

## SACOG 2010 Federal Advocacy Principles

The principles outlined below help support SACOG's work in linking transportation, air quality, and land use. SACOG will work with Congress and the Administration to advance the interests of the Sacramento region. In order to accomplish these principles, SACOG will advocate for sufficient funding in legislation and seek out grants to effectively plan for and deliver projects that meet these principles.

**Transportation Authorization** — Seek to influence authorization of the next surface transportation bill. Continue to advocate for California Consensus Principles. Advocate for inclusion of hard-to-fund, large-scale MTP2035 projects, such as the Intermodal Transportation Facility, South Line Light Rail Extension, Downtown-Natomas-Airport Light Rail Extension, and bridges at the American River near Truxel and Sacramento River near Broadway. Advocate for incentives for linking transportation and land use planning, support for regional planning tools for modeling and data gathering, and ongoing public education and engagement related to travel behavior. Additionally, advocate for evacuation planning and funding, continued eligibility for diesel engine replacement/retrofit programs, and goods movement infrastructure for local food access and national food security.

**Blueprint Implementation** — Seek funding for SACOG to implement the Blueprint preferred growth scenario, and continue technical assistance for cities and counties. Seek to influence legislation or administrative rules that would provide flexible funding for smart growth planning. Continue to work with the Army Corps of Engineers on a regulatory strategy which incentivizes Blueprint implementation. Continue education and advocacy efforts regarding Senate Bill 375, ongoing efforts linking transportation and land use planning, the unique impact the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) has on planning in California, and the relationship between National Environmental Quality Act (NEPA) and CEQA.

**Rural-Urban Connections** — Seek to influence legislation or administrative rules, including adjusting funding formulas, that support rural roads and other infrastructure needs, including rural farm-to-market roads. Seek funding for local food access and national food security, especially to assist with promoting a connection between rural and urban areas of the region, and also to help producers get their products to all markets—local, international, and everywhere in between. Seek to influence legislation and work to acquire funds which will support RUCS-identified innovations which link natural resource mitigation and habitat valuation on agricultural lands.

**Complete Streets & Safe Routes** — Seek to influence legislation or administrative rules that supports planning and funding streets designed to accommodate cars, transit, bicyclists, and pedestrians including education, encouragement and infrastructure for Safe Routes to School.

**Discretionary Transit Funding** — Continue to seek discretionary funding for a balanced transit network. To support light rail: planned extension projects, Northeast and Folsom light rail double tracking, and passenger railcar rehabilitation. To support buses: continue to pursue funding for bus replacements and bus facilities. To support regional rail: seek funding for enhanced passenger rail service on Capitol Corridor.

**Energy/Climate Change/Air Quality** — Seek to influence legislation or administrative rules addressing climate change, especially those dealing with transportation, land use, and air quality. Continue to advocate for greenhouse gas reduction measures that support Blueprint and MTP2035 objectives, with criteria and funding that favor land uses and transportation projects in the region. Seek funding for energy efficiency, for regional efforts as well as grants for local implementation.

**Natural Resources** — Continue to seek funding from the Army Corps of Engineers and other federal partners for natural resources data development, including implementation of the Six-County Aquatic Resources Inventory, and overall planning to support habitat conservation plans in the region.

**Flood Management and Water Resources** — Seek to influence legislation or administrative rules addressing flood protection and water resources. Work to ensure that public safety is improved and additional funding for local flood protection efforts is secured. Work to ensure cities and counties maintain control over local land use authority. Advocate against any efforts to restrict federal funding based on floodplain designation.