ALAMEDA COUNTY
CONGESTION MANAGEMENT AGENCY

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April 13, 2009
Agenda Item 4.3.2

Memorandum

Date: April 2, 2009

To: Plans and Programs Committee

From: Matt Todd, Manager of Programming

Subject: **State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) Extension Request: AC Transit Berkeley/Oakland/San Leandro Corridor MIS Study**

Action Requested
It is recommended that the Board review and provide a recommendation regarding AC Transit's one-year STIP Extension request to the June 30, 2009 expenditure deadline for the subject project. ACTAC is scheduled to consider this item on April 7th.

Discussion
Per the STIP Timely Use of Funds Provisions, STIP funds allocated for ENV, PSE, or ROW activities need to have expenditures completed by the end of the second FY following the FY in which the funds were allocated. On April 27, 2007, the CTC allocated $2.7 million in STIP funding to the subject project (STIP PPNo. 2009C), which set the expenditure deadline at June 30, 2009. On February 25, 2009 AC Transit submitted to Caltrans the attached one-year STIP extension request. The sponsor cited delays in the completion of the FEIR/FEIS as the reason for the extension request.

Next Steps
The request should be scheduled to be considered by the May CTC meeting. Per the STIP Guidelines, extension requests need to be approved prior to the deadline. The CMA is responsible for programming STIP funds in Alameda County. To reduce the risk of losing STIP funding due to delayed extension requests by the sponsor, the CMA needs to review and approve extension requests in advance of submitting to Caltrans/CTC. CMA staff has reviewed many STIP extension requests and can assist sponsors with this process. Staff proposes to address the issue of the extension request process/review as part of the 2010 STIP.

Attachment

Alameda-Contra Costa Transit District

Rick Fernandez, General Manager

February 25, 2009

Mr. Wade Greene, Chief
State Grants Branch
Office of Public Transportation
Caltrans, District 4
P.O. Box 23660
Oakland, CA 94623-0660

RECEIVED
FEB 27 2009
BY:

RE: Request for a One-Year Extension for Completion of Project Funded under 2006 State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP)

PPNO: 04-2009C
Project Title: AC Transit's Berkeley/Oakland/San Leandro Corridor - Bus Rapid Transit Final Environmental Impact Report (FEIR) & Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS)

Dear Mr. Greene:

We are requesting that the California Transportation Commission (CTC) approve a one-year extension for completion of AC Transit's Berkeley/Oakland/San Leandro Corridor - Bus Rapid Transit FEIR/FEIS. The revised completion date is June 30, 2010.

As part of the environmental process, AC Transit has been working with the Cities of Oakland, Berkeley, and San Leandro to solidify the project in their respective areas. In order to complete the FEIR/FEIS, the cities must identify the locally preferred alternative. AC Transit staff and City staff have been working together to address issues that local jurisdictions have identified in order to present the preferred alternative for adoption by their respective City Councils. Additionally, the cities have indicated a need to coordinate a larger vision for the corridor, while identifying specific characteristics and "look" to the system in their areas. For Berkeley and Oakland, this has required that AC Transit and City staff work with each individual neighborhood District, their respective City Council members, and communities. Consequently, it is much like working with multiple cities within each city. This has extended the period of time that we had originally anticipated to complete the environmental document.

In order to focus on these issues, a Policy Advisory Committee with elected officials, as well as a Technical Advisory Committee has been reestablished. All three Cities are identifying plans to complete the process within the next 6 to 9 months so that AC Transit can complete the FEIR/FEIS by June 2010.

AC Transit's latest Grant Activity Report shows $1,082,004 expended at the end of 2008, or 40% of the total allocated STIP funds.

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Mr. Wade Greene, Chief
State Grants Branch
Caltrans, District 4
February 25, 2009
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If you need additional information, please contact my staff member Kate Miller at (510) 891-4859 or Chenxia Li at (510) 891-4855.

Thank you for your assistance in expediting this request.

Sincerely,

Rick Fernandez
General Manager

RF/km/clt

Cc: Matt Todd – Alameda County Congestion Management Agency
Ross McKeown – Metropolitan Transportation Commission
Tina Spencer – AC Transit

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