

## **SACOG 2011 State Advocacy Principles**

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

### **Financial Stewardship**

*A transportation system that delivers cost-effective results that are feasible to construct and maintain.*

- Give regions and local governments additional revenue options and protections, including transferring legal control of state funds to local governments for transportation, but maintaining redevelopment and other tools such as enterprise zone tax benefits.
- Provide local governments more flexibility and options, particularly for transit operations/capital and road maintenance/rehabilitation in both rural and urban areas.
- Fully fund State Transit Assistance, and expedite repayment of diverted funds.
- Restructure the state budget to help stabilize transportation funding.

### **Economic Vitality**

*Efficiently connect people to jobs and get goods to market.*

- Fund goods movement improvements in the Sacramento region.
- Fund rail freight improvements and regional air quality programs.
- Fund improvements on rural farm-to-market roads.
- Modify representation on state boards and commissions to provide equitable representation for those entities that directly impact SACOG or its members, and where appropriate a dedicated Sacramento region representative.

### **Smart Land Use**

*Design a transportation system to support good growth patterns, including increased housing and transportation options, focusing more growth inward and improving the economic viability of rural areas.*

- Protect redevelopment funds and related tools that help existing communities of all sizes and support smart growth, Senate Bill 375 implementation, and Assembly Bill 32 implementation.
- Create performance-based funding for local governments and regions to implement Senate Bill 375.
- Help local governments and regions use CEQA benefits from Senate Bill 375.
- Fund Williamson Act subventions.

### **Environmental Quality & Sustainability**

*Minimize direct and indirect transportation impacts on the environment for cleaner air and natural resource protection.*

- Strengthen the Williamson Act through increased local enforcement authority and resources, increased education efforts, and requiring proof of productivity.
- Involve regional and local governments in flood management and water resources.
- Support local flood protection efforts with funding and administrative support.
- Fund innovations that link natural resource mitigation and habitat valuation on agricultural lands.

### **Access & Mobility**

*Improve opportunities for businesses and citizens to easily access goods, jobs, services and housing. Support complete streets designed to accommodate cars, transit, bicyclists, and pedestrians including education, encouragement, and infrastructure for Safe Routes to School.*