

MEMORANDUM

To: CHAIR AND COMMISSIONERS
CALIFORNIA TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

CTC Meeting: August 20-21, 2026

From: STEVEN KECK, Chief Financial Officer

Reference Number: 2.8v.(4), Action Item

Prepared By: Jaime Espinoza, Chief (Acting)
Division of Financial Programming

Subject: **REQUEST TO AMEND THE PERIOD OF PROJECT COMPLETION FOR STATE HIGHWAY OPERATION AND PROTECTION PROGRAM PROJECTS, AS AN EXCEPTION TO SHOPP GUIDELINES**
WAIVER 26-185, AMENDING WAIVER 25-152

ISSUE:

Should the California Transportation Commission (Commission) amend the period of project completion for three State Highway Operation and Protection Program (SHOPP) projects, for the time periods as identified in the attachment?

RECOMMENDATION:

The California Department of Transportation (Department) recommends that the Commission amend the period of project completion for three SHOPP projects, for the time periods as identified in the attachment.

BACKGROUND:

In August 2021, the Commission allocated \$28,663,000 in Construction (CON) Capital and CON Support for three SHOPP project identified in the attachment. The projects have received previous time extensions for the period of project completion. However, the Department is requesting an exception to the SHOPP Guidelines (Guidelines) for additional time. The attachment shows the details of the projects and the delays that have resulted in the amended time extension requests.

Current Guidelines stipulate that the agency implementing a project request a time extension if the project will not be completed within 36 months after award. The Commission may approve waivers to the timely use of funds deadline, one-time only, for up to 20 months.

Attachment

**Amendment Time Extension/Waiver – Project Completion for
State Highway Operation and Protection Program**

Project Number: 1
County: Ventura
District: 07
PPNO: 5030
EA: 32560
Route: 101
Allocation Amount: \$6,809,000
Phase: CON/CON Support
Allocation Date: 08/19/2021
Award Date: 08/31/2022
1st Waiver: Waiver 25-152
Approved: August 2025
Number of Months Requested: ~~13 Months~~ **15 Months**
Extended Deadline: ~~09/30/2026~~ **11/30/2026**
Department Recommendation: Support

SHOPP Collision Reduction project

The Department requests an additional 2 months, from 13 months to 15 months, for the period of project completion for the Construction (CON) phase of the SHOPP Collision Reduction project. The Department has experienced unexpected delays in completing construction. In March 2022, the project received a 6-month time extension to award at the Commission meeting.

The project is located on United States Highway (US) 101, in and near Thousand Oaks, from Hampshire Road to north of Camarillo Springs Road, and on State Route (SR) 23 from US 101 to East Hillcrest Drive. The project will construct access trails and Maintenance Vehicle Pullouts, relocate irrigation facilities, install access gates, railings and breakaway post sleeves, pave gore, narrow and slope areas.

The project was awarded in August 2022 and construction began in January 2023. The project was anticipated to reach Construction Contract Acceptance (CCA) in July 2025. However, the CCA was revised to September 2026 due to several delays that impacted the project schedule such as differing site conditions (DSC), weather delays, and re-designed elements.

The initial request was driven by a series of significant delays occurring due to unforeseen and DSC across 227 locations. To date, 118 Requests for Information (RFIs) have been submitted by the contractor, who was forced to pause work while awaiting clarification. These RFIs primarily stem from unexpected conflicts between new Midwest Guardrail System (MGS) installations and existing pull boxes, electrical lines, and utilities, as well as buried man-made and natural objects obstructing MGS pole placement. Additionally, unanticipated delays arose from import and borrow operations and regrading work necessary to elevate low-profile areas to meet new MGS height requirements, particularly where rubber mat vegetation control needed to be installed at precise elevations. Severe weather further delayed the project schedule,

