

Regional Report



Review and Comment on Draft MTP2035 and EIR

The Draft MTP2035 and Draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR) are available for public comment through December 20, 2007.

Requesting a copy

If you would like the MTP2035 and Draft Environmental Impact Report on CD in PDF format, please send your name, address and number of copies requested to choltzen@sacog.org or call (916) 321-9000.

Comments

Comments can be made



by email:

mtpcomments@sacog.org or eircomments@sacog.org



by mail:

SACOG, 1415 L Street
Suite 300
Sacramento, CA 95814
ATTN: MTP Comments or
ATTN: EIR Comments



by fax:

(916) 321-9551



by phone:

(916) 321-9000

MTP2035 Adoption

Staff will review comments and take a final MTP2035 and EIR to the SACOG Board of Directors in February.

Draft MTP2035 Available for Public Comment Plan's Investments Offer Measurable Benefits

THE DRAFT METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION PLAN FOR 2035 (MTP2035) is available for public comment through December 20, 2007.

Roads, bikeways and buses won't be the only visible signs of the MTP2035. The individual investments made across the region over 28 years add up to significant benefits to the region's residents. The four factors the plan focused on were: Vehicle Miles Traveled (VMT) on the region's roadways, the level of congestion and delay for all travelers, transit ridership, walking, bicycling and other non-motorized trips.



The Draft MTP2035 and EIR documents are available online at www.sacog.org/mtp2035. You may also review the documents in person at SACOG, city and county offices or public libraries throughout the six-county region.

Vehicle Miles Traveled

A VMT is literally one vehicle traveling on a roadway for one mile. Transportation planners look at VMT because it is easy to measure, and is closely tied to vehicle emissions and road congestion.

Daily VMT in the Sacramento region has grown by 28 percent over 10 years. Over this same period, the total number of dwelling units in the SACOG region increased 21 percent. In the MTP, daily VMT is projected to grow by 53

Plan's Investments ...

Continued on page 3

Draft EIR Looks at Regional Impacts of MTP

Why is this EIR being prepared?

The California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) requires the environmental effects of projects be considered. Although individual programs and projects in the MTP2035 will be implemented by various public agencies, SACOG is responsible for carrying out and approving the MTP.

What is an EIR?

An environmental impact report (EIR) is an informational document used in state, regional and local planning and decision-making processes to meet the requirements of CEQA. The EIR for a proposed

project must disclose environmental effects that cannot be avoided and identify potential methods of avoiding or reducing those effects in the form of mitigation measures.

What is a program EIR?

A program EIR is an environmental document that provides a framework for future environmental analyses. A program EIR presents a region-wide assessment of the impacts of the MTP 2035. Individual specific environmental analysis of each project will be undertaken by the appropriate implementing agency prior to each project being considered for approval.

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MESSAGE FROM THE

BOARD CHAIR

Moving Our Region in a New Direction



Rusty Dupray

EACH MORNING NEARLY EVERY-ONE IN OUR REGION HEADS out for work, school or other destinations without much thought. But imagine if traffic congestion was 58 percent worse. That's the future our region faced if we didn't change our plans for land use and transportation.

Since May 2005, nearly 8,000 people have contributed plans and ideas on solving the long-term question of how we get to where we need to go. They helped the Sacramento Area Council of Governments develop a transportation plan giving people more mobility choices. From sidewalks to streetcars and rural road maintenance to carpool lanes, the plan invests in a mix of transportation options serving our diverse six-county region.

Largely, we heard an interest in investing in a balanced regional transportation system with improvements to new roads and road maintenance; public transit including buses, light rail and trains; and programs to encourage protection of our air quality, environment and overall quality of life. As SACOG's Board Vice Chair in 2006 and Board Chair in 2007, I have heard first hand the valuable input from citizen planners across our region each personally investing in our region's future.

