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BOARD OF DIRECTORS AGENDA

Friday, February 27, 2009
9 a.m. to 12 noon
SANDAG Board Room
401 B Street, 7th Floor
San Diego

AGENDA HIGHLIGHTS

- **TRANSIT REVENUE APPORTIONMENTS AND PROJECTIONS**
- **FINANCIAL MARKET STATUS AND PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO *TransNet* EXISTING INTEREST RATE SWAPS**
- **DESTINATION LINDBERGH REVIEW OF FINAL DRAFT PLAN**

PLEASE TURN OFF CELL PHONES DURING THE MEETING

**YOU CAN LISTEN TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
MEETING BY VISITING OUR WEB SITE AT WWW.SANDAG.ORG**

MISSION STATEMENT

The 18 cities and county government are SANDAG serving as the forum for regional decision-making. SANDAG builds consensus, makes strategic plans, obtains and allocates resources, plans, engineers, and builds public transit, and provides information on a broad range of topics pertinent to the region's quality of life.

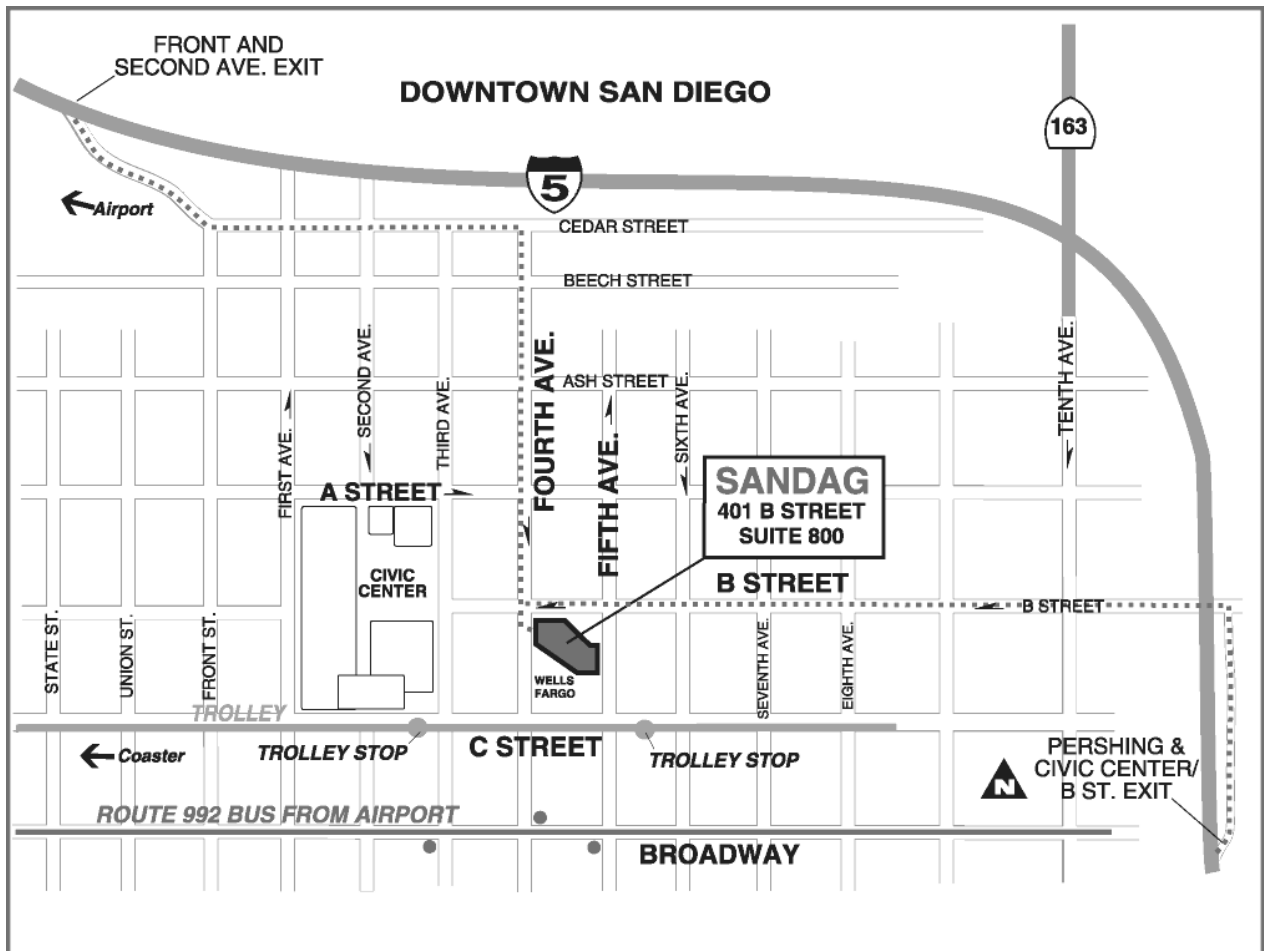


Welcome to SANDAG. Members of the public may speak to the Board of Directors on any item at the time the Board is considering the item. Please complete a Speaker's Slip, which is located in the rear of the room, and then present the slip to the Clerk of the Board seated at the front table. Also, members of the public are invited to address the Board on any issue under the agenda item entitled Public Comments/Communications/Member Comments. Speakers are limited to three minutes. The Board of Directors may take action on any item appearing on the agenda.

This agenda and related staff reports can be accessed at www.sandag.org under Meetings on the SANDAG Web site. Public comments regarding the agenda can be forwarded to SANDAG via the e-mail comment form also available on the Web site. E-mail comments should be received no later than 12 noon, two working days prior to the Board of Directors meeting.

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), SANDAG will accommodate persons who require assistance in order to participate in SANDAG meetings. If such assistance is required, please contact SANDAG at (619) 699-1900 at least 72 hours in advance of the meeting. To request this document or related reports in an alternative format, please call (619) 699-1900, (619) 699-1904 (TTY), or fax (619) 699-1905.

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BOARD OF DIRECTORS AGENDA

