



Item #7

Regional Planning Partnership

May 20, 2009

RUCS Update on Road Safety Summaries

Issue: As part of its Rural-Urban Connections Strategy (RUCS) planning effort, SACOG staff has prepared County Safety Summaries for each of the region's six counties.

Recommendation: None; this item is for information only.

Discussion: Over the past eight months, SACOG has been studying rural transportation challenges and opportunities in the six-county region through the RUCS project. Staff work and input received through interviews and advisory committee workshops has led to the development of a RUCS Transportation Briefing Book that covers a broad range of rural transportation planning topic areas.

Road safety has been a primary area of inquiry that features prominently in the Briefing Book. SACOG has compiled 10 years of roadway collisions data into a single database and coded these records into a Geographic Information System (GIS). The County Safety Summaries are a key product of the safety data analysis.

The County Safety Summaries are tailored to each county and, thus, contain slightly different information, but the data presented represent only a sample of the kind of technical assistance that SACOG hopes to provide to member jurisdictions. Customized safety data can be a critical component in securing funding from safety grants, and SACOG hopes that these safety reports will help bolster grant applications and inform public policy decisions that will make our rural roadways safer.

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