



SACOG Board of Directors

April 12, 2012

FY 2011-12 Overall Work Program Amendment #3 to Include a New Green Line Analysis Project

Issue: Should the Board approve Overall Work Program Amendment #3 to include a new Sacramento Regional Transit District Green Line to the Airport Analysis and Environmental Review Project?

Recommendation: Staff recommends that the Board approve Overall Work Program Amendment #3 to include a new project Sacramento Regional Transit District Green Line to the Airport Analysis and Environmental Review Project.

Committee Action/Discussion: This item is part of a response to information provided by the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) regarding the re-programming of de-obligated FTA flex funds and was not available in time for consideration by the April meeting of the Transportation Committee. The item is coming directly to the Board in order to act swiftly and reduce any risk the funding could be lost to the region. In light of current congressional discussions on the current year budget and a new transportation authorization, the FTA has advised staff that these funds face a risk of being rescinded if not obligated soon.

The adopted Overall Work Program includes Project #12-009-04 SRTD Downtown-Natomas-Airport Rail Project. Part of the funding for that project, approximately \$4.5 million, was de-obligated by FTA and has recently been reprogrammed by SACOG for two projects: (1) the Sacramento/ West Sacramento Downtown/Riverfront Transit Alternatives Analysis and Environmental Study which was amended into the OWP in February as Project #12-009-05, and (2) a new OWP Project #12-009-06, the Sacramento Regional Transit District Green Line to the Airport Analysis and Environmental Review Project that will use \$3.3 million of FTA flex funds and associated matching funds.

In order to be able to file a grant application, this type of project must also be included in the Overall Work Program. The proposed amendment fulfills that requirement. This amendment will add the new work tasks contained in the attached OWP project element and will include the \$3.3 million of FTA flex funds and appropriate match. The funding contained in Project #12-009-04 will be reduced by the same amount of funding contained in the new Project #12-009-06. As a result, there is no budget impact from this proposed amendment.

Approved by:

Mike McKeever
Chief Executive Officer

MM:JEB:gg
Attachment

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**6. GREEN LINE TO THE AIRPORT PREPARATION AND RELEASE
OF THE DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT**

Project #12-00906

(Federal Requirement)

This analysis is being conducted by the Sacramento Regional Transit District and will conform with the Federal Transit Administration/Environmental Protection Agency guidelines for conducting environmental review under NEPA. A Locally preferred Alternative (LPA) was selected in December 2003 consisting of a light rail extension from downtown Sacramento across the American River and along Truxel Boulevard to North Natomas and then to the Sacramento International Airport.

An Administrative Draft Environmental Impact Statement/Report (ADEIS/R) was completed by the Sacramento Regional Transit District (RT) in 2007. The corridor was environmentally cleared at the *Program-Level* for CEQA by the RT Board in April 2008. The decision was made to move Phase 1 of the project from Downtown Sacramento to Richards Boulevard forward utilizing local funding and a *Project-Level* CEQA clearance occurred in 2009; that project is now completing construction and will open for service in the spring of 2012.

In November 2010, a Transitional Analysis (TA) was completed for Phases 2 and 3 of the Green Line. Based on community and agency input, a number of conceptual design refinements were developed for the Green Line LPA. Operating scenarios, vehicle-type assessments and resulting updated operating and maintenance costs were also prepared. The TA also updated the travel forecasts (using a previously-adopted land use forecast for the region) as well as cost effectiveness calculations. An assessment of the environmental requirements was also prepared. This effort will be to build upon the enhancements identified in the TA and complete the project-level DEIS/R for the LPA for the corridor and have that document released to the public for review and comment. This work will be performed by a combination of consultants and the staff of Regional Transit with coordination with the city of Sacramento and Sacramento County.

Task 1 – Project Start-Up/Study Initiation

This task includes a startup meeting with FTA staff, appointing a project manager and agency to coordinate and guide the project, establishing a policy advisory committee (PAC) and technical advisory committee (TAC), preparing and issuing a Request for Proposal for professional consulting services; and selecting a consulting team in accordance with FTA Procurement guidelines.