Friday, February 27, 2009

ITEM #		RECOMMENDATION
+1.	APPROVAL OF JANUARY 23, 2009, MEETING MINUTES	APPROVE
2.	PUBLIC COMMENTS/COMMUNICATIONS/MEMBER COMMENTS	
	<p>Members of the public shall have the opportunity to address the Board on any issue within the jurisdiction of SANDAG. Anyone desiring to speak shall reserve time by completing a "Request to Speak" form and giving it to the Clerk of the Board prior to speaking. Public speakers should notify the Clerk of the Board if they have a handout for distribution to Board members. Speakers are limited to three minutes. Board members also may provide information and announcements under this agenda item.</p>	
+3.	ACTIONS FROM POLICY ADVISORY COMMITTEES	APPROVE
	<p>This item summarizes the actions taken by the Transportation Committee on February 6, the Executive Committee on February 13, and the Transportation and Public Safety Committees on February 20, 2009.</p>	
CONSENT ITEMS (4 through 7)		
+4.	QUARTERLY INVESTMENT REPORT FOR PERIOD ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2008 (Lauren Warrem)*	INFORMATION
	<p>The SANDAG Investment Policy requires that the Board be provided a quarterly report of investments held by SANDAG. This report includes all money under the direction or care of SANDAG as of December 31, 2008.</p>	
+5.	QUARTERLY PROGRESS REPORT ON TRANSPORTATION PROJECTS FOR OCTOBER THROUGH DECEMBER 2008 (José A. Nuncio)*	INFORMATION
	<p>This quarterly report summarizes the current status of major highway, transit, arterial, traffic management, and transportation demand management projects in SANDAG's five-year Regional Transportation Improvement Program for the period ending December 31, 2008.</p>	
+6.	REPORT SUMMARIZING DELEGATED ACTIONS TAKEN BY EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR (Renée Wasmund)	INFORMATION
	<p>In accordance with SANDAG Board Policy Nos. 003 (Investment Policy), 017 (Delegation of Authority), and 024 (Procurement and Contracting-Construction), this report summarizes certain delegated actions taken by the Executive Director since the last Board meeting.</p>	

- +7. REPORTS ON MEETINGS AND EVENTS ATTENDED ON BEHALF OF SANDAG (Kim Kawada) INFORMATION

Board members will provide brief reports orally or in writing on external meetings and events attended on behalf of SANDAG since the last Board of Directors meeting.