The draft Metropolitan Transportation Plan for 2035, or MTP2035, sets forth a list of \$42 billion in transportation investments over the next 28 years. It links transportation planning with a land use pattern based on smart growth principles, specifically: encouraging transportation choices, providing mixed-use development, developing compactly, providing a variety of housing choices, using existing assets and infrastructure, seeking quality design and conserving natural resource. Working from these shared principles, local governments in our six-county region are making it possible for us to live and work closer together and have a broader variety of travel options to help us get to work, school, shopping, and medical appointments.

Understanding the travel needs of our diverse residents is critical to our ability to move within and between our communities and was the driving force behind our broad outreach over the past two years. I hope you will take some time to look at the draft MTP2035 and let us know what you think.

RUSTY DUPRAY

BOARD ACTIONS

At its October meeting the Board of Directors:

ADOPTED a Military Leave Policy;

RELEASED the Draft Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP2035) and the Draft Program Environmental Impact Report for a 45-day public review and comment from November 5 through December 20, 2007;

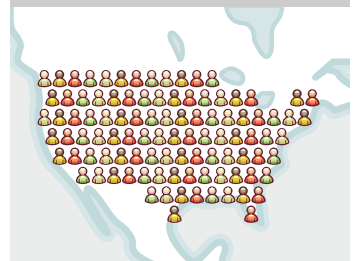
ADOPTED a preliminary list of Transportation Control Measures for inclusion in the State Implementation Plan for Air Quality Attainment;

DENIED specific requests for revisions to Regional Housing Needs Allocations, established December 14, 2007 as the deadline for appeals on allocations, and scheduled a public hearing for appeals on January 18, 2008; and

RELEASED a revised Regional Housing Needs Allocation.

SACOG Offers Census Help to Jurisdictions

The U.S. Census Bureau is asking tribal, state and local governments to review and update the master address file for the 2010 Census, and SACOG is offering assistance to local governments. SACOG can provide assistance with geocoding, boundary review, and address review and compilation. For more information visit www.sacog.org or contact Joe Concannon at (916) 340-6234 or jconcannon@sacog.org.



Plan's Investments Offer Measureable Benefits ...

Continued from front page

percent, from 55 million in 2005 to 85 million in 2035. The projected increase in dwelling units over the same time period is 60 percent.

The big news in VMT and the MTP2035 is in the growth rate: through 2035, the growth rate is projected to decrease from the historic rate of 2.5 to 1.4 percent per year. This is even lower than the projected population growth rate of 1.6 percent, and represents a major reversal of the trend in VMT and population growth in the Sacramento region.

Roadway Congestion and Delay

Congestion occurs on roadways when the number of drivers who wish to use a particular route exceeds the capacity of that route. By all measures, growth in congestion is at least double the growth rate in VMT, and triple the growth rate in dwelling units. Congested VMT grows so quickly because a few more vehicles lead to congestion and delay not just for the new vehicles, but also for vehicles already using the road.

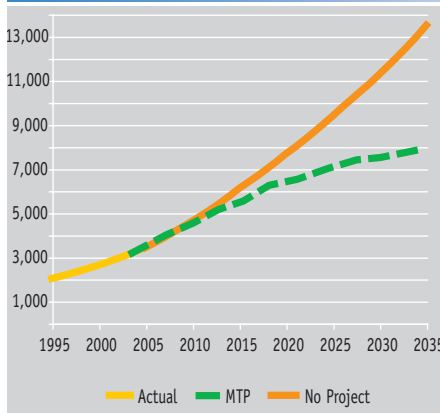
Congested VMT is estimated to increase from 3.4 million daily miles in 2005 to 7.8 million in 2035. This 2.8 percent increase is significantly higher than the growth in VMT (1.4 percent) or in population growth (1.6 percent) in the region.

For the average household, congested VMT per household is projected to increase between 13 to 17 percent (from 3.3 miles to approximately 3.8 miles per household), by 2035 compared to 58 percent increase in the MTP2025.

