



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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OP-ED: OUR REGION FACES A TALL ORDER

More than two-thirds of the region's residents have told us traffic congestion is a big problem in recent surveys conducted by Sacramento State and the Public Policy Institute of California.

In 2004, people from across the region came together and chose a new direction for growth in their communities. The Blueprint growth strategy set a new course for how we plan for more people, jobs and homes. Citizens, elected officials, business and community leaders, and others agreed that land should be used more efficiently, jobs and homes be located closer to each other, and that higher percentages of growth should occur in existing neighborhoods rather than just building further out to the edges of our region.

Now, we're coming back to communities and asking for your help in planning the roads, buses, freeways and rail that will serve this future Blueprint growth pattern. Past transportation plans were designed to serve a more outward-growing land use pattern. The Blueprint will give individuals more realistic choices to shift portions of their daily travel to transit, walking and biking. And although most trips will still be by automobile, they will be—on average—shorter than they are today.

It's time to take the next step in Blueprint, with a new Metropolitan Transportation Plan. The Metropolitan Transportation Plan for 2035 will be a strategy for investing \$36 billion in El Dorado, Placer, Sacramento, Sutter, Yolo and Yuba counties.

How much of our road investments should be targeted at better maintaining the current system, or building up better connections between major four-lane roads, or new roads around the edges of our urban areas, or more carpool lanes on our freeways?

What kind of transit investment will most effectively attract people to get out of their cars for some of their daily travel? With what frequency do we need bus, light rail and train service? Where is light rail needed?

How do we get our students to walk or ride bikes to school?

Join us for TALL Order: Moving the Region Forward on November 16 from 6 to 9 p.m. to learn about the changing transportation needs in our region, and give us your input on how to provide transportation infrastructure that serves communities with changing needs. TALL Order will be held in eight locations throughout the region. Participants will be presented with three scenarios to choose from and will work in small groups to prioritize investments in specific corridors around the region.

Individuals from all backgrounds sat down and developed a new plan for how our region will grow. We need that same energy from residents as we plan for the transportation we will need today and for the next three decades. Learn more and register today by visiting www.sacog.org/mtp/2035 or calling (916) 325-1634.

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