

## STAFF REPORT

**TO:** SBCAG Board

**SUBJECT:** Metropolitan Transportation Plan: Receive a report on preparation of a federal 2004 Metropolitan Transportation Plan to address the conformity lapse.

**MEETING DATE:** Not Applicable

### INFORMATION ITEM

### DISCUSSION:

As you know, the Federal Transportation Improvement Program is in conformity lapse, a situation which prohibits non-exempt regionally significant roadway capacity improving projects from proceeding to the next phase of project funding and implementation. In order to address this issue, SBCAG must update the Regional Transportation Plan because according to recent federal interpretations of court decisions, an FTIP lapse results in an automatic Plan lapse. Satisfaction of the certain requirements, as specified below, will also upgrade of the FTIP from an "interim" to "final" document and allow for an approved plan.

In order to address this issue and until such time that the 2005 RTP has been accepted by the SBCAG board SBCAG will prepare a Federal Metropolitan Transportation Plan. This will build on the existing 2001 RTP to only address the following federal requirements:

- 1) Most recent planning assumptions and horizon year, i.e. inclusion of the 2000 – 2030 forecasted growth assumptions and regional travel model forecasts.
- 2) Most recent programmed project list, i.e., projects in current RTIP, 2002 FTIP and 2004 FTIP
- 3) Assessment of financial constraint, i.e., update of financial information
- 4) Assessment of air quality conformity with the Federal APCD Clean Air Plan.

However, to simplify this interim effort, there will be no new project additions, no changes in policies or programs to the existing RTP. The development of the 2005 RTP which addresses both state and federal requirements, including the environmental analysis will be completed in 2005. The 2005 RTP will update the 2001 RTP policies, programs, and projects. Staff is working on this effort full time and will prepare a draft plan for release as soon as possible. After reviewing this process with TTAC at the November meeting staff received its concurrence.

We are scheduling a public hearing at the December board meeting to receive public comment on the draft plan.

**STAFF CONTACT:** Jim Kemp, Michael Powers

Member Agencies

Buellton ■ Carpinteria ■ Goleta ■ Guadalupe ■ Lompoc ■ Santa Barbara ■ Santa Maria ■ Solvang ■ Santa Barbara County