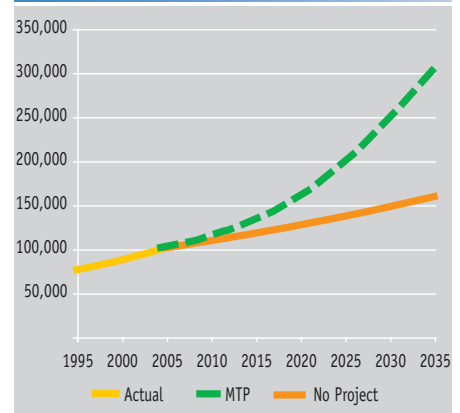
Travel by Transit and Non-Motorized Travel Modes

Transit provides an opportunity for substantially reducing VMT, by shifting solo drivers from their cars into a very high occupancy mode of travel. For commute trips, which tend to occur when congestion is highest, transit can provide substantial congestion

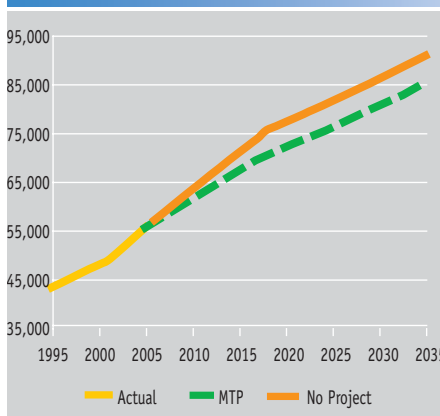
Daily Congested Vehicle Miles Traveled
In SACOG Region Forecasted to 2035



Daily Transit Person Trips
In SACOG Region Forecasted to 2035



Daily Vehicle Miles of Travel
In SACOG Region Forecasted to 2035



Daily Bike and Walk Person Trips
In SACOG Region Forecasted to 2035



Source: SACOG, October 2007

relief. High quality transit service can also provide necessary mobility to residents and employees in higher density, mixed use areas, where auto travel can be impractical.

The prevalence of bicycling and walking is a strong indicator of good land use and transportation planning. By placing complementary land uses in close proximity between residents or employees of an area, and by developing attractive, convenient pedestrian and bicycle environments, the number and percentage of trips made by bicycle or on foot should increase.

Travel by transit shows a remarkable increase in the MTP2035, with daily trips more than tripling

from 101,000 in 2005 to 326,000 in 2035, and the share of trips on transit increasing from 1.2 to 2.4 percent. Annual growth in transit trips over the planning period is 4 percent per year, more than two times the population growth rate.

Daily non-motorized (bicycling and walking) trips increase 83 percent, from 617,000 in 2005 to 1,132,000 in 2035, and the share of total trips increases from 7.4 percent to 8.3 percent.

Combined transit and non-motorized trips per household per day increase from 0.91 in 2005 to 1.15 with MTP2035, an increase of 27 to 37 percent.

Regional Report



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Executive Director
Mike McKeever

*Director of Community
Planning & Operations*
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NEWSLETTER STAFF

*Public and Government
Affairs Manager*
Rebecca Thornton Sloan

Content
Erik Johnson
Monica Hernández
A.J. Tendick

Graphic Design
Kent Giacomozzi

To comment on items in
the *Regional Report*, e-mail
regionalreport@sacog.org.

Third Round of Community Design Grants Available

Cities, counties, transit districts and air quality districts in Sacramento, Sutter, Yolo and Yuba counties are encouraged to apply for funding for projects that promote SACOG's Blueprint principles. Between \$12 million and \$20 million

will be awarded in this round. Applications are due January 9, 2008. For more information visit www.sacog.org or contact Greg Chew at (916) 340-6227 or gchew@sacog.org.



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

December

December 6—10 a.m.
Transportation Committee

December 6—1:30 p.m.
Government Relations & Public Affairs
Committee

December 10—10 a.m.
Land Use, Housing & Air Quality
Committee

December 10—1:30 p.m.
Flood Management Committee

December 20—9 a.m.
Board of Directors

January

January 7—noon
Strategic Planning Committee

January 18—8:30 a.m.
Board of Directors Retreat

All SACOG committee, advisory and board meetings are open to the public. Citizens are encouraged to attend. For more information or directions, please call SACOG at (916) 321-9000. To confirm meeting information, visit the calendar on our website at www.sacog.org. Dates, times and locations are subject to change.