NEXUS STUDY PROVIDES FRAMEWORK FOR IMPACT FUNDING PROGRAM: The extension of TransNet in 2004 established the Regional Transportation Congestion Improvement Program (RTCIP) to ensure that future development contribute its fair share toward funding and mitigating new traffic impacts on the Regional Arterial System. To assist jurisdictions in implementing this program, the TransNet Ordinance required SANDAG to produce a Nexus Study to satisfy legal requirements governing development impact fees in California. Directors accepted the RTCIP Nexus Study for distribution to jurisdictions for use in implementing the funding program required by the TransNet Ordinance. This nexus analysis demonstrates that an average impact fee of $2,071 per new residential unit is allowed under the California Mitigation Fee Act. (Item #11, Staff contact: Marney Cox, (619) 699-1930; mco@sandag.org)

BINATIONAL CORRIDOR STRATEGIC PLAN APPROVED: SANDAG approved the Otay Mesa-Mesa de Otay Binational Corridor Early Action Plan for planning purposes. SANDAG, in partnership with the City of Tijuana's Municipal Planning Institute (Instituto Municipal de Planeación), Caltrans, and the State of Baja California’s Secretariat for Infrastructure and Urban Development (Secretaría de Infraestructura y Desarrollo Urbano), has recognized transportation, housing, economic development, and environmental conservation issues as key components of the Otay Mesa-Mesa de Otay Binational Corridor Strategic Plan. In 2005, the Borders Committee and the Committee on Binational Regional Opportunities identified the Otay Mesa-Mesa de Otay corridor as an area of opportunity to create an effective binational planning partnership. (Item #13, Staff contact: Elisa Arias, (619) 699-1936; ear@sandag.org)

PRELIMINARY LIST OF FREIGHT INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS APPROVED: Directors approved a list of potential freight infrastructure projects that were prioritized using criteria developed by the Regional Freight Working Group (FWG) and adopted by SANDAG in September. The ranked list will be included in the initial San Diego Regional Goods Movement Action Plan that will be used to provide input for the 2007 Regional Transportation Plan (RTP). The project list also will be submitted to the state for consideration in the Statewide Goods Movement Action Plan. Directors accepted the preliminary list of regional freight infrastructure projects, provided a comprehensive environmental component that addresses how community/environmental groups are included in the process during the continued development of the San Diego Regional Goods Movement Action Plan and a long-range freight strategy for the region. (Item #12, Staff contact: Michael Hix, (619) 699-1977; mhi@sandag.org)

BOARD APPROVES NCTD COMMERCIAL PAPER FUNDING REQUEST: Directors received an update on funding and a progress report on the SPRINTER light rail construction project. Federal Transit Authority (FTA) officials have recognized the efforts that the North County Transit District (NCTD) is making in addressing their concerns and have indicated they will now release an initial $20 million of the remaining $66.5 million in Full Funding Grant Agreement funds. These $20 million will be released in
increments tied to the SPRINTER project’s monthly cash flow needs, with an initial release on September 21 of $5.6 million. While NCTD has not had a need to access the TransNet Commercial Paper program (CP) to cover cash flow needs, Directors approved the NCTD request to access up to $18.2 million in TransNet CP funding to cover SPRINTER cash flow needs through October in case future FTA funds are delayed. The FTA has evaluated the costs of the SPRINTER project and has requested higher contingency reserves bringing the total project cost to approximately $484 million. Progress continues on the 22-mile rail line from Oceanside to Escondido. The first three Diesel Multiple Unit vehicles were delivered in August. The test track will be ready for vehicle testing operations to begin in September. The scheduled opening for the SPRINTER is December 2007. (Item #10, Staff contact: Jose Nuncio, (619) 699-1908; jnu@sandag.org)

REGIONAL ISSUES AFFECTING MARINE CORPS INSTALLATIONS WEST: Major General Michael R. Lehnert, Commander, Marine Corps Installations West, updated the Board on regional issues associated with the bases under his command including Marine Corps Air Station Miramar and Camp Pendleton. He expressed his willingness to work with SANDAG on regional issues since thousands of Marines and their families live, work, go to school, and contribute to the San Diego region and its economy. Major General Lehnert also expressed interest in having a Marine Corps representative on the SANDAG Board. Directors requested staff to review the Board policy on Department of Defense advisory membership. (Item #8, Staff contact: Kim Kawada, (619) 699-6994; kka@sandag.org)

TRANSPORTATION PROGRESS REPORT: Highway Projects: The SR 78 at El Camino Real widening project was completed in June. The project extended the acceleration lane on eastbound SR 78. Transit and Bikeway Projects: The City College Trolley Station Project will be built within the Smart Corner mixed-use development, currently under construction. Completion of the City College Station is scheduled for early summer 2007... Design of the Del Mar Bluffs Stabilization Project is nearly complete. Construction is scheduled to begin by late fall and be completed by late spring 2007. Arterial Projects: The City of Carlsbad completed the South Melrose Drive Extension, extending a six-lane road between Palomar Airport Road and the Carlsbad - Vista city limit. Widening of Rancho Santa Fe Road to six lanes between San Eilo Road/Questhaven Drive and Melrose Drive also is complete. Traffic and Demand Management: The Freeway Service Patrol assisted approximately 14,200 motorists, about six percent more than last quarter. Vanpool participation grew from 495 to 514 vanpools. (Item #5, Staff contact: Jose Nuncio, (619) 699-1908; jnu@sandag.org)

NOMINATING COMMITTEE FOR 2007 BOARD OFFICERS: Chair Mickey Cafagna announced the nominating committee who will conduct interviews with those Board members who submitted applications to serve as SANDAG Chair, First Vice Chair, and Second Vice Chair terms beginning in January 2007. The nominating committee includes: San Diego Councilmember Jim Madaffer, County Supervisor Bill Horn, Santee Councilmember Jack Dale, Encinitas Mayor Christy Guerin, San Marcos Vice Mayor Pia Harris-Ebert, and National City Vice Mayor Ron Morrison. Applications have been received from Lemon Grove Mayor Mary Sessom for Chair; Escondido Mayor Lori Holt Pfeiler for First Vice Chair; and La Mesa Mayor Art Madrid and Solana Beach Councilmember Joe Kellejian for Second Vice Chair. The election of Board officers for 2007 will be held at the December SANDAG Board meeting. (Item #7, Staff contact: Kim Kawada, (619) 699-6994; kka@sandag.org)

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