U.S. DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
FEDERAL HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION
CALIFORNIA DIVISION
650 Capitol Mall, Suite 4-100
Sacramento, CA. 95814

March 2, 2009

IN REPLY REFER TO
HDA-CA
Document #: S52498

Mr. Will Kempton, 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 Mr. Kempton:

SUBJECT: SANDAG 2008/09 RTIP/FSTIP AMENDMENT NO. 2

We have completed our review of Amendment No. 2 to the San Diego Association of Governments (SANDAG) 2008 Regional Transportation Improvement Program (RTIP) that was submitted by your letter dated February 13, 2009. The SANDAG Board of Directors adopted Resolution No. 2009-14 on January 16, 2009, approving this RTIP modification and reaffirming the conformity of the transportation improvement program with the State Implementation Plan (SIP) for air quality. As detailed in the enclosure to your letter, this SANDAG RTIP amendment proposes to modify the source and/or amount of funding for fourteen projects currently listed in the 2008 RTIP and California's Federal Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (FSTIP), and to add fifteen new project listings to the 2008/09 RTIP and FSTIP.

We find that the SANDAG 2008 RTIP, including Amendment No. 2, was developed through a continuing, cooperative and comprehensive transportation planning process in accord with the metropolitan transportation planning provisions of 23 U.S.C. §134 and 49 U.S.C. Chapter 53. Our FSTIP approval for the new listing for the State Route 11 project (CAL66) is limited to engineering and project studies intended to assess social, economic, and environmental effects of the proposed action or alternatives to that action as permitted by 40 CFR 93.126, Table 2, Exempt Projects. Because the Amendment No. 2 indicates that no funding is proposed for the Mission Valley East LRT Operating project (MTS27A), we are accepting this project for inclusion in the FSTIP for information purposes. We have determined that modifications to the SANDAG RTIP that we are approving for inclusion in the California FSTIP are exempt from the regional emissions analysis requirements of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA's) Transportation Conformity Rule as amended. The metropolitan transportation planning

and regional air quality conformity findings have been coordinated with the regional offices of the U.S. EPA and Federal Transit Administration (FTA).

Based on our review of the RTIP financial constraint documentation submitted with the subject amendment, we have determined that the amended RTIP is financially constrained as required by the Federal surface transportation programs authorizing legislation and statewide and metropolitan planning and programming regulations.

If you have questions or need additional information concerning our FSTIP approval for this SANDAG RTIP amendment, please contact Wade Hobbs of the FHWA California Division office at (916) 498-5027, or by email at wade.hobbs@fhwa.dot.gov, or Hymie Luden of the FTA Region IX office at (415) 744-2732, or by email at hymie.luden@fta.dot.gov.

Sincerely,

/s/ Leslie T. Rogers

Leslie T. Rogers
Regional Administrator
Federal Transit Administration

/s/ K. Sue Kiser

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