BOARD ACTIONS

August 2, 2002

2030 REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION PLAN (RTP) PRELIMINARY DRAFT: Directors released a preliminary draft RTP called MOBILITY 2030. The draft RTP is a $41 billion long-range plan that contains an integrated set of public policies, strategies, and investments to maintain, manage, and improve the transportation system in the San Diego region. The new plan is developed around four main components: (1) better linking land use and transportation public policy; (2) expanding the current system of transit, highways, and local roads; (3) better managing the existing system to move more people not just vehicles; and (4) lessening the demand on the system through activities such as ridesharing, teleworking, and flexible work hours. The 2030 RTP incorporates the Regional Transit Vision developed in close cooperation with the NCTD and MTDB, and seeks to provide a number of realistic transportation choices based upon a reasonably expected revenue scenario. The preliminary draft is available for review at www.sandag.org or can be requested at (619) 595-5347. The expanded draft 2030 RTP, along with its associated Environmental Impact Report is scheduled to be released for public review in late September. (Item #18: Staff contact, Kim Kawada, (619) 595-5394 or kka@sandag.org)

TransNet FUNDING FOR TRANSIT OPERATIONS: If requested by the region’s transit agencies, Directors told staff to work with MTDB and NCTD to provide a range of financing options to balance the need between helping fund transit capital and operating projects. The recommendations may include amendments to the TransNet one-half percent local transportation sales tax ordinance. Directors acted because of the need to address the operating shortfalls in the MTDB service area. The existing TransNet ordinance calls for 80 percent of revenues made available to MTDB and NCTD to fund capital projects identified in the 1987 TransNet expenditure plan. The remaining 20 percent is allocated to the transit agencies for operating support. (Item #20: Staff contact, Craig Scott, (619) 595-5326 or csc@sandag.org)

CONGESTION MANAGEMENT PROGRAM (CMP): Directors accepted the 2002 CMP for distribution and comment. The purpose of the CMP is to monitor the performance of the transportation system, develop programs to address near- and long-term traffic congestion, and better integrate transportation and land use planning. A public hearing is scheduled for the September 27 SANDAG meeting. (Item #19: Staff contact, Mario Oropeza, (619) 595-5369 or mor@sandag.org)

TRANSPORTATION PROGRESS: The interim west to north connector of State Route 94/125 is scheduled to be completed at the end of August. Along the U.S.-Mexico border, construction on the SR 905/Sempre Viva Road interchange is scheduled to begin in October 2002. The I-15 widening project continues to advance with design plans completed for two projects underway between I-8 and Friars Road, and Mira Mesa (over)
Boulevard and Miramar Way. And, a groundbreaking ceremony will be held soon to launch the construction of SR 56 from Camino Ruiz to Carmel County Road. Trolley station modifications continue at the San Ysidro and East Village stations. Construction is underway at the Sorrento Valley Coaster Station to improve parking capacity for commuters. Construction on the San Diego Bayshore Bikeway near the Interstate 5/SR 54 interchange will resume after bird nesting season in mid-September. Design work continues on the North Coastal Bikeway from Oceanside to Del Mar. (Item #8: Staff contact, Jose Nuncio, (619) 595-5619 or jnu@sandag.org)

REGIONAL GOVERNANCE: Directors received an update on the progress of two California bills dealing with governance in the San Diego region. SB 1703, authored by Senator Steve Peace, continues to progress through the state legislature. Assemblywoman Christine Kehoe has decided to hold a companion bill, AB 2095, in abeyance. SB 1703, when enacted, would create the San Diego Regional Agency on January 1, 2003 to strengthen how regional public policy decisions are made. The bill would consolidate all of SANDAG’s functions along with transit planning, programming, project development, and construction into the new agency, leaving responsibilities for transit operations with MTDB and NCTD. The bill also would mandate membership in the regional agency from the area’s 18 cities and county government, develop a regional comprehensive plan, and provide a process to get major transportation projects built. As drafted in SB 1703, the transportation override provision would be submitted to the voters in March 2004 for approval prior to vesting this responsibility with the new regional agency. The new agency would use a voting system requiring both a majority of the agencies, representing a majority of the population to approve a motion where a quorum is present. (Item #10: Staff contact, Debra Greenfield, (619) 595-5366 or dgr@sandag.org)

REGIONAL ARTERIAL SYSTEM: Directors approved the criteria for evaluating requested additions and deletions to the Regional Arterial System. At the same time, Directors added 25 new roads to the system and deleted 11 roads. The arterial system now encompasses 777 miles of roadways within the region. The next step for SANDAG will be to identify a subset of the system that will be the regionally significant arterials for the 2030 RTP. (Item #6: Staff contact, Richard Chavez, (619) 595-5604 or rch@sandag.org)

OTHER ACTIONS: SANDAG recognized Carlsbad Councilmember Ramona Finnila for her outstanding leadership and dedicated service as chair of the agency for the past two years. The Honorable Mayor Enrique Diaz, visited from Playas De Rosarito, Mexico. The Consul General of Mexico, Hon. Rodulfo Figueroa Aramoni, explained the need for local jurisdiction support for “Matricular Consular,” a photo identification card program. Directors approved the nominations of Chula Vista Mayor Shirley Horton, El Cajon Councilmember Dick Ramos, and Escondido Mayor Lori Pfeiler as alternates to the SANDAG Executive Committee. One of the committee’s primary functions is to set the agenda for monthly SANDAG business and policy meetings. Imperial Beach Councilmember Patricia McCoy has been appointed the new vice chair of the Borders Committee as well as the South County representative to the Regional Energy Policy Advisory Council.

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