BORDERS COMMITTEE AGENDA

Friday, October 18, 2002
1 p.m. - 2 p.m.

Immediately Following the I-15 IRP Meeting

City of Escondido, California
City Hall
Mitchell Room
201 North Broadway
Escondido, CA 92025-2798

AGENDA HIGHLIGHTS

CALTRANS’S TRANSPORTATION PROJECTS IN THE SAN DIEGO REGION

MISSION STATEMENT

The Borders Committee provides oversight for planning activities that impact the borders of the San Diego region (Orange, Riverside and Imperial counties and the Republic of Mexico). The preparation and implementation of SANDAG’s Binational Planning and Interregional Planning Programs is included under its purview. It advises the SANDAG Board of Directors on major interregional planning policy-level matters. Recommendations of the Committee are forwarded to the Board of Directors for action.
ITEM # | ACTION
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1. | WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS
+2. | MEETING SUMMARY OF SEPTEMBER 20, 2002 (pp. 4-6) APPROVE
3. | PUBLIC COMMENTS AND COMMUNICATIONS
   (Each speaker limited to three minutes.)

CONSENT

+4. | COMMITTEE ON BINATIONAL REGIONAL OPPORTUNITIES (pp. 7-9) INFORMATION
   Attached is a summary of the September 3, 2002 COBRO meeting.

+5. | STAFF REPORT (pp. 10) INFORMATION
   - Legislative Update: SB 1731 (Polanco) and SB 1703 (Peace)

REPORTS

6. | CALTRANS’S TRANSPORTATION PROJECTS IN THE SAN DIEGO REGION (Pedro Orso-Delgado, Caltrans) INFORMATION
   Mr. Orso-Delgado, Director, District 11, will brief the Committee on Caltrans’ most relevant regional transportation projects, including those in the different borders areas.

7. | BORDERS VISIONING PROCESS DISCUSSION/ APPROVE
   The Committee will discuss a timeline for working on the borders visioning process in preparation of the joint meeting with the Regional Planning Committee in January, and decide how best to proceed with the visioning process.

8. | NEXT MEETING TOPICS, DATE, AND LOCATION INFORMATION/ APPROVE
   The next meeting of the Borders Committee will be held on Friday, November 15, 2002 at 11:00 a.m. in SANDAG’s 7th Floor Conference Room.

+ Next to an agenda item indicates an attachment.

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MEETING SUMMARY OF SEPTEMBER 20, 2002

The September 20, 2002 meeting of the Borders Committee was called to order by Chair Crystal Crawford (North County Coastal). Committee members in attendance were Patricia McCoy (South County), Hal Martin (North County Inland), and Ralph Inzunza (City of San Diego); and alternates Carol McCauley (North County Coastal), and Phil Monroe (South County). Ex-Officio members in attendance were Thomas Buckley (County of Riverside), Francisco Anza (Republic of Mexico), and Pedro Orso-Delgado (Caltrans).

1. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

Chair Crystal Crawford welcomed the Committee members and guests to the meeting and invited attendees to introduce themselves.

2. MEETING SUMMARY OF AUGUST 7, 2002

A motion and second was made to approve the August 7, 2002 Borders Committee minutes. There were no changes. Motion passed unanimously.

3. PUBLIC COMMENTS AND COMMUNICATIONS

No public comments were made.

CONSENT

4. COMMITTEE ON BINATIONAL REGIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

COBRO Chair Elsa Saxod reported on the August 6, 2002 COBRO meeting.

5. STAFF REPORT

SANDAG Legal Counsel was present to respond to any questions regarding the legislative update on Senate Bill 1731(Polanco). The Committee received the information.
6. **CHAIR AND MEMBERS’ REPORTS**

Chair Crystal Crawford announced that Commissioner Ernesto Ruffo will be attending the September 27, 2002 Board of Directors’ meeting. She also added that the Binational Bridges and Border Crossings conference will take place in San Diego from September 30th through October 2nd, and that SANDAG would be participating in the public presentations of October 1st. She reported that there was no new news regarding the Imperial Valley water transfer to San Diego, but she has close communication with both sides.

7. **REGIONAL COMPREHENSIVE PLAN (Hon. Lori Pfeiler, Chair of the Regional Planning Committee)**

Chair Crystal Crawford introduced Regional Planning Committee Chair Lori Pfeiler to present the Regional Comprehensive Plan. Ms. Pfeiler gave a presentation on the Committee’s goals and progress to date.

Borders Committee members discussed the following issues, as they relate to border issues:

- Availability of water - working with San Diego County Water Authority
- Availability of affordable housing
- Availability of jobs
- Sufficient transportation systems
- Regional coordination
- Impact of smart growth
- Cross border modeling program
- Importance of keeping respective City Councils informed

A joint meeting in January with the Regional Planning Committee and Borders Committee was proposed to help formulate a vision for the Borders related component of the Regional Comprehensive Plan. The Borders Committee should provide a draft outline of the Borders chapter for the January joint meeting.

