



SACOG Board of Directors

February 9, 2006

Principles for Key Areas of State Legislation in 2006 Session

Issue: SACOG State Legislative Program identifies key legislation of interest in 2006. Staff is interested in establishing key principles for each of the core policy areas: Infrastructure Bond, Land Use and CEQA Reform, Proposition 42 Firewall, Local Revenue Options and Toll Roads, and Project Delivery. The principles would provide staff clear direction of the Board's interest for advocacy on state legislation and offer flexibility for staff and SACOG's lobbyist in pursuing the Board's interests.

Recommendation: The Legislation & Public Affairs Committee recommends that the SACOG Board of Directors approve support for policy principles built from those presented below as direction for staff and SACOG's lobbyist to advocate on the Board's behalf at the State Capitol in 2006.

Committee Action/Discussion:

Infrastructure Bond – Ensure that any state infrastructure bond consider appropriate investments in the SACOG region, backed by revenues that do not undercut existing revenue sources, flexible for regional and local priorities as well as the state's, adequate to fully fund projects, targeted to support Blueprint and MTP objectives and underfunded regional needs, and with equitable state spending in all regions.

Land Use & CEQA Reform – Seek legislation to support local governments with greater flexibility in environmental review when increasing urban development density with supportive transportation infrastructure and accompanying land protections for agricultural lands and open space.

Proposition 42 Firewall – Seek legislation to ensure more stable, predictable and adequate transportation funding, by eliminating suspensions of Proposition 42, or as a second choice providing substitute funds, making suspensions harder to approve, or requiring loans be repaid sooner.

Local Revenue Options & Toll Roads – Seek legislation to provide access to more adequate transportation funding, via a wide spectrum of local revenue options, including private partnerships and public toll facilities, with local revenue options that can be customized as a preferred strategy.

Project Delivery – Seek legislation to eliminate or reduce restrictions on project delivery for Caltrans and local agencies, removing limits on design-build contracting and public-private partnerships and taking steps to streamline environmental review consistent with environmental protection objectives.

Approved by:

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