CHAIR'S REPORT (8 through 9)

- +8. APPOINTMENT OF POLICY ADVISORY COMMITTEE CHAIRS AND VICE CHAIRS INFORMATION

In accordance with SANDAG Bylaws, the Chair appoints the Chairs and Vice Chairs of the Transportation, Regional Planning, Borders, and Public Safety Committees each February. A listing of appointments and the 2009 calendar of meetings are included.

- +9. SUMMARY OF ANNUAL SANDAG RETREAT (Colleen Windsor) INFORMATION

This report provides a summary of the discussion at the annual SANDAG Board retreat held on January 29-30, 2009.

REPORTS (10 through 15)

- +10. TRANSIT REVENUE APPORTIONMENTS AND PROJECTIONS (Santee Councilmember Jack Dale, Transportation Committee Chair; Sookyung Kim)* APPROVE

The transit operators within the SANDAG region receive various revenues to support both ongoing operations and major capital projects. Each year SANDAG provides the estimates from various sources of revenues for transit. This report provides the estimates of transit revenues available for FY 2010 to FY 2014 for each fund type. SANDAG also provides local agencies the funding available for the non-motorized program for the upcoming year. Pending action at its February 20, 2009, meeting, the Transportation Committee recommends that the Board of Directors: (1) adopt the FY 2010 apportionments for various federal and local programs; and (2) approve use of the revenue projections for FY 2011 to FY 2014 for these programs.

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| +11. | FUNDING RECOMMENDATION FOR FY 2009 JOB ACCESS AND REVERSE COMMUTE PROJECTS (Jack Dale, Transportation Committee Vice Chair; Danielle Kochman) | APPROVE |
| | <p>Pending action at its February 20, 2009, meeting, the Transportation Committee recommends that the Board of Directors approve: (1) an allocation of \$153,843 for the Metropolitan Transit System Route 905 project, (2) an allocation of \$120,101 to fully fund the two highest ranked projects; and (3) a contingency allocation of all remaining FY 2009 JARC funds to the remaining unfunded projects based on rankings should additional funding become available.</p> | |
| +12. | FINANCIAL MARKET STATUS AND PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO <i>TransNet</i> EXISTING INTEREST RATE SWAPS (Santee Councilmember Jack Dale, Transportation Committee Chair; Renée Wasmund; Andrew McKendrick, PFM)* | APPROVE |
| | <p>Staff will provide the regular monthly briefing about the latest developments in the financial markets, the economy, and revenue forecasts, including an update on the interest rate swap opportunity presented at the February 13, 2009, Board meeting. The Board of Directors is asked to authorize the Executive Director to enter into the swap transaction and execute all necessary documents if a targeted rate can be achieved.</p> | |
| +13. | DESTINATION LINDBERGH (DRAFT CONCEPT PLAN FOR PHASE II AMP) REVIEW OF FINAL DRAFT PLAN (Lemon Grove Mayor Mary Sessom and Jack Dale, Second Vice Chair; Dave Schumacher) | DISCUSSION/
POSSIBLE ACTION |
| | <p>Destination Lindbergh has been a year-long collaborative planning effort among SANDAG, the San Diego County Regional Airport Authority, and the City of San Diego, which has been guided by the Ad Hoc Airport Regional Policy Committee. The purpose of the study was (1) to determine the ultimate build out of Lindbergh Field; (2) to review the potential for an Intermodal Transportation Center; and (3) to determine the actions that would reduce traffic on surrounding arterial streets. This effort was designed to answer concerns raised by SANDAG and the City of San Diego regarding the proposed Terminal 2 expansion. A Memorandum of Agreement between the Airport Authority, City of San Diego, and SANDAG calls for the Airport Authority to provide SANDAG and the City the final draft concept plan in order for SANDAG to assess whether it addresses those concerns. This item will present the draft concept plan. Board action on whether the draft concept plan adequately addresses SANDAG concerns is scheduled for the March 13, 2009, Board Policy meeting.</p> <p><i>This item was not ready at the time of mailout and will be sent out under separate cover when completed.</i></p> | |

