



October 16, 2017

Mr. Jose Oseguera
Assistant Deputy Director
California Transportation Commission
1120 N. St., Sacramento, CA

Dear Mr. Oseguera:

Thank-you for the opportunity to provide input to the Commission's SBI-funded Local Partnership Program (LPP). VTA staff appreciates the responsiveness that Commission staff have demonstrated so far, and offers a few more comments for consideration as the Commission prepares to adopt the program guidelines on October 18, 2017.

- While VTA strongly prefers a purely revenue based formula distribution, VTA recognized the sense of injury other counties would feel over that great of a departure from the 2006 Proposition 1B formula and supported Commission staff's 50% population - 50% revenue formula compromise. There is an urgent need to move beyond the formula discussion now and accept Commission staff's current population-based recommendation for this first cycle. VTA does expect to re-visit the formula in future cycles. The tax, toll, and fee information from the first years of this program will be very useful in informing future discussions and a broader range of options, including a truly population-based formula.
- VTA staff appreciates the flexibility to use locally controlled funds and Regional Transportation Improvement Program (RTIP) funding as match in this program. The CTC should consider the additional step of reducing the formula program reducing match requirements to 50% for all, not just the smallest share recipients.
- The revised award and allocation extension policies recognize California's complicated public sector project delivery environment. VTA's staff does believe that a six-months-to-award policy is too restrictive in light of the minimum solicitation, challenge, and response requirements imposed by both the State and Federal government. Many award extension requests could be prevented by using a slightly longer award deadline in the first place – such as 9 to 12 months.

Many thanks for the opportunity to comment in writing on the final draft guidelines. I look forward to working with the CTC to implement this program.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Marcella Rensi', is written over a light grey circular stamp.

Marcella Rensi
Deputy Director, Programming & Congestion Management

