

MEMORANDUM

To: CHAIR AND COMMISSIONERS
CALIFORNIA TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

CTC Meeting: May 12-13, 2021

From: STEVEN KECK, Chief Financial Officer

Reference Number: 2.8a.(3), Action Item

Prepared By: Dee Lam, Chief
Division of Local Assistance

Subject: **REQUEST TO EXTEND THE PERIOD OF PROJECT ALLOCATION FOR
LOCALLY-ADMINISTERED OFF SYSTEM STATE TRANSPORTATION
IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS, PER STIP GUIDELINES
WAIVER 21-31**

ISSUE:

Should the California Transportation Commission (Commission) extend the period of project allocation for two projects, programmed in the State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP), in Fiscal Year 2020-21?

RECOMMENDATION:

The California Department of Transportation (Department) recommends the Commission extend the period of project allocation for two projects, programmed in the STIP, in 2020-21.

BACKGROUND:

These agencies will not be able to request an allocation for funds by the June 30, 2021 deadline. The attachment shows the details of the project and the explanation for the delay. The project sponsors are requesting an extension, and the regional planning agencies concur.

Current STIP Guidelines, adopted by the Commission, stipulate that funds that are programmed for all components of local grant projects, or for Department construction costs, are available for allocation only until the end of the fiscal year identified in the STIP. The Commission may approve a waiver to this timely use of funds deadline, one-time only, for up to 20 months, in accordance with Section 14529.8 of the Government Code.

Attachment

“Provide a safe and reliable transportation network that serves all people and respects the environment.”

**Time Extension/Waiver – Project Allocation Deadline
Local Streets and Roads Projects**

Project Number: 1
Applicant: City of Arcata
County: Humboldt
District: 01
PPNO: 2509
Extended Amount: \$2,388,000
Phase: Construction
Number of Months Requested: 20 Months
Extended Deadline: 02/28/2023
Department Recommendation: Support

Old Arcata Road Rehabilitation and Pedestrian/Bikeway Improvement Project

The City of Arcata (City) is requesting a 20-month time extension to allocate funding for the construction (CON) phase of the Old Arcata Road Rehabilitation and Pedestrian/Bikeway Improvement Project. The City encountered delays during the environmental phase.

The project proposes to rehabilitate and make improvements along Old Arcata Road adding Class II bike lanes, accessible pedestrian paths, and intersection safety improvements. The original plan for the project was to complete the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) document by early 2020, however unanticipated additional field studies to perform archeological and cultural surveys for the project were needed to finalize CEQA. This delayed the project approval & environmental documents phase and consequently delayed the entire project delivery schedule. In addition, the project schedule has also been affected due to the COVID-19 pandemic and social distance mandates, making it more difficult to coordinate and meet with the community, project partners and consultants. Currently, all technical studies and field investigations are completed and the CEQA and National Environmental Policy Act will be completed by June 2021. The City is requesting the additional time to work through these unanticipated challenges.

Therefore, the City is requesting a 20-month time extension to allocate CON by February 28, 2023.

Project Number: 2
Applicant: City of Richmond
County: Contra Costa
District: 4
PPNO: 2025H
Extended Amount: \$5,900,000
Phase: Right of Way
Number of Months Requested: 20 Months
Extended Deadline: 02/28/2023
Department Recommendation: Support

I80/Central Avenue- Phase 2 (Local Road Realignment) Project

The City of Richmond (City) is requesting a 20-month time extension to allocate funding for the Right of Way (RW) phase of the I-80/Central Avenue – Phase 2 (Local Road Realignment) Project. The City encountered delays during the environmental phase.

The project proposes to realign and to reconfigure three roadways to increase distance between the signalized intersections. During the initial surface identification effort, an archeological resource within the proposed project area was confirmed. The nature and extent of the resource are not well-identified and need further evaluation. There is an extended process to characterize a resource, and concurrence from the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) is required, before the National Environmental Policy Act process can conclude. The City has submitted an Extended Phase I Investigation Plan which requires SHPO approval, implementation, and reporting that is currently in progress but may require further site testing, which may delay the project another 6 months or more. In addition, the SHPO may also require the development of a Memorandum of Understanding for mitigation and avoidance during construction. With the uncertainties regarding these unanticipated requirements and the potential additional extensive regulatory hurdles, the City is requesting a time extension of 20 months. The extension is to allow sufficient time for the cultural resources' investigation and mitigation process and to complete PA&ED.

Therefore, the City is requesting a 20-month time extension to allocate RW by February 28, 2023.