



**BOARD OF DIRECTORS
FEBRUARY 28, 2003**

**AGENDA ITEM NO. 03-02-4-C
ACTION REQUESTED - APPROVE**

BORDERS COMMITTEE DISCUSSION AND ACTIONS

Meeting of February 21, 2002

On February 21, 2003 the Borders Committee met with elected officials from Riverside County as the I-15 Interregional Partnership Policy Committee, and separately as the Borders Committee, at Temecula City Hall in Temecula, California. The Discussion and Actions from both meetings are summarized below.

**I-15 Interregional Partnership Policy Committee
Discussion and Actions**

The February 21, 2003 meeting of the I-15 IRP Policy Committee was called to order at 12:30 p.m. Committee Members in attendance were Co-chairs Jeff Comerchero (City of Temecula) and Crystal Crawford (North County Coastal), Robert Schiffner (City of Lake Elsinore), Thomas Buckley (City of Lake Elsinore), Jill Greer (East County), Ed Gallo (North County Inland), and Patricia McCoy (South County). Alternates Phil Monroe (South County) and Judy Ritter (North County Inland) also attended the meeting.

1. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

Co-Chair Jeff Comerchero, Councilmember, City of Temecula, welcomed Policy Committee members and guests, and self-introductions were made.

2. PUBLIC COMMENTS/COMMUNICATIONS

Lynne Baker, Endangered Habitats League provided comments during the discussion of Agenda Item #6.

3. I-15 IRP POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING SUMMARY

The committee unanimously approved the summary for the October 18, 2002 meeting.

4. I-15 IRP EXISTING CONDITIONS REPORT

An earlier draft of the Existing Conditions Report was presented to the Policy Committee in October 2002, and has been revised based on comments from both the Technical Working Group and Policy Committee. The initial draft was based on a telephone survey of southwestern Riverside County residents as well as regional data for both Riverside and San Diego counties. This regional data include information from the 2000 United States Census.

The final draft has been expanded to include recently released census information and additional Riverside County transportation data. The Technical Working Group (TWG) has reviewed the final draft and recommended its approval on February 13, with minor corrections.

Action: The Policy Committee unanimously approved the I-15 Interregional Partnership Existing Conditions Report with the modifications recommended by the TWG and asked that the corridor maps in the report be extended south to include the Mexican border.

5. SHORT-RANGE TRANSPORTATION STRATEGIES

At its initial meeting, the I-15 Policy Committee asked staff to recommend short-range strategies to address the jobs-housing imbalance in the I-15 corridor that could be initiated quickly. The Policy Committee reviewed three strategies in October 2002. Subsequently the TWG identified five additional short-range strategies. All of these short-range strategies addressed transportation issues.

Two of the added strategies address transit. **Strategy T4** would add new interregional transit service to supplement the existing, private-sector service that operates in the corridor. Both the Riverside Transit Agency (RTA) and Friendship Transit (the existing private-sector operator) plan to add routes in May 2003. **Strategy T7** would coordinate interregional services with local transit services. In response to a question by co-chair Crawford, staff said that the primary obstacle to implementing this strategy is the size limitations of the existing transit centers and transfer locations.

Strategy T1 would better coordinate the bus-pool, van-pool and car-pool programs of the two regions. Both SANDAG and the Riverside County Transportation Commission (RCTC) subsidize vanpools. There are currently 900 interregional van-pool passengers. The two agencies use different sources of funding for these programs. SANDAG pays an on-going monthly subsidy; RCTC subsidizes van-pools for only one year.

RCTC operates a bus pool program, but doesn't currently provide service to San Diego County. SANDAG provides most of the carpool matching in the corridor because contact is primarily made at the work end of the trip. Both agencies believe that they can learn from each other's programs.

Committee members felt that there was a need for additional rideshare activity, linking Camp Pendleton with the growing military population in Riverside County. In addition, they felt that a joint funding strategy linking the two regions could be developed.

Strategy T2 would expand park-and-ride lots and improve the signage at these lots. Committee members supported the emphasis on shared (or leased) parking facilities. Caltrans is currently establishing priorities for small project funding such as this.

Strategy T3 would coordinate outreach and marketing for transit and ridesharing. Eric Haley, RCTC Executive Director noted that the two rideshare agencies currently use the same outreach consultant, simplifying coordination.

Strategies T10, T11 and T12 are employer-based programs such as employer subsidized transit passes, alternate work schedules, and teleworking. SANDAG will focus on these programs at a workshop this summer. Most of the Interregional employers in the corridor are located in San Diego. The Policy Committee discussion supported the TWG recommendation that these three strategies be combined and refined at this workshop.

At its meeting on February 13, 2003, the TWG recommended the approval of these strategies. It was noted that the programs identified in these strategies are already funded. The recommended strategies primarily call for interregional coordination of these programs, with expansion where funding permits.

Action: The Policy Committee unanimously approved the Short-Range Transportation Strategies.

