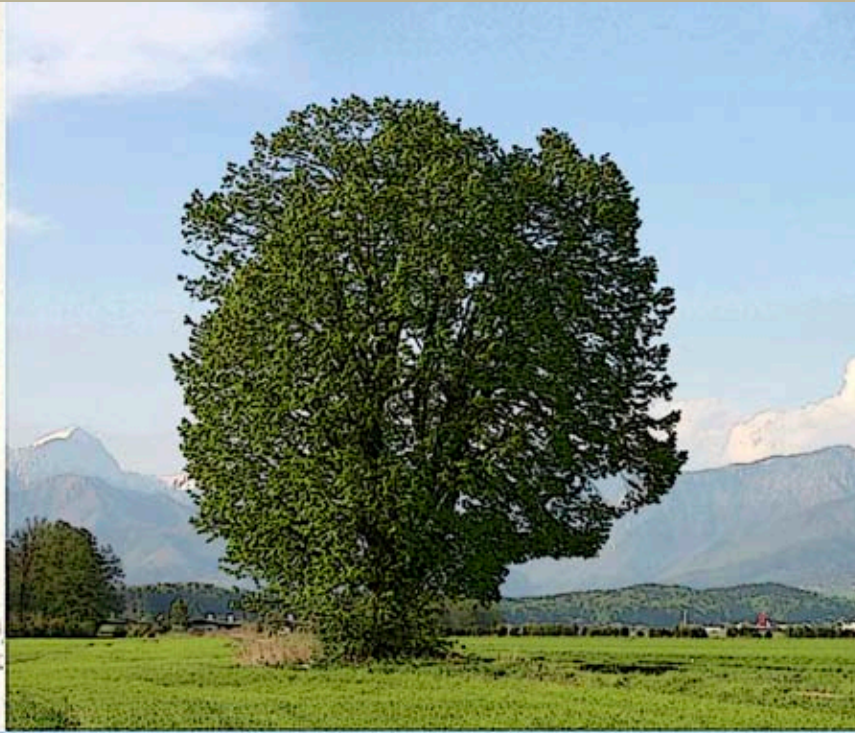




Annual Report 2008

Sacramento Area
Council of
Governments



January

Board of Directors elects Lincoln Councilmember Tom Cosgrove as Chair of the SACOG Board of Directors and Yolo County Supervisor Helen Thomson as Vice Chair.

Rural-Urban Connections Strategy project introduced at a board retreat.

SACOG, Sacramento Metropolitan Air Quality Management District, and Local Government Commission coordinate regional climate change forum for elected officials and public agency staff.

Board of Directors awards \$11.4 million in bicycle and pedestrian projects, \$8 million for the Sacramento Emergency Clean Air & Transportation (SECAT) program, and \$1.2 million for the Spare the Air campaign.



February

SACOG Board of Directors forms Climate and Air Quality Committee to focus on air quality, energy conservation, renewable energy, climate change and related technologies.

Board of Directors adopts the Regional Housing Needs Plan and Incentive Program. The plan allocates zoning for housing units in the region through 2013.



March

Board of Directors adopts Metropolitan Transportation Plan for 2035 (MTP2035), investing \$42 billion for roads, sidewalks, bike lanes, transit and programs. Over two years, nearly 8,000 people helped shape the region's transportation future through community workshops, presentations, a televised forum, public opinion research and direct feedback. The MTP2035 builds on the Blueprint Preferred Growth Scenario, which gives individuals more housing and transportation choices, as well as promoting better land uses and quality design.

Board of Directors awards \$18.365 million for Community Design projects. The 12 projects include revitalizing downtowns across the region, preliminary activities for a possible streetcar line between West Sacramento and Sacramento, and making "complete streets" that are accessible for pedestrians, bicyclists, drivers, buses, delivery trucks and all other users.

The Metropolitan Transportation Plan for 2035 set policy and project priorities for the next three decades.



April

Board of Directors and other leaders tour Sutter and Yuba counties as part of the Rural-Urban Connections Strategy (RUCS), seeing large and small farming operations, equipment, processing facilities and conservation lands, while hearing from local farmers first-hand.

SACOG and the Metropolitan Transportation Commission co-sponsor an interregional summit on the Bay Area-Sacramento megaregion to explore how the Bay Area and the Sacramento region can better coordinate transportation investments and land use planning.

California Transportation Commission awards \$30 million for two projects that will improve the flow of goods in and out of the Sacramento region. The city of Sacramento was allocated \$20 million to realign the Union Pacific tracks in the Railyards area. The Port of Sacramento received \$10 million to deepen the Sacramento River Deep Water Ship Channel.

Lincoln Councilmember Tom Cosgrove (left) on the tour of Sutter and Yuba counties.



Tower Bridge reopens with widened sidewalks that provide enhanced connectivity and safety for pedestrians and bicyclists between Sacramento and West Sacramento.

