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- Imperial County
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- North San Diego County Transit Development Board
- United States Department of Defense
- San Diego Unified Port District
- San Diego County Water Authority
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BOARD ACTIONS

September 23, 2005

EXPANSION OF *TransNet* COMMERCIAL PAPER PROGRAM

APPROVED: SANDAG Directors approved the expansion of the *TransNet* commercial paper program from \$135 million to \$335 million to help jump-start critical transportation projects. The *TransNet* Early Action Program, approved by SANDAG, allows for the planning and construction of high-priority highway and transit projects before the *TransNet Extension* goes into effect in 2008. The commercial paper program, which functions like a line of credit, provides flexibility, low interest rates, and low overall cost. The Chairman of the *TransNet* Independent Taxpayer Oversight Committee, Michael Boyle, provided the committee's endorsement of the commercial paper program. *TransNet*, the local half-cent sales tax for regional transportation improvements, was extended to 2048 by more than two-thirds of voters in November 2004. (Item #15, Staff contact: Craig Scott, (619) 699-1926; csc@sandag.org)

COMPREHENSIVE REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION PLAN (RTP) UPDATE:

Directors approved a revised schedule for completion of the comprehensive 2007 RTP. Staff currently is working on a technical 2006 RTP update, which needs to be adopted by March 2006 to meet the federal three-year cycle for air quality conformity. The more comprehensive update of the RTP in 2007 will incorporate a new regional growth forecast, strategic initiatives from the RCP, the Independent Transit Planning Review, and several other topics. The final RTP will be presented to the SANDAG Board for approval in June 2007. (Item #16, Staff contact: Michael Hix, (619) 699-1977; mhi@sandag.org)

TRANSPORTATION PROGRESS UPDATE:

Highway Projects: The I-15 widening project between Scripps Poway Parkway and Miramar Way is complete and open to traffic. Caltrans also anticipates opening SR 76/Olive Hill Road intersection improvements in the North County by the end of September....*Transit Projects:* The trolley's Green Line opened on July 10, 2005; this extension from Mission Valley to La Mesa makes stops at SDSU, Alverado Hospital Medical Center, and 70th Street. It is expected to handle 2.5 million new riders annually....*Traffic and Demand Management:* Two northbound ramp meters along I-805, one at H Street, and the other at Auto Park Way, are scheduled for completion in November and December 2005, respectively. The Freeway Service Patrol assisted approximately 14,400 motorists, about 11 percent more than the previous quarter. Vanpool participation grew 25 percent in the last year, from 338 to 423 vanpools. Overall, 3,674 daily passengers participate in the program. (Item #9, Staff contact: Jose Nuncio, (619) 699-1908; jnu@sandag.org)

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UPCOMING MEETINGS

*October 14, 2005
9 a.m. to 3 p.m.*

- A COASTER rail and bus tour of the North County coastal region is scheduled.

*October 28, 2005
Business Meeting*

Topics include:

- Board Officer Nominations
- Border Wait Times Study
- Workforce Summit

SMART GROWTH CONCEPT MAP: Directors were updated on the status of a Smart Growth Concept Map which is being developed in conjunction with representatives from the 18 jurisdictions and county government, the Regional Planning Committee, and SANDAG working groups. The Smart Growth Concept Map was a key initiative in the Regional Comprehensive Plan approved in 2004. The Concept Map will be used in the comprehensive 2007 Regional Transportation Plan update and to determine eligibility to participate in the \$280 million smart growth incentive program funded by *TransNet*. Information also was provided on upcoming public workshops in January 2006 to solicit additional input on the Concept Map. *(Item #11, Staff contact: Carolina Gregor, (619) 699-1989; cgr@sandag.org)*

SUMMARY OF SCAG/SANDAG MEETING: Elected officials from the Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG) and SANDAG met on September 8, 2005 to discuss transportation planning, affordable housing, and each region's economy. The new 511 commuter telephone assistance service and the potential for California Environmental Quality Act reform also were discussed. SCAG was invited to future SANDAG meetings to share their work to build and operate a MagLev high-speed rail system, as well as their "Mega Regions" concept, which is a way to help sustain Southern California's economic competitiveness. The next SCAG/SANDAG informational exchange meeting is scheduled for March 9, 2006. *(Item #14, Staff contact: Garry Bonelli, (619) 699-1960; gbo@sandag.org)*

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE PROJECTS IN THE SAN DIEGO REGION: SANDAG accepted the Department of Defense's (DoD) annual report for distribution to interested agencies, organizations, and individuals. The document summarizes the DoD's regional activities related to implementing smart growth strategies, and lists military construction projects for the current fiscal year and the next two fiscal years. Based on a longstanding agreement to collaborate with SANDAG, the DoD provides unclassified information about plans, policies, and activities. The DoD uses smart growth principles in its planning and policy processes. Furthermore, the DoD representative serves in an ex-officio capacity on the SANDAG Board of Directors. *(Item #10, Staff contact: Garry Bonelli, (619) 699-1960; gbo@sandag.org)*

REPORT FROM CALIFORNIA BIODIVERSITY COUNCIL MEETING: Del Mar Deputy Mayor Crystal Crawford reported on the California Biodiversity Council meeting held in July in Long Beach. Crawford is the San Diego region representative on the Council. She reported on findings from California's Ocean Economic Report, prepared by the National Ocean Economic Project. The findings in the report describe how the coastal economy impacts growth trends along the coast; the transportation and housing needs of citizens who work but don't live along the coast; and the needs of citizens who visit the coast. As SANDAG member agencies implement the Regional Comprehensive Plan, this information will help identify the needs and therefore the costs to keep California's ocean economy viable. *(Item #13, Staff contact: Janet Fairbanks, (619) 699-6970; jfa@sandag.org)*

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