- +14. **SORRENTO VALLEY COASTER CONNECTION SERVICES** (Santee Councilmember Jack Dale, Transportation Committee Chair; Dave Schumacher) **APPROVE**

During the past year, SANDAG, Metropolitan Transit System (MTS), and North County Transit District (NCTD) have discussed options for retaining Sorrento Valley COASTER Connection (SVCC) services. MTS and NCTD staffs have come to agreement on a sustainable service and funding plan that would reduce the level of service consistent with ridership patterns and would jointly fund the shuttle service. Since the SVCC services are a regional transit service, SANDAG Board Policy No. 018 requires action to determine whether the restructured service option is consistent with regional policies, goals, and objectives, prior to implementing any services changes. In accordance with Board Policy No. 018, the Board of Directors is asked to approve of a finding that the revised SVCC service plan is consistent with regional policies, goals, and objectives.

15. **CLOSED SESSION-CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL
SIGNIFICANT EXPOSURE TO LITIGATION**

Pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.9(b)-One Potential Case

16. **UPCOMING MEETINGS** **INFORMATION**

The next Board Policy meeting is scheduled for Friday, March 13, 2009, at 10 a.m. The next Board Business meeting of the Board of Directors is scheduled for Friday, March 27, 2009, at 9 a.m.

17. **ADJOURNMENT**

+ next to an agenda item indicates an attachment

* next to an agenda item indicates a San Diego Regional Transportation Commission item



**FUNDING RECOMMENDATION FOR FY 2009
JOB ACCESS AND REVERSE COMMUTE PROJECTS**

File Number 3002300

Introduction

SANDAG was selected by the Governor of California to be the designated recipient of the federal Job Access and Reverse Commute (JARC) funding program for the San Diego urbanized area. The purpose of the JARC program is to provide funding for operations, capital, and mobility management projects aimed at serving reverse commuters and low-income individuals traveling to jobs and employment-related activities.

The Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU) requires that SANDAG conduct a competitive selection process to distribute the funds. Eligible applicants include private nonprofit organizations, governmental authorities, private and public transportation providers, and the Consolidated Transportation Services Agency (CTSA). The purpose of this competitive selection process is to evaluate potential projects and recommend to the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) which projects should be funded. The competitive process closed on December 12, 2008, and a total of four proposals were received.

Currently there is \$281,468 in available FY 2009 JARC funding. The recommendation is to allocate \$153,843 to the Metropolitan Transit System (MTS) Route 905 project, based on an earlier approval action of the SANDAG Board of Directors. The Board also is asked to allocate \$120,101 to fully fund the two highest-ranked projects based on the scoring completed by an evaluation committee. If additional funding becomes available over the original amount, it is recommended that all remaining JARC funds be allocated based on the ranking of projects.

Discussion

MTS Contingency Allocation

The previous JARC competitive process, held in fall 2007, resulted in a contingency allocation for the MTS Route 905 project for FY 2008. Most of MTS Route 905 operates outside of the urbanized portion of the County (as defined by the federal census used to set JARC funding levels), which makes the project eligible to be funded through a statewide competition for rural JARC funds administered by Caltrans. Since the FY 2008 JARC funding administered by SANDAG was not sufficient to fully fund this project based on its ranking, MTS agreed to apply through the state to fund the costs of the route not funded through the SANDAG JARC grant program (\$353,483). If the statewide JARC application was not successful in securing the full \$353,483, MTS would be faced

Recommendation

Pending action at its February 20, 2009, meeting, the Transportation Committee recommends that the Board of Directors approve: (1) an allocation of \$153,843 for the Metropolitan Transit System Route 905 project, (2) an allocation of \$120,101 to fully fund the two highest ranked projects (Attachment 1); and (3) a contingency allocation of all remaining FY 2009 JARC funds to the remaining unfunded projects based on rankings should additional funding become available.

with a shortfall in funding for MTS Route 905 in its FY 2009 budget. At its December 21, 2007, meeting, the Board approved a contingency allocation of \$353,843 from unallocated FY 2009 JARC monies. This contingency allocation was made with the understanding that it would be modified, if MTS were successful in obtaining funding through the statewide JARC competition.

