



BOARD ACTIONS

October 27, 2006

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MEMBER AGENCIES

- Cities of
- Carlsbad
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- Lemon Grove
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- Oceanside
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- San Marcos
- Santee
- Solana Beach
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- and
- County of San Diego

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- Imperial County
- California Department of Transportation
- Metropolitan Transit System
- North County Transit District
- United States Department of Defense
- San Diego Unified Port District
- San Diego County Water Authority
- Mexico

BRAKES APPLIED TO I-15 TOLL INCREASE: Directors didn't garner enough votes to initiate a monthly account inactivity fee of \$3.50 for solo drivers who don't use the I-15 FasTrak® toll lanes on a regular basis. The inactivity fee would have been waived for customers who incur \$10 or more each month in tolls. Also, SANDAG did not vote on a recommendation to raise the FasTrak minimum toll rate from \$0.50 to \$1.25 on November 1 for solo motorists who drive on the I-15 carpool lanes between highways 163 and 56. Instead, Directors told staff to develop a new business model to look at various toll rates. With the completion of highway 56 two years ago which links Interstates 15 and 5, annual revenue from I-15 tolls dropped 40 percent to \$1.3 million in 2006 from \$2.2 million in 2004. SANDAG has not adjusted the minimum charge since the inception of the toll in 1997. With the Cities of San Diego, National City, Del Mar, Carlsbad, and Santee opposed, the inactivity fee failed under the SANDAG weighted voting system. The fee will be taken up by the Transportation Committee at a future meeting. *(Item #15: Staff contact: Derek Toups, (619) 699-1907; dto@sandag.org)*

INDEPENDENT TAXPAYER OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE HIGHLIGHTS & ACHIEVEMENTS: The Chair of the Independent Taxpayer Oversight Committee (ITOC), Maryam Babaki, presented the group's first annual report to SANDAG. One of the key requirements of the *TransNet* extension was the establishment of the ITOC to ensure that the voter approved mandates of the ordinance are carried out, and to recommend improvements and enhancements to the *TransNet* program. The creation of an ITOC annual report also is a requirement of the ordinance. The annual report process will be used by ITOC to inform SANDAG and the public about transportation programs and projects, and to solicit input from a wide range of interest groups and the general public. *(Item #12: Staff contact: Craig Scott, (619) 699-1926; csc@sandag.org)*

PUBLIC OUTREACH PROGRAM APPROVED FOR RTP: Directors approved the Public Involvement Program for the 2007 Regional Transportation Plan (RTP). The goal of the outreach is to garner participation and feedback early and often as the transportation plan is developed. The outreach includes a community-based effort that involves organizations that are conducting outreach activities to secure public involvement from stakeholders in communities that typically are not involved in regionwide planning activities. The organizations include Able-Disabled Advocacy, All Congregations Together, Bayside Community Center, City Heights CDC, El Cajon Collaborative, Escondido Education COMPACT, and South Bay Community Services. Other outreach activities include public meetings and workshops, interactive Web-based information, media and public awareness efforts, and collaborative activities with Caltrans, MTS, and NCTD. A research component will include a regionwide telephone survey and focus groups). The draft 2007 RTP is scheduled to be released in spring 2007 with final approval in the fall 2007. *(Item #14: Staff contact: Anne Steinberger, (619) 699-1937; ast@sandag.org)*

(more)

UPCOMING MEETINGS

*November 17, 2006
Business Meeting*

- Proposed Revisions to *TransNet* Early Action Program
- Energy Working Group Recommendation on SDG&E Sunrise Powerlink Transmission Line
- Quarterly Progress Report on Transportation Projects

PUBLIC SAFETY ACTIVITIES HIGHLIGHTED: Directors approved a regional interoperability and communications framework to improve coordination among public safety agencies in the county. The coordination will benefit the region by increasing accountability, aligning regional priorities, and improving regional interoperability. The Action Plan identifies tasks and milestones so this important effort can move forward immediately. The SANDAG Public Safety Committee and more than 150 public safety stakeholders worked on developing the framework and action plan. Key successes included wireless access to public safety information from the field, an enhanced publicly accessible crime mapping system, new information-dissemination channels for research findings, and bringing two million dollars in additional resources into the San Diego region. *(Items #13A and 13B, Staff contacts: Pam Scanlon, (619) 699-6971 or psc@sandag.org; Lisbeth Howard, (619) 699-6910 or lho@sandag.org)*

STATE ROUTE 54 HIGH OCCUPANCY VEHICLE LANES MODIFIED: SANDAG approved a Caltrans recommendation to convert the existing two high occupancy vehicle (HOV) lanes on SR 54 between I-805 and Briarwood Road to general purpose lanes. When opened in 1996, these HOV lanes were intended to test whether their early establishment would encourage greater carpooling in the corridor and improve air quality. An evaluation by Caltrans revealed that this 2.5 mile segment has the highest HOV violation rate in the state and experiences localized congestion during the morning and afternoon commutes. The planned widening to SR 54 will reintroduce HOV lanes on the corridor as an part of the planned HOV and Managed Lanes systems for the South County. *(Item #16, Staff contact: Dean Hiatt, (619) 699-6978; dhi@sandag.org)*

ADDITIONS TO SMART GROWTH CONCEPT MAP: SANDAG approved the addition of two potential smart growth areas to the draft Smart Growth Concept Map. The additions are: (1) a potential urban center in the Otay Mesa community; and (2) a potential special use center for a Southwestern College satellite campus. The draft Concept Map contains almost 200 existing, planned, or potential smart growth locations throughout the region. It also will assist in generating alternative land use and transportation scenarios for the 2007 Regional Transportation Plan. *(Item #5, Staff contact: Carolina Gregor, (619) 699-1989; cgr@sandag.org)*

MONITORING THE REGIONAL COMPREHENSIVE PLAN: Directors accepted the Regional Comprehensive Plan (RCP) Baseline Report for Performance Monitoring as a mechanism to track the plan's implantation and progress. Adopted in 2004, the RCP is now in the implementation phase. The RCP Baseline Report for Performance Monitoring establishes a benchmark for future monitoring. The Baseline Report denotes the significance of each indicator and identifies targets for certain indicators. The Regional Planning Committee, the Regional Planning Technical Working Group, and the previous Regional Planning Stakeholders Working Group developed a set of 39 performance indicators to monitor the region's progress toward achieving the goals and objectives of the RCP. *(Item #8: Staff contact: Coleen Clementson, (619) 699-1944; ccl@sandag.org)*

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