

MEMORANDUM

To: CHAIR AND COMMISSIONERS
CALIFORNIA TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

CTC Meeting: June 28-29, 2023

From: STEVEN KECK, Chief Financial Officer

Reference Number: 2.8b.(9), Action Item

Prepared By: Kyle Grading, Chief
Division of Rail and Mass Transit

Subject: **REQUEST TO EXTEND PERIOD OF CONTRACT AWARD FOR A
LOCALLY- ADMINISTERED TRANSIT AND INTERCITY RAIL CAPITAL
PROGRAM PROJECT
WAIVER 23-106**

ISSUE:

Should the California Transportation Commission (Commission) extend the period of contract award for the construction (CON) phase of the locally-administered Transit and Intercity Rail Capital Program (TIRCP) (2022:2) Sweet Home Antelope Valley- Where the Skies are so Blue (Procurement of 6 Zero-Emission Microtransit Vehicles and 6 Zero-Emission School Buses) component (PPNO CP098), in Los Angeles County, for the time period as described in the attachment?

RECOMMENDATION:

The California Department of Transportation recommends that the Commission extend the period of contract award for the CON phase of the locally-administered TIRCP (2022:2) Sweet Home Antelope Valley- Where the Skies are so Blue (Procurement of 6 Zero-Emission Microtransit Vehicles and 6 Zero-Emission School Buses) component (PPNO CP098), in Los Angeles count, for the time period as described in the attachment.

BACKGROUND:

In December 2022, the Commission allocated \$2,073,000 in TIRCP funds to complete the CON phase of the procurement of locally-administered TIRCP (2022:2) Sweet Home Antelope Valley- Where the Skies are so Blue (Procurement of 6 Zero-Emission Microtransit Vehicles and 6 Zero-Emission School Buses) component (PPNO CP098). In accordance with TIRCP guidelines and the Commission's Timely Use of Funds policy, the deadline for contract award is June 30, 2023. The Antelope Valley Transportation Authority is requesting a time extension for period of contract award. The attachment shows the details of the project component and the delays that have resulted in this time extension request.

Attachment

*"Provide a safe and reliable transportation network that
serves all people and respects the environment."*

**Time Extension/Waiver – Period of Contract Award
Transit and Intercity Rail Capital Program**

Project Number: 1
Applicant: Antelope Valley Transit Authority
County: Los Angeles
District: 07
PPNO: CP098
Allocation Amount: \$2,073,000
Phase: Construction
Allocation Date: December 8, 2022
Allocation Resolution: TIRCP-2223-36
Number of Months Requested: 9 Months
Extended Deadline: March 31, 2024
Department Recommendation: Support

(2022:2) Sweet Home Antelope Valley- Where the Skies are so Blue (Procurement of 6 Zero-Emission Microtransit Vehicles and 6 Zero-Emission School Buses) component

The Antelope Valley Transit Authority (AVTA) requests a 9-month time extension for the period of contract award for the construction (CON) phase of the TIRCP (2022:2) Sweet Home Antelope Valley- Where the Skies are so Blue (Procurement of 6 Zero-Emission Microtransit Vehicles and 6 Zero-Emission School Buses). AVTA has experienced delays in awarding a third-party contract due to the selected zero-emission school buses.

At the December 2022 meeting, the Commission approved an allocation of \$2,073,000 for this component to procure six Zero-Emission Microtransit Vehicles and six Zero-Emission School Buses. AVTA has also received federal funds for the overall project and is now mandated to satisfy Federal Transit Administration testing requirements. The Altoona Bus Research and Testing Center is responsible for testing new model vehicles required by the United States federal law to be eligible for federal funding. The selected zero-emission vehicle must pass Altoona testing, which will allow the pilot vehicle to be added to the federally approved Transit Vehicle Manufacture (TVM) list. However, Altoona experienced delays with the testing of the vehicle due to issues with its partner, who assist with the testing of the buses. The partner who Altoona was working with to complete the testing of the bus model pulled back after there were safety issues noted during the initial testing. AVTA was notified of this delay in May 2023, and has since been coordinating with the vehicle manufacture and Altoona on a testing completion date of February 2024. Once the vehicle model passes the Altoona test, the pilot vehicle will be added to the federally approved TVM list and AVTA can proceed with awarding a contract with the vehicle manufacturer.

Therefore, AVTA is requesting a 9-month time extension for the period of contract award for the CON phase from June 30, 2023 to March 31, 2024.