

SACOG AUTHORIZES \$32 MILLION FROM ECONOMIC RECOVERY ACT

Road rehabilitation projects ready-to-go when funding is received

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DAVIS—The Sacramento Area Council of Governments (SACOG) Board of Directors today authorized \$32 million for road rehabilitation projects in Sacramento, Sutter, Yolo and Yuba counties. The amounts are based on the region's estimate of funds from the Economic Recovery Act signed by President Obama on Tuesday. The Placer County Transportation Planning Agency and the El Dorado County Transportation Planning Commission are responsible for authorizing an estimated \$7.5 million in funds for their counties.

Transportation infrastructure funds from the Economic Recovery Act will first pass through Caltrans, with a portion being passed on by formula to SACOG. The U.S. Department of Transportation and Caltrans have not specified the exact amount that the region will receive, although based on past formulas, SACOG is anticipating approximately \$72 million in road funds and \$40 million in transit funds.

The SACOG Board authorized \$32 million of the road funds to be used for road rehabilitation projects, with specific projects determined by each city and county. Road rehabilitation projects will do more than just smooth the ride. Projects may use funding for: transit improvements, Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) improvements, bicycle and pedestrian improvements, as well as for Complete Streets (designing, operating, and maintaining a road network to enable safe access for all users, including pedestrians, bicyclists, motorists and transit riders of all ages and abilities).

The transit operators in the region have identified a list of ready-to-go transit projects. SACOG has not received a funding amount for transit infrastructure. Once a funding amount is received, the transit operators will prioritize their list and bring it to the SACOG Board for consideration in March.

Funding is expected to be released from U.S. Department of Transportation within the next few weeks. Jurisdictions and transit operators must have their projects ready to send out to bid (obligated) within 120 days, and then funds will be allocated to each jurisdiction.

The next meeting of the SACOG Board will be held on Thursday, March 19, 2009 at 9:00 a.m. in the SACOG Board Room located at 1415 L Street, Suite 300 in Sacramento.

SACOG coordinates transportation planning, funding and project delivery for Sacramento, El Dorado, Placer, Yolo, Sutter and Yuba counties and the cities within them. For funds distributed through Caltrans, Placer and El Dorado counties make their own funding decisions. SACOG also engages elected officials in land use and other regional issues.

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