especially affecting hot mix asphalt (HMA) paving operations and asphalt concrete (AC) dike work. Additionally, traffic incidents led to unexpected repairs of temporary crash cushions and already-installed MGS components. At Mussel Shoals, the Beach Access Trail required a re-design and re-alignment to avoid construction over existing Rock Slope Protection (RSP). This change triggered the expiration of the Coastal Development Permit (CDP), and instead of granting a time extension, the California Coastal Commission (CCC) required the Department to re-apply for the permit. Finally, slope paving operations encountered DSC and man-made obstructions during cast-in-drilled-hole (CIDH) pile installation. These buried obstacles significantly impacted progress, leading to further delays at affected locations. The Department was working with the contractor and addressed the issues with the MGS. The CDP request was submitted and received on March 18, 2025. The remaining work activities were being expedited where possible and the project was anticipated to be completed by September 2026. SHOPP project EA 07-32560/PPNO 07-5030 was combined with EA 07-33900/PPNO 07-5231 and EA 07-33110/PPNO 07-5082 for construction under EA 07-3311U. There was a concurrent supplemental funds request during the August 2025 Commission meeting.

Since then, the project has remaining work challenges that need to be resolved, which include items such as DSC, MGS conflicts and installation, safety improvements, and irrigation repair work. Additional time is needed to address 42 RFIs from the contractor, which are primarily due to DSC at newly identified locations and MGS conflicts with existing utilities or buried objects. Re-grading efforts are needed to comply with new MGS height requirements and correct vegetation control surrounding MGS installation. Continued MGS repair efforts have also been needed due to recent traffic accidents. Safety improvement work is ongoing at several locations to complete work in MGS installations, enhanced striping, pavement delineation, and signage. Lastly, upon final inspection, existing irrigation lines were found to be damaged and required repair. The contractor is concluding most of this work and will finalize punch list items in the coming weeks.

Therefore, the Department is requesting an exception to the Guidelines for an additional two months to finalize CCA from September 30, 2026 to November 30, 2026.

Project Number: 2
County: Ventura
District: 07
PPNO: 5082
EA: 33110
Route: 101
Allocation Amount: \$9,409,000
Phase: CON/CON Support
Allocation Date: 08/19/2021
Award Date: 08/31/2022
1st Waiver: Waiver 25-152
Approved: August 2025
Number of Months Requested: ~~13 Months~~ **15 Months**
Extended Deadline: ~~09/30/2026~~ **11/30/2026**
Department Recommendation: Support

SHOPP Collision Reduction project

The Department requests an additional 2 months, from 13 months to 15 months, for the period of project completion for the CON phase of the SHOPP Collision Reduction project. The Department has experienced unexpected delays in completing construction. In March 2022, the project received a 6-month time extension to award at the Commission meeting.

This project is located on US 101, in and near various cities, at various locations, from north of Westlake Boulevard to north of Hobson Road. The project will upgrade guardrails, end treatments, and bridge connections, add vegetation control under guardrails, and remove and replace dikes.

The project was awarded in August 2022, and construction began in January 2023. The project was anticipated to reach CCA in July 2025. However, the CCA was revised to September 2026 due to several delays that impacted the project schedule such as DSC, weather delays, and re-designed elements.

The initial request was driven by a series of significant delays occurring due to unforeseen and DSC across 227 locations. To date, 118 RFIs have been submitted by the contractor, who was forced to pause work while awaiting clarification. These RFIs primarily stem from unexpected conflicts between new MGS installations and existing pull boxes, electrical lines, and utilities, as well as buried man-made and natural objects obstructing MGS pole placement. Additionally, unanticipated delays arose from import and borrow operations and regrading work necessary to elevate low-profile areas to meet new MGS height requirements, particularly where rubber mat vegetation control needed to be installed at precise elevations. Severe weather further delayed the project schedule, especially affecting HMA paving operations and AC dike work. Additionally, traffic incidents led to unexpected repairs of temporary crash cushions and already-installed MGS components. At Mussel Shoals, the Beach Access Trail required a re-design and re-alignment to avoid construction over existing RSP. This change triggered the expiration of the CDP, and instead of granting a time extension, the CCC required the Department to re-apply for the permit. Finally, slope paving operations encountered DSC and man-made obstructions

