



BOARD ACTIONS

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November 17, 2006

TransNet AMENDMENT WOULD ADDRESS SPRINTER FINANCING:

SANDAG reviewed the proposed financial plan for the North County Transit District (NCTD) SPRINTER project, and conducted the first reading of an amendment to the *TransNet* Extension Ordinance to make the SPRINTER eligible for funding under the *TransNet* Extension. The SPRINTER cost increase may be as much as \$98.6 million, increasing the budget to \$484.2 million. The Federal Transit Administration required the development of a new financial plan for the SPRINTER demonstrating how cost increases would be addressed. With the passage of the statewide transportation infrastructure bond measure (Proposition 1B) on November 7, 2006, approximately \$50 million in new formula-based revenues will be available to NCTD for use in the proposed SPRINTER Financial Plan. *TransNet* Extension funds, which would be made available through the amended Ordinance, would provide approximately \$24 million. The remaining funding needed would come from the use of NCTD Transportation Development Act carryover funds, NCTD FY 2007 State Transit Assistance funds, remaining NCTD bond proceeds, and remaining current *TransNet* program funds allocated to NCTD. SANDAG Directors also reviewed proposed revisions to the *TransNet* Early Action Program to include the SPRINTER; an estimated \$340 million in capital improvements to the Trolley, including station and vehicle upgrades; and the inclusion of additional Environmental Mitigation Program costs to include work primarily on the I-5 and I-805 corridors. The second reading of the proposed amendment and final approval is scheduled to take place at the December 15, 2006, SANDAG meeting. (Item #12: Staff contact: Craig Scott; (619) 699-1926, csc@sandag.org)

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- North County Transit District
- United States Department of Defense
- San Diego Unified Port District
- San Diego County Water Authority
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SANDAG TAKES NEUTRAL POSITION ON TRANSMISSION LINE:

Based on the recommendation of its Regional Planning Committee and Energy Working Group, SANDAG Directors decided to take no position on the SDG&E Sunrise Powerlink transmission project until additional analysis, including environmental impact and route location information, are available sometime next summer. (Item #13: Staff contact: Susan Freedman; (619) 699-7387, sfr@sandag.org)

TRANSPORTATION PROGRESS REPORT:

Highway Projects: The I-5 HOV lanes project from the San Dieguito River to the San Elijo Lagoon moved into the design phase after receiving environmental clearance in September 2006. This *TransNet* Early Action project is scheduled for completion in 2008....Construction of the SR 52 westbound widening began in October 2006 and will provide an additional lane between Mast Boulevard and Santo Road. Caltrans is scheduled to complete this project in spring 2007. *Transit and Bikeway Projects:* The last of the SPRINTER vehicles is scheduled to arrive this month. Final assembly and on-site testing has already begun on the units that first arrived during the summer. The SPRINTER is scheduled to carry its first passengers in December 2007. *Arterial Projects:* Design on the West Vista Way Widening project is nearly complete. The City of Vista intends to complete this project, which will widen the existing facility between Thunder Drive and Melrose Drive, by summer 2008.

(more)

UPCOMING MEETINGS

*December 15, 2006
Business Meeting*

- Transportation Infrastructure Bond Proposals
- *TransNet* Ordinance Amendment
- 2007 Legislative Program

Traffic and Demand Management: The Freeway Service Patrol assisted approximately 14,800 motorists, about four percent more than last quarter. Vanpool participation grew 3.5 percent from 514 to 532 vanpools. (Item #7, Staff contact: Jose Nuncio, (619) 699-1908; jnu@sandag.org)

DRAFT 2006 PROGRESS REPORT ON CONSOLIDATION: Directors approved the SANDAG 2006 Progress Report on Consolidation, a summary report that fulfills the requirements of Senate Bill (SB) 1703 and Assembly Bill (AB) 361 that SANDAG complete an evaluation of progress and report on the findings to the Governor and California Legislature on a biennial basis by December 31 in even numbered years. SB 1703 was signed into law in 2002 and consolidated the roles and responsibilities of SANDAG with many of the transit planning, programming, project development, and construction responsibilities of the Metropolitan Transit System and North County Transit District. AB 361 was signed into law on September 25, 2003. SANDAG submitted its initial progress report in December 2004. The full report is available on the SANDAG Web site at www.sandag.org/pio. (Item #9: Staff contact: Garry Bonelli; (619) 699-1960, gbo@sandag.org)

2007 BOARD RETREAT: SANDAG approved the agenda and format for the 2007 Board Retreat, which will run January 31 – February 2, 2007. The retreat, which is a public meeting, takes place in the community of Borrego Springs. The agenda will include discussion of funding strategies and what the infrastructure bonds will mean for the San Diego region, an update on regional governance issues, and consideration of long-term energy resources for the region. The final agenda will be distributed in mid-January 2007. (Item #8: Staff contact: Anne Steinberger; (619) 699-1937, ast@sandag.org)

REPORT DETAILS REGIONAL CRIME AND DRUG USE: As part of the SANDAG Criminal Justice Clearinghouse, regional crime and arrest statistics, as well as statistics related to drug use are tracked on a regular basis. The data serve as a decision-making and evaluation tool for law enforcement, treatment providers, and policymakers. The mid-year (January to June) 2006 violent crime rate of 4.4 per 1,000 residents was the second lowest annualized rate in the past 10 years, with a one percent increase from the first half of 2005. However, there was a 51 percent increase in the number of homicides, from 43 in the first six months of 2005 to 65 in the first six months of 2006. In comparison, the property crime rate per 1,000 residents for the region decreased five percent from 32.0 in the first half of 2005 to 30.3 in mid-year 2006, representing the third lowest rate in the past 10 years. The percent of arrestees testing positive for any illegal drug has increased since 2000, with 75 percent of adult females, 68 percent of adult males, and 55 percent of juveniles positive for at least one substance. In addition, the percent of arrestees testing positive for methamphetamine also has risen significantly. In 2005, 51 percent (adult females), 44 percent (adult males), and 21 percent (juveniles) tested positive, up from 29 percent, 28 percent, and 11 percent in 2000, respectively. (Item #14: Staff contact: Dr. Cynthia Burke; (619) 699-1910, cbu@sandag.org)