

MEMORANDUM

To: CHAIR AND COMMISSIONERS
CALIFORNIA TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

CTC Meeting: March 19-20, 2026

From: STEVEN KECK, Chief Financial Officer

Reference Number: 2.8d.(5), Action Item

Prepared By: Dee Lam, Chief
Division of Local Assistance

Subject: **REQUEST TO EXTEND THE PERIOD OF PROJECT DEVELOPMENT
EXPENDITURE FOR TRANSIT AND INTERCITY RAIL CAPITAL PROGRAM
COMPONENTS, PER TIRCP ALLOCATION POLICY
WAIVER 26-45**

ISSUE:

Should the California Transportation Commission (Commission) extend the period of project development expenditure for two Transit and Intercity Rail Capital Program (TIRCP) (2018:27) Southern California Optimized Rail Expansion (SCORE) components, for the time periods as identified in the attachment?

RECOMMENDATION:

The California Department of Transportation recommends that the Commission extend the period of project development expenditure for two TIRCP (2018:27) Southern California Optimized Rail Expansion (SCORE) components, for the time periods as identified in the attachment.

BACKGROUND:

In August 2023 and January 2024, the Commission allocated \$5,534,000 for the two components identified in the attachment. The responsible agency has been unable to complete the component phases per the Timely Use of Funds (TUF) policy.

The current TIRCP Allocation Policy stipulates that the agency implementing a project component can request a time extension if the project component will not be completed within the specified timeline. Under the TUF policy, an extension can be requested for up to 20 months for each delivery milestone, where permissible by statute. The attachment describes the details of the components and the explanation for the delays.

Attachment

**Time Extension/Waiver – Project Development Expenditure
Transit and Intercity Rail Capital Program**

Project Number: 1
Applicant: Southern California Regional Rail Authority
County: Orange
District: 12
PPNO: CP033M
Allocation Amount: \$5,000,000
Remaining Balance: \$4,801,000
Phase: Plans, Specifications, and Estimate
Allocation Date: 01/26/2024
Number of Months Requested: 36 Months
Extended Deadline: 06/30/2029
Department Recommendation: Support

(2018:27) Southern California Optimized Rail Expansion (SCORE) (Fullerton to Atwood Third Track)

The Southern California Regional Rail Authority (SCRRA) requests 36 months for the period of project development expenditure for the Plans, Specifications, and Estimate (PS&E) phase of the Transit and Intercity Rail Capital Program (TIRCP) (2018:27) Southern California Optimized Rail Expansion (SCORE) (Fullerton to Atwood Third Track) component. SCRRA has experienced delays in completing the PS&E phase of the component.

The component proposes to construct a third track segment between CP Atwood and Raymond Avenue and add a new station in Placentia.

In January 2024, the Commission allocated \$5,000,000 to the PS&E phase of the Fullerton to Atwood Third Track component. The component phase experienced delays in completion due to challenges with the collaboration and negotiations between multiple stakeholders including the BNSF Railway Company (BNSF), Orange County Transportation Authority, and the California High Speed Rail Authority. Without agreement from the stakeholders, SCRRA could not progress the design. Since allocation, SCRRA has worked closely with the stakeholders holding regular meetings to address concerns and progress the phase. The component design is currently at 10 percent. In addition, SCRRA and BNSF are updating their Shared Use Agreement which may delay the BNSF from completing their review of the design plans, adding to the delay of the phase completion.

Therefore, SCRRA is requesting a 36-month time extension for the period of project development expenditure for the PS&E phase from June 30, 2026, to June 30, 2029.

Project Number: 2
Applicant: Southern California Regional Rail Authority
County: Los Angeles
District: 07
PPNO: CP033R
Allocation Amount: \$534,000
Remaining Balance: \$357,000
Phase: Plans, Specifications, and Estimate
Allocation Date: 08/17/2023
Number of Months Requested: 24 Months
Extended Deadline: 06/30/2028
Department Recommendation: Support

(2018:27) Southern California Optimized Rail Expansion (SCORE) (Devonshire Street Crossing Improvements)

The SCRRA requests 24 months for the period of project development expenditure for the PS&E phase of the TIRCP (2018:27) Southern California Optimized Rail Expansion (SCORE) (Devonshire Street Crossing Improvements) component. SCRRA has experienced delays in completing the PS&E phase of the component.

The component proposes to construct roadway and pedestrian improvements at the grade crossing.

In August 2023, the Commission allocated \$534,000 to the PS&E phase of the Devonshire Street Crossing Improvements component. The SCRRA is unable to meet the June 30, 2026 deadline due to delays caused by the lengthy negotiations and coordination of the stakeholder funding agreement which took 18 months to complete and exceeded the initial independent cost estimates for third-party review and coordination. The crossing modifications require coordination between the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (LACMTA) and the City of Los Angeles (City) as external stakeholders, to cooperatively review and approve the modifications. Since the initial allocation, SCRRA has completed the design up to 90 percent developing the civil and railroad signal plans, completed initial stakeholder coordination efforts, and developed and executed a funding agreement between SCRRA and LACMTA for City coordination and plan review. The remaining tasks include 1) Preparation and submittal of the 90 percent design plans for approvals by the following agencies: the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC), City of Los Angeles Department of Transportation, Los Angeles Bureau of Engineering, Los Angeles Bureau of Street Lighting, Los Angeles Bureau of Street Services, LACMTA and the Union Pacific Railroad Company; 2) Submission of the CPUC General Order-88B Request for Crossing Modification to the CPUC for their approval, in coordination with LACMTA and the City. The SCRRA estimates that the PS&E phase will be completed by June 2028.

Therefore, SCRRA is requesting a 24-month time extension for the period of project development expenditure for the PS&E phase from June 30, 2026 to June 30, 2028.