U.S. Department of Transportation
Federal Highway Administration

Central Federal Lands Highway Division

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February 24, 2015

In Reply Refer To:
HFPM-16

Susan Bransen
Executive Director
California Transportation Commission
1120 N. Street, MS 52
Sacramento, California 95814

Re: Request for Early Authorization of Construction Match Funds for Convict Lake Road Federal Lands Access Program (FLAP) Project

Dear Ms. Bransen:

The Convict Lake Road improvement project includes 2.75 miles of roadway rehabilitation including needed safety improvements, and a Class III bike lane. There is also an option associated with the project utilizing Forest Service funds to rehabilitate a multi-use trail to meet current Americans with Disability Act standards for accessible design. The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), Central Federal Lands Highway Division (CFLHD), is in agreement with Mono County's request for early authorization of construction matching funds for construction of the Convict Lake Road improvement project in 2015.

The project leverages funds from both the FLAP program and the Forest Service. The FLAP program is providing funding for 88.53% of the roadway project and has this project programmed for construction in 2015. The project was originally programmed for construction in 2017, but funds have become available and the project benefits from an accelerated construction schedule by avoiding rising costs due to inflation. The Forest Service is fully funding the trail option. The Forest Service funds must be obligated in fiscal year 2015 or the project is at risk of losing these funds. The roadway project benefits from the addition trail work by sharing administrative costs during construction.

As required by MAP-21 legislation, there is a local match requirement of 11.47% for the roadway portion of the project. In order for this project to be constructed in 2015, the match funds must be available either (1) prior to advertisement, or (2) prior to completion of construction, with an approval to use a tapered match. CFLHD has already approved a tapered match for this project to meet the accelerated schedule.

CFLHD anticipates advertising this project in early April 2015, awarding the contract in mid-May 2015 and issuing a notice to proceed in mid-June 2015. Anticipated construction duration is mid-June through early October 2015. All environmental clearances have been completed, at both the Federal and State levels. CFLHD will have an approved 100% plans and specifications package by mid-March 2015.

YELLOW MEETING HANDOUT

CFLHD appreciates your efforts to provide the required construction matching funds to Mono County to meet our project schedule and maximize the leveraged funds on the project. Please feel free to contact me at wendy.longley@dot.gov or by phone at 720-963-3394 with any questions.

Sincerely,

Wendy Longley, PE
Project Manager

YELLOW MEETING HANDOUT

USDA United States Department of Agriculture | Forest Service | Pacific Southwest Region

Inyo National Forest
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Bishop, CA 93514
(760) 873-2400 Voice
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Susan Bransen, Executive Director
California Transportation Commission
1120 N. Street, MS 52
Sacramento, CA 95814

March 12, 2015

Re: Request for Early Authorization of Construction Match Funds for Convict Lake Road Federal Lands Access Program (FLAP) Project.

Dear Susan Bransen,

The Inyo National Forest supports Mono County's request for early authorization of matching funds for the construction of the Convict Lake Road improvement project in 2015. The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), Central Federal Lands Highway Division (CFLHD), has secured FLAP funding for the project to be awarded in mid-May 2015 with construction commencing in mid-June 2015.

The project is a high priority for the Forest, as the Convict Lake Road provides easy access to spectacular scenery and recreational opportunities on the Forest for everyone to enjoy, including people with disabilities. The Forest Service is funding a contract option for a multi-use trail meeting the accessible standards of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). The Forest Service prioritized this project and accelerated the funding to meet the revised FHWA schedule. These funds must be obligated in fiscal year 2015.

The Inyo National Forest and Mono County have completed the required preparations for construction in 2015, including informing special use permit holders and the public of the upcoming construction schedule. All environmental clearances have been completed and FHWA's project documents are on schedule for this to be a successful project in 2015.

The Inyo National Forest appreciates you efforts to provide the required construction matching funds to Mono County to meet the 2015 project schedule. Please contact Tamara Scholten, Forest Engineer, at (760) 873-2487 or tamarascholten@fs.fed.us if you have any questions concerning this matter.

Sincerely,

Edward E. Armenta
Forest Supervisor
Inyo National Forest

cc: Jon Regelbrugge, District Ranger, Inyo National Forest
Garrett Higerd, Assistant Public Works Director, Mono County
Wendy Longley, FHWA Project Manager

YELLOW MEETING HANDOUT

Mono County
Local Transportation Commission

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(760) 924-1800 phone, 924-1801 fax
commdev@mono.ca.gov

P.O. Box 8
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January 12, 2015

To: Susan Bransen, Executive Director
California Transportation Commission
1120 N. Street, MS 52
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: Request for Early Authorization of Construction Match Funds for Convict Lake Road Federal Lands Access Program (FLAP) Project.

Dear Susan Bransen,

Mono County Department of Public Works is submitting an early request for authorization for allocation of $584,000 construction match funds at your March meeting in order to keep this project on the Federal Highways Administration's (FHWA)'s aggressive schedule. This project is a high priority for the Mono County Local Transportation Commission (LTC) and we request the CTC approve early allocation of state-only match funds for the construction phase of this project.

The Mono County LTC's 2014 Regional Transportation Improvement Program included the Convict Lake Road FLAP match. This project will rehabilitate 2.75 miles of Convict Lake Road and add bicycle lane improvements. The total project cost is estimated to be approximately $5,688,000, and is 88.53% funded with FLAP funds. The 2014 STIP programmed $79,000 of state-only match funds for PA&ED in 2014/15 and $584,000 of state-only match funds for Construction in 2015/16.

The environmental work and plans, specs, and estimates are complete and FHWA desires to advertise this project for bid in March and start construction this summer in order to utilize FLAP funding available in 2015. Reimbursements for construction work will still be made in 2015/16. However, early allocation is necessary to assure FHWA that match funds are secured prior to awarding the construction contract.

Any assistance in keeping this project on schedule is greatly appreciated. Please contact Garrett Higerd at (760) 924-1802 or ghigerd@mono.ca.gov if you have any questions concerning this.

Sincerely,

Fred Stump
Vice Chair, Mono County Local Transportation Commission

cc: Rachel Falsetti, Chief Division of Transportation Programming
Laurel Janssen, CTC Deputy Director
Michael Beauchamp, District 9 Director
Scott Burns, Executive Director MCLTC
Wendy Longley, FHWA Project Manager

YELLOW MEETING HANDOUT