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# BOARD ACTIONS

January 28, 2005

**TRANSNET EARLY ACTION PROGRAM:** SANDAG Directors voted unanimously to jumpstart several transportation improvements included in the voter-approved *TransNet* extension. In November 2004, voters countywide approved Proposition A, extending the *TransNet* ½ cent sales tax to generate \$14 billion through 2048. Early Action Projects include: widening SR 76 in the North County eastward to I-15; linking highway 52 eastward to SR 67 in the East County; constructing the Mid-Coast trolley from Old Town San Diego north onto the campus of UCSD and over to University City; and building four managed highway lanes down the center of I-15 from SR 78 in Escondido south to the Miramar Marine Corps Air Station at SR 163. SANDAG, as called for in Proposition A, is establishing an Independent Taxpayers Oversight Committee, and an environmental mitigation program. In addition, staff is doing the financial planning work necessary to issue sales tax revenue bonds to accelerate the entire *TransNet* program. (Item #13: Staff contact: Craig Scott, (619) 699-1926; csc@sandag.org)

**STATE OF THE COMMUTE:** Directors approved the *State of the Commute* report for public distribution. The data-driven report offers an overview of key transportation challenges and solutions for maintaining and improving mobility for commuters across the region. A major finding is that travel has outpaced other indicators such as housing, employment, population, and more directly, highway construction and funding. Proposed solutions include new and more efficient managed highway lanes; making transit more time-competitive to offer commuters an alternative to driving alone; and constructing more highway lanes. The State of the Commute is available at www.sandag.org. (Item #12: Staff contact, Alex Estrella, (619) 699-1928 or aes@sandag.org)

**SANDAG OFFICERS ELECTED:** Directors unanimously re-elected Poway Mayor Mickey Cafagna as SANDAG Chairman, and Lemon Grove Mayor Mary Teresa Sessom as first Vice Chair for one-year terms. In addition, Santee Councilmember Jack Dale was elected to the new agency position of second Vice Chair. The new position was created to help the agency manage its growing list of regional responsibilities. The SANDAG Board officers are elected to serve one-year terms for the period January through December. (Item #10: Staff Contact, Garry Bonelli, (619) 699-1960 or gbo@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
- Mexico

**Upcoming Meetings  
February 25, 2005**

Board Business Meeting

- Smart Growth Concept Map
- Regional Housing Needs Assessment
- Regional Energy Planning Program
- Transportation Revenue Estimates

**Employer Seminar  
March 25, 2005**

*Help employees Survive the Drive. Learn the benefits of offering an employee transportation program.*

8:30 a.m. to 3:45 p.m.

Marriott Del Mar

11966 El Camino Real

Call 619-699-6988 or e-mail  
survivethedrive@sandag.org

**TRANSPORTATION FUNDING:** SANDAG allocated the remaining \$18.3 million from the Regional Surface Transportation Program (RSTP) and Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) funds to projects that have lost budget due to the ongoing state budget crisis or require increased funding due to cost increases or contract claims. The projects include Mission Valley East Trolley, Interstate 15 Managed Lanes, State Route 125 Rock Removal, and Plaza Boulevard Widening in National City. *(Item #17: Staff Contact, Jose Nuncio, (619) 699-1908 or jnu@sandag.org)*

**APPOINTMENTS TO STAKEHOLDERS WORKING GROUP:** SANDAG Directors appointed 26 residents to a new Regional Planning Stakeholders Working Group. The group will help implement the Regional Comprehensive Plan and update the Regional Transportation Plan. Stakeholder meetings are open to the public and scheduled for the third Tuesday of each month, with the first meeting on February 15. *(Item #15: Staff Contact: Janet Fairbanks, (619) 699-6970; jfa@sandag.org)*

**PUBLIC HEARING: 2030 REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION PLAN (RTP) AND FINAL RTP ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT AMENDMENT:** Directors conducted a public hearing and approved amending the 2030 RTP to change the planned State Route 241 toll facility at the Orange County border from six to eight lanes. An addendum to the Final EIR for the 2030 RTP was approved to properly identify the SR 241 toll road as an eight-lane facility. Further review of the environmental impacts will take place at the project level. *(Item #16: Staff Contact: Heather Werdick, (619) 699-6967; hwe@sandag.org)*

**COMMENTS TO THE CALIFORNIA PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION (CPUC):** The CPUC is concerned that there may be insufficient electric generating capacity to meet peak demand this summer. San Diego Gas & Electric has developed Critical Peak Pricing rate for high energy users to go into effect on June 5, 2005. The rate increase would affect educational institutions, local governments, hospitals, and medium and large commercial and industrial customers during peak energy use times. SANDAG approved a list of recommendations asking the CPUC to consider actions that will not penalize ratepayers who have no demand alternatives during peak times; not give large customers enough lead time to reduce their energy usage for this summer; and not exempt critical health and safety operations. *(Item #18: Staff Contact, Rob Rundle, (619) 699-6949 or rru@sandag.org)*

**OTHER ACTIONS:** The Honorable Jorge Hank, elected Mayor of Tijuana for the 2004-2007 term, was introduced to SANDAG...California State Senator Denise Ducheny received an award of recognition for her work on Senate Bill 492, which extends until June 30, 2010 the authority for the cities and county to self-certify their general plan housing elements. This bill also allows jurisdictions to continue to receive state housing bond funds.