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(PM15.3/17.4, 0.0/0.8)
EA 05-12910
Route 1/17 Merge Lanes

Pat Dellin
Executive Director
SCCRTC
1523 Pacific Avenue
Santa Cruz, CA 95060

RE: PROJECT STATUS UPDATE

Caltrans understands your desire to RTL (Ready to List), and vote construction funds for the 1/17 Merge Lanes project by September because of the CTC guidelines set for STIP funding this fiscal year. We had hoped to complete the project earlier, but the restricted cash flow last year prevented us from entering into a contract with PG&E until we had assurances we could pay. Once we had that ability, we negotiated a late November timeframe to have the entire project PS&E (Plans Specifications and Estimate) complete. Now we are trying to accelerate all remaining work items.

- Currently, the project plans are being reviewed for bidability/buildability, specifications are being written, and cost estimates are being verified. Redlines are being corrected as necessary.
- Utility Relocation Plans from PG&E, SBC, and Comcast are required to certify the right of way requirements for the project. Originally, PG&E told us they would be able to complete their relocation plans and estimate by late November. We have been working at the District and Headquarters Right of Way levels to accelerate this schedule. PG&E's plans are needed by mid-August so SBC and Comcast can review and relocate aerial lines to the new PG&E pole locations.
- Cooperative Agreements for the Public Awareness Campaign and mitigation to impacts to the City caused by highway construction (additional police enforcement, sidewalk construction, minor pavement widening); and TDM (Travel Demand Management) strategies (bus use, bike use incentives) are being reviewed in Headquarters. We expect comments, and corrections complete in August.

We will continue to look for ways to speed up any processes, and have high levels of management engaged and will be adding resources to those activities within our control.

Luis Duazo,
Project Manager

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