MTS recently found out that it was awarded \$200,000 for the MTS Route 905 project through the Caltrans statewide JARC competition. The remaining project shortfall is \$153,843. Therefore, the recommended Board action is to approve an allocation of \$153,843 for this MTS project.

Fall Competitive Cycle – Funding Recommendations

After the allocation for the MTS Route 905 project, \$127,625 in FY 2009 JARC funding would remain.

On September 19, 2008, the Transportation Committee approved the competitive process and evaluation criteria for allocating FY 2009 JARC funds (Attachment 2). The federal JARC Guidance permits applicants to apply for funding authorized for three different fiscal years; however, since SAFETEA-LU is set to expire on September 30, 2009, only one year of funding remains. Recipients of JARC funds must provide a 50 percent local match for operating costs and a 20 percent local match for capital and mobility management projects. The competitive process closed on December 12, 2008, and a total of four proposals were received.

A five-member outside evaluation committee was established, composed of a diverse group of individuals familiar with the transportation issues facing reverse commuters and low-income individuals. The evaluation committee included staff from North County Transit District (NCTD), Caltrans, Full Access & Coordinated Transportation (FACT), Workforce Partnership, and the County of San Diego. The members of this evaluation committee scored each project against the adopted evaluation criteria. The evaluation committee met on February 2, 2009, and developed a ranked list of projects, which are summarized in Attachment 1.

The recommendation is to allocate \$120,101 of the remaining \$127,625 in FY 2009 JARC funding available. This is sufficient to fully fund the two highest-ranked projects. If additional JARC funding becomes available, it is recommended that those funds be allocated to the remaining unfunded projects based on the ranking included in Attachment 1. If additional funding does not become available, the \$7,524 that remains unallocated would roll over into a future funding cycle.

Next Steps

Following approval of FY 2009 JARC funding allocations, the 2008 Regional Transportation Improvement Program would be amended to include the new projects, prior to submitting the projects to the FTA for final approval, and executing contracts with recipients.

GARY L. GALLEGOS
Executive Director

Attachments: 1. JARC Project Descriptions and Rankings
2. JARC Evaluation Criteria

Key Staff Contact: Danielle Kochman, (619) 699-1921, dko@sandag.org

JARC PROJECT DESCRIPTIONS, EVALUATION, AND GRANT REQUESTS

Senior Mini-Grant Program Project Descriptions and Rankings

Rank	Sponsor	Project Description	Requested Grant \$	Req'd Match	Comments
1	All Congregations Together (ACT)	ComLink Transportation: The proposed project would provide a shuttle service for reverse commuters and low-income individuals to and from jobs and activities (related to their employment) in areas with gaps in transportation services, as identified in the 2008-2012 Coordinated Plan.	FY 2009 - \$60,000	50%	There already is sufficient JARC money available to fully fund this project. Therefore, this project is recommended for funding based on its ranking.
1	International Rescue Committee	Employment Transportation for Refugees: This project offers newly arrived refugees increased access to existing transit systems by offering one-on-one route planning and accompanied educational bus and trolley trips.	FY 2009 - \$60,101	20%	There already is sufficient JARC money available to fully fund this project. Therefore, this project is recommended for funding based on its ranking.
3	St. Madeline Sophie's Center	This project proposes to expand St. Madeleine Sophie's Center's transportation services and mobility management training for adults with developmental disabilities who currently are employed or who want to explore their employment options.	FY2009 - \$125,561.55	27%	Based on the ranking by the evaluation committee, this project would be funded if additional money becomes available.
4	Alpha Project	This project proposes to expand the transportation services Alpha Project provides to residents of Casa Raphael, a residential substance abuse treatment program providing job training, readiness, and employment assistance programs in addition to employment opportunities.	FY 2009 - \$103,648.50	50%	Based on the ranking of the evaluation committee, currently there is not sufficient JARC funding for this project. However, should enough additional funding become available to fully fund the third ranked project, any remaining funds could be allocated to this project or rolled over to the next competition.

Job Access and Reverse Commute Scoring Criteria

The following information and scoring criteria were used to score and rate project applications for Job Access and Reverse Commute funding.

Minimum Eligibility Criteria: Must answer **Yes** to each question to be eligible.

