



SACOG Board of Directors

February 27, 2006

Item #06-3-18
Receive & File

Metropolitan Transportation Plan 2030 Placer County Workshops Update

Issue: SACOG is conducting an extensive outreach effort on the Metropolitan Transportation Plan 2030 (MTP2030) with civic partner Valley Vision. Public workshops include the Elected Officials Workshop on January 19 and sixteen community workshops during February – June. To date, SACOG staff has conducted two community workshops in Placer County with a third scheduled in Auburn on February 28.

Recommendation: None. This item is for your information only.

Discussion:

Elected Officials Workshop – Over 60 elected officials representing the 28 SACOG jurisdictions identified critical travel challenges **within** jurisdictions as: funding constraints, gridlock during high commute times, an aging overall infrastructure, impact of pass-through traffic from other regions/cities, an aging population that needs different transportation options, inadequate interchanges, poor maintenance conditions (potholes), lack of light rail connectivity, too many parents driving kids to school, and speeding cars and reckless drivers. Among the critical challenges to be addressed **between** jurisdictions were: lack of Caltrans funding; general road deterioration, potholes, drainage issues; no true regional transit system; the impact of traffic on rural roads (never designed for this); insufficient beltways/connectors between communities; inadequate maintenance for freeways; inadequate interchanges and ramps; peak traffic hours continuing to extend; and poor connectivity between transportation modes. Nearly all of the leaders present share funding, gridlock, aging infrastructure and pass-through traffic as their primary concerns for travel within their jurisdictions.

Placer County Workshops – At each public workshop, participants view a brief 10-minute video regarding the linkage between Blueprint and the MTP2030. SACOG Executive Director Mike McKeever and Placer County Transportation Planning Agency Executive Director Celia McAdam presented three travel scenarios, one each focusing on transportation improvements for shorter, medium and longer distance travel. Participants were asked to start with a scenario of their choice and customize it to support better future transportation, land uses, and regional air quality. Generally, they added projects from another scenario in order to provide more balance to the whole range of needs. At the February 8 workshop in Rocklin, participants largely focused their efforts on improvements at the shorter and medium distances. Improvement themes emerged around toll roads, high occupancy vehicle lanes, regional rail and transit expansion. At the February 21 workshop in Roseville, participants largely focused their efforts on improvements at the medium and longer distances. Improvement themes emerged around road expansion, transit expansion, and split input on expansion or reduction of regional rail services. Participants at both workshops suggested bicycle and pedestrian improvements including ideas about keeping local roads and neighborhood connections pedestrian friendly and increasing bike lane facilities both **within** and **between** jurisdictions. Transit expansion discussions included requests for bus rapid transit, light rail, and streetcars.

Approved by:

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MM:RS:ts

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