

## MEMORANDUM

To: CHAIR AND COMMISSIONERS  
CALIFORNIA TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

CTC Meeting: March 19-20, 2026

From: STEVEN KECK, Chief Financial Officer

Reference Number: 2.8v.(6), Action Item

Prepared By: Dee Lam, Chief  
Division of Local Assistance

Subject: **REQUEST TO AMEND THE PERIOD OF PROJECT DEVELOPMENT  
EXPENDITURE FOR A TRANSIT AND INTERCITY RAIL CAPITAL PROGRAM  
COMPONENT  
WAIVER 26-51, AMENDING WAIVER 24-120**

### **ISSUE:**

Should the California Transportation Commission (Commission) amend the period of project development expenditure for the Transit and Intercity Rail Capital Program (TIRCP) (2018:27) Southern California Optimized Rail Expansion (SCORE) (Irvine Station Improvements) component (PPNO CP033), in Orange County, for the time period as identified in the attachment?

### **RECOMMENDATION:**

The California Department of Transportation recommends that the Commission amend the period of project development expenditure for the TIRCP (2018:27) Southern California Optimized Rail Expansion (SCORE) (Irvine Station Improvements) component (PPNO CP033), in Orange County, for the time period as identified in the attachment.

### **BACKGROUND:**

In June 2021, the Commission approved \$6,330,000 for the Project Approval and Environmental Document (PA&ED) phase of the TIRCP (2018:27) Southern California Optimized Rail Expansion (SCORE) (Irvine Station Improvements) component (PPNO CP033J). At the time of allocation the Orange County Transportation Authority requested an additional 12 months beyond the June 30, 2023 deadline to complete the PA&ED phase. In June 2024, an allocation amendment was approved to extend the period of project development expenditure 20 months to complete the PA&ED phase. The responsible agency has been unable to complete the project component per the Timely Use of Funds

policy and is now requesting a time extension amendment for the period of project development expenditure.

The current TIRCP Allocation Policy stipulates that the agency implementing a project component request a time extension if the project component will not be completed within the specified timeline. This is a request to amend the previously approved project development expenditure time extension. The attachment describes the details of the project component and the explanation of the delays.

Attachment

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

Project Number: 1  
Applicant: Orange County Transportation Authority  
County: Orange  
District: 08  
PPNO: CP033  
Allocation Amount: \$6,330,000  
Remaining Balance: \$5,664,336  
Phase: Project Approval and Environmental Document  
Allocation Date: June 24, 2021  
Allocation Resolution: TIRCP-2021-30  
1st Waiver: Waiver 24-120  
Approved: June 2024  
Number of Months Requested: ~~20 months~~ **49 months**  
Extended Deadline: ~~02/28/2026~~ **07/31/2028**  
Department Recommendation: Support

**(2018:27) Southern California Optimized Rail Expansion (SCORE) (Irvine Station Improvements)**

The Orange County Transportation Authority (OCTA) requests an additional 29 months, from 20 months to 49 months, for the period of project development expenditure for the Project Approval and Environmental Document (PA&ED) phase of the (2018:27) Southern California Optimized Rail Expansion (SCORE) (Irvine Station Improvements) component. OCTA has experienced unexpected delays in completing the PA&ED phase of this component.

The project component scope of work consists of preliminary engineering and environmental documentation for the Irvine Station, including reconfiguration of two-center island platforms, installation of new track sections, new signal equipment, and utility relocation. The improvements will connect Metrolink to the Pacific Surfliner in Orange County.

Completion of the PA&ED phase has been delayed due to the City of Irvine (City) challenging the California Environmental Quality Act Mitigated Negative Declaration findings for the (2018:27) Southern California Optimized Rail Expansion (SCORE) (Orange County Maintenance Facility Phase 1a) component, following the October 2023 board approvals and filings. The Irvine Station Improvements project is dependent on the progress of the Orange County Maintenance Facility and its completion has been delayed to resolve the City's concerns. OCTA has worked with the City to resolve these issues and has reached a

settlement to be signed by the City by July 31, 2026. Upon signature, PA&ED work will resume.

Therefore, OCTA is requesting an additional 29 months for the period of project development expenditure for the PA&ED phase from February 28, 2026 to July 31, 2028.