

Memorandum

To: CHAIR AND COMMISSIONERS

CTC Meeting: October 24, 2012

Reference No.: 4.6
Action

From: BIMLA G. RHINEHART
Executive Director

Subject: **STATE ROUTE 99 CORRIDOR BOND PROGRAM (SR 99) AMENDMENT – SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY SOUTHERN REGION RESOLUTION R99-P-1213-03**

ISSUE:

Should the Commission approve the proposed SR 99 Program Amendment to include the *State Route 204 to Beardsley Canal Widening Project* in Kern County?

RECOMMENDATION:

Commission staff recommends that the Commission approve the proposed SR 99 Program Amendment to include the *State Route 204 to Beardsley Canal Widening Project* in Kern County and program \$11.229 million in SR 99 funds to the project.

BACKGROUND:

The San Joaquin Valley Regional Planning Agencies' Director's Committee and Kern County propose to amend the SR 99 Program by including the *State Route 204 to Beardsley Canal Widening Project* in the San Joaquin Valley Southern Region of the SR 99 Program and program \$11.229 million of SR 99 funds to the project.

The *State Route 204 to Beardsley Canal Widening Project* proposes to add a 12-foot lane and a 10-foot inside shoulder in each direction, separated by a concrete median barrier within the existing median. The project will relieve traffic congestion, improve traffic operations, facilitate goods movement and provide for a more efficient transportation circulation through this section of SR 99. Kern County proposes to program the \$11.229 million from award savings accumulated to date in the San Joaquin Valley Southern Region.

The San Joaquin Valley Regional Planning Agencies' Director's Committee supports the proposed amendment to the SR 99 Program and requests the Commission's concurrence (see attached letter dated August 13, 2012).

San Joaquin Valley Regional Planning Agencies' Directors' Committee

c/o Madera County Transportation Commission – 2001 Howard Road, Suite 201 – Madera, CA 93637
Phone: 559-675-0721 Fax: 559-675-9328



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August 13, 2012

Bimla Rhinehart, Executive Director
California Transportation Commission
1120 N Street, Room 2221 (MS-52)
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: State Route 99 Corridor Bond Program – Request to Allocate and Reserve Cost Savings for San Joaquin Valley Priority Projects

Dear Director Rhinehart:

On behalf of the San Joaquin Valley Regional Transportation Planning Agencies' Directors' Committee, we are providing this transmittal requesting an allocation of cost savings from the State Route 99 Bond Program for the State Route 204 to Beardsley Canal Widening Project in Kern County in addition to establishing programming reserves for the Merced AME widening project, and for construction contingencies.

As you know, the San Joaquin Valley Regional Transportation Planning Agencies have prioritized candidate projects for using cost savings from the State Route 99 Bond Program, in accordance with Commission guidelines. Projects one through three on this list have already been allocated funding from CTC (see attachment).

We understand from our Caltrans District 6 and 10 partners that after a de-allocation of funds from the original 99 Bond project list, the available balance of bond savings will be approximately \$77.9 million. At the August 2, 2012 meeting of our Directors' Committee, the current level of cost savings was discussed with Caltrans staff, and we agreed to request the following:

- 1) Keep in reserve \$49.2 million in programming capacity for the Atwater-Merced Expressway Widening and Interchange in Merced County (number four on the list).
- 2) Allocate \$11.229 million for the Widening from SR 204 to Beardsley Canal in Kern County (number five on the list).
- 3) Keep in reserve the remaining \$18 million as a contingency for cost overruns for SR 99 Bond Program projects, and as projects are completed assess reducing the amount.

We believe this is a prudent course of action that allows the Kern number five project to proceed without jeopardizing the future vote request for the Merced number four project, and thereby preserves the agreed-upon priorities.

We encourage and appreciate your efforts to develop funding strategies to implement these projects, as well as the remainder of our bond savings candidate projects. Thank you for your diligent efforts in working with us. Should you need any additional information, please contact me at (559) 675-0721.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'PTaylor', written over a horizontal line.

Patricia Taylor, MCTC Executive Director
Chair, San Joaquin Valley Regional Planning Agencies' Directors' Committee

Enclosure: SJV State Route 99 Bond Savings List (March 2012)

cc: SJV RTPA Directors
Sharri Bender Ehlert, Caltrans District 6 Director
Carrie Bowen, Caltrans District 10 Director