



BOARD OF DIRECTORS
MAY 22, 2009

AGENDA ITEM NO. 09-04-1B
ACTION REQUESTED - APPROVE

BOARD OF DIRECTORS DISCUSSION AND ACTIONS

APRIL 24, 2009

Chair Lori Holt Pfeiler (Escondido) called the meeting of the SANDAG Board of Directors to order at 9:02 a.m. The attendance sheet for the meeting is attached.

1. **APPROVAL OF MARCH 27, 2009, MEETING MINUTES (APPROVE)**

Action: Upon a motion by Mayor Mark Lewis (El Cajon), and a second by Mayor Jim Wood (Oceanside), the Board of Directors approved the minutes from the March 27, 2009, meeting. Yes – 15. No – 0. Abstain – 0. Absent – Chula Vista, County of San Diego, National City, and Santee.

2. **PUBLIC COMMENTS/COMMUNICATIONS/MEMBER COMMENTS**

Chuck Lungerhausen, a member of the public, commented on the passing of Poway Mayor Mickey Cafagna, and mentioned the results of his fundraising efforts for the Multiple Sclerosis (MS) Walk.

Clive Richard, a member of the public, noted that about every 20 years we have a discussion about how to run an effective transit system. He wondered if we would continue to have this discussion in another 20 years.

Don Stillwell, a member of the public, stated that a key objective of the Mission Valley Community Plan was to reduce the use of automobiles through increased transit services in this area. He discussed a transfer connection between the Rio Vista Trolley Station and a nearby bus stop. He suggested rerouting of the Route 14 bus to improve access for patrons in the Mission Valley area.

Reginald Tisdale, a member of the public, expressed frustration at not being able to purchase a senior discount monthly pass after the 25th of the month, and commented on the lack of bus service.

Jarvis Ross, a member of the public, encouraged the Board to expand the light rail and bus system.

Mike Mendelson, representing California Public Interest Research Group (CALPIRG), advocated action to fund the public transit system.

3. ACTIONS FROM POLICY ADVISORY COMMITTEES (APPROVE)

This item summarizes the actions taken by the Borders Committee on March 27, the Transportation and Regional Planning Committees on April 3, the Executive Committee on April 10, and the Transportation Committee on April 15 and 17, 2009.

Action: Upon a motion by Mayor Wood and second by Councilmember Carrie Downey (Coronado), the Board of Directors approved the actions taken by the Policy Advisory Committees at the meetings noted above. Yes – 18 (weighted vote, 100%). No – 0 (weighted vote, 0%). Abstain – 0 (weighted vote, 0%). Absent – National City.

CONSENT ITEMS (4 through 8)

Chair Pfeiler noted that Item No. 6 would be taken off of Consent for discussion purposes. She asked for action on the remaining Consent items.

4. REQUEST FROM THE SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS TO BECOME AN ADVISORY MEMBER OF THE BORDERS COMMITTEE (APPROVE)

The Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG) expressed interest in becoming an advisory member of the Borders Committee, which provides oversight for planning activities that impact the borders of the San Diego region, including Orange, Riverside, and Imperial Counties, among others. The Board of Directors is asked to approve the SCAG request to become an advisory member of the Borders Committee.

5. FY 2009 BUDGET AND OVERALL WORK PROGRAM AMENDMENT: CALIFORNIA REGIONAL BLUEPRINT PLANNING GRANT (APPROVE)

SANDAG was recently awarded a \$400,000 grant from the California Regional Blueprint Planning Program. The grant funding will be used to support SANDAG regional planning efforts. The Board of Directors is asked to approve an amendment to the FY 2009 Budget and Overall Work Program to accept the grant funding. Action by the Board would adjust the current Blueprint Planning Grant Program Work Element and provide the required local match.

7. REPORT SUMMARIZING DELEGATED ACTIONS TAKEN BY EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR (INFORMATION)

In accordance with Board Policy Nos. 003 (Investment Policy), 017 (Delegation of Authority), and 024 (Procurement and Contracting-Construction), this report summarizes certain delegated actions taken by the Executive Director since the last Board meeting.

8. REPORTS ON MEETINGS AND EVENTS ATTENDED ON BEHALF OF SANDAG (INFORMATION)

Board members will provide brief reports orally or in writing on external meetings and events attended on behalf of SANDAG since the last Board of Directors meeting.

Action: Upon a motion by Mayor Jim Desmond (San Marcos), and a second by Council President Ben Hueso (City of San Diego), the Board of Directors approved Consent Item Nos. 4 through 8, except Item No. 6. Yes - 18. No - 0. Abstain - 0. Absent – National City.

