STAFF REPORT

SUBJECT: Committee Appointments

MEETING DATE: January 17, 2008

AGENDA ITEM: 9

STAFF CONTACT: Jim Kemp

RECOMMENDATION:

A. Appoint one delegate and one alternate to the California Association of Councils of Governments (CALCOG).

B. Appoint one delegate and one alternate each to the Coast Rail Coordinating Council and the Los Angeles-San Diego-San Luis Obispo Rail Corridor Agency (LOSSAN).

C. Appoint three members and an alternate to serve as SBCAG representatives on the Coastal Express Policy Steering Committee.

D. That the Chair appoint members to the SBCAG executive committee

SUMMARY:

SBCAG is a member of certain statewide or multi-county organizations that require the appointment of board member representatives. The board must appoint members to serve as its representatives for 2007 for CALCOG, LOSSAN, CRCC and the Coastal Express Policy Steering Committee. In addition, the SBCAG Chair may appoint members to serve on an executive committee.

DISCUSSION:

A. **CALCOG**

CALCOG is an association of the 38 regional councils of governments that exist within the state. The attached brochure explains the purposes served by CALCOG.

The current SBCAG delegate is Councilmember Hicks. Councilmember Hicks was elected and is currently serving as the President of the CALCOG delegates for FY 07/08.
Councilmember Jim Richardson, who is no longer on the SBCAG board was appointed to serve as the alternate delegate to CALCOG in 2007.

Staff recommends that the board appoint two of its members to serve as the delegate and alternate to the California Association of Councils of Governments (CALCOG) for the 2008 calendar year. The CALCOG delegate/alternate might be called upon to attend approximately four to five meetings during the course of the year.

B. LOSSAN and CRCC.

The Coast Rail Coordinating Council is composed of counties along the coast rail corridor between Los Angeles and San Francisco. The CRCC advocates for increased passenger rail service along this route, including the initiation of a new Coast Daylight train which would connect northern and southern California.

Mayor Lupe Alvarez is SBCAG’s current appointee to the CRCC and the alternate representative is Supervisor Joni Gray. Meetings of CRCC policy board are held just twice a year.

The Los Angeles–San Diego–San Luis Obispo Rail Corridor Agency (LOSSAN) is composed of counties along the Pacific Surfliner rail corridor, which extends from San Diego to San Luis Obispo. LOSSAN advocates for improvements in the San Luis Obispo – San Diego coastal rail corridor. Current voting membership includes appointed and elected representation from Caltrans, Amtrak, and Los Angeles, Orange, Ventura, Santa Barbara, San Luis Obispo and San Diego Counties. SBCAG became a member of LOSSAN in 2001. (See attached brochure for more information).

SBCAG is represented on the LOSSAN policy committee by Supervisor Salud Carbajal and the alternate is Mayor Marty Blum. LOSSAN Policy Board meetings are scheduled on a quarterly basis, on the second Wednesday of the month at alternating locations around the corridor.

Staff recommends that the board appoint a representative and alternate to the LOSSAN board as well as a representative and alternate to the CRCC.

C. Coastal Express Policy Steering Committee

In 2000, SBCAG entered into an MOU with the Ventura County Transportation Commission to implement a pilot program establishing regular fixed route transit service between Ventura County and the South Coast of Santa Barbara County. The service, known as the Coastal Express, has proven to be very successful and was subsequently made a permanent service. The MOU requires the establishment of a Policy Committee to oversee and provide policy direction for the operation of the service. The committee includes elected and staff representatives from both Santa Barbara and Ventura counties. The Coastal Express Policy Steering Committee meets annually.

Our county’s representatives as specified in the current MOU include two elected officials and the SBCAG Executive Director. The MOU also permits SBMTD to appoint a representative to serve as an ex-officio member of the committee. The MOU is being amended by the SBCAG and VCTC boards as recommended by the steering committee.
to add two members—one each from Santa Barbara and Ventura counties (See agenda item No. 6B).

It is recommended that three SBCAG representatives and one alternate representative be appointed to the Coastal Express Policy Steering Committee from among the South Coast members of the board.

A. SBCAG Executive Committee

An executive committee of the board must be appointed. The committee is responsible for conducting an annual job performance evaluation of the executive director and may be assigned other duties by the Chair. The committee is currently overseeing the preparation of the SBCAG compensation and benefits study which was started in October 2007 and should be completed by February or March.

The SBCAG bylaws do not specify any requirements for appointing members to the executive committee. The current members of the committee include Supervisors Carbajal and Gray and Councilmembers Wallis and Hicks. Meetings of the committee are scheduled as needed.

Staff recommends that the chair appoint members to serve on the SBCAG executive committee.

