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**PLANNING AND PROGRAMMING COMMITTEE
JULY 15, 2009**

**SUBJECT: PROGRAMMING COST CHANGES – STATE HIGHWAY AND
SOUNDWALL PROJECTS**

ACTION: RECEIVE AND FILE

RECOMMENDATION

Receive and file the Annual Report on our Policy for Programming Cost Changes for State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) and Federal/Local funded State Highway and Soundwall Projects for FY 2008-2009.

ISSUE

As required by MTA policy for Programming Cost Changes to State Highway and Soundwall Projects, this Annual Report (Attachment A) lists the instances the Policy was utilized in the past fiscal year to address cost changes. The Policy was used to address cost changes on two freeway projects. For each project, a standardized one-page report was distributed to MTA Board members. Per the Policy, the cost changes were administratively approved after 10 business days, since no objections were received.

BACKGROUND

The MTA first adopted the Policy on March 25, 1999 to streamline the review and approval process for Caltrans requested cost, schedule and/or scope changes for projects in design and/or construction and capped administrative approval at \$5 million in the aggregate per project. The Policy can also be used for cost neutral changes between two or more projects in a major corridor. Originally, it covered only STIP funded State Highway Projects. On June 23, 2000, MTA revised the Policy to include federal and local funding. On October 26, 2005, the Policy was further amended to include changes to federal and local funded Soundwalls up to a maximum of \$1 million per package (Attachment B). Most recently, on March 26, 2009, MTA approved the Caltrans Cost Control procedure to control cost changes for highway and Soundwall projects.

