

STREET SMART



Newsletter and Meeting Summary of the SANBAG Board of Directors

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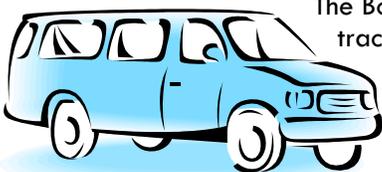
OCTOBER BOARD OF DIRECTORS AGENDA:

The complete SANBAG Board of Directors Meeting Agenda is online at:

 www.sanbag.ca.gov/about/agenda.html

▶ BOARD BRIEFS

• San Bernardino Regional Vanpool Program—Victor Valley



The Board of Directors approved a contract between the County Transportation Commission and Victor Valley Transit Authority for the Victor Valley Phase of the San Bernardino Regional Vanpool Program. Given the high number of existing vanpools in the

county, and in an effort to avoid losing out on the commuter and funding benefits of the vanpool program, the implementation of this program in San Bernardino County is critical to maintaining and growing federal funding allocations and sustaining transit agencies' operations. Goals for the program are to establish a standardized administrative enrollment and a reporting design that can grow to other areas of the Inland Empire. This program is expected to become fully self-sustaining within three years.

• Federal Legislative Update

Board members received a presentation from the SANBAG Federal Advocate on transportation-related topics including: Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century Act (MAP-21), innovative financing, federal transit programs, congestion, air quality, and one of the more pressing issues for the region - goods movement.

MAP-21 is legislation that continues funding at their current levels over the next two years. In addition, it encourages accelerated project delivery through the promotion of innovation. The message shared to the Board; however, is that there is no consensus for a long term funding solution.

Updates on areas of maintenance, air quality, and congestion relief were also shared; however, the debate on where responsibility lies for goods movement corridor improvements is ongoing. The federal government continues to see the issue as a local concern, while local agencies in southern California emphasize that the infrastructure in the region supports economic vitality for the country as a whole. For now, there is no funding for a freight grant or formula program.

COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS (COG)

▶ PACE Program Offered to Cities

The SANBAG Board approved a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) that establishes a PACE (Property Assessed Clean Energy) Program in the county. SANBAG will be responsible for administering the Program. SANBAG, through a private investment firm, will enter into a contractual agreement with an interested property owner to finance the installation of eligible renewable energy, energy efficiency, or water efficiency improvements that are permanently fixed to the property, such as: weatherization measures, heating and air conditioning systems, energy efficient pool pumps, solar photovoltaic systems, small wind turbines, drip irrigation systems, high efficiency toilets and shower heads, and other improvements. The investment firm will loan the property owner the funds for the improvement. The amount of the loan, plus a fixed interest amount, is repaid through an assessment on the property tax bill for the property. The term of the loan can be from 5 to 20 years. Each of the 24 cities in the county will consider approving the MOU, then a public hearing will be set.

OCTOBER 2012

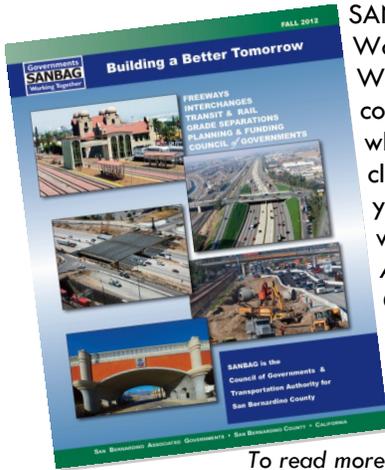
BOARD OF DIRECTORS & COMMITTEE MEETINGS

OCT 10	Administrative Comm.	9:00 am
OCT 11	Major Projects Comm.	9:00 am
OCT 18	Commuter Rail / Transit	12:00 pm
OCT 19	Mountain / Desert	9:00 am

PUBLIC EVENTS CALENDAR

OCT 12	I-15/Duncan Canyon IC Project Groundbreaking Fontana, CA	10:00 am
OCT 18	High Desert Opportunity Victorville, CA	8 am - 3 pm