E. Subregional Planning Committees

SBCAG has adopted procedures for establishing subregional planning committees of the board as outlined in the attached resolution. The committees were established to encourage increased public involvement and board member interaction on certain issues that may have a greater level of interest in one area of the county than in others. Subregional planning committees may be designated for any area of the county. Committee membership is comprised of board members whose Supervisorial district or city is located wholly or partially within the geographic subregion. In addition, the Chair may appoint up to two additional members from the SBCAG board whose district or city is located outside the subregion. Subregional Committees primarily serve to advise the full SBCAG board.

The board is not required to establish subregional planning committees for any area of the region, however, for many years the board has established subregional planning committees for the North County and for the South Coast areas.

The South Coast Subregional Planning Committee has been established for many years and schedules regular meetings on the first Wednesday of each month at 1:00 p.m. Membership of the committee includes the 1st, 2nd and 3rd district supervisors and the SBCAG members representing the cities of Carpinteria, Santa Barbara and Goleta. A member of the SBMTD board is appointed to serve as an ex-officio member of the committee.

A North County Subregional Planning Committee has also been established and has met infrequently, approximately twice per year. This committee includes the 3rd, 4th and 5th District County supervisors and the SBCAG members representing the cities of Guadalupe, Santa Maria, Lompoc, Buellton and Solvang.
No action is required to maintain the current SBCAG subregional planning committee composition.

The SBCAG by-laws permit the chair to appoint other subcommittees of the board as may be appropriate. The subcommittees may make recommendations to the full SBCAG board.

Attachments:

CALCOG Brochure
LOSSAN Brochure
What is CRCC?
Resolution Establishing Subregional Planning Committees
The California Association of Council of Governments (CALCOG) is a statewide association representing 38 regional planning agencies and was established in 1977. Most were formed as councils of governments, meaning that they represent joint powers agreements of cities and counties. The others were created as transportation commissions by the State Legislature. All have mandated state planning responsibilities. All councils of governments are responsible for identifying the share of the region’s housing need for each community. Nearly all transportation commissions and councils of governments have transportation planning responsibility under both state and federal law. All councils of governments and transportation commissions are governed by city council members and county supervisors chosen by their peers.

While most of our members are single-county organizations, those representing three of the four largest metropolitan regions - Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG), Association of Bay Area Governments (ABAG)/Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) in the Bay Area and Sacramento Area Councils of Governments (SACOG), as well as Monterey/Santa Cruz area (Association of Monterey Bay Area Governments (AMBAG) - are multi-county. In these multi-county regions there are also sub-regional organizations in transportation. In the Southern California region there are also 14 sub-regions for all regional planning, not just transportation but also including housing and other non-mandated regional planning issues.

With a few exceptions in specific transportation operations, our member agencies do not have service delivery responsibility. Their role with regard to transportation funds (and limited other funds that they distribute) is as a policy planning body that guides allocations of funds to other organizations without regulatory or service delivery authority or responsibility.

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**BACKGROUND**

**CALCOG Functions**

The functions of the Association include:

1) Providing advocacy and liaison in the State Capitol and with administrative agencies.

2) Reviewing or proposing statewide legislation, plans, and policies, on subjects agreed upon by members.

3) Coordinating policy development and legislative effort, when appropriate, with the league of California Cities, the California State Association of Counties, the National Association of Regional Councils and the Association of Metropolitan Planning Organizations.

4) Promoting more effective planning at the regional level.

5) Conducting statewide workshops and conferences which provide members with an ideal opportunity to discuss key issues, and to learn from recognized experts in various fields.

6) Providing an informational clearinghouse on issues of concern to the regions and the state.
Councils of Governments (COGs)

Councils of Governments were formed recognizing that there are issues which transcend local boundaries and must be dealt with by local government working together and planning a unified local response to regional concerns.

Councils of Governments are associations of cities and counties. They cover much of the state and are formed generally through joint powers agreements. Their governing boards are composed of locally elected members of city councils and county boards of supervisors.

Their regional role is to serve as a forum for local governments to: prepare regional plans, deal with regional issues, set regional policy, strengthen the effectiveness of local government, and develop and maintain regional databases. Traditionally, this has been in the areas of transportation, housing, water and air quality, growth management, and environmental protection. They also serve as the area wide clearing house for reviewing and assuring consistency between federal and state plans, projects and grants, and carry out various federal and state mandates. The roles of each regional council vary, based on the local needs of the region. Other major roles can include serving as the Airport Land Use Commission, Local Transportation Commission, Congestion Management Agency, Local Transportation Sales Tax Authority and administering agency for roadside emergency call boxes.