6. PROPOSED LONG RANGE STRATEGY EVALUATION CRITERIA

In contrast to the Short-Range Strategies, the emphasis of the long-range program will be on new efforts to address the jobs-housing imbalance. The criteria proposed for evaluating and prioritizing the potential long-range strategies was presented. Policy Committee members discussed the need to closely coordinate the capital improvement programs of the two regions, noting the ongoing differences in the proposed improvements for I-15.

Lynne Baker, who represents the Endangered Habitats League on the TWG, stated her support of the proposed evaluation criteria. Ms. Baker said that there will be a need to significantly increase the quality of transit vehicles and service between the regions if transit is to attract a significant portion of the interregional commuters.

Action: By consensus, the Policy Committee approved the evaluation method and criteria presented, as recommended by the TWG.

7. OVERVIEW OF THE SAN DIEGO REGIONAL COMPREHENSIVE PLAN AND THE RIVERSIDE COUNTY INTEGRATED PROJECT

Rick Bishop, WRCOG Executive Director, presented the Riverside County Integrated Project (RCIP). The RCIP is a three-part program, which will comprehensively address the impact of growth on these areas of concern: the County's General Plan, transportation, and habitat conservation.

Eric Haley, RCTC Executive Director, presented the transportation issues, Community and Environmental Transportation Acceptability Process (CETAP), in greater detail. CETAP addresses transportation demand in four corridors. One of these corridors parallels I-15; a second corridor crosses I-15 from west to east near Lake Elsinore. Earlier this month, RCTC selected the widening of I-15 and I-215 as the preferred projects in the initial corridor.

Due to time limitations, SANDAG will present San Diego's Regional Comprehensive Plan at the next Policy Committee meeting. The Regional Comprehensive Plan is a program similar to the RCIP.

8. I-15 IRP PROJECT SCHEDULE

The schedule for the I-15 IRP work program was reviewed. The Technical Working Group (TWG) will hold two workshops: an Economic Development Workshop in Temecula on March 13, 2003, and a Housing Workshop in Escondido on April 10, 2003. Staff and the TWG will recommend an overall program for achieving a jobs-housing balance at the next Policy Committee meeting.

9. NEXT MEETING DATE AND LOCATION

The next meeting of the I-15 IRP Policy Committee will be held on June 20, 2003 in Escondido.

Borders Committee Discussion and Actions

The regularly scheduled meeting of the San Diego Association of Governments Borders Committee was called to order by Chair Crystal Crawford (North County Coastal). Other members in attendance were Patricia McCoy (South County), Ed Gallo (North County Inland) and alternates Judy Ritter (North County Inland) and Phil Monroe (South County). Ex-Officio members in attendance were Gene Pound (Caltrans), and Tom Buckley (Riverside County).

1. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

Self introductions were made at the beginning of the IRP meeting which preceded this meeting.

2. MEETING SUMMARY OF DECEMBER 3, 2002

The Borders Committee took no action on the meeting summary.

3. PUBLIC COMMENTS AND COMMUNICATIONS

There were no public comments or communications.

CONSENT

4. COMMITTEE ON BINATIONAL REGIONAL OPPORTUNITIES (INFORMATION)

The Borders Committee took no action on the Consent Agenda.

REPORTS

5. CHAIR AND MEMBERS REPORTS (INFORMATION)

There were no reports made.

6. BORDERS CHAPTER OF THE REGIONAL COMPREHENSIVE PLAN (Crystal Crawford) (DISCUSSION/APPROVE)

Crystal Crawford briefly presented the preliminary draft outline for the borders chapter of the RCP. Key elements of the structure and content of the draft included:

- All borders included in one chapter, with distinctions made between binational and interregional;
- Inclusion of relevant borders issues in other elements of the RCP; and
- Organization based upon issue areas as opposed to geographical areas.

The Committee agreed upon the organizational structure of the outline and made the following suggestions regarding the content:

- Include mention of the concept of equitable planning, i.e. that impacts upon other regions be accounted for in the planning process (regarding this point, Chair Crawford made note of the fact that this concept is encapsulated in one of the core values approved by this Committee: "Our region will pursue integrated planning in order to *achieve equity and fairness.*")
- Highlight importance of jobs/housing imbalance;
- Include baselines from which to measure growth in the future;
- Include a matrix or map depicting all issue areas, even though all issues will not be developed/discussed in the chapter; and
- Consider impacts that major infrastructure development outside of the county will have on congestion in San Diego County.

Chair Crawford asked the Committee to begin thinking about the subsequent sections of the outline including the *Policies, Principles and Goals section* as well as the *Actions and Implementation* section to be discussed at the next meeting.

The Committee requested that they receive a presentation regarding the Integrated Regional Infrastructure Strategy (IRIS) component of the RCP at its next meeting.

7. NEXT MEETING TOPICS, DATE, AND LOCATION (INFORMATION)

The next meeting of the Borders Committee will be held on Friday, March 21, 2003 at 12:30 in SANDAG's 7th Floor Conference Room.

GARY L. GALLEGOS
Executive Director