BOARD ACTIONS

April 27, 2007

DRAFT 2007 REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION PLAN FUNDING SCENARIOS: Directors accepted draft Revenue Constrained and Reasonably Expected Revenue scenarios as the basis for preparing the Draft 2007 Regional Transportation Plan, scheduled for release in June. These scenarios represent a total investment of $58 billion for the Reasonably Expected scenario, which would add $17 billion above the $41 billion Revenue Constrained scenario. The additional investments include $10 billion balanced between highway and transit improvements, $3 billion for goods movement projects, $2 billion for local agency transportation improvements, and building the I-5 and I-15 North center lanes with toll financing (worth $2 billion). The draft RTP will be released for public comment and review in June. Adoption of the 2007 RTP is scheduled for November. (Item #8, Staff contact: Mike Hix, (619) 699-1977; mhi@sandag.org)

SANDAG RECEIVES $450,000 FROM CALIFORNIA ENERGY COMMISSION: Directors amended the SANDAG FY 2007 Budget and Overall Work Program to accept $450,000 in funding from the California Energy Commission (CEC) to develop analytical tools and research that focus on the relationship between land use, transportation, and energy planning. The CEC considers “smart growth” to be the most significant opportunity to meet California’s energy and climate change goals. Over the next two years, these funds also will assist SANDAG in carrying out its efforts to update the Regional Energy Strategy, assist SANDAG member agencies in implementing energy efficiency programs, and enable SANDAG to conduct an alternative fuel vehicle and infrastructure assessment for the region. (Item #12, Staff contact: Susan Freedman, (619) 699-7387; sfr@sandag.org)

STATE ROUTE 52 CORRIDOR FUNDING UPDATE: Directors approved a Transportation Committee recommendation to fully fund SR 52 corridor improvements by moving $128.9 million from the Managed Lanes portion of the project to the Extension Project in order to allow this TransNet Early Action Program project to be completed by 2010. Under this option, the environmental phase of the SR 52 Managed Lanes project will be finished, with additional work completed as funding is identified. Upon completion, SR 52 will extend three miles from SR 125 to SR 67. Progress continues on SR 52 with the opening of a third westbound auxiliary lane from Mast Boulevard to Santo Road in May 2007. (Item #13, Staff contact: Joel Haven, (619) 220-7377; joel.haven@dot.ca.gov)

(more)
CALIFORNIA COASTAL COMMISSION MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT: Directors authorized SANDAG to enter into a Memorandum of Agreement with the California Coastal Commission (Commission) to establish a process for the administration of the newly established Public Recreational Beach Impact Mitigation Fund. The Fund consists of fees collected by the Commission as mitigation for the adverse impacts on public recreational use of the region’s beaches. Monies from the Fund will be used to implement projects that provide public recreational improvements, including but not limited to public beach accessways, blufftop access, viewing areas, public restrooms, public beach parking, and public trail amenities. The role of SANDAG is to collect funds mandated by the Commission and hold the money in an interest-bearing account. SANDAG staff will work with local jurisdictions to process requests for funds. The use of funds requires local jurisdiction, Commission, and SANDAG approval. (Item #4, Staff contact: Shelby Tucker, (619) 699-1916; stu@sandag.org)

OVERVIEW OF URBAN PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT AND FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES: Directors approved the SANDAG submittal of proposals for Urban Partnership Agreements and supporting grant opportunities with the Federal Highway Administration. The Urban Partnership Agreement (UPA) solicitation would provide the region with a unique opportunity to expand existing activities that help implement the SANDAG Regional Transportation and Comprehensive Plans, evaluate innovative approaches for solving congestion problems, and continue to move forward with enhancements to the region’s transit operations. SANDAG staff worked with member agencies, MTS, NCTD, Caltrans, private firms, and other stakeholders to develop UPA proposals. The proposals include value pricing on managed lanes, connectors, and ramps; flexible transit and alternative services; a regional wireless data network; enhanced 511 services; and transportation incentives that reward the “smart traveler” and their employers. The award of a UPA is a designation that would allow SANDAG to receive priority consideration when competing for discretionary federal program funding. (Item #9, Staff contact: Samuel Johnson, (619) 699-6958; sjo@sandag.org)

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