



**Item #10-2-5
Consent**

SACOG Board of Directors

February 10, 2010

Approve FY 2010-11 Proposals for Caltrans Transportation Planning Discretionary Grants

Issue: Approval of planning projects to be submitted to Caltrans for discretionary funding.

Recommendation: The Transportation Committee recommended that the Board approve by resolution the attached list of projects to be submitted to Caltrans for discretionary funding and authorize the Executive Director to submit a letter of support for other specified projects being submitted by others and execute the funding agreements associated with these grants.

Committee Action/Discussion: The overall discretionary grant application process and the applications are listed in Attachment A. Grant proposals from outside agencies are reviewed by SACOG staff to ensure that the proposals fit the purpose of the grant programs; not all grant proposals are approved, and those approved may be modified by SACOG. Attached is a list of the grant applications being moved forward. SACOG received 8 grant application proposals from outside agencies; all of these proposed grants were found to have sufficient funding and background information and fit the grant program criteria to move forward.

Caltrans issued a call for projects for its discretionary transportation planning grant programs, with Partnership Planning and Transit Planning proposals due March 1, 2010, and Environmental Justice and Community Based Transportation Planning proposals due April 1, 2010. There are six grant programs, each with different purposes, eligibility requirements, and matching ratios. These requirements are summarized in Attachment B. In December 2009, SACOG notified our member agencies that we needed information on any grant applications they planned to submit for which SACOG must be involved. SACOG staff has so far begun preparing 4 proposals, for a total of 12 grant applications, pending Board approval.

Attachment A includes brief summaries of each of the proposed planning projects. The staff does not recommend any priority order listing of the projects.

Approved by:

Mike McKeever
Executive Director

MM:BVB:gg
Attachments

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**DRAFT SACOG APPLICATIONS AND SUPPORT FOR CALTRANS FY 2010/2011
DISCRETIONARY PLANNING FUNDS**

The following is a list of the projects that are being submitted by SACOG and projects for which requests for a letters of support will be submitted.

Grant Application Title	Grant Category
1. Unitrans and Yolo County Transportation District Short Range Transit Plans	Rural or Small Urban Transit and Planning Studies

Applicant: SACOG

The proposed projects are an update of the FY 2006-2007 Unitrans and Yolobus Short Range Transit Plans (SRTPs). Stakeholders from the cities of Davis, West Sacramento, Winters, and Woodland, as well as other areas of Yolo County, will be included in the SRTP processes. The new Unitrans and YCTD Short Range Transit Plans will allow for continued and future transit planning processes and operations by Unitrans in the City of Davis and Yolobus in Yolo County and the cities within, as well as Yolobus services that serve portions of Sacramento County.

Caltrans Request: \$106,200 Local/In-Kind Match: \$13,800 Total Project Cost: \$120,000

2. Elk Grove Transit (eTRAN) Short Range Transit Plan	Statewide or Urban Transit Planning Studies
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Applicant: SACOG

The proposed project is an update of the FY 2006-2007 Elk Grove Short Range Transit Plans (SRTP). Stakeholders from the City of Elk Grove as well as other areas of Sacramento County served by eTRAN will be included in the SRTP process. The new Elk Grove Short Range Transit Plan will allow for continued and future transit planning processes and operations by Elk Grove Transit in the City of Elk Grove, as well as services provided throughout Sacramento County.

Caltrans Request: \$79,600 Local/In-Kind Match: \$10,400 Total Project Cost: \$90,000

3. Volunteer Driver Program Study	Environmental Justice
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Applicant: SACOG

The proposed project is a study of volunteer driver transport programs, both formal and informal, that serve seniors, people with disabilities, low-income people and other under-represented population groups. The study would also make recommendations and give alternatives to allow the design and potential implementation of volunteer driver programs in the SACOG region that could complement the existing specialized public transportation that is currently available and fill in gaps in service. These volunteer driver programs could provide additional lower cost non-emergency medical transportation trips, assist low-income workers in getting to job training and employment centers, and

give groups that are historically transit dependent another option to get where they need and want to go. Stakeholders from throughout the SACOG region will be included in the study process, with a focus on design and potential implementation.

