

## MEMORANDUM

To: CHAIR AND COMMISSIONERS  
CALIFORNIA TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

CTC Meeting: June 24-25, 2020

From: STEVEN KECK, Chief Financial Officer

Reference Number: 2.8v.(4), Action Item

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Division of Transportation Programming

Subject: **AMENDMENT TO A PREVIOUSLY APPROVED TIME EXTENSION TO EXTEND THE PERIOD OF PROJECT ALLOCATION FOR A LOCALLY-ADMINISTERED LOCAL PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM (COMPETITIVE) PROJECT ON THE STATE HIGHWAY SYSTEM, PER THE INTERIM TIMELY OF FUNDS POLICY WAIVER 20-57**

### **ISSUE:**

Should the California Transportation Commission (Commission) approve an amendment for a previously approved time extension for the period of project allocation for the locally-administered Local Partnership Program - Competitive (LPP-C) Oakhurst Midtown Connector project (PPNO 6968) on the State Highway System, in Madera County?

### **RECOMMENDATION:**

The California Department of Transportation (Department) recommends the Commission approve this amendment to extend the period of project allocation for the locally-administered LPP-C Oakhurst Midtown Connector project (PPNO 6968) on the State Highway System, in Madera County, from 12 months to 20 months.

### **BACKGROUND:**

This project is currently programmed for \$5,000,000 in LPP-C funds for Construction (CON) in Fiscal Year 2018-19. The project proposes to construct a new roadway, Oakhurst Midtown Connector, in Madera County to provide local direct access to downtown from State Route 41, with sidewalks and bike lanes along with intersection improvements.

At its June 2019, the Commission approved a 12-month time extension under Waiver 19-32 for the allocation of these LPP funds due to environmental delays with paleontological and cultural studies. The weather and high water levels delayed studies and Right of Way acquisitions.

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However, with the shelter-in-place order issued by the Governor on March 19, 2020, due to COVID-19, completing all clearances for CON allocation in time for a June 2020 allocation continues to be difficult. The County is working with the Department to complete the final tasks in order to request CON allocation but are experiencing some challenges due to COVID-19. Businesses have shifted priorities and the execution of agreements are taking longer than expected to finalize. Communication with property owners and their attorneys have also slowed down with new business practices in COVID-19 social distancing environment, especially with property owners that are in the “high risk” categories. In addition, county and regulatory agencies are working remotely and are challenged with access to files and closed offices.

Under the Commission-adopted Interim Use of Funds Policy, under Resolution G-20-56, a local agency may request a time extension amendment to a previously approved time extension and to allow additional time for agencies to deliver (complete) each project milestone for up to 20 months. Therefore, the County is requesting an eight-month extension for a total 20-month time extension to allocate CON by February 28, 2021.