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December 17, 2018

In Reply Refer To:  
HDA-CA

Mr. Bruce de Terra  
Chief, Division of Transportation Programming  
California Department of Transportation, MS 82  
1120 N Street  
Sacramento, CA 95814

**SUBJECT: APPROVAL OF 2019 FSTIP AND PLANNING FINDING**

Dear Mr. De Terra:

The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) have determined that the State of California's 2019-22 Federal Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (FSTIP) and incorporated Federal Transportation Improvement Programs (FTIP) for the following metropolitan planning organization (MPO) planning areas are based on a continuing, cooperative and comprehensive transportation planning process in accordance with 23 U.S.C. 134 and 135, and 49 U.S.C. 5303 and 5304. The approval of the FSTIP includes the following metropolitan FTIPs that have been incorporated by reference:

1. Association of Monterey Bay Governments,
2. Butte County Association of Governments,
3. Fresno Council of Governments,
4. Kern Council of Governments,
5. Kings County Association of Governments,
6. Madera County Transportation Commission,
7. Merced County Association of Governments,
8. Metropolitan Transportation Commission,
9. Sacramento Area Council of Governments,
10. San Diego Association of Governments,
11. San Joaquin Council of Governments,
12. San Luis Obispo Council of Governments,
13. Santa Barbara County Association of Governments,
14. Shasta Regional Transportation Agency,
15. Southern California Association of Governments,
16. Stanislaus Council of Governments,
17. Tahoe Regional Planning Agency, and
18. Tulare County Association of Governments.

The following are recommendations for transportation planning process improvements that remain outstanding from the December 16, 2016 or earlier Statewide Planning Findings that warrant continued attention in the statewide and metropolitan planning processes in the State of California:

- I. Core MPO Planning Functions: Progress has been made by MPOs in identifying Core Planning Functions within their Overall Work Programs (OWP). However, we encourage Caltrans to continue working closely with the MPOs in their OWP development processes to ensure that the draft and final OWPs include, at a minimum, the following work elements: Overall Work Program, Public Participation Activities, Metropolitan/Regional Transportation Plan, Federal Transportation Improvement Program; Congestion Management Process (required for Transportation Management Areas (TMA) – MPOs over 200,000 in population), Performance-Based Transportation Planning and Programming (Performance Measures), Air Quality Planning and Conformity (in all non-attainment areas for the National Ambient Air Quality Standards as defined by the 1990 Clean Air Act and subsequent changes to those standards) and the Annual Listing of Obligated Projects.
  
- II. Implementation of Performance-Based Transportation Planning and Programming: Sections 1201 and 1202 of MAP-21 require that the metropolitan and statewide transportation planning processes provide for the establishment and use of a performance-based approach to transportation decision making to support the national goals described in 23 U.S.C. 1509(b) and 49 U.S.C. 5301(c). Each State and each MPO is required to establish performance targets that address the Performance Measures described in 23 U.S.C 150(c) [MAP-21 section 1203].

USDOT issued the schedules for compliance with Performance-Based Transportation Planning since the December 16, 2016 Statewide Planning Finding. We find that in the State of California, compliance with the schedules for PM-1, PM-2 and PM-3 is proceeding satisfactorily. We applaud the diligent efforts of Caltrans and the MPOs in establishing master agreements for conducting the process, the training workshops and outreach, establishing targets for the Performance Measures, and submitting all required data and reports in compliance with the established schedules.

FHWA and FTA recognize that the implementation and full integration of Performance-Based Planning and Programming into the planning and programming processes in California will be a complex task likely to consume a number of upcoming FSTIP and Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) cycles. We will continue during this transition period and after full implementation to work closely with the State, MPOs and transit operators in providing technical assistance and best practices.

- III. Consultation with Indian Tribal Governments and Federal Land Management Agencies: MPOs are required to develop a documented procedure that outlines the roles, responsibilities, and key decision points for consulting with Indian Tribal governments (ITG) and Federal land management agencies (FLMA) pursuant to 23 C.F.R. 450.316(c). The need for MPOs to develop documented procedures for consulting with Indian Tribal

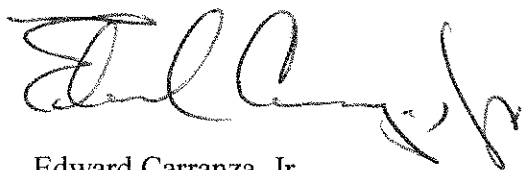
governments and Federal land management agencies continues to be a Federal emphasis area for the MPOs within California.

Progress has been made since the December 16, 2016 Statewide Planning Finding in this area in California, and FHWA and FTA commend Caltrans and the MPOs in the work that has been done to meet requirements. However, to ensure that progress continues in a positive direction, compliance with the requirement for documented consultation procedures will continue to be evaluated by FHWA and FTA as part of the Quadrennial Planning Certification Reviews that are conducted in the TMA MPOs.

- IV. Outstanding Corrective Actions from Quadrennial TMA Planning Certification Reviews:  
There is one outstanding Corrective Action identified through the MPO/TMA Planning Certification Reviews since the December 16, 2016 Statewide Planning Finding. Specifically, the Planning Certification Review for one TMA MPO cited the need to update and develop an integrated Congestion Management Process (CMP), including: Definition of the CMP network, measures of congestion, collection of data, and the development of a continuous monitoring process to maintain the CMP and to ensure that the output of the CMP is used in the MPO planning and programming processes.

Accordingly, the Federal Highway Administration California Division and the Federal Transit Administration Region IX offices find that California's 2019-22 Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (FSTIP) is based on a transportation planning process that meets the requirements of 23 U.S.C. Sections 134 and 135 and 49 U.S.C. Section 5303-5306.

Sincerely,



Edward Carranza, Jr.  
Acting Regional Administrator  
Region IX  
Federal Transit Administration



For  
Vincent P. Mammano  
Division Administrator  
California Division  
Federal Highway Administration

cc: (e-mail)

Ted Matley, FTA Region IX

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Katrina O'Connor, EPA

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cc: (other)

2019 FSTIP I: Drive Folder

I:\Program Development Unit\Planning and Air Quality (2005-Present)\2019 FSTIP Approval

MPO Statewide FTIPs