



Transportation Committee

January 28, 2008

Approval of a Contract for the High Occupancy Toll (HOT) Lane Feasibility Study

Issue: Whether to approve a contract with the firm recommended by the project proposal review committee for the preparation of the High Occupancy Toll (HOT) Lane Feasibility Study for the Sacramento Region.

Recommendation: That the Transportation Committee recommend that the Board authorize the Executive Director to enter into a contract with the HNTB to complete High Occupancy Toll (HOT) Lane Feasibility Study for the Sacramento Region in an amount not to exceed \$105,000.

Discussion: The Placer County Transportation Planning Agency (PCTPA) and SACOG received \$105,000 for the study through a 2008 Partnership Planning grant from Caltrans; the total budget for the study is \$150,000, with the local funding match included. A request for qualifications was released in late October and concluded on December 1. Five proposals were received and two firms, URS and HNTB, were interviewed. A review panel comprised of Caltrans, PCTPA and SACOG staff selected the HNTB team based on their expertise and experience with similar studies.

HOT lanes combine High Occupancy Vehicles (HOV) and pricing strategies through allowing single occupancy vehicles to gain access to HOV lanes by paying a toll. The lanes are “managed” through pricing to maintain free flow conditions even during the height of rush hours. The study will investigate opportunities and challenges for HOT lanes in the Sacramento region with a focus on the feasibility of HOT lanes for the I-80 corridor between I-5 in Sacramento County and Highway 65 in Placer County.

The HOT lanes study will be consistent with a policy strategy in the Metropolitan Transportation Plan 2035 (MTP2035) to investigate road pricing and a related mitigation measure in the Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for the MTP2035.

Approved by:

Mike McKeever
Executive Director

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