STATE OF CALIFORNIA—BUSINESS, TRANSPORTATION AND HOUSING AGENCY Arnold Schwarzenegger, Governor

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
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April 15, 2005

Mr. Leslie T. Rogers
Regional Administrator
Federal Transit Administration
201 Mission Street, Suite 2210
San Francisco, CA 94105

Attention: Mr. Ray Sukys

Dear Mr. Sukys:

With this letter and pursuant to the authority delegated to me, I approve the following amendment of the Merced County Association of Governments' (MCAG) 2004/05-2006/07 Federal Transportation Improvement Program (FTIP):

No.	Description
3	**Transit Element** • Programs "Yosemite Area Regional Transportation System (YARTS)" project (MPO ID: YARTS05) for MCAG. The amendment programs a total of $560,000 in Fiscal Year (FY) 2004/05 to provide contracting services for YARTS. This project is funded from the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) 5309 Program. See enclosure.

I am also recommending that the Federal Transit Administration approve this FTIP Amendment No. 3 for inclusion into California's 2004/05-2006/07 Federal Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (FSTIP). Projects included in this FTIP in fiscal years not within the three-year cycle of the current FSTIP are not approved as part of this FTIP amendment and are shown for information only.

The updated programming is for project types within Table 2 & 3 - Exempt Projects, of 40 CFR § 93.126 and § 93.127 that are exempt from the conformity determination requirement. Therefore, this FTIP amendment is consistent with the State Implementation Plan. The financial impacts of this amendment are compatible with anticipated revenues in the FSTIP Financial Plan and do not significantly affect the overall financial analysis. This project is included and submitted by MCAG through the California Transportation Improvement Program System (CTIPS).

In accordance with existing law, public involvement procedures are a part of the project selection process. MCAG prepared this FTIP amendment under that process permitting citizens, affected local agencies, other public agencies, and other interested parties reasonable opportunity for comment.

Please address any questions on this FSTIP approval request to Abhijit Bagde of my staff, at (916) 654-3638.

Sincerely,

ROSS A. CHITTENDEN
Chief
Division of Transportation Programming

Enclosures

c: Steven Barhite - EPA Office of Air Planning (w/enclosure)
Jesse B. Brown - Merced County Association of Governments
Terri Lewis - Merced County Association of Governments
Rachel Falsetti – Caltrans
Abhijit Bagde - Caltrans