



Item #06-6-23
Receive/File

SACOG Board of Directors

June 8, 2006

First Round of Funding for Blueprint Civic Engagement Program

Issue: SACOG is releasing an RFP for consultant selection and a request for applications from local governments for public involvement assistance.

Recommendation: Receive and file only.

Discussion: For the first round of funding from the Air Quality Earmark to support citizen engagement to promote Blueprint Implementation, SACOG staff is undertaking a number of actions. As per prior discussions with the SACOG Board and committees, SACOG will use \$500,000 to support cities, counties, transit agencies and air districts for this effort for the first year's funds of the earmark.

SACOG staff met with representatives from local governments who replied to a request for ideas on potential projects. Jurisdictions present identified three categories of support they are seeking: (1) universal materials that all local agencies may use, (2) jurisdiction or project-specific customized support, and (3) technical support directly from SACOG staff. Many jurisdictions expressed they need many of the same support materials: powerpoints promoting smart growth, a library of images of built Blueprint-style examples, visual transformation simulations, and video(s). SACOG will release an RFP soon to seek consultant assistance to develop these materials. The SACOG Board will be asked to approve the selected consultant(s) at its July meeting.

SACOG staff will also release a request for applications from eligible local governments that are seeking customized, project-specific support. The support may be either direct financial assistance using earmark funding, or direct SACOG staff and resource support. Jurisdictions seeking funding will need to show innovative uses of public involvement (e.g., computer modeling) and a high value for the amount sought (e.g., number of people engaged, geographic area covered). Jurisdictions may apply for direct SACOG assistance, such as PLACE³S operators, laptops, small group facilitators, geographic information system (GIS) support, or some other SACOG staff provided help. All assistance would only be to supplement existing projects with dedicated local government resources. They are also required to show air quality benefits.

Approved by:

Mike McKeever
Executive Director

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