



**Item #14-9-7  
Consent**

**SACOG Board of Directors**

September 11, 2014

**Approve SACOG Salutes Awards Program**

**Issue:** Should SACOG Salutes be moved to be included in the Spring 2015 Regional Forum?

**Recommendation:** The Government Relations & Public Affairs (GRPA) Committee recommends to the Board of Directors that SACOG Salutes be held in conjunction with the Spring 2015 Regional Forum.

**Committee Action/Discussion:** Since 1999, SACOG Salutes has been recognizing outstanding projects, plans, and individuals in the fields of transportation, land use and air quality.

Staff is recommending that rather than conducting the Salutes program in December 2014, that the regional awards program be presented as part of the Spring 2015 Regional Forum. In August, staff brought forward a staff report highlighting the broad goals of a Regional Forum, including but not limited to, covering the Blueprint implementation successes of SACOG members and developers, and looking at the impacts of the MTP/SCS on people, place, and the economy. The opportunity to highlight our awards in the larger setting has precedent. In 2010, staff held the SACOG Salutes program as part of the Rural-Urban Connections Strategy Regional Forum which had over 600 attendees from across the region.

With the change in the timing, staff would like to further engage the GRPA committee in discussion about the SACOG Salutes program timing and whether the award program should be a bi-annual program. This discussion would not be dependent on the action being requested by staff in this staff report. The transition to a bi-annual program would allow for more time for project completion. Often we have nominations for projects that are not completed within in a single year, and therefore are not eligible. Extending the time between award presentations could increase the number of eligible nominations from throughout the region.

Approved by:

Mike McKeever  
Chief Executive Officer

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