► Washington Advocacy Trip



SANBAG's Executive Director Ray Wolfe, Ph.D., recently traveled to Washington D.C. to meet with congressional staffers and others who SANBAG will be working closely with over the next several years. The focus of discussions was about MAP 21 (*Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century*) which will fund the surface transportation programs at roughly current levels through September 30, 2014. It identified \$105 billion in federal transportation dollars. Dr. Wolfe inquired about what we might anticipate as a successor bill two years from now. A key theme from everyone involved in the drafting of MAP 21 was the serious hole that exists in the highway trust fund. Without new transportation revenue sources, the next bill will see a 30% decline in federal funding levels to match existing revenues. Greater fuel economy, reductions in vehicle miles traveled, and alternative fuel vehicles combine to further erode the ability of the gas tax to meet demands from congestion mitigation, goods movement, and rehabilitation. There is a lack of political will to debate tax increases dedicated to transportation. This could lead to local agencies such as SANBAG assuming a larger share of the burden of improving the transportation infrastructure. Ideally, if this occurs, one would expect regulatory relief. This will not likely transpire however. Clearly, we must advocate fiercely for Congress to act now to resolve these issues so SANBAG can realize a longer-term successor to MAP 21 so we can better plan for our county's future mobility.

To read more about SANBAG's federal advocacy efforts, go to: [Fall 2012 Washington Advocacy](#)

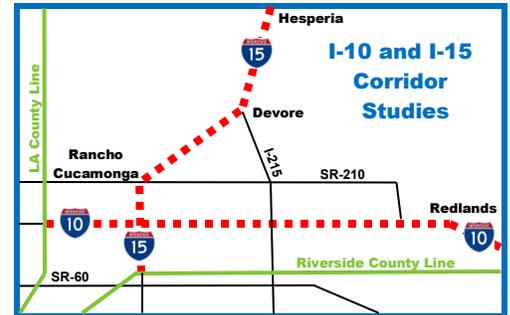
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► 2012 Mobility 21 Summit

SANBAG participated in the 11th Annual Mobility 21 Summit held in Anaheim on September 28th. Transportation officials, policy makers, and industry leaders gathered for one of the largest one-day conferences in the state. A packed program that included U.S. Senator Barbara Boxer and transportation experts from across the nation enjoyed auditorium-filled audiences discussing and learning about the pressing issues facing the region and beyond. SANBAG Executive Director Ray Wolfe moderated a session on "Working Together to Make Things Happen." The session's premise was that California must embrace innovative means to deliver and maintain significant transportation improvements with a focus on finding common ground for project delivery. The session and Summit were both well-received.

► Community Advisory Groups to Form

SANBAG is proceeding with the preliminary engineering and Toll and Revenue Studies for the I-10 and I-15 Corridor Improvement projects. (shown as red lines in map). The I-10 Corridor Project spans from the Los Angeles County Line to Redlands, while the I-15 Corridor Project spans from the Riverside County Line to US-395 in Hesperia. In addition, the I-10 Corridor environmental studies for a High Occupancy Vehicle (HOV) and Express Lane alternative are also progressing. A major component of the ongoing studies is the community relations and public outreach effort. SANBAG consultants have conducted 50 one-on-one interviews with stakeholders along both corridors. Public "Stated Preference Surveys" have also been conducted with 3,600 people throughout the corridors to determine their possible usage and preference of various options. The next step is to conduct two public scoping meetings in November (date/locations to be determined).



Seeking participants for Community Advisory Groups:

To maintain public input through the 3-4 year study period, SANBAG will form three (3) Community Advisory Groups: West Valley, East Valley, and Victor Valley area along the I-15. Anyone interested in participating in a CAG should contact Jane Dreher, SANBAG Public Information Officer: jdreher@sanbag.ca.gov.

► SANBAG COG Sponsors Solar Workshops

As part of SANBAG's role as a Council of Governments (COG), two workshops were conducted during September to inform the 24 cities and public agencies in the county about how they could benefit from a regional, collaborative solar power procurement program. The workshops explained how solar systems work, relevant policies pertaining to solar, and economics of solar energy. The speakers outlined the benefits of collaborative solar procurement, how the agencies can reduce GHG (Green House Gas) emissions, and how they can save money over the long-term. Solar project site assessments, feasibility and economic analysis, and an economic model were explained. For further information, contact Nikki Miller at SANBAG: nmiller@sanbag.ca.gov.