Task 1 – *End Products and Dates:*

- a. Project management plan, including a refined work scope, schedules, and management plan, and budgets; a table of deliverables, and assigned staff roles and responsibilities (June 2012)*
- b. Draft project schedule (July 2012)*
- c. RT Board approval of release request for proposals for professional consulting services (July 2012)*
- d. Approved contract with a qualified consulting team (September 2012)*

Task 2 – Ongoing Project Management

Task will entail ongoing coordination meetings with the PAC, TAC, city and county staff and councils, FTA, and the RT Board. Task will also entail ongoing project management including consultant project management, invoicing, etc., and RT reporting requirements to FTA.

Task 2 – End Products and Dates:

- a. Consultant project management plan, including a refined work scope, schedules, and task-level budgets; a refined table of deliverables; and assigned roles and responsibilities (September 2012)***
- b. Consultant project invoices, progress reports, etc. (Ongoing beginning in October 2012 through completion in October 2014)***
- c. Minutes of meetings with PAC, TAC and councils and boards (Ongoing beginning in October 2012 through completion in June 2014)***

Task 3 – Prepare Draft EIS/EIR

This task will entail the preparation of the draft EIS/R for the Green Line. It will entail reviewing the ADEIS/R and identifying the “changed conditions,” preparation, and publishing of NOI/NOP for EIS/R, and scoping. Task will entail technical studies and preparation of an updated ADEIS/R, for review(s) with FTA. Preparation of a DEIS/R will be completed. Release of the DEIS/R and filing the Notice of Availability in the Federal Register. Receipt of comments will then occur. Based on the comments received, a “Next Steps” will be prepared identifying the key issues/actions necessary when the preparation of the Final EIS/R occurs (not a part of this SOW).

Task 3 – End Products and Dates:

- a. Publish NOI/NOP (November 2012)***
- b. Notice, undertake, and document scoping (January 2013)***
- c. Conduct various technical studies and prepare the necessary technical/engineering documentation for inclusion in the DEIS/R (October 2012 through July 2013)***
- d. Prepare ADEIS/R and review with FTA (August 2013)***
- e. Prepare DEIS/R and release for public review and comment (October 2013)***
- f. Summarize comments received on DEIS/R and document next steps (February 2014)***

Task 4 – Communications and Community Outreach

Communications and community outreach will be conducted in coordination with Task 3 scoping. The goal will be to focus on the affected communities, environmental justice populations, decision-makers, and keeping the public informed of the project and progress while obtaining their input on the LPA concept and design development. An initial Community Outreach Strategy will be prepared and reviewed/updated as appropriate. This effort will entail arranging, coordinating, attending, participating in, and documenting the results/outcomes of a variety of public forums, workshops and hearings. Several “Summary Report(s)” will be prepared that will document how the public input has been accounted for in the refinement of the LPA.

Task 4 – End Products and Dates:

- a. Preparation of a Community Outreach Strategy document and updates (September 2012)***
- b. Documentation of various community meetings, forums, workshops and hearings (Ongoing beginning in October 2012 through June 2014)***

- c. *Preparation of “summaries” documenting the input received and how it has been incorporated into the design development (January 2013 through July 2014)*

Task 5 – Prepare Advanced Conceptual Design of the LPA

The consultant will be responsible for preparing the advanced conceptual engineering for the Green Line project. The goal of advancing the conceptual engineering is to provide a better definition of the alternative(s) for the environmental document preparation, cost estimates and determination of any significant design issues that could substantially affect the clearance or implementation of the project. As a point of comparison, the level of effort is assumed to be an approximate “20 percent to 30 percent” level of design. The consultant will work in close coordination with RT engineering and other applicable departments during this effort. For areas that are identified as having potentially greater environmental impact (e.g., the crossing of the American River), the conceptual engineering will be advanced to a preliminary engineering level sufficient to identify potential impacts and mitigation strategies to reduce the impacts. Constructability assessments and value engineering will also be prepared as part of this task effort.

