

MEMORANDUM

To: CHAIR AND COMMISSIONERS
CALIFORNIA TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

CTC Meeting: June 25-26, 2026

From: STEVEN KECK, Chief Financial Officer

Reference Number: 2.8a.(21), Action Item

Prepared By: Dee Lam, Chief
Division of Local Assistance

Subject: **REQUEST TO EXTEND THE PERIOD OF PROJECT ALLOCATION FOR A STATE-ADMINISTERED LOCAL TRANSPORTATION CLIMATE ADAPTATION PROGRAM PROJECT, ON THE STATE HIGHWAY SYSTEM, PER LTCAP GUIDELINES WAIVER 26-129**

ISSUE:

Should the California Transportation Commission (Commission) extend the period of project allocation for the State-Administered Local Transportation Climate Adaptation Program (LTCAP) SR 49 Grass Valley Wildfire Evacuation Route project (PPNO 4143), in Nevada County, for the time period as identified in the attachment?

RECOMMENDATION:

The California Department of Transportation (Department) recommends that the Commission extend the period of project allocation for the State-Administered LTCAP SR 49 Grass Valley Wildfire Evacuation Route project (PPNO 4143), in Nevada County, for the time period as identified in the attachment.

BACKGROUND:

The Department 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 programmed for all components of locally implemented grant projects 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
Local Transportation Climate Adaptation Program**

Project Number: 1
Applicant: Department of Transportation
County: Nevada
District: 3
PPNO: 4143
Allocation Amount: \$21,554,000
Phase: Construction
Number of Months Requested: 12 Months
Extended Deadline: 06/30/2027
Department Recommendation: Support

SR 49 Grass Valley Wildfire Evacuation Route project

The Department requests a 12-month time extension for the period of project allocation for the Construction (CON) phase of the SR 49 Grass Valley Wildfire Evacuation Route project. The Department experienced delays during the Right of Way (RW) phase.

The project proposes extending shoulders, constructing a 2-way left turn lane, rehabilitating pavement and drainage systems, and upgrading additional related elements along State Route 49 near Grass Valley.

During the Project Approval and Environmental Document phase of this project, Department District RW staff identified 47 parcels for acquisition that were not fully known at the time of program application. Additionally, conflicts with Pacific Gas and Electric, American Telephone and Telegraph, and Nevada Irrigation District utilities exist that also were not known at the time of program application and need to be resolved. Coordination with these agencies can be complex and time-consuming, so Department District RW staff work is already in progress regarding the appraisal and acquisition of these parcels and communication with the utility companies. Department District RW staff estimates an additional 12 months to finalize the parcel acquisitions and utility conflict resolutions. As a contingency plan if the Department is unable to gain possession of all parcels prior to the extended deadline, they would pursue a RW Certification 3W (3W), a Special Certification with a Work-Around for on-system projects. The 3W has firm restrictions, justification needs, and prior approvals but allows projects to proceed with limitations, including contract advertisement and award, while the remaining parcels are obtained.

The project anticipates RW Certification by spring 2027.

Therefore, the Department 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.