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December 16, 2024

In Reply, Refer To: HDA-CA

ELECTRONIC CORRESPONDENCE ONLY

Mr. James R. Anderson Chief, Division of Financial Programming, M.S. 82 California Department of Transportation 1120 N Street Sacramento, CA 95814

SUBJECT: California 2025 FSTIP Approval

Dear Mr. Anderson:

The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) have completed our review of the 2025 Federal Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (FSTIP), which was submitted by your letter dated November 15, 2024. As detailed in your letter, the 2025 FSTIP incorporates by reference the following 18 metropolitan planning organizations' (MPO) Federal Transportation Improvement Programs (FTIP):

- Association of Monterey Bay Area Governments (AMBAG)
- Butte County Association of Governments (BCAG)
- Fresno Council of Governments (FresnoCOG)
- Kern Council of Governments (KCOG)
- Kings County Association of Governments (KCAG)
- Madera County Transportation Commission (Madera CTC)
- Merced County Association of Governments (MCAG)
- Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC)
- Sacramento Area Council of Governments (SACOG)
- San Diego Association of Governments (SANDAG)
- San Joaquin Council of Governments (SJCOG)
- San Luis Obispo Council of Governments (SLOCOG)
- Santa Barbara County Association of Governments (SBCAG)
- Shasta County Regional Transportation Planning Agency (SRTA)
- Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG)
- Stanislaus Council of Governments (StanCOG)
- Tahoe Metropolitan Planning Organization (TMPO)
- Tulare County Association of Governments (TCAG)

We find that the FSTIP and FTIPs were developed through a continuing, cooperative, and comprehensive transportation planning process in accordance with the metropolitan planning provisions of 23 U.S.C. 134 and 49 U.S.C. Chapter 53, as amended by Public Law 117-58 of the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL), enacted as the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act.

In addition, the MPOs and State are required to meet the transportation conformity requirements. Transportation conformity is required by the Clean Air Act section 176(c) [42 U.S.C. 7506(c)] to ensure that federal funding and approval are given to highway and transit projects that are consistent with ("conform to") the air quality goals established by a state air quality implementation plan (SIP). The United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has designated the following 14 planning areas in California as Nonattainment or Maintenance Areas for Criteria Pollutants:

- Butte County Association of Governments (BCAG)
- Fresno Council of Governments (FresnoCOG)
- Kern Council of Governments (KCOG)
- Kings County Association of Governments (KCAG)
- Madera County Transportation Commission (Madera CTC)
- Merced County Association of Governments (MCAG)
- Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC)
- Sacramento Area Council of Governments (SACOG)
- San Diego Association of Governments (SANDAG)
- San Joaquin Council of Governments (SJCOG)
- San Luis Obispo Council of Governments (SLOCOG)
- Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG)
- Stanislaus Council of Governments (StanCOG)
- Tulare County Association of Governments (TCAG)

As such, the above MPO Policy Boards made an initial conformity determination on the above FTIPs and associated Regional Transportation Plans (RTPs) and applicable RTP amendments. The FHWA and the FTA reviewed the conformity determinations and find that the FTIPs and the associated RTPs and RTP amendments conform to the applicable state implementation plan (SIP) in accordance with the provisions of 40 CFR Parts 51 and 93. This finding has been coordinated with Region 9 of the EPA pursuant to the Transportation Conformity Rule.

Based on our review of the information provided and our ongoing oversight of the statewide and metropolitan transportation planning processes, FHWA and FTA are approving the 2025 FSTIP. This approval is effective December 16, 2024. This approval is based on the understanding that an eligibility determination of individual projects for funding must be met, and the project sponsor must comply with all administrative and statutory requirements.

Included with this approval is the FHWA and FTA Federal Planning Finding (FPF). The FHWA and the FTA are required under 23 CFR 450.220(b) to document and issue an FPF in conjunction with the approval of the FSTIP. At a minimum, the FPF verifies that the development of the FSTIP is consistent with the provisions of both the Statewide and Metropolitan transportation

planning requirements. Furthermore, the FPF documents FHWA and FTA's recommendations for statewide and metropolitan transportation planning improvements.

If you have questions or need additional information concerning our approval and the FPF, please contact Mr. Mervin Acebo of the FTA Region 9 office at (213) 202-3957, or by email at Mervin.Acebo@dot.gov; or Ms. Abby Jackson of the FHWA California Division office at (916) 498-5854, or by email at Abigail.Jackson@dot.gov.

Sincerely,

Elissa K. Konove Digitally signed by Elissa K. Konove
Date: 2024.12.16
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Elissa K. Konove

Division Administrator, FHWA, California

Ray Tellis

FTA Region 9 Regional Administrator

Enclosure

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