1. Is the agency a local governmental agency, (private or public) operator of public transportation, nonprofit agency, or a tribal government?
2. Is your project derived from a Very High or High Priority in the 2008 – 2012 Coordinated Plan?

: Very High

- Develop or expand transit and non-agency client transportation services in areas with little or no other transportation options based on identified gaps in transportation services included in Chapters 6 and 7; or
- Develop or expand transportation solutions in areas with sufficient densities to support shared ride or coordinated services based on identified gaps in transportation services included in Chapters 6 and 7.

: High

- Develop a centralized ride scheduling, dispatching, a mobility center
- Improve transportation services to the rural areas
- Increase coordination efforts by combining resources such as vehicles, riders, funds for rides, vehicle maintenance, drivers, driver training, insurance coverage, general ride subsidies, dispatching equipment, software, and gas cards for volunteers
- Increase work-based weekday and weekend service based on identified gaps in service included in Chapters 6 and 7
- Increase work-based weeknight service based on identified gaps in service included in Chapters 6 and 7
- Provide travel training to encourage more individuals to ride regular transit
- Develop or enhance volunteer driver programs
- Upgrade bus stops to include weather protection

Goals and Objectives (maximum 15 points). The information and scoring criteria below will be used to score and rate project applications for JARC funding.

- Will the project serve the appropriate population? Does the proposal provide pertinent demographic data and/or maps? **(5 points)**
- Will the proposed program increase or enhance the availability of transportation for low-income individuals for job-related trips? **(5 points)**
- To what extent is the proposed project consistent with the goals and objectives of the JARC program? **(5 points)**

a. Operational/Implementation Plan (maximum 15 points)

- How thorough is the implementation plan? Does the proposal include project tasks, timelines, benchmarks, key milestones, key personnel, deliverables, and routes and schedules as applicable? Does the implementation plan and timeline seem feasible? **(5 points)**
- Does the applicant demonstrate the technical ability to manage the project? Has the applicant effectively implemented projects using federal or state funds in the recent past; has the applicant managed similar projects; has the applicant had sufficient experience in providing services for the targeted clientele? Does the agency have adequate staff to resources to handle the project? If applicable, are drivers properly trained? If applicable, does the agency display the ability to maintain vehicles? **(5 points)**
- Does this project relate to other services or facilities provided by the agency or firm? Does the operational plan correspond with the project goals/objectives? **(5 points)**

b. Program Effectiveness and Performance Indicators (20)

- Does the project make use of JARC funds in an efficient and cost effective manner? **(5 points)**
- Does the proposal describe efforts to ensure the project's cost-effectiveness (and other measurable units of service)? Will the project experience increasing efficiencies over time? If applying for a capital project, does the applicant demonstrate that the purchase is the most cost-effective product for the service being provided? **(5 points)**
- Does the proposal provide measurable performance indicators to measure and evaluate the effectiveness of the proposed project in meeting the identified goals? For capital-related projects, does the applicant establish milestones and methods for reporting the status of project delivery? **(5 points)**
- Does the applicant describe methodologies and procedures for ongoing monitoring and evaluation of the project or service, and steps to be taken if original goals are not achieved? **(5 points)**

c. Coordination and Program Outreach (15 points)

- Does the proposal describe how key stakeholders will remain involved and informed throughout the process? Did the applicant attach three letters of support from stakeholders to the grant application? **(5 points)**
- How thorough are the applicant's proposed strategies for marketing the project and promoting public awareness? **(5 points)**
- To what extent does the project demonstrate coordination among various entities? **(5 point maximum – 1 point per type of coordination)**
 - : Shared use of vehicles
 - : Dispatching or scheduling
 - : Maintenance
 - : Back up transportation
 - : Staff training programs

- : Joint procurement of services and supplies
- : Active participation in local social service transportation planning process
- : Coordination of client trips with other transportation agencies

d. Project Budget (15 points)

- Was a clearly defined budget submitted for the proposed project? **(5 points)**
- Does the project appear to be feasible as described? **(5 points)**
- Is the source of local share stable? **(5 points)**

e. Sustainability (10)