Caltrans Request: \$148,500 Local/In-Kind Match: \$16,500 Total Project Cost: \$165,000

4. SACOG Transit Intern Transit Planning Student Internship

Applicant: SACOG

This grant would allow SACOG to continue the transit internship program at SACOG. SACOG will hire a undergraduate or graduate student in transit planning or a related program. The intern will be expected to work with the transit team at SACOG for 16 or more hours a week for one year. The student intern would have the opportunity to work on a variety of transit related projects including Metropolitan Transportation Improvement Program, the transit performance portion of the Metropolitan Transportation Plan, researching and distributing transit related information to SACOG’s transit agency partners on the regional Transit Coordinating Committee, as well as working on the Unmet Transit Needs Process and Short Range Transit Plans. The transit intern will have the opportunity to work on projects in several areas throughout the region.

Caltrans Request: \$19,450 Local/In-Kind Match: \$2,550 Total Project Cost: \$22,000

5. Complete Streets Pilot Initiative and Community Walkability Audits Community-Based Transportation Planning

Applicant: SACOG, Subrecipient: Sacramento Metropolitan Air Quality Management District

SACOG, the Sacramento Metropolitan Air Quality Management District (SMAQMD) and partner, including local jurisdictions and nonprofits including Walk Sacramento and Sacramento Area Bicycle Advocates—would pilot a complete streets initiative in the South Area of the City of Sacramento, a geographic area targeted for significant public health advocacy by the California Endowment. The grant would allow the project partners to assist and educate local communities on how to take advantage of opportunities to get involved in transportation planning by identifying and articulating barriers to walking, biking and transit use in their neighborhoods. Using a walkability survey instrument and methodology already in development at SACOG in partnership with WalkSacramento, the project partners would work with local leaders and communities to conduct walkability audits of their neighborhoods and inform them on how to bring those issues to the attention of decision makers. The audits would be intended to identify deficiencies in local transportation infrastructure. Findings from the audits could be incorporated into street network profiles created by the project partners and community members. The profiles would be a useful tool for communities attempting to articulate problems to their local city or county governments. The results of the audits could also be incorporated into SACOG’s transportation network and used in future planning and analysis efforts. The Air District would estimate the air quality and related health benefits of implementing complete streets. The significant public outreach required by this effort—including meetings with neighborhood

associations, community, religious and business leaders-- would be integrated to the maximum feasible extent with that of the California Endowment.

Caltrans Request: \$198,000 Local/In-Kind Match: \$22,000 Total Project Cost: \$220,000

6. Promoting Public Health through Land Use and Transportation Planning	Environmental Justice
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Applicant: SACOG, Subrecipient: Sacramento Metropolitan Air Quality Management District

SMAQMD, in coordination with SACOG, through community involvement and collaboration among diverse organizations, will lead the development of an abridged version of San Francisco Department of Public Health’s *Healthy Development Measurement Tool* (www.thehdm.org). This project will gather community input from a low-income area in South Sacramento selected by the California Endowment in 2009 for “Building Healthy Communities,” a ten-year project to create physical and social environments that promote health. SMAQMD will convene and facilitate a multi-stakeholder process to develop health indicators and targets to evaluate the ability of proposed land use and transportation projects in the South Sacramento area to achieve community health objectives, such as expanding transportation options and minimizing negative impacts such as air and noise pollution. This is the initial stage of what is envisioned as at least a five-year effort to create a tool for countywide or regional use to ensure that development in the county/region takes into account, protects, and improves community health. Objectives for this project include: (1) generate *collaborative relationships* across different organizations around the inclusion of public health as a concern in land use and transportation planning; (2) involve the South Sacramento community in developing a set of health indicators to promote community walkability and health equity; and (3) create a project review checklist that can be used voluntarily for evaluation of proposed development projects and as a training tool on the health impacts of land use and transportation planning decisions. The I-PLACE³S “health” module, funding for which was requested in a proposal by the Sacramento County Department of Health and Human Services to the U.S. Center for Disease Control in November 2009, could potentially provide additional data useful to the development of data bases for monitoring of health indicators and targets created by the Sacramento-version Healthy Development Measurement Tool proposed here.

