



**Item #09-9-5
Information**

Government Relations & Public Affairs Committee

August 27, 2009

TIGER Funding Update

Issue: Update on federal Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) funding program.

Recommendation: None; this is information only.

Discussion: TIGER is a unique, highly competitive funding opportunity. Neither the state nor the region is guaranteed any of the \$1.5 billion available nationally. The U.S. Department of Transportation is looking for multi-modal, innovative, and port projects. Projects must be delivered by February 17, 2012.

Last month, the SACOG Board of Directors confirmed staff's recommendations for submitting three projects to Caltrans: Northern California Marine Highway (Port of West Sacramento), Intermodal Transportation Facility (City of Sacramento), and U.S. 50 at Watt Avenue Interchange (Sacramento County).

Caltrans has recommended 25 projects statewide (totaling \$784 million), including the Marine Highway and Intermodal projects and is forwarding this list to the Business, Transportation & Housing Agency (BT&H). BT&H will make final recommendations to the Governor for submission as a package. BT&H will prioritize projects based on long-term job creation, national or statewide significance, goods movement, and port infrastructure.

Only about half of the projects recommended by Caltrans are expected to be submitted as part of the Governor's list. One project not on the Caltrans list that has been brought forward by the Governor's office is \$20 million for container transfer infrastructure at the NUMMI General Motors and Toyota plant in Fremont. This would allow containerized goods to be delivered directly to the plant.

After approval from the Governor's office, BT&H will make the official submission on behalf of the Governor before the national TIGER application deadline of September 15, but it is unlikely that the projects they submit will be announced before then. Because of this, Caltrans is strongly encouraging applicants on its list to submit their applications directly to the U.S. Department of Transportation independently of the state process.

The U.S. Secretary of Transportation is expected to announce TIGER recipients in mid-January 2010. For more information, visit: Caltrans: www.dot.ca.gov/Recovery/tiger_grants.html or USDOT: www.dot.gov/recovery/ost/. As this is a fast-moving process, staff will provide additional updates at the committee meeting.

Approved by:

Mike McKeever
Executive Director

MM:OW:EJ:sb

Key Staff: Olin Woods, Manager of Capital Programs, (916) 340-6220
Rebecca Sloan, Director of External Affairs and Member Services, (916) 340-6224
Erik Johnson, Public Information Coordinator, (916) 340-6247