



**Item #06-1-6
Consent**

SACOG Board of Directors

January 12, 2006

Caltrans Blueprint Grant and Smart Corridor Study Contract

Issue: Acceptance of Blueprint grant from Caltrans and authorization for release of Request for Proposals and execution of contract.

Recommendation: The Strategic Committee recommends that the Board of Directors accept the Caltrans grant, authorize release of a Request for Proposals (RFP) based on the attached scope of work, and authorize the Executive Director to select a contractor and execute a contract for that work.

Committee Action/Discussion: On December 21, 2005, Caltrans awarded a Partnership Regional Blueprint Planning Program grant in the amount of \$420,000 to SACOG for activities through June 30, 2005. Another \$420,000 in funds is expected for the next fiscal year, pending approval of the annual state budget. Attachment A summarizes the five projects included in the grant award. All of the projects require some consultant assistance; Attachment B explains the scope of work for the ITS Smart Corridor project. The grant requires these funds to be spent or obligated by June 30, 2006, and the work is needed in a timely manner to provide information needed for the MTP workshops this spring and for the drafting of MTP alternatives next summer. Accordingly, staff seeks authority now to execute the Smart Corridor Study contract in the amount of \$20,000; staff will return to the Board in February for approval of the Regional Goods Movement Study contract for an amount up to \$150,000. Because this latter project is closely related to other OWP elements, the RFP request is handled separately in the item "Issuance of Request for Proposal for a Regional Goods Movement Study" on this agenda.

All of the projects in the grant will be included in an Overall Work Program amendment that is on this agenda. That action will also include an increase in the size of the community outreach contract with Valley Vision.

Approved by:

Mike McKeever
Executive Director

MM:GRG:RM:gg
Attachments

Key Staff: Pete Hathaway, Director of Transportation Planning, (916) 340-6235
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Summary

California Regional Blueprint Planning Program Blueprint Implementation 2006

Work plan elements of the SACOG grant proposal

Activity	Description	Grant \$\$	Local \$\$	Total \$\$
Public Involvement Initiative	Conduct a region-wide Electronic Town Hall and support extensive public outreach for Blueprint/MTP implementation	\$220,000	\$56,250	\$276,250
ITS Smart Corridor Study & Workshop Enhancements	Deliver public information materials on ITS benefits for Blueprint/MTP public workshops, and write a RFP for an ITS "smart corridor" study that will help determine how to maximize road infrastructure for all modes	\$20,000	\$5,000	\$25,000
NEPA Streamlining Planning Inventory	As part of FHWA initiative, build a cooperative multi-agency planning process. Begin compiling a natural resources inventory and identify the gaps & opportunities in current environmental planning efforts	\$50,000	\$12,500	\$62,500
Land Use Economic Data Base	To strengthen modeling component of transportation planning, collect and analyze regional rents, land values, and other data for use in various analytic tools	\$30,000	\$7,500	\$37,500
Freight and Goods Movement	Study and catalog the economic sectors, existing conditions, and trends that define freight and goods movement. Build database of freight related flows, and establish link to future PECAS application. Use data to study air quality emissions inventories.	\$100,000	\$50,000	\$150,000

Summary of funding request

Funding Information for FY 2005/2006		Identify Fund Source
Grant Funds Requested	\$420,000	Partnership Planning
Cash Local Match	\$131,250	Transportation Development Act
In-kind Local Match	n/a	n/a
Other Funding	n/a	n/a
Total Cost	\$551,250	-

**Intelligent Transportation Systems
Smart Corridor Study Scope of Work
Amount \$20,000**

Introduction

Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS) includes technologies to improve auto and transit operations in urban arterials. Smart growth planning and implementation in urban arterials seek to balance travel efficiencies for all users: autos, transit, bicycles, and pedestrians. There is a project led by the Institute of Transportation Engineers and the Congress on New Urbanism to modify street design standards to include smart corridor characteristics. The goal of this project is to summarize the state of knowledge on the benefits of ITS implementation to smart growth corridor development.

The initial use of this information will be to inform the SACOG Metropolitan Transportation Plan public participation process on the benefits and challenges. A follow-up project will apply this information into a traffic micro simulation modeling project on smart corridor development.

Tasks

1. Catalog of ITS technologies that can be applied to urban arterials that are planning for integrated smart growth development. Summarize efforts to update street design standards to include smart growth principles. Compile a list of metrics on the incremental costs and benefits.
2. Assist SACOG staff in preparing a RFP for a follow-up project to identify a multi-modal corridor with both high ITS connectivity and smart growth redevelopment potential. The study will use micro simulation modeling techniques to determine optimal performance of a “smart corridor” and establish a “proof of concept” for future Blueprint planning. The goal is to create an analytical tool and concept that will help determine how to maximize bicycle and pedestrian access and transit operations with the least impact on vehicle traffic flows.

End Products

- Report on potential of ITS and update street standards for smart corridor development.
- A Draft RFP for a micro simulation modeling study.