Caltrans Request: \$220,500 Local/In-Kind Match: \$24,500 Total Project Cost: \$245,000

7. City of Davis—Davis Community Transit Study Transit Facility Needs Study	Rural or Small Urban Transit and Planning Studies
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Applicant: SACOG, Subrecipient: City of Davis

The Unitrans/City of Davis Long Range Transit Plan (LRTP) describes the current transit facility and includes a recommendation for a Transit Facility Needs Study. The current Davis Community Transit (DCT) facility is located at the City of Davis-owned Amtrak station. This location is subject to overcrowding by employees, which creates distractions for the dispatcher who also handles reservations and eligibility application requests. The dispatcher’s desk is in an open room that also houses the employee break area and the customer service area. It is recommended that DCT conduct a

study to determine how moving to a new facility or modifying existing operations can better serve the City of Davis Community Transit, its employees, and its customers.

Caltrans Request: \$44,250 Local/In-Kind Match: \$5,750 Total Project Cost: \$50,000

8. CNG Fueling Facility Study Environmental Justice

Applicant: SACOG, Subrecipient: Paratransit, Inc.

The goal of this project is to reduce the community carbon footprint by developing a CNG fuel facility on Paratransit, Inc.'s Woodbine Ave. property. This funding would be used to hire temporary staff to perform planning and outreach activities. Activities would include data gathering and analysis, review of vehicle replacement schedules, planning and facilitating meetings, and community surveys. The city has expressed interest in the development of this fuel facility as a back-up fueling alternative for its vehicles in an emergency. This project will meet state transportation planning goals by enhancing the environment and reflecting community values by encouraging public involvement in the decision making process.

Caltrans Request: \$99,000 Local/In-Kind Match: \$11,000 Total Project Cost: \$110,000

9. Paratransit, Inc. Interactive Voice Response System Marketing Study Community-Based Transportation Planning

Applicant: SACOG, Subrecipient: Paratransit, Inc

This project would be submitted under the Community-Based Transportation Planning grant category. The goal is to increase and promote usage of Paratransit, Inc.'s automated Interactive Voice Response system. This will decrease the call center activity and allow users of the service easy, efficient, and quick access to Paratransit services throughout the community. Funding will be used to hire temporary staff to determine usage, identify how to increase interest and usage, and interact with the community through focus groups, roundtable discussions, and passenger surveys. This project meets with state goals by improving mobility and accessibility and reflecting community values through public involvement.

Caltrans Request: \$99,000 Local/In-Kind Match: \$11,000 Total Project Cost: \$110,000

10. YoloBus Transit Efficiency Study**Rural or Small Urban Transit Planning Studies**

Applicant: SACOG, Subrecipient: Yolo County Transportation District (YoloBus)

The study would assist YCTD staff in finding ways to decrease overall costs while still adequately meeting travel needs of the riding public. The study would investigate ways to increase efficiencies in routing with the goal to ultimately save the District money as well as provide faster transit service and reduce travel time. Bus Rapid Transit, including signal preemption, limited stops, and streamlining of routes, would be among the concepts staff propose to investigate.

Caltrans Request: \$97,300

Local/In-Kind Match: \$12,700

Total Project Cost: \$110,000

11. Sacramento Regional Transit District Comprehensive Operational Analysis**Statewide or Urban Transit Planning Studies**

Applicant: SACOG, Subrecipient: Sacramento Regional Transit District

This is a planning and public outreach process to complete a Comprehensive Operational Analysis (COA) for the Sacramento Regional Transit District (RT). The product of this planning will be a plan for reorganizing the RT bus service to better reflect the multi-centric service area that has evolved in the Sacramento area.

