



SACOG Board of Directors

June 8, 2006

Position on AB 2939 (Wolk) – Sacramento-Yolo Port Governance

Issue: Should SACOG support the local consensus agreement to reconfigure the powers and governance of the Sacramento-Yolo Port District?

Recommendation: The Legislation & Public Affairs Committee recommends that the SACOG Board of Directors take a SUPPORT position on AB 2939, to reform Sacramento-Yolo Port District governance.

Committee Action/Discussion: Existing law establishes the Sacramento-Yolo Port District and defines its powers and governance structure, in the Harbors & Waterways Code. Currently the port district is jointly owned and governed by City of West Sacramento, Yolo County, City of Sacramento, and Sacramento County.

During the past year, the four jurisdictions have reached consensus on a new governing structure, centered on City of West Sacramento where the port is located. This mutual agreement would be amended into law by AB 2939 (Wolk). It contains the following key provisions:

- establishes a five-member board, four from the City of West Sacramento and one from First Supervisorial District of Yolo County;
- defines port district boundaries to coincide with First Supervisorial District of Yolo County plus some external lands currently owned by the port;
- limits port district eminent domain to within the City of West Sacramento;
- allows sale or lease of port district property;
- requires approval from Yolo County, City of Sacramento, and Sacramento County before the port district could close either the main (north side) port terminal or deepwater ship channel;
- recognizes creation of the Riverfront Enhancement Fund, to be used for improvements along the Sacramento and American Rivers in the two counties; and
- requires that proceeds from closure or sale of main port operations any time before January 2026 go 10% to the City of West Sacramento and 90% to the Riverfront Enhancement Fund.

All four local jurisdictions support the reorganization in this bill, and the new structure would not affect SACOG's activities. The Committee recommends that SACOG join the four jurisdictions and the Port of Oakland and lend regional support to this bill. The bill has no opposition, passed the Assembly (80-0), and awaits a policy Committee hearing assignment in Senate Rules Committee.

Approved by:

Mike McKeever
Executive Director

MM:PH:ts
Attachments

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