



BOARD OF DIRECTORS
APRIL 25, 2003

AGENDA ITEM NO. 03-04 3-D
ACTION REQUESTED - APPROVE

BORDERS COMMITTEE DISCUSSION AND ACTIONS
Meeting Summary of April 18, 2003

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), Jill Greer (East County), Ralph Inzunza (City of San Diego), Victor Carrillo (Imperial County); and alternates David Powell (North County Coastal) and Phil Monroe (South County). Ex-Officio members in attendance were Tom Buckley (Riverside County), Gene Pound (Caltrans), and Angelika Villagrana (representing COBRO).

1. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

The Chair welcomed the Committee members and guests to the meeting, and asked for self introductions.

2. MEETING SUMMARY OF MARCH 21, 2003

Action: The Borders Committee approved the March 21, 2003 Borders Committee summary.

3. PUBLIC COMMENTS AND COMMUNICATIONS

There were no public comments made.

CONSENT ITEMS (#4)

4. COMMITTEE ON BINATIONAL REGIONAL OPPORTUNITIES (INFORMATION)

The Chair pointed out that the upcoming COBRO summer conference will be held on July 11, 2003. The Committee accepted the meeting summary from the April 1, 2003 meeting.

REPORTS

5. CHAIR AND MEMBERS REPORTS (INFORMATION)

The Chair briefly discussed the April 2, 2003 meeting on Border Energy Issues and indicated that she will continue to report on the progress of the energy group. The next meeting of this group is tentatively scheduled for May 14, 2003 in Tijuana, Baja California.

The Chair encouraged the members to participate in the upcoming North American Development Bank-Border Environmental Cooperation Commission (NADB-BECC) Regional Workshop to be held in National City on April 29, 2003.

6. BORDERS CHAPTER OF THE RCP (DISCUSSION/APPROVE)

The Committee reviewed the proposed goals to be developed in the Borders chapter and demonstrated a desire to have each goal reflect the overall needs in each issue area. In regards to the housing issue, Ralph Inzunza suggested that the region should come to terms with the fact that, in the future, San Diego's housing needs will in part be met outside of this region. In regards to transportation, Gene Pound suggested focusing on transportation systems to better connect all the subregions of San Diego. On energy, the Committee felt the goal should reflect both the need for sustainable energy as well as the need to find an efficient way to move energy throughout the borders regions.

The Committee also discussed the need to cross-reference material in other chapters where appropriate, to avoid duplication of information. By doing so, more attention can be paid to those borders' topics not covered in other areas of the RCP.

Action: The Committee approved the following goals for each area:

- *Jobs/Housing Balance:* "Implement collaborative economic development, transportation, and housing strategies throughout the Borders region to create sustainable and responsible interregional growth."
- *Transportation:* "Complete transportation systems along key trade corridors, interregional commuting corridors and ports of entry."
- *Energy:* "Provide energy generation and transmission systems to sustain the Borders region."
- *Environment:* "Preserve and enhance ecosystem biodiversity throughout the Borders region with an emphasis on issues relating to habitat corridors, watersheds and air basins".
- *Water:* "Pursue diversification of overall water supply in order to reduce dependency on imported water and to ensure regional water reliability."
- *Economic Development:* "Support economic development efforts along the Border regions."
- *National Security:* "Implement national security measures while protecting the quality of life of the Baja California/San Diego region."

7. IMPERIAL COUNTY PLAN (INFORMATION)

Borders Committee member Supervisor Victor Carrillo, Imperial County, introduced Jurg Heuberger, Imperial County Planning Department, who gave the Committee an overview of the key planning issues facing that county. Mr. Heuberger highlighted the uniqueness of Imperial County and mentioned the areas where Imperial and San Diego County have similarities.

Imperial County has a population of approximately 150,000 people, maintains a productive agricultural base and is beginning to draw many home buyers from outside its boundaries due to affordable housing prices. The Committee discussed this emerging housing issue as well as the potential for a new air cargo airport, high-speed rail, and energy development in Imperial County. Overall, Imperial County is dealing with many similar issues to those of San Diego County such as transportation corridor planning, energy, and trade infrastructure development. Mr. Heuberger also indicated that health and welfare costs associated with migration are a major concern for his county.

8. NEXT MEETING TOPICS, DATE, AND LOCATION (INFORMATION/APPROVE)

Action: The Borders Committee approved the next meeting date of Friday, May 16, 2003

GARY L. GALLEGOS
Executive Director