The area proposed for this planning is the RT service area within the County of Sacramento. It was determined that an onboard survey of origins and destinations would be necessary to support the project development for the Green Line to the Airport project. Since this is also the lynchpin of a COA, the concept is to use it for both purposes. The current project will take the results of the onboard survey and combine them with system analysis, system performance metrics, and a coordinated public outreach process to produce an operating plan for RT. This will assist RT in providing more targeted and cost-effective transit service over the next decade and beyond.

Caltrans Request: \$250,000

Local/In Kind Match: \$50,000

Total Project Cost: \$300,000

12. The Great California Delta Trail Collaborative Planning Project**Community-Based Transportation Planning**

Applicant: SACOG, Subrecipient: Delta Protection Commission (Commission)

This grant would allow the Great California Delta Trail feasibility and planning process to be initiated and completed in Sacramento and Yolo counties in a format compatible with processes underway in other Delta counties. Senate Bill 1556 (Torkelson) provides for the Commission to facilitate a stakeholder-driven process to develop a Blueprint Guide for implementation of a multiple-use trail network throughout the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta. The network is to include connections with

existing and potentially new trails in Sacramento and Yolo counties. Consistent with the provisions of the legislation, the process will be advised through the formation of Stakeholder and Technical Advisory Committees and extensive opportunities for public input in both counties. Rural-urban connections will be a prominent theme and component of the Blueprint that will ultimately be provided to the counties, and communities within the counties, for adoption and implementation.

Caltrans Request: \$180,000 Local/In-Kind Match: \$20,000 Total Project Cost: \$200,000

Transportation Planning Grant Summary Chart

GRANT	FUND SOURCE	PURPOSE	WHO MAY APPLY	LOCAL MATCH
Community-Based Transportation Planning	State Highway Account Budget \$3 million Grant Cap \$300,000	Fund coordinated transportation and land use planning that promotes public engagement, livable communities, and a sustainable transportation system which includes mobility, access, and safety.	The following may apply directly or as a sub-recipient : <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Metropolitan Planning Organizations and Regional Transportation Planning Agencies • Cities and Counties • Transit Agencies • Native American Tribal Governments The following may apply only as a sub-recipient : <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Universities and Community Colleges • Community-Based Organizations • Non-Profit Organizations (501.C.3) • Public Entities** 	10% minimum (in non-federal funds). Up to one-quarter of the 10% match can be in-kind*.
Environmental Justice	State Highway Account Budget \$3 million Grant Cap \$250,000	Promote community involvement in planning to improve mobility, access, and safety while promoting economic opportunity, equity, environmental protection, and affordable housing for low-income, minority, and Native American communities.	The following may apply directly or as a sub-recipient : <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Metropolitan Planning Organizations and Regional Transportation Planning Agencies • Cities and Counties • Transit Agencies • Native American Tribal Governments The following may apply only as a sub-recipient : <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Universities and Community Colleges • Community-Based Organizations • Non-Profit Organizations (501.C.3) • Public Entities** 	10% minimum (in non-federal funds). Up to one-quarter of the 10% match can be in-kind*.
Partnership Planning	FHWA*** State Planning and Research, Part 1 Budget Federal funds \$1,000,000 Grant Cap \$300,000	Fund transportation planning studies of multi-regional and statewide significance in partnership with Caltrans.	The following may only apply as an applicant : <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Metropolitan Planning Organizations and Regional Transportation Planning Agencies The following may only apply as a sub-recipient : <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Universities and Community Colleges • Native American Tribal Governments • Cities and Counties • Community-Based Organizations • Non-Profit Organizations (501.C.3) • Public Entities** 	20% minimum (in non-federal funds or an in-kind* contribution). The entire minimum 20% local match may be in the form of an in-kind contribution. Additional local funds above the minimum local match are desired.

