

LOCAL LEADERS RELEASE DRAFT 28-YEAR TRANSPORTATION PLAN

Public Comment period open through December 20

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
October 29, 2007

Contact: Rebecca Thornton Sloan
or Erik Johnson
916-321-9000

SACRAMENTO – The Sacramento Area Council of Governments is releasing a Draft Metropolitan Transportation Plan for 2035 (MTP2035) and Draft Program Environmental Impact Report (DEIR) on November 5 for a 45-day public comment period closing December 20. A public hearing is scheduled for November 29 at 6:00 p.m. at SACOG.

The MTP2035 invests \$42 billion over 28 years, proactively linking transportation, land use and air quality. Since 2005, nearly 8,000 people have helped shape the region's transportation future through community workshops, presentations, a televised forum, public opinion research and direct feedback. The MTP2035 also builds on the Blueprint Preferred Growth Scenario, which gives individuals more housing and transportation choices, as well as promotes better land uses and quality design. The MTP2035 focuses on six principles:

- **Smart Land Use:** Design a transportation system to support good growth patterns, including increased housing and transportation options, focusing more growth inward and improving the economic viability of rural areas.
- **Environmental Quality and Sustainability:** Minimize direct and indirect transportation impacts on the environment for cleaner air and natural resource protection.
- **Financial Stewardship:** A transportation system that delivers cost-effective results feasible to construct and maintain.
- **Economic Vitality:** Efficiently connect people to jobs and get goods to market.
- **Access & Mobility:** Improve opportunities for businesses and citizens to easily access goods, jobs, services and housing.
- **Equity & Choice:** Provide real, viable travel choices for all people throughout our diverse region.

The documents are available for review online as well as in person at SACOG, city and county offices, and public libraries throughout the six-county region. SACOG will accept comments online (www.sacog.org), by mail (1415 L Street, Suite 300, Sacramento, CA 95814), by phone (916-321-9000), or by fax (916-321-9551).

SACOG is the Metropolitan Planning Organization responsible for developing the state and federally required MTP every four years in coordination with the 22 cities and six counties in the greater Sacramento region. Under memoranda of understanding, long-range transportation plans in El Dorado and Placer counties are also incorporated into the MTP. The action to release the Draft MTP2035 and related DEIR was taken by the SACOG Board of Directors in a special Board meeting on October 29, 2007.

Federal law requires the MTP to conform to air quality goals for the region, satisfy financial constraints such that all proposed projects can be reasonably funded, and undergo extensive public review. State law further requires the MTP process include careful environmental analysis and review.

SACOG coordinates transportation planning, funding and project delivery for Sacramento, El Dorado, Placer, Yolo, Sutter and Yuba counties and the cities within them. SACOG also engages elected officials in land use and other regional issues.

- END -