

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Contact: Rebecca Thornton Sloan
(916) 321-9000

**ELECTED OFFICIALS DIRECT BLUEPRINT-STYLE
METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION PLAN**

SACRAMENTO – Speed bumps, pot holes and traffic signals motivated communities to become cities in our region. Gridlock, parking rates and road rage motivated businesses to relocate here from other regions. Regional transportation planning is integral to the quality of life and economic health of the greater Sacramento region.

The Sacramento Area Council of Governments (SACOG) is developing the first Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) to be based on Blueprint-style development for the six-county region. A 23-year plan for transportation improvements, the MTP is more than a federal and state requirement for transportation investments. MTP2030 is the next step in implementing Blueprint-style growth, moving away from the MTP for 2025, which was based on sprawling land use.

Development of the MTP2030 will bring elected officials, business and community interests together to identify investments in road, transit, bicycle and pedestrian improvements. The Elected Officials Workshop on Thursday, January 19 in the Tsakopolous Library Galleria will begin at 6 p.m. bringing together over 70 elected officials representing the six-county region. The workshop will be an open dialogue among elected officials representing diverse needs and geographies to identify transportation challenges within and between their local government jurisdictions.

SACOG is working with partners including Caltrans, the El Dorado County Transportation Commission, the Placer County Transportation Planning Agency, the Sacramento Regional Transit District, the Sacramento Metropolitan Air Quality Management District, the Sacramento Transportation Authority, the Yolo County Transportation District and civic partner Valley Vision to ensure the MTP2030 process is both inclusive and collaborative. The Elected Officials Workshop will be followed by 16 community workshops throughout the region.

SACOG and Valley Vision initiated the Blueprint Project to study future land-use patterns and their potential effects on the region's transportation, air quality, housing, open

Sacramento Area
Council of
Governments

1415 L Street
Suite 300
Sacramento, CA
95814

tel: 916.321.9000
fax: 916.321.9551



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space and other resources. The visioning study gathered input from over 5,000 stakeholders and resulted in unanimous adoption of the Blueprint preferred alternative map by the SACOG Board of Directors in December 2004. The SACOG Board includes elected officials from Sacramento, El Dorado, Placer, Yolo, Sutter and Yuba counties and the 22 cities within them. SACOG and Valley Vision will bring together Blueprint participants and other community stakeholders to identify transportation investments integral to Blueprint implementation.

Implementation of Blueprint over the past year included adoption of Blueprint growth principles in official planning documents for the city of Roseville, the city of Sacramento and the county of Sacramento. Further, numerous jurisdictions are reviewing planning codes and general plans for opportunities to adopt Blueprint principles across the region.

SACOG staff is developing a 2030 land-use map reflecting the Blueprint principles to be used in planning for regional transportation investments over the next 23 years, phased in incrementally with projects in the next five, 10 and 15 years.

A variety of issues will be discussed in the development of MTP2030 through research issue papers. Issues include: transit operations, road maintenance, transit expansion, urban roadway expansion, toll roads and pricing, system retrofits, freight and goods movement, linking transportation phasing with land development, travel behavior, river crossings, regional activity center access, interregional connections, transportation demand management and air quality. The first seven research issue papers are available this month on SACOG's website at www.sacog.org/mtp.

For more information about the MTP2030 process, please contact Communications Manager Rebecca Sloan at (916) 321-9000.

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