The California Association of Public Information Officials recognizes SACOG with an Excellence in Communications Award for “Road Map to the Future,” a live hour-long town hall on KCRA 3 in January 2007. SACOG receives First Place in the Special Innovation category, and receives the highest overall score of all 12 award categories.

May

Region breaks the million mile goal during May is Bike Month—with 1,242,215 miles logged—for the first time since the annual campaign began in 2005. Nearly 5,700 individuals participated in the campaign to encourage bicycling as a travel option. High gas prices and the Fix I-5 construction may have helped bring 2,000 new participants in 2008. SACOG works with transportation management organizations to promote May is Bike Month.

Breathe California of Sacramento-Emigrant Trails bestows its Regional Award on the Million Mile May campaign.

SACOG region receives \$4.9 million for traffic light synchronization from Proposition 1B of 2006.

June

Caltrans partners with SACOG to use Sacramento Region 511 to provide information during the Fix I-5 project, where Interstate 5 was closed for major construction in downtown Sacramento. Nearly 190,000 daily drivers were able to switch to a different commute mode or alter their route because of the public information campaign headed by Caltrans.

Sacramento Regional Transit District (RT) embarks on its first update to its Transit Master Plan in 15 years. RT engaged the public in May and June through community workshops similar to those used for developing the Blueprint and MTP2035.

July

Wall Street Journal runs a front-page story, “With Gas Over \$4, Cities Explore Whether It’s Smart to Be Dense,” on the success of the region’s Blueprint for land use and transportation and the national attention it has received.

SACOG Board members and SACOG staff join 35 other participants for an Urban to Rural Connection study mission to Portland, Oregon. The tour included visits to locations cultivating a connection between local agriculture and demand for local goods.

August

SACOG funds \$140,000 in transportation demand management projects including a transit shuttle start-up in McClellan Park, 50 Corridor IRS commuter benefits training, Sacramento State Upper East Side Lofts bicycle giveaway and a rideshare handbook in Yolo County.

SACOG unveils tools for civic engagement to support cities, counties, transit agencies and air districts to elevate the public education and involvement in infill and smart growth community development. Tools include technical support, direct grants, visual simulation (3-D) planning, photo simulations, educational materials, videos and presentations, and a planning and transportation improvement photo database.



Over 1.24 million bicycle miles were logged in May.

A study mission to Portland, Oregon yielded new ideas for SACOG’s Rural-Urban Connections Strategy.



Regional Transit is also looking to the future of transportation in the region.



SACOG, RT and the Sacramento Metropolitan Air Quality Management District team up to promote transit and other alternative modes through the “Try Transit” campaign.

September

Yolo County RUCS tour showcases agriculture and open space, and explores rural land issues. Board of Directors members and community representatives visited communities of varying sizes and learned about many of the innovations that can be replicated across the region, as well as challenges that other counties also face.

Governor signs Senate Bill 375, authored by State Senator Darrell Steinberg, which further links land use and transportation planning, California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) reform, and affordable housing planning. The bill is modeled on the Sacramento region’s Blueprint for transportation and land use.

SACOG launches wiki for developing issue papers for the RUCS project.

National Association of Regional Councils recognizes the MTP2035 as runner-up for their Major Metro Achievement Award.

SACOG received the Government Finance Officers Association Certificate of Achievement in Financial Reporting for the fiscal year 2006-07 financial statements. This is the second year SACOG's financial team has been recognized with this award.



Governor Schwarzenegger and Senator Steinberg at the signing of SB375.

October

SACOG board members and community members tour agriculture, forestry and rural communities in El Dorado County. Tour included a visit to regional agritourism region that attracts visitors from across the United States.

Association of Metropolitan Planning Organizations recognizes SACOG with Honorable Mention Award for Excellence in Metropolitan Transportation Planning for the MTP2035.



Mandarins were one of the highlights of the Placer County Agricultural Tour.

November

The RUCS tour series stops in Placer County, visiting a cattle ranch, several orchards and markets featuring locally grown produce. Board members learned about regional branding campaigns for locally grown produce and cattle and value-added products.

December

SACOG *Salutes!* honors leadership in transportation, land use and air quality with awards for the Capital Village, city of Rancho Cordova for Blueprint Excellence; Senate President Pro Tempore Darrell Steinberg for Bill Hughes Elected Official of the Year; Ted Link-Oberstar and Terry Preston for Citizens of the Year; Janet Ruggiero, city of Citrus Heights for Employee of the Year; Fix I-5, Caltrans District 3 for Project of the Year; Urban Land Institute Sacramento for Agency of the Year; LJ Urban for Business of the Year; and special recognition for the cities of Sacramento and West Sacramento for Tower Bridge Pedestrian and Bike Improvements.

Long-time SACOG directors Ken Hough and Pete Hathaway retire after decades of public service across the state.



Yolo County Supervisor Helen Thomson and Employee of the Year Janet Ruggiero.