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Government Relations & Public Affairs Committee Receive & File

May 27, 2016

Inter-Regional Study of MTP/SCS in Cooperation with the Metropolitan Transportation Commission, the San Joaquin Council of Governments and the RAND Corporation

SACOG is partnering with two adjoining MPOs, the Metropolitan Transportation Commission and the San Joaquin Council of Governments, and the RAND Corporation to examine a broader range of policies and projects than have been included in our respective MTP/SCSs. The study will examine our Plans individually and collectively to see if greater GHG reductions are possible, and if so, what would be required within and between the regions and what possible actions would be required from the state of California.

Initially RAND will examine the three regions' MTP/SCSs, both within each region and across the three regions. A workshop is scheduled for June 1 to focus on this task. Staff will brief the Committee on the outcomes and highlights of the workshop.

Subsequently, a second task will "stress test" SACOG's just adopted MTP/SCS by combining RAND and SACOG analytical tools. The integrated tools will be able to run dozens, if not hundreds, of scenarios to test the impacts of many more important variables on the performance metrics we have used in the MTP/SCS development. The third task will identify potential robust options that could maximize regional benefits and contribute toward meeting State climate change legislation and executive orders.

The timing for this study fits well with the review of the GHG targets that the MTP/SCS must meet. SB 375 requires the Air Resources Board to reevaluate the GHG targets in 2017, prior to our next MTP/SCS plan adoption in 2020. This study will provide useful information to this target setting process.

The project is scheduled to be completed by December 2016. We will keep the Committee up to date, with draft findings and possible conclusions as they become available.

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