6. LONG-RANGE REGIONAL PLANS AND FORECASTS: A WORK PLAN TO COMPLY WITH SENATE BILL 375 (INFORMATION)

The passage of Senate Bill (SB) 375 (Steinberg, 2008) and provisions included in the 2008 Settlement Agreement for the 2030 Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) Environmental Impact Report significantly change how we will prepare the next RTP and Regional Housing Needs Assessment. Both also set the stage for a future update of the Regional Comprehensive Plan. SANDAG staff has responded to these new requirements in the draft FY 2010 Budget and Overall Work Program. The purpose of this informational report is to provide an overview of the proposed work plan and its key elements.

Chair Pfeiler noted that there was one request from the public to speak on this issue.

Steve Barbone, a member of the public, said that the County Board of Supervisors, acting as the Air Pollution Control District Board, can raise money to reduce air emissions. These funds were used for the Sorrento Valley Coaster Connection (SVCC) service. Recently the County Board of Supervisors voted to oppose using APCD money to help reduce emission standards because no studies have shown a link between public transit and air quality. We have to reduce emissions and public transit can help do this.

Action: This item was presented for information only.

REPORTS (9 through 14)

9. FY 2010 TRANSIT CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (APPROVE)

The Metropolitan Transit System (MTS) and the North County Transit District (NCTD) have developed their FY 2010 Capital Improvement Programs (CIP), which form the basis for the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Section 5307 Urbanized Area formula fund grant, the FTA Section 5309 Rail Modernization formula fund grant, and the 2008 Regional Transportation Improvement Program (RTIP) amendment for CIP projects.

Kim York, Project Control Manager, presented the staff report.

Action: Upon a motion by First Vice Chair Jerome Stocks (Encinitas) and second by Mayor Cheryl Cox (Chula Vista), the Board of Directors approved: the FY 2010 CIPs for the San Diego region (MTS and NCTD), including the transfer of funds from MTS to SANDAG for regional planning; the submittal of FTA Sections 5307 and 5309 applications for the San Diego region (SANDAG, MTS, and NCTD); and Resolution No. 2009-21, adopting Amendment No. 11 to the 2008 RTIP. Yes – 18 (weighted vote, 100%). No – 0 (weighted vote, 0%). Abstain – 0 (weighted vote, 0%). Absent – National City.

10. FIRST READING OF NEW REGIONAL COMPREHENSIVE FARE ORDINANCE AND RELATED FINDINGS (HOLD FIRST READING AND ADOPT FINDINGS)

MTS has declared a fiscal emergency and has taken action to reduce expenditures due to funding cutbacks from the State of California and falling sales tax revenue. The MTS Board has approved a strategy that includes \$4.7 million in savings from service reductions and \$2.2 million from additional revenue resulting from increases to Regional and Premium Pass prices, elimination of the downtown Trolley Zone, and discontinuing Community and Local Circulation special fares. Staff has prepared a proposed new Regional Comprehensive Fare Ordinance (Fare Ordinance) that is intended to be easier to read and understand than the current version. Substantive changes also are proposed to the Fare Ordinance to reflect the proposed fare increases and the various changes needed to accommodate the implementation of the Compass Card.

Chair Pfeiler mentioned that the first action would be to waive the reading of the full Fare Ordinance.

Action: Upon a motion by Supervisor Pam Slater-Price (County of San Diego) and second by First Vice Chair Stocks, the Board of Directors waived the reading of the new Regional Comprehensive Fare Ordinance. Yes – 19 (weighted vote, 100%). No – 0 (weighted vote, 0%). Abstain – 0 (weighted vote, 0%). Absent - None.

Dan Levy, Senior Transit Planner, presented the staff report.

Chair Pfeiler noted the following requests to speak on this item.

Theresa Quiroz, a member of the public, stated that SANDAG's Regional Transportation Plan (RTP), says that instead of building highways, we must make transit competitive with the automobile. She discussed the impacts of the proposed fare increases on seniors and disabled transit riders.

Reginald Tisdale, a member of the public, expressed concern that a senior discount pass cannot be purchased after the 25th of the month. He also mentioned the lack of convenient bus services near his residence.

Steve Barbone, a member of the public, stated that we need to wean ourselves from foreign oil. The public wants to see its transit leaders using public transit. He opposed the proposed fare increases noting that San Diego now has one of the highest transit fares in the nation.

Lorraine Leighton, a member of the public, asked what the price will be for a Compass Card on the COASTER for senior/disabled patrons. She noted several instances of MTS buses breaking down, and asked the Board to seriously consider how the buses are maintained.

Duncan McFetridge, representing Save Our Forests and Ranchlands (SOFAR), commented that those who can least afford the fare increases will be penalized by these price increases. He asked the Board to postpone action until it can discuss the options for funding transit operations. He suggested transferring *TransNet* funds from freeways to pay for transit operations.

Jarvis Ross, a member of the public, said that minorities and those who are less franchised are negatively affected by these fare increases. He suggested raising the price of fuel and using those funds to support public transit.

