



Government Relations & Public Affairs Committee Information

August 21, 2015

**2016 Metropolitan Transportation Plan/Sustainable Communities Strategy Update:
Public Review Draft 2016 MTP/SCS**

Issue: Should the Draft 2016 Metropolitan Transportation Plan/Sustainable Communities Strategy be released for public comment?

Recommendation: This item is for information. The Transportation Committee will take action on this item.

Discussion: The Draft 2016 MTP/SCS has been prepared for public review and comment. A preliminary draft of the plan was presented to each of the Board policy committees in August for review and comment in preparation for a September Board action to release the draft plan for a 60-day public comment period (September 17 to November 16). The committees did not direct any changes to the document. The draft plan in this committee packet has the same substance of the preliminary draft plan.

The 2016 MTP/SCS update has focused on refinement of, and addressing implementation challenges to, the current (2012) plan. To guide this update, the Board adopted five guiding policy themes: land use forecast, transportation funding, investment strategy, investment timing, and plan effects. Throughout the last year and a half, SACOG has focused on information, analysis, and input-gathering around each of these themes to inform the 2016 MTP/SCS update. Four sources of input throughout the planning process have included: direction from the Board, public and stakeholder input in public workshops and group meetings, member and partner agency coordination on project list and land use assumptions, and supporting staff research and technical analysis.

In April of this year, the Board endorsed a preferred scenario, consisting of a transportation project list, budget, and land use forecast. This preferred scenario was a result of the information gathered throughout the major phases of this plan update and is the technical foundation of the draft plan presented in this staff report.

The draft plan maintains the structure of the current 2012 MTP/SCS. The same ten chapter topics of the 2012 MTP/SCS make up the chapters of the Draft 2016 MTP/SCS. The content of most of these chapters build on the 2012 plan as this draft plan is intended to be a refinement of that plan. Changes or updates in the Draft 2016 MTP/SCS (from the 2012 MTP/SCS) can generally be categorized as one of the following:

- Updating the description of the planning process (Chapter 2)
- Presenting updated analysis and performance metrics based on updated transportation and land use assumptions (Chapters 5A, 5B, 5C)

- Updating policies and strategies on investing in system maintenance, rehabilitation, and complete streets; further developing project-specific analysis tools; climate adaptation and suburban challenges (Chapter 6)
- Addressing climate adaptation (Chapter 7)
- Incorporating new research and analysis related to transportation and the economic vitality of the region, including jobs/housing balance around regional job centers, agricultural goods movement, and mature suburbs (Chapter 9)

Performance highlights of the draft plan are included in Attachment A. The Draft 2016 MTP/SCS and supporting appendices can be downloaded at:

<http://www.sacog.org/calendar/2015/09/transportation/draftplan.html>.

Next Steps in the 2016 MTP/SCS Update Process

Should the Transportation Committee recommend and the Board approve release of the draft plan for public comment, the draft environmental impact report for the Draft 2016 MTP/SCS will also be published for the same 60-day comment period. Following the comment period, public comments and SACOG responses will be summarized and presented to the Board in preparation for final revisions to the plan.

Attachment A: Performance Highlights of the Draft 2016 MTP/SCS.

Attachment B: Schedule for the remainder of the MTP/SCS update.

Approved by:

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Attachments

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Performance Highlights of the Draft 2016 Metropolitan Transportation Plan/Sustainable Communities Strategy

The following information highlights some of the notable performance improvements in the Draft 2016 Metropolitan Transportation Plan/Sustainable Communities Strategy (MTP/SCS):

Increased investment in system maintenance & rehabilitation – The draft 2016 MTP/SCS increases funding for maintaining and operating the road and highway system by just over \$2 billion compared to the 2012 plan. To achieve this, the preliminary draft plan delays some capital-intensive transit expansion projects and reduces the highway and road expansion budget. (See Chapter 4 – Budget and Investments)

Decline in congested VMT per capita - The 2012 MTP/SCS was the first MTP for the region that forecasted a decline in the amount of congested vehicle travel per capita. The draft 2016 MTP/SCS maintains this 6 percent reduction in vehicle miles traveled in heavy traffic. (See Chapter 5 – Plan Performance.)

