BOARD ACTIONS

September 27, 2002

REGIONAL GOVERNANCE: The Chairman informed the Board that Senate Bill 1703, authored by Senator Steve Peace (D-El Cajon), had been signed by the Governor. The new law becomes effective on January 1, 2003. It puts all transportation planning, funding allocation, project development, and construction in the San Diego region, under the responsibility of a new consolidated agency prior to January 30, 2004. All of the responsibilities and roles of SANDAG, and the planning and programming functions of both the San Diego Metropolitan and North County Transit Development Boards will be transferred to the new agency prior to July 1, 2003. Consolidation of the project development and construction functions of MTDB and NCTD will take place prior to January 30, 2004. The new law mandates that all of the area’s 18 cities and county government are voting members of the new agency. Voting is weighted and based on both membership and on the number of people who reside within each jurisdiction. The County of Imperial is added as an ex-officio (non-voting) member. In addition, a report must be prepared by the new consolidated agency and submitted to the Governor and California Legislature every two years beginning in 2005 regarding the new agency’s progress in carrying out the provisions of the new law. Also by December 31, 2004, the Legislative Analyst Office must prepare a report to the Governor and the Legislature which evaluates and makes recommendations on the consolidated agency. (Item #16: Staff contact, Debra Greenfield, (619) 595-5366 or dgr@sandag.org)

MEXICO’S PRESIDENTIAL COMMISSIONER ADDRESSES SANDAG: Hon. Ernesto Ruffo, Mexico’s Presidential Commissioner for Northern Border Affairs, addressed the SANDAG Board and recognized the progress and benefits of current intergovernmental relations among U.S. and Mexico governmental agencies. He emphasized the importance of sustainable economic and social development in the U.S./Mexico border region and encouraged continued coordination of a “competitive vision” for the binational region. (Item #14: Staff contact, Hector Vanegas, (619) 595-5372 or hva@sandag.org)

SANDAG PROCLAIMS OCTOBER 7 - 11 RIDESHARE WEEK: SANDAG issued a proclamation for Rideshare Week. A number of events and activities are scheduled for Rideshare Week to create public awareness of alternatives to solo commuting and to reduce rush hour traffic congestion. Television, radio, and newspaper advertising as well as public service announcements and Internet promotions will air September 30 – October 11. Other Rideshare Week activities include live radio station “remotes” at transit centers and shopping centers, and planned media events promoting vanpooling at North Island Naval Air Station, teleworking at businesses in Sorrento Mesa, and live television appearances by (More)
SANDAG officials. SANDAG administers the RideLink program that provides cost-effective services to promote alternatives to solo commuting during the peak periods, such as carpools, vanpools, schoolpools, teleworkers, walkers, bicyclists, transit riders, and commuters using alternative work schedules. Rideshare Week is being celebrated nationwide during this same period. Directors also will seek Rideshare Week proclamations from their jurisdictions. For more information visit KeepSanDiegoMoving.com. (Item #17: Staff contact, Ray Traynor, (619) 595-5645 or rtr@sandag.org)

TRANSPORTATION PROGRESS: The final segment of four-lane freeway on SR-56 between I-5 and I-15 is scheduled to open in July 2004... MTBD has completed the initial phase of construction on the San Ysidro Trolley station, which included drainage work, a parking lot, and a pedestrian bridge. Phase II construction, which includes station modifications, continues and should be complete by December 2003... Completion of the Rancho Santa Fe Road widening in San Marcos is projected for late 2003... In the past six months, the number of vanpools from other counties in SANDAG’s vanpool program increased from 58 to 91 vanpools, with the largest increase occurring in Riverside county (44 to 66). (Item # 8: Staff Contact, Jose Nuncio, (619) 595-5619 or jnu@sandag.org)

CONGESTION MANAGEMENT: Directors held a public hearing to receive testimony on the draft 2002 Congestion Management Program. The state-mandated program is being designed with a variety of options to address near-term and long-term traffic congestion. The program proposes the development of deficiency plans to address “hot spots” and a goal that 100 percent of new development impacts will be mitigated. The plan also calls for increased participation by SANDAG in monitoring and implementation of the CMP. (Item # 18: Staff contact, Mario Oropeza, (619) 595-5369 or mor@sandag.org)

LOCAL TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE REPORT: In FY 2002, SANDAG completed 117 LTA projects for its member agencies (two-thirds of which were completed at no cost to the member agency). Almost every local jurisdiction used the LTA program in 2002. Forty two percent of LTA projects involved the creation of customized maps; 22 percent were demographic/economic projects; 21 percent were transportation projects; 7 percent were surveys; 3 percent were housing projects, and 5 percent were other types of projects. In addition, SANDAG worked with a consortium of private and public agencies to create large regional datasets, including digital aerial photography and satellite imagery. SANDAG also collaborated with seven north county cities on a storm water survey. Staff continues to promote the LTA program through the SANDAG Web site. In the near future, SANDAG will launch an e-mail subscription service allowing users to receive timely updates on LTA programs. (Item # 19: Staff Contact, Karen Lamphere, (619) 595-5355 or kla@sandag.org)