



Regional Planning Partnership

Item #2

Action Summary March 28, 2012

In attendance:

Theresa Arnold, SACOG

Victoria S. Cacciatore, SACOG

Scott Carson, FHWA

Joe Concannon, SACOG

Jason Crow, ARB

John Deeter, ECOS

Eric Fredericks, Caltrans

Tricia Hedahl, SABA

Eric Jones, Southgate Recreation and Parks
District

Matt Jones, YSAQMD

Jessica Jordan, City of Rancho Cordova

Kacey Lizon, SACOG

Anne Novotny, El Dorado County DOT

Karina O'Connor, EPA

Angie Raygani, Sacramento County

Larry Robinson, SMAQMD

Christine Scherman, SACOG

Brit Snipes, City of Rancho Cordova

Elizabeth Sparkman, City of Rancho Cordova

Lacey Symons-Holtzen, SACOG

Mark Thomas, City of Rancho Cordova

1. Introductions and Information Sharing.

2. Action Summary of December 14, 2011, Meeting. Mr. Fredericks noted that the action summary should record the attendance of Ms. Jawanda as a SACOG representative and not as a Caltrans representative. Mr. Robinson motioned to approve the action summary; Mr. Matt Jones seconded the motion. The Partnership voted in favor of approving the action summary and the motion carried.

3. Draft Metropolitan Transportation Improvement Program Amendment #14 and the Draft Air Quality Conformity Analysis. Ms. Arnold reintroduced the Draft Metropolitan Transportation Improvement Program (MTIP) Amendment #14 and Draft Air Quality Conformity Document, which were last presented to the Partnership in December during the public review period. Mr. Robinson motioned that the RPP recommend that the SACOG Board approve MTIP Amendment #14 and the Air Quality Conformity Analysis. Mr. Snipes seconded the motion. The Partnership voted in favor of recommending that the Board approve MTIP Amendment #14 and the Air Quality Conformity Analysis and the motion carried.

4. Metropolitan Transportation Plan/Sustainable Communities Strategy Response to Comments, Draft Final Plan, and Final Environmental Impact Report. Ms. Lizon updated the Partnership about recent developments with the Metropolitan Transportation Plan/Sustainable Communities Strategy (MTP/SCS) and associated Environmental Impact Report (EIR). Since the Board released the draft MTP/SCS and draft EIR in November for public review, SACOG staff has conducted four public hearings, a number of informational meetings, presented at council meetings throughout the region, and attended meetings as

requested to discuss the draft plan and EIR. The summary of comments and replies were presented to the Board at the March meeting and can be found in Appendix G7 to the MTP/SCS. Ms. Lizon stated approximately 80 individual comment letters and testimonies were received, many of which included recommendations for new policies, strategies, and additional research for SACOG to conduct and incorporate in future plans. The comments primarily addressed topics related to the transportation planning portion of the document.

Ms. Lizon informed the Partnership that the changes to the MTP/SCS and EIR were minor. The final version of the document will be released by the end of the week and presented to the Transportation Committee and the Board in April. Mr. Carson applauded SACOG for posting MTP/SCS and EIR comments on the website during the public review period, which is a very helpful practice, and not one employed by other agencies.

Mr. Fredericks reiterated Caltrans' concerns about how SB 375 residential exemptions from CEQA could impact safety on the state highway system by adding congestion at state highway on-ramps. Ms. Lizon expressed that SACOG would continue working with Caltrans to determine what, if any, issues there may be with the new CEQA incentives. She also noted that some of the concerns could also be discussed through coordination with other MPOs.

- 5. 2013 Metropolitan Transportation Improvement Program Adoption: Call for Updates.** Ms. Arnold announced the call to update projects for the new MTIP. The new MTIP will span 2013-2016 and project submittals are due in SACTrak by Friday, April 20; instructions on how to submit projects are included with the attachments for this item. The MTIP will go out for public review in June and be taken through the SACOG committee cycle in August; it will become the active MTIP in December. Ms. Arnold stressed that if an agency does not add or carry over their projects from the existing MTIP, the projects will not be included in the new MTIP and they will not be able to obtain federal funds for the projects. She encouraged agencies to update and submit their projects as soon as possible to avoid unexpected difficulties that could result in delays.

Ms. Arnold clarified to the Partnership that after agencies make amendments to MTIP projects, SACOG staff carries the new information into the MTP project list. An inquiry was made about how recently-approved regionally significant projects not currently in the MTIP or MTP will affect other projects in the MTIP and MTP. Ms. Arnold emphasized that any project of regional significance must be included in the MTIP even if it does not use federal funds, and the inclusion of new regionally-significant projects must be considered when determining regional air quality conformity.

- 6. Project Managers for Research and Policy Transportation Control Measures in the State Implementation Plan.** Ms. Cacciatore re-introduced the topic of Transportation Control Measures (TCMs) to the Partnership and explained that three of SACOG's Research and Policy TCMs must be completed by the end of 2012. She identified Clint Holtzen and Sharon Sprowls as the project managers for the Regional Parking Regulation Policy to Provide Incentives for Use of Alternative Modes TCM and herself as the project manager for the Transportation Pricing Policy TCM. A project manager for the Safe Routes to School TCM should be identified by the April RPP meeting. Mr. Robinson and Mr. Fredericks both

expressed interest on behalf of their agencies in providing feedback throughout the process of completing the research projects.

7. **Update on HUD Regional Planning Grant Project.** Mr. Concannon updated the Partnership on recent developments with the Sustainable Communities Regional Planning Grant. The grant is designed to help our region learn how to optimize the Sustainable Communities Strategy by accelerating transit-oriented development in five case study areas. The study areas are Transit Priority Areas (TPAs), including City of West Sacramento's Washington Specific Plan; City of Sacramento's R Street Corridor, the City of Sacramento and County of Sacramento's Fruitridge Road and Stockton Boulevard; County of Sacramento's Watt/Manlove light rail station; and City of Rancho Cordova's Mather/Mills light rail station.

Mr. Concannon explained that the project currently involves staff working with jurisdictions to identify how they can increase development in areas near transit. He requested that members of the Partnership let him know about any projects near the five TPAs. The first community workshops are scheduled to take place in May or June. People interested in developments with the project are welcome to look at the website <http://www.sacog.org/sustainable/>. Mr. Concannon stated the grant work would conclude in December 2012.

8. **Other Matters.** Ms. Symons-Holtzen informed the Partnership that SACOG is forming a subcommittee to develop regional policies for the Regional Bicycle, Pedestrian & Trails Master Plan. Mr. Fredericks and Mr. Thomas volunteered to serve on the subcommittee.

Mr. Carson shared that the House of Representatives has not passed a 60-day extension for transportation funding, which is set to expire on March 31. The inability of the House to extend the bill could result in FHWA not being able to disseminate transportation funds starting April 1.

9. **Adjournment.** Mr. Robinson moved to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Snipes seconded the motion. The Partnership voted in favor of adjourning the meeting and the motion carried.