- Does the applicant demonstrate a long-term commitment to the project to continue the effort beyond the availability of the requested grant resources? Is this applicant financially capable of sustaining operations after the initial grant funding is expended? **(5 points)**
- Does the applicant provide sufficient justification as to why JARC funding is needed for this project? **(5 points)**

f. Innovation (10)

- Is the proposed project an innovative solution to addressing the need, and could the innovations be applied to other services in the region? **(5 points)**
- Are there elements of the project that are environmental sustainable (including the use of alternative fuels and clean air vehicles)? **(5 points)**

JARC PROJECT DESCRIPTIONS, EVALUATION, AND GRANT REQUESTS
Senior Mini-Grant Program Project Descriptions and Rankings

Rank	Score	Sponsor	Project Description	Requested Grant \$	Req'd Match	Comments
1	<u>94</u>	All Congregations Together (ACT)	ComLink Transportation: The proposed project would provide a shuttle service for reverse commuters and low-income individuals to and from jobs and activities (related to their employment) in areas with gaps in transportation services, as identified in the 2008-2012 Coordinated Plan.	FY 2009 - \$60,000	50%	There already is sufficient JARC money available to fully fund this project. Therefore, this project is recommended for funding based on its ranking.
1	<u>94</u>	International Rescue Committee	Employment Transportation for Refugees: This project offers newly arrived refugees increased access to existing transit systems by offering one-on-one route planning and accompanied educational bus and trolley trips.	FY 2009 - \$60,101	20%	There already is sufficient JARC money available to fully fund this project. Therefore, this project is recommended for funding based on its ranking.
3	<u>90</u>	St. Madeline Sophie's Center	This project proposes to expand St. Madeleine Sophie's Center's transportation services and mobility management training for adults with developmental disabilities who currently are employed or who want to explore their employment options.	FY2009 - \$125,561.55	27%	Based on the ranking by the evaluation committee, this project would be funded if additional money becomes available.
4	<u>86</u>	Alpha Project	This project proposes to expand the transportation services Alpha Project provides to residents of Casa Raphael, a residential substance abuse treatment program providing job training, readiness, and employment assistance programs in addition to employment opportunities.	FY 2009 - \$103,648.50	50%	Based on the ranking of the evaluation committee, currently there is not sufficient JARC funding for this project. However, should enough additional funding become available to fully fund the third ranked project, any remaining funds could be allocated to this project or rolled over to the next competition.

Job Access and Reverse Commute Grant Recommendations



February 2009

1

Background

- SANDAG designated agency to award JARC grants
- Grants for capital, operations, or planning
- Local matching funds requirement



2

Contingency Allocation

- FY 2008 JARC competition resulted in contingency allocation by SANDAG for MTS Route 905 project (\$353,843)
- Route 905 project awarded partial funding through Caltrans (\$200,000)
- SANDAG recommended award may now be reduced to \$153,843

FY 09 Competitive Process

- Transportation Committee approved updated evaluation criteria in September 2008
- Announcement of funding availability issued in October
- Four outreach meetings to explain process
- Scoring by outside evaluation committee
- Grants can be awarded for Federal FY 2009 only

Evaluation Committee

- JARC applications reviewed by representatives from:
 - North County Transit District
 - Caltrans
 - Full Access & Coordinated Transportation (FACT)
 - Workforce Partnership
 - County of San Diego

Funding Availability

- Congress appropriated less than authorized under SAFETEA-LU
- After MTS Route 905 allocation, \$127,625 available to be awarded through competition
 - Additional funding authorized may become available
- Four JARC applications requested \$349,311

Recommended JARC Grants

- Fully fund two highest ranked projects (\$120,101)
 - ComLink Transportation
 - Employment Transportation for Refugees
- Contingency allocation based on rankings in Attachment 1 if additional funding becomes available

Next Steps

- Projects included in RTIP
- Forward recommendations to Federal Transit Administration
- Execute contracts with grant recipients

Recommendation

The Transportation Committee recommends that the Board of Directors approve:

- 1) An allocation of \$153,843 for the MTS Route 905 project;
- 2) An allocation of \$120,101 to fully fund the two highest ranked projects; and
- 3) A contingency allocation of all remaining FY 2009 JARC funds to the remaining unfunded projects based on rankings should additional funding become available

Job Access and Reverse Commute Grant Recommendations