

MEMORANDUM

To: CHAIR AND COMMISSIONERS
CALIFORNIA TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

CTC Meeting: March 19-20, 2026

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 A
LOCALLY-ADMINISTERED LOCAL TRANSPORTATION CLIMATE ADAPTATION
PROGRAM PROJECT, OFF THE STATE HIGHWAY SYSTEM,
PER LTCAP GUIDELINES
WAIVER 26-35**

ISSUE:

Should the California Transportation Commission (Commission) extend the period of project allocation for the locally-administered Local Transportation Climate Adaptation Program (LTCAP) Addressing Climate Change, Emergencies, and Sandstorms (ACCESS) project (PPNO 1330), in Riverside County, for the time period as identified in the attachment?

RECOMMENDATION:

The California Department of Transportation recommends that the Commission extend the period of project allocation for the locally-administered LTCAP Addressing Climate Change, Emergencies, and Sandstorms (ACCESS) project (PPNO 1330), in Riverside County, for the time period as identified in the attachment.

BACKGROUND:

The agency will not be able to request allocation of funds by the June 30, 2026 deadline. The attachment shows the details of the project and the explanation for the delay.

The 2023 LTCAP Guidelines adopted by the Commission stipulate that funds that are programmed for all components of locally implemented grant projects are available for allocation only until the end of the fiscal year. 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
Local Transportation Climate Adaptation Program**

Project Number: 1
Applicant: Coachella Valley Association of Governments
County: Riverside
District: 8
PPNO: 1330
Allocation Amount: \$50,000,000
Phase: Construction
Number of Months Requested: 12 Months
Extended Deadline: 06/30/2027
Department Recommendation: Support

Addressing Climate Change, Emergencies, and Sandstorms (ACCESS) project

The Coachella Valley Association of Governments (CVAG) requests a 12-month time extension for the period of project allocation for the Construction (CON) phase of the Addressing Climate Change, Emergencies, and Sandstorms (ACCESS) project. CVAG experienced delays during environmental document approval.

The project proposes constructing non-capacity increasing bridge systems over the flood channel, a multi-modal pathway, sand fencing, a solar shade structure, and associated improvements in the City of Palm Springs on Indian Canyon Drive.

During the environmental process, a hydrology and hydraulics (H&H) technical study was required to support the design of the proposed bridge system. A preliminary study was completed prior to the Local Transportation Climate Adaptation Program (LTCAP) application, at which time the final H&H study was scheduled to be completed in approximately six months, as shown in the original application schedule. To date, the H&H study has taken more than 26 months due to extensive hydraulic modeling required by the Coachella Valley Water District, which acts as the flood plain manager for the Riverside County Flood Control District. Numerous hydraulic models were developed to analyze the conditions of the ACCESS project as well as the effects of neighboring projects that could impact the ACCESS project, which were not done previously.

CVAG anticipates finalizing the California Environmental Quality Act and National Environmental Policy Act documents by July 2026, however additional time will still be needed to complete the design phase, which is not funded by LTCAP. To mitigate the delay and recover lost time, CVAG will implement a parallel-path approach upon H&H study completion in February 2026, advancing bridge design work concurrently with environmental document finalization instead of sequentially, compressing the overall project timeline.

Therefore, CVAG is requesting a 12-month time extension for the period of project allocation for the CON phase from June 30, 2026 to June 30, 2027.