Task 5 – End Products and Dates:

- a. *Mapping and survey controls of the alignment (October 2012)*
- b. *Geotechnical investigations as appropriate for this level of effort (October 2012 through January 2013)*
- c. *Horizontal and vertical track layouts, as well as OCS and substations (July 2013)*
- d. *Roadway design as applicable (July 2013)*
- e. *Select station and park & ride lot layout refinements (July 2013)*
- f. *Operational and signaling analysis for single track (July 2013)*
- g. *Refinement of maintenance facility concept (August 2013)*
- h. *Sacramento International Airport station refinements (August 2013)*

Task 6 – Prepare Several Rail-Related Technical Studies

Technical studies analyzing several areas of potential opportunities will be prepared and the results documented. The impact and opportunity for “European tram” vehicles on the RT system will be prepared. An analysis of the downtown train crossings with additional service will be prepared. Rail interlining of the Green Line to the Gold and/or Blue Line will be assessed.

Task 6 – End Products and Dates:

- a. *Documentation of the technical assessment of the impact of proposed “European trams” on the RT operations, maintenance, long-term applicability, etc. (January 2013)*
- b. *Documentation of the downtown train crossings effects with the proposed service (April 2013)*
- c. *Documentation of the “rail interlining” options/effects (January 2013 through July 2013)*

Task 7 – Prepare Requisite Information and Assessments Necessary for the New Starts Process to Determine the New Starts

The intent of this Green Line effort is to advance one or more segments of the Green Line to the Airport LPA into the federal process by seeking FTA approval for entry into the next phase of project development. The applicable FTA New Starts guidance in effect at either the beginning of this phase or at a point mutually agreed to with FTA will be used to develop the necessary New Starts assessment. The results will be documented.

Task 7 – *End Products and Dates:*

- a. Document applicable New Starts criteria (By January 2014)***
- b. Prepare New Starts assessment documentation (By March 2014)***

Task 8 – Prepare Project Management Plan (PMP)

A PMP will be prepared that will include the staff organization, document control procedures, contracting plans, contingency plans, QA/QC procedures, and other sections as appropriate/if necessary based on discussions with FTA and direction. A draft PMP will be submitted to FTA for review and comment and documentation of comments received and actions taken will be prepared. A final PMP will be prepared and submitted.

Task 8 – *End Products and Dates:*

- a. Administrative draft project management plan (March 2013)***
- b. Draft PMP (May 2013)***
- c. Documentation of FTA/other comments and actions responding (August 2013)***
- d. Final PMP (October 2013)***

Task 9 –Release Draft EIS/R and Receive Comments

A request to release the DEIS/R will be prepared and discussed/reviewed with FTA. Once FTA concurrence is received, the DEIS/R will be formally released (Federal Register and State Clearinghouse) and copies made available for public comment and review (web, libraries, etc.). Upon closing of the review period, the comments received will be reviewed and summarized. The “Next Steps” will be prepared based on the comments received and the issues potentially requiring addressing, further information, etc. documented. This is not a “Response to Comments” effort.

Task 9 – *End Products and Dates:*

- a. Documentation of FTA Concurrence on Release of the DEIS/R (September 2013)***
- b. Formal Notification and Release of the DEIS/R (October 2013)***
- c. Documentation of comments and “next steps” actions responding (May 2014)***
- d. Presentation to RT Board (and others) of results and “next steps” (June 2014)***

Task 10 – Prepare Draft EIS/R Closeout

Upon a determination of action in Task 9, and with the concurrence of FTA, the consultant contract will be closed out. The consultant will provide RT with final documents within 30 days and final invoices within 60 days of notice by the RT Project Manager of project closeout.

Task 10 – *End Products and Dates:*

- a. Final Documents on CD for “future use” (i.e., not PDF) format (July 2014)***
- b. Final consultant invoices, closeout report (September 2014)***
- c. Documentation of FTA/other comments and actions responding (October 2014)***