



U.S. Department  
of Transportation

**Federal Highway  
Administration**

**Federal Highway Administration  
California Division**

June 25, 2010

650 Capitol Mall, Suite 4-100  
Sacramento, CA 95814  
(916) 498-5001  
(916) 498-5008 (fax)

In Reply Refer To:  
HDA-CA

Ms. Cindy McKim, Director  
California Department of Transportation  
1120 N Street  
Sacramento, CA 95814

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

Dear Ms. McKim:

SUBJECT: Fresno COG FTIP Amendment No. 23

The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) have completed the review of Amendment No. 23 to the Council of Fresno County Governments (Fresno COG) Federal Transportation Improvement Program (FTIP) that was submitted by your letter dated June 3, 2010. This amendment to Fresno COG's FTIP:

- o Increases funding for an existing project, adds funding to lump sum projects and updates the financial summary tables. The amendment includes projects with funding from the State Highway Operation and Protection Program (SHOPP) and local funds.

Pursuant to the July 15, 2004, *Memorandum of Understanding between the Federal Highway Administration, California Division, and the Federal Transit Administration, Region IX*, we accept the modifications (with exception\* noted below) to the 2008/09 – 2011/12 Federal Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (FSTIP) for the Fresno COG region in accordance with the Final Rule on Statewide and Metropolitan Transportation Planning published in the February 14, 2007 Federal Register.

\*Fresno COG FTIP Project # FRE091301 Route 180 Braided Ramp Project – there is no exempt category for “Other – Interchange reconfiguration projects” in the conformity regulations. Therefore, after consultation with Fresno COG and PAQT AQ staff, the original classification of non-exempt is appropriate.

We find that the Fresno COG's FTIP, through Amendment No. 23, 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. 134, 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 is exempt from the regional emissions analysis requirements pursuant to the transportation conformity provisions found in 40 CFR Part 93. 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 Fresno COG FSTIP amendment, please contact Scott Carson ([scott.carson@dot.gov](mailto:scott.carson@dot.gov)) of the FHWA California Division office at (916) 498-5029.

Sincerely,



For  
Walter C. Waidelich, Jr.  
Division Administrator  
Federal Highway Administration

Ray Sukys, FTA  
Paul Page, FTA  
Dennis Jacobs, Caltrans HQ  
Karina O'Connor, EPA  
Tony Boren, Fresno COG  
Barbara Steck, Fresno COG  
Melissa Garza, Fresno COG  
Cari Anderson, CA Consulting

cc: (other)  
Fresno COG TIP Binder

SCarson



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Sincerely,

*/s/ Wade E. Hobbs*

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Division Administrator  
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