Don Stillwell, a member of the public, spoke against the suggestion from Mayor Lewis to charge \$1 per trip as he didn't feel you would be able to raise enough funds from the farebox to pay for transit operations. He expressed support for a 1 percent sales tax for public transit operations.

Board members provided comments.

Supervisor Jacobs asked that staff evaluate the suggestion from Mayor Lewis to charge \$1 per trip.

Chair Pfeiler asked staff to be available before the next Board meeting to answer any questions from Board members on the Fare Ordinance.

Action: Upon a motion by Supervisor Slater-Price and second by First Vice Chair Stocks, the Board of Directors held the first reading of the revised Regional Comprehensive Fare Ordinance that included the proposed fare increases, and adopted findings related to Title VI of the Civil Rights Act and the California Environmental Quality Act. Yes – 16 (weighted vote, 94%). No – Del Mar, El Cajon, and La Mesa (weighted vote, 6%). Abstain – 0 (weighted vote, 0%). Absent - None.

11. TRANSIT IMPEDIMENTS STUDY (ACCEPT)

A. Transit Impediments Study (Accept)

Staff delivered the Transit Impediments Study final report in accordance with the 2030 Regional Transportation Plan Environmental Impact Report Settlement Agreement. This report summarizes both financial and ridership impediments to maintaining long-term transit service levels throughout the San Diego region. The report includes potential alternatives based on overcoming the identified impediments, increasing and maintaining service levels, and increasing and maintaining funding for transit operational expenses. It is anticipated that the Board will consider the alternatives that could be implemented at an upcoming meeting in May or June 2009.

Dave Schumacher, Principal Planner, presented the staff report.

Chair Pfeiler noted the following requests to speak on this item.

Sharon Cooney, MTS, reviewed changes made by MTS since 2007, the year of the most recent data used in the Transit Impediments Study report. She said they will continue to work toward making improvements to the MTS system.

Theresa Quiroz noted that she one of the parties to the RTP Settlement Agreement. She said SB 1703 states that MTS's responsibilities include budget development for SANDAG approval, and operating the transit system. However, SB 1703 requires SANDAG to ensure that MTS has sufficient funding for its operations. She said

transit is key to meeting the air quality mandates in AB 32 to reduce greenhouse gases. When *TransNet* was approved, the voters directed the Board to use those funds to improve transit.

Elyse Lowe, Executive Director of Move San Diego, stated that investment in transit is positive for our regional economy. On a national level, there is a letter circulating around Congress related to the new federal surface transportation authorization that recommends allowing transit agencies to be able use their federal funds for operations. In the State of Washington, there is a bill that would allow transit agencies to collect a vehicle license fee for transit.

Jim Schmidt, a member of the public, said that the problem is the reduction of funding for public transit at the state level. SANDAG is not to blame for this funding deficit.

Action: Upon a motion by Supervisor Slater-Price and second by Councilmember Downey, the Board of Directors: (1) accepted the Transit Impediments Study for public distribution, and (2) referred the Study to the Transportation Committee for review of the alternatives identified in the report. In accordance with the Settlement Agreement, the Board will consider the alternatives that could be implemented within 60 days of the issuance of the Study. Yes – 19 (weighted vote, 100%). No – 0 (weighted vote, 0%). Abstain – 0 (weighted vote, 0%). Absent - None.

B. Evaluation of Possible Short-Term Funding Alternatives (Discussion)

Muggs Stoll, *TransNet* Project Manager, provided the staff report.

SANDAG Executive Director Gary Gallegos provided an option to consider: a potential exchange of \$22 million in *TransNet* funds from the Blue/Orange Line Upgrade budget for federal American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) funding, to provide a source of short-term funding for transit operations. He said that the *TransNet* Ordinance language allows this fund exchange, but cautioned that it is one-time money. He recommended that this item be referred back to the transit operators to determine how best to use this funding flexibility.

Chair Pfeiler noted there were several requests to speak on this item.

Theresa Quiroz, a member of the public, asked the Board to direct SANDAG staff to work with Congressional representatives to support the federal funding for transit operations. She said that *TransNet* was always meant to be matching funds for federal and state funds. She asked the Board to move forward on options to help fund transit operations.

Duncan McFetridge, SOFAR, said that the center of the problem is land use. Without the integration of land use and transportation you won't have transit-based communities. We are in agreement with this short-term funding proposal. He also recommended shifting *TransNet* allocations to make more money available for transit operations.

Action: Upon a motion by Councilmember Anthony Young (City of San Diego) and second by Council President Hueso, the Board of Directors referred the Transit Impediments Study findings to MTS and the NCTD with a request to provide input on these options to the SANDAG Transportation Committee. Yes – 18 (weighted vote, 98%). No – National City (weighted vote, 2%). Abstain – 0 (weighted vote, 0%). Absent – None.

