

SACOG 2010 State Advocacy Principles

The principles outlined below help support SACOG's work in linking transportation, air quality, and land use. SACOG will actively participate in the development of state legislation and regulations to advance the interests of the Sacramento region. In order to accomplish these principles, SACOG will advocate for sufficient funding to effectively plan for and deliver projects that meet these principles.

Financing & Funding — Support additional local revenue options and protections, including transferring legal control of state funds to local governments for transportation. Provide local governments more flexibility and options, particularly for transit operations/capital and road maintenance/rehabilitation in both rural and urban areas. Support full funding of State Transit Assistance in the state budget, as well as expedited repayment of illegally diverted funds. Support state budget structural reforms to ultimately help stabilize transportation funding.

Blueprint Implementation — Advocate for implementation and performance-based funding for cities and regions. Seek to influence implementation of Assembly Bill 32 and Senate Bill 375. Encourage Blueprint and Metropolitan Transportation Plan objectives that support California Environmental Quality Act benefits and greenhouse gas emissions reduction measures.

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

Flood Management & Water Resources — Seek to influence legislation or administrative actions addressing flood management and water resources, including those that guide implementation of the water legislation package enacted in 2009. Continue to monitor legislation on property tax mitigation, water conservation, and water rights. Work to ensure that public safety is improved and additional funding for local flood protection efforts is secured.

Land Conservation & Natural Resources — Support legislation to strengthen the Williamson Act through increased local enforcement authority and resources, increased education efforts, and requiring proof of productivity. Support legislation to restore Williamson Act subvention funding. Seek to influence legislation and work to acquire funds to support Rural-Urban Connections Strategy-identified innovations that link natural resource mitigation and habitat valuation on agricultural lands.

Goods Movement — Seek to influence legislation to improve goods movement in the Sacramento region. Advocate for funding for rail freight improvements and regional air quality programs, including rural farm-to-market roads in a broad category of goods movement improvements.

Project Delivery — Seek to influence legislation to eliminate or reduce restrictions on project delivery for Caltrans and local agencies, remove limits on design-build contracting and public-private partnerships, streamline environmental review consistent with environmental protection objectives and increase cost savings.