during CIDH pile installation. These buried obstacles significantly impacted progress, leading to further delays at affected locations. The Department was working with the contractor and addressed the issues with the MGS. The CDP request was submitted and received on March 18, 2025. The remaining work activities were being expedited where possible and the project was anticipated to be completed by September 2026. SHOPP project EA 07-33110/PPNO 07-5082 was combined with EA 07-33900/PPNO 07-5231 and EA 07-32560/PPNO 07-5030 for construction under EA 07-3311U. There is a concurrent supplemental funds request on this month's Commission agenda.

Since then, the project has remaining work challenges that need to be resolved, which include items such as DSC, MGS conflicts and installation, safety improvements, and irrigation repair work. Additional time is needed to address 42 RFIs from the contractor, which are primarily due to DSC at newly identified locations and MGS conflicts with existing utilities or buried objects. Re-grading efforts are needed to comply with new MGS height requirements and correct vegetation control surrounding MGS installation. Continued MGS repair efforts have also been needed due to recent traffic accidents. Safety improvement work is ongoing at several locations to complete work in MGS installations, enhanced striping, pavement delineation, and signage. Lastly, upon final inspection, existing irrigation lines were found to be damaged and required repair. The contractor is concluding most of this work and will finalize punch list items in the coming weeks.

Therefore, the Department is requesting an exception to the Guidelines for an additional two months to finalize CCA from September 30, 2026 to November 30, 2026.

Project Number: 3
County: Ventura
District: 07
PPNO: 5231
EA: 33900
Route: 101
Allocation Amount: \$12,445,000
Phase: CON/CON Support
Allocation Date: 08/19/2021
Award Date: 08/31/2022
1st Waiver: Waiver 25-152
Approved: August 2025
Number of Months Requested: ~~13 Months~~ **15 Months**
Extended Deadline: ~~09/30/2026~~ **11/30/2026**
Department Recommendation: Support

SHOPP Collision Reduction project

The Department requests an additional 2 months, from 13 months to 15 months, for the period of project completion for the CON phase of the SHOPP Collision Reduction project. The Department has experienced unexpected delays in completing construction. In March 2022, the project received a 6-month time extension to award at the Commission meeting.

This project is located on US 101, in and near various cities, at various locations, from south of Lakeview Canyon Road to Hobson Road Undercrossing. The project will install concrete barrier, upgrade guardrails, end treatments, and bridge connections, add vegetation control under guardrails, and remove and replace dikes.

The project was awarded in August 2022, and construction began in January 2023. The project was anticipated to reach CCA in July 2025. However, the CCA was revised to September 2026 due to several delays that impacted the project schedule such as DSC, weather delays, and re-designed elements.

The initial request was driven by a series of significant delays occurring due to unforeseen and DSC across 227 locations. To date, 118 RFIs have been submitted by the contractor, who was forced to pause work while awaiting clarification. These RFIs primarily stem from unexpected conflicts between new MGS installations and existing pull boxes, electrical lines, and utilities, as well as buried man-made and natural objects obstructing MGS pole placement. Additionally, unanticipated delays arose from import and borrow operations and regrading work necessary to elevate low-profile areas to meet new MGS height requirements, particularly where rubber mat vegetation control needed to be installed at precise elevations. Severe weather further delayed the project schedule, especially affecting HMA paving operations and AC dike work. Additionally, traffic incidents led to unexpected repairs of temporary crash cushions and already-installed MGS components. At Mussel Shoals, the Beach Access Trail required a re-design and re-alignment to avoid construction over existing RSP. This change triggered the expiration of the CDP, and instead of granting a time extension, the CCC required the Department to re-apply for the permit. Finally, slope paving operations encountered DSC and man-made obstructions

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