



## Item #15-8-2 Information

### Innovation Task Force

August 12, 2015

#### Best Practices Research

**Issue:** The Best Practices Subcommittee and staff will present on upcoming Best Practices activities with Kansas City, Chicago and Nashville.

**Discussion:** SACOG staff is working with our regional partners to maximize the travel to the Metro Chamber Study Mission to Chicago with additional learning opportunities in Chicago, a mini-visit to Kansas City en route, and a visit from our Nashville peers as follow up to the 2014 Study Mission later this fall.

Each of these peer exchanges will provide an opportunity to explore areas of emerging focus for the 2015 Best Practice research as highlighted below:

- Tailored rural, urban and suburban local government land use strategies
- Support for economic development planning
- Engaging other city/county elected officials
- Engaging Board members with each other
- Collaboration with other public agencies
- Collaboration with other non-governmental organizations

The Chicago Study Mission program themes include the arts, civic amenities and the significance of place making. While in Chicago, we look forward to meeting with our counter parts at the Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning (CMAP) to learn about their unique governance structures engaging both local elected and non-elected leaders and their successful Bike Share program (DIVVY).

In Kansas City, Board leaderships, staff and our regional partners will meet with David Warm, Executive Director of the Mid-America Regional Council (MARC), and his regional partners. The Best Practice opportunities in Kansas City include exploring their broad suite of collaborative regional initiatives, as well as how MARC supports their economic development partners with planning tools and data.

Following up on the Metro Chamber's 2014 Study Mission to Nashville, SACOG and the Metro Chamber are developing a peer visit to Sacramento for a broader peer-to-peer conversation about the functional partnership between the Nashville Area Metropolitan Planning Organization and the Nashville Area Chamber of Commerce. This partnership has fostered regional initiatives for transportation, transit, obesity and public education in support of their regional economic strategic plan. Further, their work together is amongst national best practices in measuring the health benefits associated with their regional transportation plan.

Approved by:

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