



Transportation Committee

June 8, 2006

Metropolitan Transportation Plan Workshop Summaries

Issue: Approximately 235 citizen planners participated in three MTP workshops held in Sutter, Yolo, and Yuba Counties since the last Committee update.

Recommendation: The Transportation Committee received and filed this report.

Committee Action/Discussion: Each MTP workshop focuses on a survey and mapping exercise to identify transportation improvement priorities and educate the public on the hard choices and trade-offs required with limited financial resources. After a short presentation and video, participants work in small, facilitator-led groups to develop customized future transportation scenarios.

Workshop participants at the two joint Sutter/Yuba workshops started with a largely blank base map. In contrast, Yolo County workshop participants selected between two pre-built scenarios and then customized it to better reflect their future transportation vision. Select tables at each of the three workshops received real-time feedback as to how well their customized scenario tackled congestion and changed travel behavior. The technical results are possible through a unique, state-of-the-art transportation model tool developed at SACOG and run on laptop computers at the workshop.

At the joint Sutter/Yuba County workshops on May 10 in Marysville and May 17 in Yuba City, nearly all of the 115 total participants worked at tables that added a third Feather River Bridge connecting Marysville and Yuba City. A southern bridge crossing at Bogue Road or Barry/McGowan was the most common alignment. Other common mapped improvements included expansions of Highway 99 and 70 as complete four lane facilities to Sacramento County with interchanges near the third Feather River bridge crossing. Highway bypasses of Marysville and Wheatland were also popular, but less common table scenario improvements. Expanding transit services received less attention than workshops elsewhere, though neighborhood shuttles in Yuba City and express bus service to Sacramento were popular. Surveyed improvements for not-mapped investments revealed the longer distance travel patterns of residents in Sutter and Yuba counties; road maintenance and safety were clear top priorities at each workshop.

The workshop in Davis on May 15 attracted approximately 120 participants. A nearly even number of tables selected a shorter distance as a longer distance travel emphasis scenario for their starting point. Mapped priorities included off-road bike trails in growth areas, neighborhood shuttles and limited major road expansions. Nearly all new or expanded roads proposed were in West Sacramento or Woodland. Trunk transit service along major corridors was evident through bus rapid transit lines connecting each community and express bus commuter service to Sacramento. The surveyed priorities for improvements that are not mapped were distinct from previous workshops. The top three priorities were to improve pedestrian facilities, offer Blueprint implementation incentives and support clean air programs. A consistently high priority from other workshops – road maintenance funding – came in low at the Davis workshop.

A collective summary of workshop findings with data, including information from the remaining MTP workshops in Sacramento County, will be the subject of the July committee update.

Approved by:

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