

AGENDA: April 19, 2007

TO: Regional Transportation Commission – Transportation Policy workshop
FROM: Luis Pavel Mendez, Deputy Director
REGARDING: Amendments to the FY06-07 Budget

RECOMMENDATIONS

The Budget and Administration/Personnel (B&A/P) Committee and staff recommend that the Regional Transportation Commission approve a resolution amending the FY06-07 Budget to:

1. Add \$40,000 in funds and \$40,000 in expenditures for the coordinated traffic monitoring program with the Transportation Agency for Monterey County (TAMC);
 2. Shift \$8,000 from the “Contingencies-Autonomy” line item to the “Transportation/Travel/Education” line item within the Administration budget;
 3. Add \$1,591 in carryover funds received from the Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) for the Safe on 17 extra CHP enforcement on Highway 17;
 4. Remove reclassified staff positions and add the new Administrative Assistant positions; and
 5. Redistribute funds for staff resources within the Planning Budget to reflect work trends.
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BACKGROUND

At its November 2006 Transportation Policy Workshop (TPW) meeting, the Regional Transportation Commission (RTC) approved the current FY 06-07 budget. Due to expenditure trends and new agreements with neighboring regional transportation planning agencies, it is necessary to make some amendments to that budget.

This FY 06-07 Budget amendment will be considered by the Budget and Administration/Personnel (B&A/P) Committee at its April 12, 2007 meeting. Any revisions to the recommendations resulting from that meeting will be reported at this meeting.

DISCUSSION

Coordinated Traffic Monitoring Program

Staff of the RTC, TAMC, the Association of Monterey Bay Area Governments (AMBAG) and the San Benito Council of Governments (COG) has been discussing the advantages of having a coordinated regional traffic monitoring program. As a result of those discussions, in January

2007 the RTC approved entering into an agreement with TAMC to include Monterey County traffic counts in the RTC's contract with Field Data Services (FDS). TAMC will pay for all traffic counts in Monterey County and requested adding \$40,000 to the contract with FDS. These revenues and expenditure need to be reflected in the RTC budget. **Therefore, the B&A/P Committee and staff recommend adding the \$40,000 in revenues from TAMC and the \$40,000 expenditure for traffic counts to the Planning Budget.**

Transportation/Travel/Education

During FY 06-07 a ballot measure for transportation bonds was developed and placed on the November 2006 ballot. The measure was approved and staff quickly develop viable candidate projects and worked diligently to secure funding. This required traveling to many meetings. Due to this ballot measure activity and changes created by new federal requirements, the California Association of Councils of Government (CalCOG) doubled its number of meetings requiring more travel to Sacramento. Due to the increased discussions at the state level on planning Blueprints and their potential connection to transportation funding, staff and the RTC have been more involved in CalCOG and activities. In addition, in order to ensure that progress continues on the Highway 1 HOV Lanes project on a timely manner, staff has traveled to San Luis Obispo several times to meet with Caltrans staff regarding design exceptions and other issues. As a result, the "Transportation/Travel/ Education" line item in the Administration budget has already been exhausted and some travel expenses have not been paid yet. **Therefore, the B&A/P Committee and staff recommend moving \$8,000 from the "Contingencies – Autonomy" line item to the "Transportation/Travel/Education" line item within the Administration budget.** The funds in the "Contingency – Autonomy" line item have not been needed at all during this fiscal year and it is not expected that they will be needed.

Safe on 17 – Extra CHP Enforcement

In a partnership with the Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) both the RTC and MTC provide \$50,000 in funding for extra CHP enforcement on Highway 17 in order to keep collision rates as low as possible. Previously, unused funds provided by MTC could not be carried over to the following year. A recent amendment to the partnership funding agreement allows the carryover of MTC funds from one year to the next. **Therefore, the B&A/P Committee and staff recommend that \$1,591 be added to the Service Authority for Freeway Emergencies (SAFE) budget for FY 06-07 as carryover of MTC funds from the previous year for extra CHP enforcement on Highway 17 as part of the Safe on 17 program.**

Reclassification of Two Positions

At its March 2007 TPW meeting, the RTC approved reclassifying a full time Secretary position and a 3/4 time Typist Clerk position to 1 and 3/4 Administrative Assistant I/II/III positions. It is not necessary to increase the staffing budget due to these reclassifications. **The B&A/P Committee and staff recommend removing the old positions and adding the new positions to the Staff Positions page of the FY 06-07 budget.**

Planning Budget

The Planning Budget pages show the distribution of funds for staff expenditures among various work elements of the RTC's Work Program. Due to actual work flow throughout the year the usage trend of staff resources differs from what was originally envisioned and adopted in the FY 06-07 Budget. Some of those differences include:

- Starting the Monterey Bay Sanctuary Scenic Trail (MBSST) Master Plan work later than originally expected;
- STIP Augmentation programming cycle due to passage of Proposition 1B in November 2006; and
- The need to quickly develop project proposals for and ensure funding through the Corridor Mobility Improvement Account (CMIA) established by the passage of Proposition 1B in November 2006.

Therefore, the **B&A/P Committee and staff recommend amending the Planning Budget pages to reflect work trends as shown in Exhibit A of Attachment 1**. The proposed amendment to the Planning Budget pages have no net impact on the staffing budget or the overall budget but simply redistribute the approved amounts among the various work elements. The boxes in the Planning Detail page affected by the proposed amendment are shaded.

SUMMARY

The proposed FY 06-07 budget amendment incorporates recent changes to agreements with neighboring transportation planning agencies, will ensure that the travel needs of the RTC are met, incorporates a recent staff reclassification and makes adjustments to reflect work trends.

Attachment 1: Resolution Amending the RTC FY 06-07 Budget per Exhibit A
Exhibit A: FY 06-07 Budget Pages with Proposed Amendments