

MEMORANDUM

To: CHAIR AND COMMISSIONERS
CALIFORNIA TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

CTC Meeting: June 26-27, 2025

From: STEVEN KECK, Chief Financial Officer

Reference Number: 2.8a.(12), Action Item

Prepared By: Dee Lam, Chief
Division of Local Assistance

Subject: **REQUEST TO EXTEND THE PERIOD OF PROJECT ALLOCATION FOR
LOCALLY-ADMINISTERED SENATE BILL 1 SOLUTIONS FOR CONGESTED
CORRIDORS PROGRAM TRANSIT COMPONENTS, PER SCCP GUIDELINES
WAIVER 25-117**

ISSUE:

Should the California Transportation Commission (Commission) extend the period of project allocation for two locally-administered Senate Bill 1 (SB 1) Solutions for Congested Corridors Program (SCCP) Transit components, in Los Angeles County, for the time periods as identified in the attachment?

RECOMMENDATION:

The California Department of Transportation recommends that the Commission extend the period of project allocation for two locally-administered SB 1 SCCP Transit components, in Los Angeles County, for the time periods as identified in the attachment.

BACKGROUND:

The Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority will not be able to request an allocation for funds by the June 30, 2025, deadline. The attachment shows the details of the components and the explanation for the delay.

Current SB 1 SCCP Guidelines stipulate that programmed funds are available for allocation only until the end of the fiscal year programmed. The Commission may approve a waiver to the Timely Use of Funds deadline, one-time only, for up to 12 months.

Attachment

**Time Extension/Waiver – Project Allocation
Solutions for Congested Corridors Program**

Project Number: 1
Applicant: Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority
County: Los Angeles
District: 7
PPNO: 6203
Allocation Amount: \$5,320,000
Phase: Construction
Number of Months Requested: 12 Months
Extended Deadline: 06/30/2026
Department Recommendation: Support

Venice Blvd. Bus Speed and Reliability (Bus Boarding Islands and Bus Pads)

The Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (Metro) requests a 12-month time extension for the period of project allocation for the Construction (CON) phase of the Venice Blvd. Bus Speed and Reliability (Bus Boarding Islands and Bus Pads) component. Metro has experienced delays in completing the design phase.

In June 2023, the Commission adopted the project to improve bus service in the Interstate 405 (I-405) community corridor. As one of four components awarded, the Bus Boarding Islands and Bus Pads component will support Metro and the State's goals and policies to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, increase transit ridership, integrate non-vehicle modes, and increase safety by constructing 38 bus boarding islands and bus pads along Venice Boulevard between Fairfax Avenue and Inglewood Boulevard.

Metro has experienced delays in completing the design phase for this component due to limitations in staffing resources, which temporarily slowed progress on key project activities. In December 2022, Metro determined the relatively new Speed and Reliability Tactical Transit Engineering Department (SRTTED) would deliver this project, among other high priority initiatives at Metro. Initially, the SRTTED was staffed with one individual with the intention of adding additional staff as needed. When the project was programmed in June 2023 the process of staffing up had already begun, and Metro anticipated the SRTTED would be fully staffed by the construction allocation deadline and able to meet the original project schedule. Due to lack of qualified candidates after several rounds of interviews during the hiring process, the schedule was delayed by 14 months, until Metro was able to hire a qualified candidate.

Since onboarding staff in August 2024, SRTTED has been able to make up for approximately two months of the delay by completing briefing presentations to relevant City of Los Angeles agencies including the Los Angeles Department of Transportation, overseeing geometric design, vehicle operations and lane configurations, and Los Angeles Public Works Bureau of

Engineering, overseeing civil design, utilities and permits. Further SRTTED developed high-level conceptual designs for all 38 bus boarding island locations in coordination with Metro Operations and Service Planning and Stops and Zones, to ensure the conceptual design meets the standards for bus operations. To assist with the Plans, Specifications, and Estimate (PS&E) phase a consultant will be utilized. The goal was to do all the necessary internal background work so once a design firm is chosen, notice to proceed can immediately follow.

