

Ivan Garcia

From: Brian Lasagna
Sent: Monday, October 16, 2017 9:48 AM
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Subject: BCAG ICR Review – Confirmation of Exempt Project Status for 2017 FTIP Amendment #07 and 2016 RTP Amendment #03
Attachments: Public_Notice_FTIP_Amend_07_RTP_03_Oct_2017.pdf; BCAG AQ Exempt Table - Attachment2.pdf; BCAG AQ Capacity Table - Attachment1.pdf

E – MEMORANDUM

DATE: October 16, 2017
TO: Interagency Consultation Review (ICR) Group
FROM: Brian Lasagna, BCAG Regional Analyst

SUBJECT: ICR Review – Confirmation of Exempt Project Status for 2017 FTIP Amendment #07 and 2016 RTP Amendment #03

The purpose of this memo is to provide the ICR with the opportunity to comment regarding BCAG's proposed action for a formal amendment to the 2017 Federal Transportation Improvement Program (FTIP) and the 2016 Regional Transportation Plan (RTP). The ICR is also being asked to concur with BCAG's proposal regarding the exemption of one (1) new project from air quality conformity.

The purpose of the amendment is to program one (1) new project and amend one (1) existing project. Details regarding the amendment and projects are included below:

- **(New Project) SHOPP Mobility Grouped Project** – BCAG has created a new grouped listing project for Caltrans State Highway Operations and Protection Program (SHOPP) "Mobility" projects. This amendment adds a project on State Route 99 in and near Chico from Estates Drive to Garner lane for the purpose of adding Intelligent Transportation System (ITS) elements along the corridor. This amendment programs \$561,000 in local funds in the 2017/18 fiscal. The project is proposed as exempt from conformity per the Environmental Protection Agency's Transportation Conformity Rule Section 93.126 Table 2, "Exempt Projects – Other" indicating that directional and information signs are exempt.
- **(Existing Project) Amendment SHOPP Collision Reduction Grouped Listing** – The purpose of this amendment is to update the grouped listing to add the State Route 162 project. This project is located in and near Oroville from Foothill Blvd to Gold Country Casino. The scope of the project is to construct a two-way (center turn) lane and widen the shoulders. This amendment increases the grouped listing by \$22.352 million. The project is exempt from conformity per the Environmental Protection Agency's Transportation Conformity Rule Section 93.126 Table 2, "Exempt Projects – Safety" indicating that projects that correct, improve, or eliminate a hazardous location or feature and shoulder improvements are exempt.

Since the 2017 FTIP Amendment #07 and 2016 RTP Amendment #03 does not include any new non-exempt projects, per 40 CFR 93.126, the amendments are exempt from the requirement that a new conformity determination and regional emission analysis be performed.

For the purpose of the proposed amendments, BCAG states for the record:

1. **Exempt Project:** No new conformity determination or regional emissions analysis is necessary for this proposed formal amendment. The projects being added as a result of the amendment are exempt from conformity or regional emissions analysis per EPA's Transportation Conformity Rule Section 93.126 Table 2 (Other) as referenced above.
2. **TCM Implementation:** There are no Transportation Control Measures in the approved Carbon Monoxide (CO) SIP and there is no approved Ozone or PM2.5 SIP applicable to Butte County. Because there are no TCMs in an approved SIP for Butte County, Butte County currently has no TCMs in place and therefore timely TCM implementation requirements do not apply.
3. **Financial Constraint:** The 2017 FTIP and 2016 RTP have been financially constrained in accordance with the requirements of 40 CFR 93.108 and consistent with the U.S. DOT metropolitan planning regulations (23 CFR Part 450).
4. **Interagency and Public Consultation:** The following portion applies after all consultation is complete - *For the 2017 FTIP Amendment #07 and 2016 RTP Amendment #03, BCAG initially consulted on this amendment with its Interagency Consultation Review (ICR) group on October 16, 2017. BCAG staff provided a 15-day public review and comment period in compliance with BCAG's adopted Public Participation Plan (PPP). On September 15, 2017, legal notices were posted on the BCAG website. The proposed amendment has been circulated among staff from Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), Federal Transit Agency (FTA), and Caltrans. Appendices contain copies of public notices and responses to public comments.*

BCAG staff is requesting that ICR members respond with any comments regarding the proposed amendment prior to Thursday, October 26th, 2017. In addition, BCAG is requesting concurrence of the proposed action by email response from the following agencies: FHWA/FTA, EPA, and Caltrans.

If members prefer a separate conference call to discuss, please let me know and I will begin to schedule. If no significant requests or comments are received by the ICR, BCAG will then move forward with placing on the October 2017 BCAG Board of Directors meeting for consideration of approval.

Included for the ICRs information is the latest project exemption table, regionally significant project listing, and public notice to the amendment.

If you have any questions, please give me a call or send me an email.

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