



**Item #07-12-6  
Action**

**SACOG Board of Directors**

December 13, 2007

**State Advocacy Strategy for 2008**

**Issue:** What advocacy principles should SACOG pursue at the state level in 2008?

**Recommendation:** The Government Relations & Public Affairs Committee recommends that the Board approve support for seven policy areas outlined below as direction for staff and SACOG's lobbyist to advocate on the Board's behalf in 2008.

**Committee Action/ Discussion:**

**Infrastructure Bonds** – Seek to influence legislation or administrative rules that guide implementation of Proposition 1B, specifically in four programs: Trade Corridors Improvement Fund, Trade Corridor Emission Reduction Program, State Local Partnerships, and Highway-Railroad Crossing Safety Account. Support local applications for Proposition IC programs, including Infill Incentive Grants, Transit Oriented Development, Housing Urban-Suburban-Rural Parks, and Affordable Housing Innovation Fund.

**Goods Movement** – Seek legislation to improve goods movement in the Sacramento region. This includes SB 974, which the Board supported last year and could generate several million dollars annually for rail freight improvements and regional air quality through a \$30 container fee.

**Land Use & CEQA Reform** – Continue work on SB 375 or other legislation that may emerge to seek meaningful CEQA reform to help implement the transportation and land use elements for the MTP, while safeguarding SACOG and member interests related to transportation funding and land use authority.

**Climate Change/Air Quality** – Seek to influence legislation or administrative rules that guide implementation of the Global Warming Solutions Act (AB 32), especially those dealing with transportation, land use, and air quality. Encourage reduction measures that support Blueprint and Metropolitan Transportation Plan objectives.

**Transportation Funding** – Seek legislation that opens up local options to raise transportation funding, particularly for transit operations and road maintenance and rehabilitation. Also look for opportunities to address rural transportation challenges through a variety of funding mechanisms.

**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. Support apprenticeship programs as part of legislation related to design-build contracting or public-private partnerships.

**Flood Management** – Seek legislation in partnership with flood protection agencies to ensure that any legislation that is passed improves public safety for our citizens, provides funding to help local flood protection efforts, and helps to implement the Blueprint and Metropolitan Transportation Plan.

Approved by:

**Mike McKeever**  
Executive Director

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Key Staff: Rebecca Sloan, Public & Government Affairs Manager, (916) 340-6224  
Erik Johnson, Public Information Coordinator, (916) 340-6247

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