TO EXTEND THE PERIOD OF PROJECT COMPLETION FOR LOCALLY-ADMINISTERED STIP PROJECT, PER STIP GUIDELINES WAIVER-12-27**

RECOMMENDATION:

The California Department of Transportation (Department) recommends the California Transportation Commission (Commission) approve the request by the City of Bakersfield (City) to extend the period of project completion for the State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) Westside Parkway project (Project) – Phase 2 (PPNO 06-8705E) for 14 months from June 30, 2012 to August 31, 2013.

ISSUE:

On August 28, 2008, the Commission approved Resolution FP-08-08, allocating \$62,000,000 to the Project. The City is unable to complete project construction by the deadline of June 30, 2012. Therefore, the City is requesting a 14-month time extension to August 31, 2013.

BACKGROUND:

The City awarded the construction contract on June 9, 2009. The climate for bidding was advantageous to advertising agencies at that time; therefore, with consultation with the Department and the Commission, the base bid was amended to include five additive alternate segments, tripling the project's interchanges and freeway miles.

Furthermore, determinations from the noise analysis for the adjacent Centennial Corridor project (Centennial) and the fact this project will be designated as State Route 58 (SR58), has required sound walls to be increased in height by an additional two feet to accommodate the anticipated noise. The City, using local funds, modified the project designs, changed construction plans, prepared a new environmental re-evaluation and negotiated a change order with the contractor to construct the higher sound walls. Since the project will now be connecting to the Centennial and become SR58, the design was elevated to Department freeway standards; resulting in the Department reviewing the project construction plans.

All of these factors have resulted in delays to the project's construction. The City anticipates requiring 10 months to close-out all change orders and contractor issues, plus four months to address any unforeseen and administrative issues of the project. Therefore, the City is requesting 14-month time extension to August 31, 2013.

Current STIP Guidelines stipulate that a local agency has up to 36 months from the time of contract award to accept the contract. The local agency has 180 days after the contract acceptance to prepare and submit the final invoices and reports to the Department. The Guidelines further stipulate that the Commission may approve a waiver to the project completion deadline one time only for up to 20 months in accordance with Section 14529.8 of the Government Code.