



Regional Planning Partnership

Item #2

March 25, 2009
Action Summary Minutes

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Stuart Hodgkins, City of Citrus Heights
Jim Konopka, City of Folsom
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Melissa Logue, PMC Rep City of Rancho Cordova and
City of Elk Grove
Jed McLaughlin, City of Elk Grove
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Robert Nguyen, Caltrans
Gwen Owens, City of Elk Grove
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Mark Thomas, City of Rancho Cordova
Susan Wilson, Caltrans District 3
Olin Woods, SACOG

1. **Action Summary of the February 25, 2009 Meeting.** The summary was approved by consensus.
2. **Information Sharing.** None
3. **PM₁₀ Qualitative Analysis International Drive Extension Project.** Kathy Garcia and Melissa Logue discussed and answered questions about the International Drive Extension Project in Rancho Cordova. The road extension project proposes to extend International Drive from its current terminus at Kilgore Road to Sunrise Boulevard at the Monier Circle intersection. A portion of International Drive, from Kilgore Road to 1300 linear feet east of Prospect Park Drive, will be restriped to include 6 through-lanes, and intersection improvements will be made at affected intersections. Surrounding land uses include residential, commercial, office, retail, industrial, recreational, and open space. The major benefits were identified as providing an additional east/west route in Sacramento County and relieving congestion on Folsom Boulevard and Hwy 50.

Questions/Comments:

- Mr. Brady, Caltrans commented that Annual Average Daily Traffic (AADT) should be included in analysis. Particulate Matter is a 24-hour (and annual) standard, so we need at minimum AADT. Also, EPA's guidance is based on AADT.
- **Q: When will construction start?** Construction will begin in summer 2009 and is scheduled to be completed 9-12 months thereafter.

The recommendation that the RPP make the finding that the International Drive Extension Project is not a project of air quality concern was approved by consensus.

4. **PM₁₀ Qualitative Analysis Elk Grove Boulevard On-Ramp Loop Project.** Gwen Owens discussed and answered questions about the Elk Grove Boulevard On-Ramp Loop Project. This project would eliminate the

existing traffic signal at the northbound on-ramp at Elk Grove Blvd and SR 99 and eliminate the left turn from eastbound Elk Grove Blvd to the northbound on-ramp. These would be replaced by constructing a new northbound hook on-ramp from East Stockton Blvd to northbound SR 99 (see attachment for project map). This project is necessary because the current configuration prevents traffic from flowing smoothly. The City of Elk Grove does not anticipate increased truck traffic from this project. The major benefits were identified as improving traffic flow and increasing capacity.

The recommendation that the RPP make the finding that the Elk Grove Boulevard On-Ramp Loop Project is not a project of air quality concern was approved by consensus.

5. PM₁₀ Qualitative Analysis for I-80 Pavement Rehabilitation & Ramp Metering Project. Mr. Nguyen discussed the I-80 Pavement Rehabilitation & Ramp Metering Project. The project proposes making technology improvements and pavement rehabilitation on I-80 between the Sacramento River and Longview Drive and introducing ramp metering at El Camino Avenue. This project is needed to address the deteriorated condition of the pavement.

Questions/Comments:

- There was some discussion about the effects of ramp metering. It was noted that ramp metering may actually be good for air quality because even though cars idle at the meter, speeds are higher and there is less congestion once vehicles reach the freeway. On the other hand, ramp metering has the potential to create localized air quality concerns depending on how long vehicles wait at the meter and how many trucks there are.

The recommendation that the RPP make the finding that the I-80 Pavement Rehabilitation & Ramp Metering Project is not a project of air quality concern was approved by consensus.

6. Race Conscious DBE Program Requirement. Jim Day gave an update about the Race Conscious DBE Program Requirement. Starting March 4, 2009, agencies are eligible to accept the State's DBE program. By June 2, 2009, all agencies must have accepted the DBE program and any contracts awarded must follow race conscious guidelines. Caltrans employees have 30 days to meet the requirement and other agencies have 90 days.

