

ATTACHMENT 1

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
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Be energy efficient!*

October 24, 2006


To Executive Directors of Metropolitan Planning Organizations and
Regional Transportation Planning Agencies:

Enclosed is a copy of Senate Bill 1587, signed by the Governor on September 29, 2006. This bill amended several items relating to the preparation of Regional Transportation Plans (RTPs) and also the congestion mitigation and air quality program (CMAQ). The specific changes resulting from this bill are as follows:

- California Government Code Section 65080(3)(B) has been amended to mirror current federal RTP update requirements adding an extra year to the update cycles. State law now allows Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPOs) located in non-attainment areas to update their RTPs every four years. MPOs located in air quality attainment areas and Regional Transportation Planning Agencies required to prepare RTPs now can update their plans every five years. The Section also now specifies that RTPs shall conform to the regional transportation plan guidelines adopted by the California Transportation Commission.
- California Streets and Highways Code Section 182.7(b) has been amended to implement a phase-out distribution of Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) funds for two MPOs as discussed and agreed to by the regions. State law now provides that both the Santa Barbara County Association of Governments, (SBCAG) and the Association of Monterey Bay Area Governments (AMBAG) will receive 50 percent of their 2005 apportionment of CMAQ funds for federal fiscal year 2007 and 25 percent of their 2005 apportionment for federal fiscal year 2008. This provision was included since both of these MPOs were re-designated as attainment by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency in June 2005.

Please contact me at (916) 653-3362 or Garth Hopkins at (916) 654-8175 if you have any questions on RTP related issues or Cathy Gomes at (916) 654-3271 for questions concerning the CMAQ program.

Sincerely,


SHARON SCHERZINGER, Chief
Office of Regional and Interagency Planning

Enclosure ✓

MPOs and RTPAs

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c: Rusty Selix-CALCOG
Joan Sollenberger-Division of Transportation Planning
Deputy District Directors for Planning
Cathy Gomes-Division of Programming

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