12. HIGH PRIORITY PROJECTS FOR THE NEXT FEDERAL SURFACE TRANSPORTATION AUTHORIZATION (APPROVE)

The U.S. House of Representatives Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure has begun its work on the next surface transportation authorization to replace SAFETEA-LU, which expires on September 30, 2009. On April 2, 2009, the Committee notified House members that a small percentage of the bill would be available for member-designated High Priority Projects, which must be submitted within a very tight timeframe.

Victoria Stackwick, Associate Legislative Analyst, provided the staff report.

Chair Pfeiler said there was one request to speak on this item.

Elyse Lowe, Move San Diego, said she would like to see critical performance changes on the Mid-Coast Corridor, and specific changes to improve the Early Action Program (EAP) projects. Transit planning should be performance based. She said that higher-performing transit projects reduce the need for public subsidy. She requested a technical analysis of the projects on this list.

Action: Upon a motion by Supervisor Dianne Jacob (County of San Diego) and second by Supervisor Slater-Price, the Board of Directors approved the list of regional High Priority Projects for the next federal surface transportation authorization, for submittal to our Congressional delegation. Yes – 17 (weighted vote, 100%). No – 0 (weighted vote, 0%). Abstain – 0 (weighted vote, 0%). Absent – Coronado, Poway.

13. COMPASS CARD UPDATE (INFORMATION)

James Dreisbach-Towle, Principal Technical Program Analyst, provided an update on recent Compass Card project activities and the status of the planned public launch.

Colleen Windsor, Communications Director, announced that an exclusive agreement has been reached with VONS for the sale of the Compass Cards. She reviewed the salient points contained in this agreement, and asked that action be taken to authorize its execution.

Action: Upon a motion by Supervisor Slater-Price and second by Councilmember John Minto (Santee), the Board of Directors authorized the Executive Director to execute an exclusive grocery store outlet agreement with VONS. Yes – 12 (weighted vote, 100%). No – 0 (weighted vote, 0%). Abstain – 0 (weighted vote, 0%). Absent – Coronado, Imperial Beach, La Mesa, Oceanside, Poway, San Marcos, and Vista.

14. FINANCIAL MARKET STATUS (INFORMATION)

Due to time constraints this report will be presented next month.

15. UPCOMING MEETINGS (INFORMATION)

The next Board Policy meeting is scheduled for Friday, May 8, 2009, at 10 a.m. The next Board Business meeting of the Board of Directors is scheduled for Friday, May 22, 2009, at 9 a.m.

16. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 11:59 a.m.

DGunn/M/DGU

ATTENDANCE
SANDAG BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MEETING
APRIL 24, 2009

JURISDICTION/ ORGANIZATION	NAME	ATTENDING
City of Carlsbad	Matt Hall (Member)	Yes
City of Chula Vista	Cheryl Cox (Primary)	Yes
City of Coronado	Carrie Downey (Primary)	Yes
City of Del Mar	Crystal Crawford (Primary)	Yes
City of El Cajon	Mark Lewis (Primary)	Yes
City of Encinitas	Jerome Stocks, 1st Vice Chair (Primary)	Yes
City of Escondido	Lori Holt Pfeiler, Chair (Primary)	Yes
City of Imperial Beach	Jim Janney (Primary)	Yes
City of La Mesa	Art Madrid (Member)	Yes
City of Lemon Grove	Jerry Selby (2nd Alt.)	Yes
City of National City	Ron Morrison (Member)	Yes
City of Oceanside	James Wood (Member)	Yes
City of Poway	Don Higginson (1st Alt.)	Yes
City of San Diego – A	Tony Young (1st Alt.)	Yes
City of San Diego - B	Ben Hueso (Primary, Seat B)	Yes
City of San Marcos	Jim Desmond (Member)	Yes
City of Santee	John Minto (2nd. Alt.)	Yes
City of Solana Beach	Lesa Heebner (Primary)	Yes
City of Vista	Judy Ritter (Primary)	Yes
County of San Diego - A	Dianne Jacob (Primary, Seat A)	Yes
County of San Diego - B	Pam Slater-Price (Primary, Seat B)	Yes
Caltrans	Pedro Orso-Delgado (1st. Alt.)	Yes
MTS	Harry Mathis (Member)	Yes
NCTD	Bob Campbell (Primary)	Yes
Imperial County	Victor Carrillo (Member)	No
US Dept. of Defense	CAPT Steve Wirshing (Member)	Yes
SD Unified Port District	Scott Peters (Alternate)	Yes
SD County Water Authority	Mark Muir (Primary)	Yes
Baja California/Mexico	Lydia Antonio (Alternate)	Yes
Southern California Tribal Chairmen's Association	Robert H. Smith (Member)	No