Improvements to Transit Service - The 2016 MTP/SCS more than doubles total fixed-route transit service from 2012. By 2036, one-third of homes and over half of all jobs will be located within a ½-mile of high quality transit service (transit service with frequency of 15 minutes or better), increasing the potential number and desirability of daily trips made by transit. Additionally, adding transit service in areas with good supporting land uses magnifies the effects of the additional services. Productivity of transit service is projected to increase by 71 percent by 2036, increasing from a regional average of 33.3 passenger boardings per service hour in 2012 to over 56.9 by 2036. (See Chapter 5 – Plan Performance.)

Meets SB 375 GHG reduction targets - The draft plan achieves an 8 percent per capita greenhouse gas emissions reduction from 2005 to 2020 (compared to the 2020 target of 7 percent), and a 16 percent reduction from 2005 to 2035 (compared to the 2035 target of 16 percent). (See Chapter 7 – Environmental Sustainability.)

Reduced effects on farmland – Over the 24-year planning period of the MTP/SCS, land use and transportation development is expected to impact far less farmland than in the past. The MTP/SCS converts less than 40,000 acres of farmland while population increases by 811,000 people; for the 24-year period from 1988 to 2012, the region grew by approximately 750,000 people and converted 214,000 acres of farmland to urban and rural development. This trend of more compact development continues the trend of the 2012 plan. (See Chapter 7 – Environmental Sustainability.)

Increased access to jobs and amenities - Both transit and road improvements increase accessibility from Low-Income High Minority (LIHM) Areas and Non-LIHM Areas in the region to jobs, higher education, and parks. The average number of jobs accessible within 30 minutes by transit increases by 64 percent from LIHM Areas and 71 percent from Non-LIHM Areas over the plan period, and the average number of jobs that can be accessed within a 30-minute drive expands 41 percent from LIHM Areas and 36 percent from on-LIHM Areas. (See Chapter 8 – Equity and Choice.)

2016 MTP/SCS Update: Schedule of Board Actions Leading to Final Plan Adoption

(Updated April 17, 2015 to reflect Board adoption of Framework 3.0)

Board Action	Date of Action	Contents/Direction
Framework 1.0: Policy Framework	Adopted December 2013	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Set implementation-focused theme for plan update with five policy themes: transportation funding, investment strategy, investment timing, land use forecast, plan effects. • Set region-level growth projections of population, employment and housing for the plan horizon year (2036). • Set overall schedule for the plan update.
Framework 1.5: Scenarios Development Framework	Adopted March 2014	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Set parameters for three regional land use and transportation scenarios for use in public workshops and plan development. • Initiated phasing analysis of transportation investments in current plan. • Initiated analysis of different levels and types of transportation revenue sources. • Set schedule for creation of Framework 2.0.
Framework 2.0: Draft Preferred Scenario Framework	Adopted December 2014	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sets guidelines, task and process for developing a draft preferred scenario (land use forecast, revenue forecast, project list, performance outcomes). • Sets a minimum of six weeks for review and vetting of a preliminary draft preferred scenario.
Framework 3.0: Preferred Scenario	Adopted April 2015	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sets details of Preferred Scenario for years 2020, 2035, and 2036 for use in development of Draft Plan and EIR: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Land use forecast ○ Revenue Forecast ○ Budget and Project List ○ Performance Outcomes
Draft Plan (2016 MTP/SCS)	Targeted for September 2015	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Release Draft 2016 MTP/SCS for public comment. Draft Plan includes written discussion of the detailed land use and transportation information above plus: policies and strategies, an environmental justice analysis, discussion of natural resources.
Final Plan (2016 MTP/SCS)	Targeted for February 2016	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adopt 2016 MTP/SCS, certify Final EIR, adopt air quality conformity finding.