UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION IX
75 Hawthorne Street
San Francisco, CA 94105-3901

November 14, 2008

Mr. Jerome Wiggins
Federal Transit Administration, Region IX
201 Mission Street, Suite 1650
San Francisco, CA 94105

Subject: Supplemental Final Environmental Impact Statement for the South Sacramento Corridor Phase 2 Project, Sacramento County, California (CEQ #20080410)

Dear Mr. Wiggins:

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has reviewed the above-referenced document pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) regulations (40 CFR Parts 1500-1508) and Section 309 of the Clean Air Act. EPA reviewed the Supplemental Draft Environmental Impact Statement (SDEIS) and provided comments to the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) on March 28, 2007. We rated the SDEIS as Lack of Objections (LO) and encouraged FTA and the Sacramento Regional Transit District (RT) to implement one of the parking garage options and include additional information on air quality, water quality, and cumulative impacts in the Supplemental Final Environmental Impact Statement (SFEIS). We appreciate RT's decision to construct a parking garage, and inclusion of the requested information in the SFEIS.

EPA notes that, since publication of the SDEIS, the project has been altered by movement of the proposed alignment off of the Morrison Creek Levee and addition of a grade separation over Cosumnes River Boulevard.

Since reviewing the SDEIS, EPA received and reviewed an FEIS for the Interstate-5/Cosumnes River Boulevard Extension proposed by the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA). As this project is located in the vicinity of the South Sacramento Corridor Phase 2 Project, and as stated in our November 26, 2007 comment letter to FHWA, EPA encourages FTA and RT to coordinate with FHWA on planning and construction of these projects. In particular, such coordination should be directed toward the following:

- Minimizing and mitigating the cumulative construction impacts of the two projects on air quality, traffic, and the local community;
- Avoiding design conflicts between the two projects; and

- Providing sufficient pedestrian improvements as part of the Boulevard Extension to ensure a safe environment for pedestrians who may use the road to access nearby light rail stations.

We appreciate the opportunity to review this SFEIS and look forward to successful implementation of the project. When the ROD is signed, please send one copy to the address above (mail code: CED-2). If you have any questions, please contact Carolyn Mulvihill of my staff at 415-947-3554 or mulvihill.carolyn@epa.gov.

Sincerely,

Kathleen M. Goforth, Manager
Environmental Review Office (CED-2)

cc: Diane Nakano, Sacramento Regional Transit District
Cesar Perez, Federal Highway Administration
Jennifer Hageman, City of Sacramento