

**AGENDA:** August 19, 2004

**TO:** Regional Transportation Commission Transportation Policy Workshop  
**FROM:** Rachel Moriconi, Senior Transportation Planner  
**RE:** Status Report on the 2004 State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP)

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## **RECOMMENDATION**

This item is for information only.

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## **BACKGROUND**

At its April 1, 2004 meeting, the Commission adopted the *2004 Regional Transportation Improvement Program (RTIP)*. The 2004 Santa Cruz County RTIP programmed the region's TE and County Share of STIP funds to various projects, respread existing STIP projects in order to address funding constraints of the 2004 STIP, and included updates on non-STIP projects previously programmed to receive other state and federal funds.

On August 5, 2004 the California Transportation Commission (CTC) adopted the *2004 State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP)*. As noted in the attached report to the Interagency Technical Advisory Committee (Attachment 1), the adopted STIP does not match the requests made by the RTC in the 2004 RTIP for nine projects. Additionally, the recently adopted State Budget has taken more funds away from transportation and as a result, the CTC has indicated that they may not even be able to meet the commitments shown in the 2004 STIP, as summarized by the CTC in Attachment 5, of the report to the ITAC, and in an SCCRTC new release Attachment 2. Already the CTC has suspended all STIP allocations until December 2004.

The attached staff report to the ITAC notes the mechanisms available to keep STIP projects moving forward during these continuing difficult fiscal times.

## **DISCUSSION**

The RTC will need to amend the RTIP to ensure consistency with the adopted STIP. Amendments that result in scope changes, project delays, or that add or remove STIP, Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement Program (CMAQ), Regional Surface Transportation Program (RSTP), or Transportation Enhancement (TE) funds are taken to the RTC for consideration during a public hearing. Amendments cannot be made to STIP projects for any project component after the beginning of the fiscal year for which it is programmed.

The typical process for these amendments is as follows:

1. Staff and the Interagency Technical Advisory Committee develop recommendations to the SCCRTC;
2. The SCCRTC considers the proposed amendments;
3. Public Notices are released, notifying the public of the proposed amendments;
4. The Commission adopts the amendments following a public hearing;
5. The Commission forwards the amendments to the CTC for consideration in the STIP if the amendment relates to STIP funds; (for non-STIP projects, only an FTIP - #7 – is necessary);
6. The CTC amends the STIP to include the changes (takes approximately 3 months);
7. The Association of Monterey Bay Area Governments (AMBAG) amends the Federal Transportation Improvement Program (FTIP) to reflect the revised funding.

One of the most significant differences between the 2004 RTIP and the adopted 2004 STIP is that the MetroBase project was not included in the STIP. Commission staff has developed preliminary recommendations (see [Attachment 1](#)) for discussion at the August 19 ITAC meeting on how to ensure the MetroBase project receives sufficient funds to proceed on its current schedule. Staff will report on the recommendations of the ITAC at the Commission's September 2004 meeting at which point the Commission should indicate what possible amendments should be noticed for an October public hearing. Metro staff has indicated that they need to secure at least \$5 million for the project by December 2004.

## **SUMMARY**

The adopted 2004 STIP does not match the 2004 RTIP. As such, the SCCRTC will need to amend the RTIP. Staff will present recommendations to the Commission at its September 2004 meeting.

### Attachments:

1. August 19, 2004 Report to the ITAC
2. August 6, 2004 SCCRTC News Release on the State Budget