Metro is on schedule to begin PS&E in August 2025. Design firms have been solicited and interviews are currently being conducted. Once a firm is selected, Metro anticipates PS&E completion by the end of March 2026, and request the CON allocation by June 2026. The ensuing CON phase scheduled to begin with a contractor onboard by the end of September 2026. Metro is working in good faith to deliver this project by June 2028 and has already taken concrete steps toward that end. While the 14-month delay was unfortunate and unforeseen due to a lack of qualified candidates, Metro has done their best to get the project back on schedule.

Therefore, Metro requests a 12-month time extension for the period of project allocation for the CON phase from June 30, 2025 to June 30, 2026.

Project Number: 2
Applicant: Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority
County: Los Angeles
District: 7
PPNO: 6204
Allocation Amount: \$1,173,000
Phase: Construction
Number of Months Requested: 12 Months
Extended Deadline: 06/30/2026
Department Recommendation: Support

Venice Blvd. Bus Speed and Reliability (Real-Time Passenger Info and Bus Shelters)

The Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (Metro) requests a 12-month time extension for the period of project allocation for the CON phase of the Venice Blvd. Bus Speed and Reliability (Real-Time Passenger Info and Bus Shelters) component. Metro has experienced delays in completing for the design phase.

In June 2023, the Commission adopted the project to improve bus service in the I-405 community corridor. As one of four components awarded, the Real-Time Passenger Info and Bus Shelters component will support Metro and the State's goals and policies to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, increase transit ridership, integrate non-vehicle modes and increase safety by constructing 27 bus shelters equipped with real-time information displays along Venice Boulevard between Fairfax Avenue and Inglewood Boulevard. Many of the bus shelters and real-time information displays share the same location where new bus boarding islands and bus pads will be constructed, and in those cases the shelters and information displays' CON will begin upon completion of the boarding islands and bus pads.

Metro has experienced delays in completing the design phase for this component due to limitations in staffing resources, which temporarily slowed progress on key project activities. In December 2022, Metro determined the relatively new SRTTED would deliver this project, among other high priority initiatives at Metro. Initially, the SRTTED was staffed with one individual with the intention of adding additional staff as needed. When the project was programmed in June 2023 the process of staffing up had already begun, and Metro anticipated the SRTTED would be fully staffed by the construction allocation deadline and able to meet the original project schedule. Due to lack of qualified candidates after several rounds of interviews during the hiring process, the schedule was delayed by 14 months, until Metro was able to hire a qualified candidate.

Since onboarding staff in August 2024, SRTTED has been able to make up for approximately two months of the delay by completing briefing presentations to relevant City of Los Angeles agencies including the Los Angeles Department of Transportation, overseeing geometric

design, vehicle operations and lane configurations, and Los Angeles Public Works Bureau of Engineering, overseeing civil design, utilities and permits. Further SRTTED developed high-level conceptual designs for all 38 bus boarding island locations in coordination with Metro Operations and Service Planning and Stops and Zones, to ensure the conceptual design meets the standards for bus operations. To assist with the PS&E phase a consultant will be utilized. The goal was to do all the necessary internal background work so once a design firm is chosen, notice to proceed can immediately follow.

Metro is on schedule to begin PS&E in August 2025. Design firms have been solicited and interviews are currently being conducted. Once a firm is selected, Metro anticipates PS&E completion by the end of March 2026, and request the CON allocation by June 2026. The ensuing CON phase scheduled to begin with a contractor onboard by the end of September 2026. Metro is working in good faith to deliver this project by June 2028 and has already taken concrete steps toward that end. While the 14-month delay was unfortunate and unforeseen due to a lack of qualified candidates, Metro has done their best to get the project back on schedule. As Metro works through the procurement process for PS&E phase consultants, it is also in the process of developing a Memorandum of Understanding with the City of Los Angeles to inform the construction contract for the Real-Time Passenger Info and Bus Shelters component.

Approval of this request for project allocation time extension will ensure that Metro is able to maximize the impact of the Solutions for Congested Corridors Program award by allowing them to follow a structured and effective timeline while maintaining compliance with all necessary regulations and standards. CON for boarding islands, bus pads, bus shelters, and real-time displays are estimated for completion by the end of June 2028.

Therefore, Metro is requesting a 12-month time extension for the period of project allocation for the CON phase from June 30, 2025 to June 30, 2026.