

## Supplemental Material for Agenda Item 29

### Board of Directors Meeting

May 7, 2014

Location:

San Bernardino Associated Governments  
Santa Fe Depot – SANBAG Lobby 1<sup>st</sup> Floor  
1170 W. 3<sup>rd</sup> Street, San Bernardino, CA

### DISCUSSION

#### Council of Governments

**29. Proposed Reorganization of the San Bernardino County Superior Courts**

Adopt Resolution No. 14-021 regarding the proposed San Bernardino County Superior Court reorganization. **Wendy Strack**

*A memorandum from Mayor L. Dennis Michael, City of Rancho Cucamonga, regarding the San Bernardino County Courts is being provided for your consideration.*



T H E   C I T Y   O F

R A N C H O   C U C A M O N G A

## Memorandum

**TO:** Bill Jahn, President and SANBAG Board of Directors  
Raymond Wolfe, Executive Director

**FROM:** L. Dennis Michael, Mayor  
Vice President, SANBAG

**DATE:** May 5, 2014

**SUBJECT:** SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY COURTS

As we are all aware, the last three fiscal years have seen substantial changes in the San Bernardino County Court System. Many local courthouses in the high desert and mountain areas have been completely closed. Other courthouses have had their operating hours reduced substantially, to what is essentially only a part-time basis. The Chino court was closed completely in the valley area and now the Fontana/Rancho Cucamonga/San Bernardino courts are being consolidated and realigned so that they are no longer all-purpose courts but instead are focused on only one type of case such as criminal, civil, traffic, family law, etc.

The end result of all these changes is that hundreds of thousands of residents of San Bernardino County are now forced to commute in some cases 100 miles or more to access the legal system. Given our huge geography and the difficulty in many cases of traveling over and through our mountains and desert, this is a substantial burden on residents of the entire County as well as contributing to increased greenhouse gas emissions, increased traffic congestion on our freeways and increased demands on parking. I would like to ask that SANBAG, in its role as the Council of Governments, study these changes and consider if there are alternative modes of transportation or other changes which could help alleviate the impacts that we have all faced from these major changes.

I am requesting consideration that there be an opportunity to discuss this matter as part of the SANBAG agenda item number 29 (*Court Reorganization*) at our scheduled Board Meeting on May 7, 2014.