



## Item #13-5-5 Action

### Transportation Committee

April 25, 2013

#### Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) V Nomination Process

**Issue:** Should the Transportation Committee recommend that the Board confirm staff recommendations for the TIGER V program?

**Recommendation:** That the Transportation Committee (1) delegate to the Committee Chair and Vice-Chairs the selection of candidate projects to be endorsed by the Board, in recognition of the limited application timeframe, and (2) recommend that the Board endorse the selected list of projects at its May 16 meeting and authorize staff to provide support letters.

**Discussion:** Staff is currently in the process of soliciting TIGER V project nominations from local agencies and transit districts in the four-county SACOG region comprised of Sacramento, Sutter, Yolo, and Yuba counties. The El Dorado County Transportation Commission and the Placer County Transportation Planning Agency have separate processes for their respective counties.

On April 22, the U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) released the notice of funding availability for the fifth round of the Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER V) program. The TIGER V program will award a total of \$474 million to fund highway, bridge, transit, port and passenger and freight rail projects. Applications will be accepted between April 29 and June 3, 2013. This condensed application development and submittal window is necessitating SACOG staff to solicit candidate projects in tandem with the May SACOG Board and committee cycle.

The TIGER program is highly competitive. The previous four rounds of the TIGER program provided \$3.1 billion to 218 projects in all 50 states, the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico. The SACOG region in the past has been successful in securing this highly sought after funding source. Most recently, in the TIGER IV process, the City of Sacramento was successful in securing \$15 million for the Intermodal Transportation Facility.

The TIGER program has two defined funding categories, “at-large” and “rural areas.” For the “at-large” category, applications must be between \$10 and \$200 million total and have a 20 percent non-federal match. For the “rural areas” category, applications must be between \$1 and \$10 million. DOT may increase the federal share above 80 percent only for projects located in “rural areas,” in which case DOT may fund up to 100 percent of the costs of a project.

In the process to identify potential TIGER V project proposals, staff from federal agencies, Caltrans, and SACOG are emphasizing that this is a unique, limited funding opportunity from DOT. SACOG and member agencies are not guaranteed any funds through the process, and national competition is likely to be just as high as or higher than four prior TIGER rounds. The previous four rounds of the TIGER program provided \$3.1 billion to 218 projects in all 50 states, the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico.

The TIGER V program has many similarities to the previous TIGER IV program, but with a few notable differences. Applications must demonstrate that the project can meet all local, state, and federal requirements by June 30, 2014, to obligate funding in advance of September 30, 2014. Additionally, short-term economic impact, including employment, is now included in the primary criterion of economic competitiveness. Other performance outcomes remain the same and include safety, improving the condition of existing transportation facilities and systems, improving energy efficiency and reducing greenhouse gas emissions, improving the safety of U.S. transportation facilities, and improving the quality of living and working environments of communities through increased transportation choices and connections.

Approved by:

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