Transportation Planning Grant Summary Chart (Continued)

GRANT	FUND SOURCE	PURPOSE	WHO MAY APPLY	LOCAL MATCH
Statewide or Urban Transit Planning Studies	FTA*** Section 5304 Budget Federal funds \$1,400,000 Grant Cap \$300,000	Fund studies on transit issues having statewide or multi-regional significance to assist in reducing congestion.	The following may only apply as an applicant : <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Metropolitan Planning Organizations and Regional Transportation Planning Agencies The following may only apply as a sub-recipient : <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Transit Agencies • Universities and Community Colleges • Native American Tribal Governments • Cities and Counties • Community-Based Organizations • Non-Profit Organizations (501.C.3) • Public Entities** 	11.47% minimum (in non-federal funds or an in-kind* contribution). The entire minimum 11.47% local match may be in the form of an in-kind contribution.
Rural or Small Urban Transit Planning Studies	FTA*** Section 5304 Budget Federal funds \$700,000 Grant Cap \$100,000	Fund public transportation planning studies in rural or small urban areas of California (transit service area with population of 100,000 or less).	The following may only apply as an applicant : <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Metropolitan Planning Organizations and Regional Transportation Planning Agencies The following may only apply as a sub-recipient : <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Transit Agencies • Universities and Community Colleges • Native American Tribal Governments • Cities and Counties • Community-Based Organizations • Non-Profit Organizations (501.C.3) • Public Entities** 	11.47% minimum (in non-federal funds or an in-kind* contribution). The entire minimum 11.47% local match may be in the form of an in-kind contribution.
Transit Planning Student Internships	FTA*** Section 5304 Budget Federal funds \$150,000 Grant Cap \$50,000	Fund student internship opportunities in transit planning at public transit agencies.	The following may only apply as an applicant : <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Metropolitan Planning Organizations and Regional Transportation Planning Agencies The following may only apply as a sub-recipient : <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Transit Agencies • Universities and Community Colleges • Native American Tribal Governments • Cities and Counties • Community-Based Organizations • Non-Profit Organizations (501.C.3) • Public Entities** 	11.47% minimum (in non-federal funds or an in-kind* contribution). The entire minimum 11.47% local match may be in the form of an in-kind contribution.

* In-kind contribution can include a documented, quantified amount of equipment, supplies, or other tangible resources, space, or staff time.

** Public entity includes the State, the Regents of the University of California, a county, city, district, public authority, public agency, and any other political subdivision or public corporation in the State. (Government Code Section 811.2)

*** FHWA is the Federal Highway Administration. FTA is the Federal Transit Administration.



SACRAMENTO AREA COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

RESOLUTION NO. 9 - 2010

APPROVING CALTRANS TRANSPORTATION PLANNING GRANT APPLICATION FOR FISCAL YEAR 2010-11 AND AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR TO EXECUTE THE FUNDING AGREEMENTS FOR AWARDED GRANTS

WHEREAS, the Sacramento Area Council of Governments (SACOG) is the Metropolitan Planning Organization and one of the Regional Transportation Planning Agencies responsible for transportation planning in the Sacramento region; and

WHEREAS, the Sacramento Area Council of Governments proposed to request \$1,541,800 in grant funds, \$200,200 in local/in kind match for a total amount of \$1,742,000; and

WHEREAS, approval is requested for the grant applications submitted on March 1, 2010, and April 1, 2010, and for the Executive Director to execute funding agreements between SACOG and the State of California Department of Transportation;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the SACOG Board of Directors authorizes the Executive Director to submit each of the Caltrans Transportation Planning Grant applications for FY 2010/11, and authorizes the Executive Director to execute any grant agreements necessary to receive grant funds, or other funds that may be available, for the purpose of developing and implementing the grant application projects in the Sacramento Region.

PASSED AND ADOPTED, this 18th day of February 2010, by the following vote of the Board of Directors:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT:

Leslie McBride
Chair

Mike McKeever
Executive Director