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BOARD ACTIONS

May 28, 2004

TransNet EXTENSION APPROVED FOR NOVEMBER BALLOT: Directors approved the second reading and adopted the ordinance to place a proposition on the November 2004 ballot seeking voter approval to extend *TransNet*, the existing ½-penny sales tax. The *TransNet* extension would generate \$14 billion for transportation improvements. With two-thirds voter approval, the *TransNet* sales tax would be reauthorized for a 40-year period and help support traffic congestion relief projects for highways, public transit, and local road improvements. The current *TransNet* program expires in March 2008. *TransNet* would help fund major highway expansion and improvement projects along Interstates 5, 8, 15, and 805 as well as State Routes 52, 54, 56, 76, 78, 94, 125, and 905. *TransNet* would support a robust public transportation system with Bus Rapid Transit driving on exclusive highway lanes along many of the freeways. The *TransNet* expenditure plan was developed during the last 18 months and is based on input and involvement from residents, business, community, and environmental representatives, Caltrans, transit agencies, and city and county officials. The sales tax extension also would support capital and operational improvements to the Trolley, the Coaster commuter rail service, and the new Sprinter rail line in North County. In addition, the region's 18 cities and numerous county communities would get funding support for thousands of local road projects. As currently envisioned, *TransNet* funding would support incentives for communities to implement smart growth development to better connect homes and jobs to transit. Bikeways, pedestrian improvements, and neighborhood traffic safety projects also would be supported with *TransNet* funding. The ordinance will be placed on the November 2, 2004 ballot as a countywide proposition. (Item #10: Staff contacts, Craig Scott (619) 699-1926 or csc@sandag.org and Garry Bonelli, (619) 699-1960 or gbo@sandag.org)

STATUS REPORT ON REGIONAL COMPREHENSIVE PLAN (RCP): Escondido Mayor Lori Holt Pfeiler updated her colleagues on the efforts of the Regional Planning Committee, Technical Working Group and Stakeholders Working Group to finalize the draft RCP and Environmental Impact Report (EIR). The RCP is a proposed long-term planning framework for the San Diego region. A joint meeting was held last week to review a draft of the RCP. The purpose of the joint meeting was to forward a recommendation to the SANDAG Board. The three groups felt it necessary to hold additional meetings in June to clarify and address issues in the RCP and environmental impact report before making final recommendations. As a result, the RCP and the final EIR will be brought to SANDAG in July. (Item #11 A, B, C: Staff contact: Carolina Gregor, (619) 699-1989 or cgr@sandag.org)

(more)

MEMBER AGENCIES

- Cities of
- Carlsbad
- Chula Vista
- Coronado
- Del Mar
- El Cajon
- Encinitas
- Escondido
- Imperial Beach
- La Mesa
- Lemon Grove
- National City
- Oceanside
- Poway
- San Diego
- San Marcos
- Santee
- Solana Beach
- Vista
- and
- County of San Diego

ADVISORY MEMBERS

- Imperial County
- California Department of Transportation
- Metropolitan Transit System
- North San Diego County Transit Development Board
- United States Department of Defense
- San Diego Unified Port District
- San Diego County Water Authority
- Baja California/Mexico

Upcoming Board Meetings

June 11, 2004 at 10:15 a.m.

- Policy (tentative)

June 25, 2004 at 9 a.m.

- Chair and Vice Chair elections
- FY 2005 Program Budget

2004 STATE TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM: At the request of the California Transportation Commission, Directors approved a Revised Submittal of the 2004 State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) which does not include any additional Grant Anticipation Revenue Vehicle (GARVEE) bond financing for work on SR 905 and SR 52. The Board approved this revision as an initial submittal to the CTC and directed staff to continue pursuing bond financing for these projects with the CTC after adoption of the STIP scheduled for August 5, 2004. *(Item #9: Staff Contact, Jose Nuncio, (619) 699.1908 or jnu@sandag.org)*

TRANSPORTATION PROGRESS: Progress continues on transportation projects underway to improve and expand the region's transportation system. *Highways:* Environmental work was completed to widen eastbound I-8 from Second Street to Greenfield Drive in El Cajon. Design for the I-15 managed lanes between Rancho Bernardo and Clarence Lane in Escondido has been completed. The construction contract is scheduled to be awarded in August. The I-15 managed lanes project between SR 56 and Centre City Parkway in Escondido is scheduled for completion in 2007. A grand opening to celebrate the completion of SR 56 is scheduled for mid-July. *Transit:* Construction continues on two major light rail projects: Mission Valley East trolley from Mission Valley through SDSU to La Mesa and the Sprinter rail line from Oceanside to Escondido. *Bikeways:* The region's bike network expanded this spring with the grand opening of the Sweetwater Bridge on the San Diego Bayshore Bikeway. *Transportation Demand Management:* Vanpool participation continues to increase growing from 264 to 317 vanpools in the last year. Twelve local companies launched transportation benefits programs for employees. Employer programs are developed through assistance with SANDAG transportation demand management specialists. *(Item #5: Staff Contact, Jose Nuncio, (619) 699.1908 or jnu@sandag.org)*

2005 OVERALL WORK PROGRAM (OWP) AND DRAFT BUDGET: Directors approved the draft FY 2005 OWP and provided comments on the draft Program Budget. The final FY 2005 Program Budget will be presented to SANDAG in June. *(Item #12: Staff contact, Renee Wasmund, (619) 699-1940 or rwa@sandag.org)*

OTHER ACTIONS: Chair Ron Morrison appointed a committee that will present the Board with nominations for Chair and Vice Chair for the next fiscal year at the June 25 SANDAG meeting. The committee is composed of: Del Mar Councilmember Crystal Crawford; Carlsbad Mayor Bud Lewis; San Diego Mayor Dick Murphy; Chula Vista Mayor Steve Padilla; and Vista Mayor Morris Vance. The new SANDAG Board officers will begin their leadership positions on July 1, 2004.