MEETING SUMMARY OF OCTOBER 18, 2002

The October 18, 2002 meeting of the Borders Committee took place immediately after the I-15 Interregional Partnership Committee meeting, and was called to order by Chair Crystal Crawford (North County Coastal). Committee members in attendance were 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), 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 SEPTEMBER 20, 2002

A motion and second was made to approve the September 20, 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

The Committee received a summary of the September 3, 2002 COBRO meeting.

5. STAFF REPORT

The Committee received information regarding Senate Bill 1731 (Polanco).

REPORTS

6. CALTRANS’S TRANSPORTATION PROJECTS IN THE SAN DIEGO REGION (Pedro Orso-Delgado, Caltrans)

Mr. Orso-Delgado, Director, Caltrans District 11, briefed the Committee on Caltrans’ most relevant regional transportation projects, including those in each of the borders areas. Projects related to the
binational border are: State Route 125 South, which will link SR 54 and the future SR 905 at the U.S./Mexico border; State Route 905, which still requires $57 million to complete but construction is on-going; and, SR-11, which will connect with a future port of entry at east Otay Mesa with Tijuana’s loop to Rosarito. In San Ysidro, Caltrans is coordinating with the General Service Administration (GSA) to maximize the use of the port of entry and is reviewing four alternatives to use the former Customs facilities at Virginia Avenue. Friendship Plaza project will improve pedestrian and bicycle circulation in that area.

Specific to the traffic issues at the ports of entry, Mr. Orso-Delgado mentioned: the misuse of the HOV lanes due to the inability to enforce the law; the need for improvements of the dedicated commuter lanes; and, extending the use of technology for pedestrian use. The southbound export route at Otay Mesa needs to be improved since trucks are currently using City of San Diego streets.

Other issues that need to be addressed include: the re-design of Interstate 15 with the County of Riverside; and, potentially, a future project on Foothill State Highway in the County of Orange. Mr. Orso-Delgado concluded with the importance of considering national security when making plans for this region.

7. BORDERS VISIONING PROCESS

The Committee accepted staff recommendations to work on the borders visioning process in preparation for the joint meeting with the Regional Planning Committee in January. The November and December meetings will be dedicated to developing core values to be included in the Regional Comprehensive Plan (RCP).

8. NEXT MEETING TOPICS, DATE AND LOCATION

The next meeting of the Borders Committee will be held on Friday, November 15, 2002 at 11:00 a.m. in SANDAG’s 8th Floor Conference Room A.