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**Subject:** BCAG ICR Review – Confirmation of Exempt Project Status for 2019 FTIP Amendment #03 and 2016 RTP Amendment #07  
**Date:** Thursday, November 14, 2019 11:01:17 AM  
**Attachments:** [BCAG AQ Exempt Table - Attachment2.pdf](#)  
[BCAG AQ Capacity Table - Attachment1.pdf](#)  
[Public Notice FTIP Amend 03 RTP 07 Nov 2019.pdf](#)

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E – MEMORANDUM

DATE: November 14, 2019

TO: Interagency Consultation Review (ICR) Group

FROM: Brian Lasagna, BCAG Regional Analyst

**SUBJECT: ICR Review – Confirmation of Exempt Project Status for 2019 FTIP Amendment #03 and 2016 RTP Amendment #07**

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 2019 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 exempt FTIP project, update five (5) existing exempt projects, and update two (2) existing non-exempt projects. Details regarding the amendment and projects are included below:

**NEW EXEMPT FTIP PROJECT:**

1. **SR 99 Southgate Interchange Feasibility Study (CTIPS #202-0000-0223)**. The purpose of this amendment is to add this project for completing a technical study as part of the Preliminary Engineering component utilizing local funds. The project is located at the State Route 99 and Southgate Intersection in the City of Chico. Project is to develop planning and technical studies only for consideration of a future interchange with local connections. This project is included in the current 2016 Regional Transportation Plan/Sustainable Communities Strategy. The project is proposed as exempt from conformity per the Environmental Protection Agency’s (EPA) Transportation Conformity Rule Section 93.126 Exempt Projects, Table 2 “Other” indicating that specific activities which do not involve or lead directly to construction, such as planning and technical studies are exempt. The City of Chico is programming \$1,910,000 in FY 18/19 and \$250,000 in FY 20/21 as part of the Preliminary Engineering component.

**UPDATE EXISTING EXEMPT FTIP PROJECTS:**

1. **SR 99 Corridor Bikeway Phase 5 - 20th Street Crossing (CTIPS #202-0000-0117)**. This amendment adds funding as approved by the California Transportation Commission as part of the Active Transportation Program, Cycle 4 grant awards. This amendment updates the

programmed funds and project delivery schedule to fund the Right of Way and Construction components. The project funding changed from \$3.2 million to \$15.4 million. This is an existing project in the 2016 RTP/SCS and 2019 FTIP. The project is exempt from conformity per the EPA's Transportation Conformity Rule Section 93.126 Exempt Projects, Table 2 "Air Quality" indicating that bicycle and pedestrian facilities are exempt.

2. **Butte County SHOPP Minor Grouped Listing (CTIPS #202-0000-0214).** This amendment adds a new project to the existing Grouped Listing to include a project on State Route 162 in Oroville at 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue. The scope of the project is to upgrade the traffic signal/install interconnect system. This amendment adds \$2,364,200 in the 2019/20 Fiscal year. The project is exempt from conformity per the EPA's Transportation Conformity Rule Section 93.126 Exempt Projects, Table 2 "Safety" indicating that traffic control devices and operating assistance other than signalization projects are exempt.
3. **Butte County Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP) Grouped Projects (CTIPS #202-0000-0070).** This amendment updates the Butte County FTIP to Caltrans' HSIP Grouped listing for a project substitution for HSIP7-03-001, on Walnut Street between West 1<sup>st</sup> and West 9<sup>th</sup> Streets. This same HSIP7-03-001 has a new scope of, "Various locations throughout City of Chico Limits". The scope of the project is citywide systemic safety improvements including installation of improved signal hardware at signalized intersections, pedestrian crossings at uncontrolled locations and upgraded intersection pavement markings at non-signalized intersection. There is no change in funding or schedule associated with this amendment. The project is exempt from conformity per the Environmental Protection Agency's Transportation Conformity Rule Section 93.126 Exempt Projects, Table 2 "Safety" indicating that Highway Safety Improvement Program implementation projects are exempt.
4. **Local Highway Bridge Program (HBP) Grouped Listing (CTIPS #202-0000-0056).** This amendment updates the Butte County FTIP to Caltrans' HBP Grouped listing dated November 4, 2019. This amendment does not add projects, rather updates the revenues for the program. This amendment updates /advances HBP-ID 3470 - Bridge No. 12C0052, Midway Rd over Butte Creek funding as approved by Caltrans HQ High Cost Letter Agreement with Butte County Public Works. The project is exempt from conformity per the Environmental Protection Agency's Transportation Conformity Rule Section 93.126 Exempt Projects, Table 2 "Safety" indicating that widening narrow pavements or reconstructing bridges (no additional travel lanes) projects are exempt.
5. **Butte County SHOPP Collision Reduction Grouped Listing (CTIPS #102-0000-0164).** This amendment adds a new project to the Grouped Listing for State Route 32 post miles 0.3/5.0, Near Chico from Gianella Rd to Muir Ave. The scope of the project is to install lighting, widen shoulders, upgrade end treatments at bridge approaches, and rehabilitate culverts. This amendment adds \$21,850,000 for the project. The project is exempt from conformity per the Environmental Protection Agency's Transportation Conformity Rule Section 93.126 Exempt Projects, Table 2 "Safety" indicating that pavement resurfacing and or rehabilitation projects are exempt.

## **UPDATE EXISTING NON-EXEMPT FTIP PROJECTS:**

1. **Central House Rd Over Wyman Ravine Bridge.** This amendment updates the Butte County FTIP to the Caltrans' HBP individually listed project data dated November 10, 2019. This amendment advances HBP program funds identified in FY 21/22 for \$65,000 in right-of-way to the FY 19/20 for the same funding. In addition, FY 22/23 construction funds of \$3,325,000 is advanced one fiscal year 21/22. The total cost of the project does not change. The scope of the project is to replace the existing 1 lane structurally deficient bridge with a new lane bridge. This is an existing project that is already included in the regional emissions analysis for air quality conformity and does not require a new conformity determination.
2. **Guyann Rd over Lindo Channel Bridge Project.** This amendment updates the Butte County FTIP to the Caltrans' HBP individually listed project data dated November 10, 2019. This amendment advances HBP program funds identified in FY 21/22 for \$150,000 in right-of-way to the FY 21/20 for the same funding. The total cost of the project does not change. The scope of the project is to replace the existing 1 lane structurally deficient bridge with a new 2 lane bridge. This is an existing project that is already included in the regional emissions analysis for air quality conformity and does not require a new conformity determination.

Since the 2019 FTIP Amendment #03 and 2016 RTP Amendment #07 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 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 as referenced above.
2. **TCM Implementation:** There are no Transportation Control Measures (TCM) 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 2019 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 2019 FTIP Amendment #03 and 2016 RTP Amendment #07, BCAG initially consulted on this amendment with its Interagency Consultation Review (ICR) group on November 14, 2019. BCAG staff provided a 15-day public review and comment period in compliance with BCAG's adopted Public Participation Plan (PPP). On November 15, 2019, 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 Wednesday, December 4th, 2019. 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 December 2019 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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