The Chair requested that staff prepare, for approval at the October meeting, a schematic of possible models for how the Borders Committee could proceed with a visioning process.

8. **2002 COBRO ANNUAL CONFERENCE RECOMMENDATIONS (Elsa Saxod, Chair of COBRO)**

COBRO Chair, Elsa Saxod, presented the 2002 COBRO Annual Conference recommendations. The Committee unanimously approved that the COBRO recommendations be forwarded to the Board of Directors:

- Recognize the importance of addressing border infrastructure needs and financing, and authorize the inclusion of these issues in regional plans such as the Regional Comprehensive Plan and the Regional Transportation Plan.
- Authorize the Borders Committee to brief the region’s federal and state elected representatives and border agencies on local border infrastructure needs.
- Authorize the Borders Committee to help expedite the formation of the Binational Energy Forum.

The staff proposed Monday, October 28, 2002 for a workshop on border issues, including a tour of the international border.

Council Member Inzunza made suggestions for stops and issues to be considered for the tour:

- the triple fence
- Smuggler’s Gulch
- sewage through Tijuana River Valley
- secondary treatment issue
- Brown Field
- I-905 expansion
- Railway link
- Inter-modal station
- SR 11 expansion
- Cross-border traffic
- Virginia Avenue crossing
- possible second tour in December
- break tour into 2 parts; U.S. side one day and Mexican side another day

A motion and second were made to approve the recommendation to hold a tour of the border on October 28th. The motion passed unanimously.

9. BORDERS COMMITTEE SIX MONTH REVIEW (Hector Vanegas, Staff)

Staff reported on progress from the past six months and distributed a revised timeline for projects. Members commented on the education process and the increased communication with the borders’ communities over the last six months. The Committee recommended that this report should be presented at the next SANDAG Board of Directors’ meeting.

10. I-15 INTERREGIONAL PARTNERSHIP (Jeff Martin)

Staff reported on I-15 Interregional Partnership. Final results of the survey will be presented at the IRP meeting in Escondido in October.

Members discussed related issues:

- Concentration of commuters on I-15 is between San Diego and Temecula/Murietta area.
- Most commuters are not willing to relocate from that area unless they were able to get better home value.
- Jobs are in the San Diego region and, therefore, they are willing to commute.

11. NEXT MEETING TOPICS, DATE AND LOCATION

The next meeting will be on Friday, October 18, 2002 from 11 a.m to 2 p.m. in Escondido in the Mitchell Room at City Hall.
COMMITTEE ON BINATIONAL REGIONAL OPPORTUNITIES
MEETING SUMMARY OF SEPTEMBER 3, 2002

The September 3, 2002 COBRO meeting was called to order by Chair Elsa Saxod.

1. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS
   The Chair welcomed the COBRO members and guests to the meeting and introduced Mr. Joe Brannan from the Southeastern Arizona Governments Organization.

2. MEETING SUMMARY OF AUGUST 6, 2002
   The meeting summary for August 6, 2002 was approved.

3. PUBLIC COMMENTS AND COMMUNICATION
   No public announcements were made.

4. CHAIR AND COBRO MEMBERS REPORT
   The Chair mentioned that she supports the Consular General’s recommendation for the matricula consular, and she encouraged members to support this in any way they could. Ms. Angelika Villagrana reported that the members task force met and recommends that the Committee invite Imperial County, the City of Chula Vista, the Northern Borders Affairs Commission, and the South County Economic Development Council to become COBRO members.

   Mr. Cruz Gonzalez, City of San Diego Transportation Department, briefly mentioned that several agencies continue to work on short and long term projects; he will have an update by the next meeting.

   Caltrans has agreed to contribute funds towards short term resolutions for the California’s export - southbound truck route. Mr. Sergio Pallares, Caltrans, mentioned that he met with the City of Tijuana and CABIN in order to address this issue. There is no update on Caltrans’ future study on ports of entry bottlenecks.

5. STAFF REPORT
   Mr. Hector Vanegas updated the Committee on SB 1731 (Polanco) and SB 1703 (Peace).
6. **2002 COBRO ANNUAL CONFERENCE RECOMMENDATIONS**

Mr. Hector Vanegas reported on the 2002 Summer Conference recommendations. Ten potential recommendations surfaced during discussion at the conference, which will ultimately be condensed into a few concise recommendations for the Borders Committee’s consideration.

Martha Lima, San Diego Dialogue, mentioned that the South County EDC will have an upcoming event on border infrastructure and that COBRO should support their efforts. Chair Saxod mentioned that the City of San Diego is already working on its priorities in regards to border infrastructure projects.

The conference recommendations were approved and the Chair asked Dr. Paul Ganster, SDSU, to coordinate with other Committee members to review the recommendations before being presented to the Borders Committee.