Getting Started: All forms are available on the Caltrans website:

http://www.dot.ca.gov/hq/LocalPrograms/DBE_CRLC.html#DBE . Agencies must use form 9A to accept the State's DBE program. Mr. Day and Mr. Woods suggested that agencies get started early in bringing DBE items before committees and boards so that form 9A is signed before June 2. After signing form 9A agencies need to use Caltrans's race conscious boilerplates (available online at http://www.dot.ca.gov/hq/LocalPrograms/sam_boil/NCSP.htm). Agencies must set monetary goals for awarding DBE contracts. Caltrans will hold a workshop April 8 at the Caltrans Gateway Oaks Office to come up with a methodology for defining and meeting DBE goals.

Questions/Comments:

- **Does DBE only apply to federal funds?** Yes.
- **Does DBE apply to funds that are transferred through FTA?** Yes. Funds transferred to FTA are subject to the FTA rules and regulations just like any and other flex funds. Any federally funded programs need to comply, including planning projects. Questions about transit funds can be directed to Tracey Frost: tracey_frost@dot.ca.gov or 916-654-8222.
- **Do agencies need to have a plan in place for using remaining FY 2008/2009 funds?** Yes. Any remaining funds that are spent after signing form 9A need to comply with DBE guidelines. The April 8 workshop will help agencies define goals and develop a methodology.
- There was a comment that it is very important to start the process now and go through all the proper channels to get form 9A signed by June 2. The only reason not to go race conscious now is if an agency has contracts going to bid immediately.

7. **SACOG Proposals for Strategic Highway Research Program.** Bruce Griesenbeck discussed and answered questions about SACOG's participation in the Strategic Highway Research Program. The TRB is sponsoring the program with the goal of accelerating the process of linking an advanced, activity-based travel demand model to a micro-simulation traffic assignment software platform. Cambridge Systematics, Inc. has contacted SACOG to partner with them in developing a proposal for the program. SACOG is one of only a few MPOs that currently meet program criteria, and the biggest benefit for the agency will be labor on GIS and the regional centerline file.
8. **American Recovery and Reinvestment Act Update.** Jason Crow and Olin Woods gave an update on ARRA as it related to transportation projects. The process of selecting road projects to receive stimulus funds started in November when a full list of projects was collected. At the end of January, a whittled-down list of projects was taken to a public workshop. On January 19, the Board approved the first round of projects, which it was decided would all be road rehab projects. Phase one projects were funded by funds granted directly to the MPO. On January 27 a second workshop was held to discuss phase two funds, which were granted to the state. On March 19 the Board approved phase two projects. The Governor must still certify all projects. There is a bill pending in the state legislature that would shift a portion of the state's share of ARRA funding from going through the STIP process to going directly to the regions, but it has not passed yet (update: the bill passed in both the senate and assembly and was signed by Governor Schwarzenegger on 3/27/09).

Deadlines: Paperwork must be in by May 29, except for the Sacramento Intermodal Project. After May 29, Tier 2 projects can go forward if other projects have fallen through (no additional money for Tier 2, just backup in case of project failure). Half of the State funds must be obligated by June 30. The goal is to make sure 100% of funds are spent in the region and that projects are completed within three years.

Hwy 50 HOV Project Update: SACOG staff is, with Board approval, seeking a total of \$30 million in zero percent interest loans from other regional agencies (targeting AB 1012 "use it or lose it" funds). With this money the Hwy 50 HOV project can move forward, or if the project does not move forward, funds can be used in other ways like funding Tier 2 transportation projects (See attachment for Board agenda item).

Jim Brown gave an update on ARRA as it related to transit projects. On March 19, the Board approved \$37.8 million for a variety of different transit projects, including bus replacement, facility improvements/construction, farebox improvements, railcar modernization, and preventative maintenance. The transit funds are funneled through normal channels (i.e. 5307, 5311, etc.). The goal is to get all funds committed before June because non-stimulus funds must also be processed before September.

9. **2010 Census Update.** Tina Glover gave an update on the 2010 census. SACOG staff and local partners are working on the Participant Statistical Areas Program (PSAP) to provide updates to block groups, census tracts, census county divisions, and census-designated places that reflect population growth and boundary changes since the last census. The last day for comments was March 25. There are three Local Census Offices planned for the SACOG region: Sacramento, Elk Grove, and Placerville. SACOG will not host a Complete Count Committee (CCC). Individual cities will host their own CCCs. CCCs increase awareness and encourage residents to respond to Census requests.

10. **Other Matters.** None

11. **Adjournment.** The next meeting is Wednesday, April 22, 2009