




# Metro

November 18, 2009

**TO: CITY MANAGERS, PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTORS, AND  
TRANSPORTATION MANAGERS**

**CC: KIRK CESSNA, DISTRICT LOCAL ASSISTANCE ENGINEER,  
CALTRANS**

**FROM: FRANK FLORES, EXECUTIVE OFFICER**   
**REGIONAL CAPITAL DEVELOPMENT**

**SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR SUBMITTAL OF AWARD PACKAGES TO  
CALTRANS AND AMERICAN REINVESTMENT AND  
RECOVERY ACT PROJECT SAVINGS**

The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) have emphasized recently the importance of reporting contract awards, starting work, and invoicing for American Reinvestment and Recovery Act (ARRA) Regional Surface Transportation Program (RSTP) funded projects. This will allow policy makers and the public to see ARRA funds being put to work to generate jobs and strengthen California's case for the need for additional funding, should there be future stimulus or other federal funding opportunities.

The Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (LACMTA) asks that project sponsors submit all Award Packages to Caltrans expeditiously. Please refer to Chapter 15.7 of the Caltrans Local Assistance Manual available online and complete all required checklists and forms. You may also contact Caltrans Local Assistance staff, should you have any questions.

As there may be project savings in cases where bids come in low, and there is not sufficient time for project sponsors to re-obligate the savings, we propose an exchange of ARRA-RSTP fund savings. Specifically, we would use the project sponsors' ARRA-RSTP savings for a regional project and return a commensurate amount of other available replacement funding to the affected project sponsors. We will require that the Award Packages back out all possible local matching funds to be eligible for the exchange. This request and proposed exchange are different from what you may have heard recently. Our new approach is in response to the new direction and emphasis that we have received recently from Caltrans and the FHWA.

For us to meet the Caltrans Local Assistance deadline for submitting our Request for Authorization for the target regional project, determine the amount of countywide project savings, and make the exchange, **project sponsors must submit their Award Packages to Caltrans District 7 by Thursday, December 10, 2009.** If the Award Packages are

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not received by December 10, 2009 at Caltrans District 7 Local Assistance, we will be unable to encumber the savings on a regional project and will be unable to provide the replacement funds at this time. We may consider making a similar arrangement available in January 2010, but as of this writing, we have no alternate project to make this possible.

Should you have questions about the proposed process, you may contact Avital Shavit at (213) 922-7518. Additionally, you may wish to attend the workshop on ARRA project savings that we will be hosting at 10:00 a.m. on Wednesday, December 2, 2009, in the Board Room at our Union Station Gateway Headquarters in downtown Los Angeles.

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bcc: RMC  
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