



Transportation Committee

May 25, 2017

**Item #17-6-14
Information**

Regional Progress Report

Issue: What is the status of economic growth, development, and travel in the region?

Recommendation: None, this item is for information only.

Discussion: The goal of this item is to give the SACOG Board a progress report on key indicators useful for understanding changes in the region's economic growth, development, and travel over the last several years. Transportation and travel have implications and impacts on many aspects of the economy, quality of life, and the environment. The amounts, locations, and types of housing and job growth are important variables for understanding how a transportation system serves businesses and residents in the region and guiding decisions on how to invest in that system. Beginning with the Blueprint in 2004, and then progressively through every Metropolitan Transportation Plan update since, staff has sought to add to the suite of indicators available to the Board to facilitate a bigger picture understanding of the health of the region and to inform decisions about priorities for transportation investment. Staff is presenting a progress report at this time to initiate an issue exploration that will inform the policy focus of the 2020 update of the Metropolitan Transportation Plan/Sustainable Communities Strategy (MTP/SCS).

This progress report is designed to begin exploring questions such as: How have we recovered from the Great Recession compared to our California peers in terms of job growth and development? What are the trends for key travel indicators measured in the MTP/SCS? What are the trends for key development indicators measured in the Blueprint? How is travel choice and activity changing due to rapid changes in information and transportation technology?

Staff is bringing this exploratory item to each of the Board's policy committees in June to solicit input on the types of MTP/SCS issues the committees and full Board may want to explore in the next few months. During this period of issue exploration, we will be looking to identify policy imperatives important to the Board, investigating how other places have tackled regional issues, and asking for stakeholder perspectives on the challenges and opportunities confronting the region. The first of these regional issue investigations will occur at the June Board meeting, with guest speakers from Indianapolis, Indiana, and St. Paul, Minnesota, on economic development and competitiveness. At the conclusion of this period of issue exploration, staff proposes to bring a policy framework to the Board that will guide the 2020 MTP/SCS update over the next two years.

At the writing of this memorandum, staff is still compiling the progress report and will present it to all three Board policy committees in June.

Approved by:

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