7. **VIRGINIA AVENUE – EL CHAPARRAL PORT OF ENTRY UPDATE (PAUL HAMILTON, GENERAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION)**

Mr. Paul Hamilton, GSA, updated the Committee on the progress of the Virginia Avenue – El Chaparral port of entry reuse project. The site considered is an area bordered by Virginia Avenue to the west, Camino de la Plaza to the north, the U.S./Mexico border to the south, and San Ysidro Boulevard to the east.

The major goals are: to respond to new Federal security mandates involving increased southbound inspections requirements; to provide the maximum number of south and northbound inspection lanes; to provide new and improved facilities with improved secondary vehicle inspection areas; to prepare alternatives that are compatible with the planned El Chaparral Port of Entry, new Intermodal Transportation Center, and Caltrans highway guidelines; and to improve and expand the pedestrian/bicycle entries/exports into Mexico in relation to the Intermodal Center and El Chaparral Mexico POE.

The preliminary project schedule is:

- Feasibility study: April 2002 – July 2002
- Preliminary input from congressional/community groups, U.S. and Mexican Federal/State Agencies: August 2002 – September 2002
- Environmental studies with public hearings: October 2002 – October 2003
- Project design & construction contracting: February 2004 – March 2006
- Construction: April 2006 – March 2010

8. **INTRODUCTION TO MULTINATIONAL SUSTAINABLE INDICATORS (RICK VAN SCHÖIK, SCERP)**

Mr. Van Schoik, Director of Southwest Center for Environmental Research and Policy (SCERP), gave a presentation on the multinational sustainable indicators project being developed at SCERP. The purpose is to develop indicators that can be used by the public, private sector, and
policy makers on both sides of the border. The data has to be available, compatible, and recent.

These indicators will be used to improve health and quality of life and sustainability for the region. Mr. Van Schoik needs data to complete the index, and so he asked COBRO members to submit additional information if available.

9. **AN INTRODUCTION TO TIJUANA TRABAJO A.C. (ENRIQUE MIER Y TERAN, TIJUANA TRABAJO A.C.)**

Tijuana Trabaja has been in existence since 1998. Its mission is to create a citizen’s forum with wide representation and participation from the community. Tijuana Trabaja is a forum that promotes dialogue, discussion, and analysis of polemic issues in the Tijuana area.

The recent democratic changes in Mexico have revealed a vacuum in the community and in the political arena. Citizens are not familiar with lobbying or even participating in strong citizen based groups. Tijuana Trabaja, inspired by the San Diego Dialogue, has developed an emphasis on developing a vision for the region through meaningful research and has published a number of reports to date.

Tijuana Trabaja has created strategic alliances with the San Diego Dialogue, SANDAG, Workforce Partnership, El COLEF (Colegio de la Frontera Norte), CDT (Tijuana Economic Development Council), and the South County Economic Development Council.

10. **ADJOURNMENT AND NEXT MEETING TOPICS, DATE, AND LOCATION**

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, September 9, 2002.

11. **ATTENDANCE**

Attendance list is available upon request.
LEGISLATIVE UPDATE:

SB 1731 (Polanco) - California-Mexico Border Economic Infrastructure Financing Authority

On September 29, Governor Gray Davis vetoed Senate Bill 1731 that would have created the California-Mexico Border Economic Infrastructure Financing Authority. This initiative passed the California Assembly with a 48-30 vote and the Senate with a 24-10 vote.

In his veto message, Governor Davis mentioned that Senate Bill 207 (Peace) already “authorizes California counties and cities to create infrastructure financing districts within three miles of the California-Mexico border to finance public works that provide significant benefits to the border development zone.” He also mentioned that this bill does not provide the Mexican government officials and community with equal participation in decision-making processes.

On September 13, 2002, the SANDAG Executive Committee re-examined the bill after significant amendments were made in the final version of the Bill. After discussion, it reaffirmed SANDAG’s opposition to the bill. The County of San Diego, the City of Chula Vista, the City of San Diego, and the Navy were among other governmental agencies that also opposed the bill.

SB 1703 (Peace) - Consolidated Transportation Agency

On September 20, Governor Gray Davis signed Senate Bill 1703 (Peace), which establishes the San Diego Regional Transportation Consolidation Act. As a compromise in the State Legislature, some language concerning an infrastructure financing district in the border zone was removed.

Substantive provisions of SB 1703 are:

- Establishment of a permanent agency with mandated participation by member agencies.
- Consolidation of the planning and programming functions of SANDAG, MTDB, and NCTD to take place prior to July 1, 2003.
- Consolidation of the project development and construction functions of SANDAG, MTDB, and NCTD to take place prior to January 30, 2004.
- A governance structure consisting of 20 locally elected representatives with weighted voting based on population as agreed to by the SANDAG Board, and the County of Imperial as an ex-officio member.
- A committee structure as agreed to by the Board consisting of Executive, Transportation, Regional Planning, and Borders Committees.