

# Memorandum

To: CHAIR AND COMMISSIONERS  
CALIFORNIA TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

CTC Meeting: March 28-29, 2012

Reference No. 2.8a.  
Action Item

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Subject: **REQUEST TO EXTEND THE PERIOD OF PROJECT ALLOCATION FOR STATE-ADMINISTERED ON-SYSTEM STIP PROJECTS, PER STIP GUIDELINES WAIVER-12-11**

## **RECOMMENDATION:**

The California Department of Transportation (Department) requests that the California Transportation Commission (Commission) extend the period of project allocation for the I-80/I-680/SR-12 Interchange project (PPNO 5301L) in Solano County.

## **ISSUE:**

Due to unforeseen delays in completing the Environmental (PA&ED) phase, the Department will not be able to request the allocation of \$11,412,000 in Regional Improvement Program (RIP) funds programmed for construction in Fiscal Year 2011-12, by the June 30, 2012 deadline. Therefore, the Department is requesting a 13-month allocation extension to July 31, 2013.

The project scope includes construction of a two-lane westbound I-80 to westbound State Route 12 Connector and the Interstate 80/Green Road Valley Interchange. Once completed, these improvements will help eliminate merging and queuing onto I-80, this providing operations and safety benefits in this highly congested segment of the I-80 corridor.

The project delivery has been negatively impacted due to delays in obtaining a Biological Opinion (BO) from the United States Fish and Wildlife Service (Service). The coordination with the Service has been underway since 2007 and a Biological Assessment was submitted in April 2011. However, the Department and the Service have not been able to reach an agreement on the biological impacts of the project and the appropriate mitigation requirements. At this time, the project is proceeding through a formal Dispute Resolution Process. A final resolution is expected by April 2012.

The BO is required before the final Environmental Document can be completed. The Design (PS&E) and Right of Way activities can not begin until Environmental Document has been approved. These delays in completing the PA&ED phase have resulted in a 13-month delay to the completion of the PS&E.

Therefore, the Department is requesting a 13-month extension to the period of project allocation. The Metropolitan Transportation Commission concurs with this request.

**BACKGROUND:**

Current STIP Guidelines stipulate that funds programmed are available for allocation only until the end of the fiscal year identified in the STIP. The Commission may approve a waiver to the timely use of funds deadline for allocation one time only for up to 20 months in accordance with Section 14529.8 of the Government Code.