COG Directors Association

The COG Directors Association of California (CDAC) is composed of executive directors from each member council. The group meets on a regular basis to examine and discuss relevant regional issues, and serves as a staff resource and advisory body to the CALCOG governing council.
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Los Angeles - San Diego - San Luis Obispo (LOSSAN) Rail Corridor Agency

The LOSSAN Rail Corridor Agency works to increase ridership, revenue, capacity, reliability, and safety on the coastal rail line from San Diego to Los Angeles to San Luis Obispo.

The LOSSAN rail corridor is one of the busiest intercity passenger rail corridor in the nation, second only to the Northeast corridor.

Intercity travelers, commuters, and freight trains make this corridor a critical component of the region’s transportation system. The parallel freeway corridor, Interstate 5 and Highway 101, is heavily congested during peak commute periods, weekends, and holidays.

Also known as Amtrak’s Pacific Surfliner Corridor, this 351-mile rail line serves Southern California’s key coastal population centers and two of the state’s most congested regions, Los Angeles and San Diego.

Each year, the LOSSAN corridor carries more than 2 million intercity passengers and 4.5 million passengers on the commuter rail systems: Metrolink and Coaster. One in every nine Amtrak riders use our corridor.

(over)
**Funding Priorities**
The member agencies of the LOSSAN Rail Corridor Agency, working together, have been successful in securing funding for intercity rail programs. The State of California has invested more than $1 billion in the corridor, along with $200 million by Amtrak, and $300 million by local agencies.

With the help of Congress through the Federal Transit Administration’s New Starts program, LOSSAN received $24 million for four critical improvement projects on the railroad corridor: grade separations in the Cities of Fullerton, Commerce, and Solana Beach and the stabilization of the Del Mar Bluffs.

There are many more critical projects throughout the LOSSAN corridor needing funding. These include centralized traffic control systems, double and triple tracking, siding extensions, station parking structures, real-time passenger information systems, bridge replacements, and grade crossing safety improvements.

There are nearly $4.2 billion in *Pacific Surfliner* projects identified in the California Passenger Rail System 20-year Improvement Plan, sponsored by Amtrak.

**Legislative Priorities**
The LOSSAN Rail Corridor Agency supports state and federal legislative efforts to advance intercity passenger rail services in the corridor. Specifically, the LOSSAN strategy is:

**Funding:** Preserve, protect and enhance the use of funding for intercity rail capital and operating purposes.

- **Existing Funds:** Protect existing funding programs from diversion for specific projects or programs off-the-top or to balance the State’s general fund budget.

- **New Funds:** Support efforts to increase funding for transportation purposes including bond measures.

- **TEA-21 Reauthorization:** Ensure that a LOSSAN earmark is included in the federal reauthorization legislation of the Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century and the corridor is properly and accurately defined.

- **Support a dedicated, stable multi-year state and federal funding program that provides for the continued development and maintenance of the national intercity passenger rail system (i.e., Amtrak).**

**Service Levels:** Maintain and expand the frequency and quality of intercity passenger rail services, including efforts to develop a high-speed passenger rail system that includes the LOSSAN Corridor.

**Rail Safety and Security:** Support efforts to increase safety and security along the LOSSAN corridor, including grade separation projects.

**Community Development:** Help provide local jurisdictions with the necessary resources for smart growth, affordable housing, and other initiatives as they relate to rail development.

**History**
The LOSSAN Rail Corridor Agency is a joint powers agency that was formed in 1989 to coordinate intercity rail service between Los Angeles and San Diego. In 2001, the agency expanded to include rail agencies and operators north of Los Angeles to San Luis Obispo. With this change, all rail agencies along the entire *Pacific Surfliner* corridor are represented on LOSSAN.

**LOSSAN MEMBER AGENCIES**
California Department of Transportation  •  Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority
North San Diego County Transit Development Board  •  Orange County Transportation Authority  •  San Diego Association of Governments
San Diego Metropolitan Transit System  •  San Luis Obispo Council of Governments
Santa Barbara County Association of Governments  •  Ventura County Transportation Commission

**EX OFFICIO MEMBER AGENCY**
Southern California Association of Governments

**ADDITIONAL TECHNICAL ADVISORY MEMBER AGENCIES**
Amtrak  •  Burling

October 2004
What is the Coast Rail Coordinating Council?

BACKGROUND

Purpose
The Coast Rail Coordinating Council (CRCC) is a coalition of coastal county transportation and planning agencies organized to improve passenger rail services. The primary focus of the CRCC is to improve the frequency and speed of passenger trains on the coast route between San Francisco and Los Angeles.

Background
In 1992, through the passage of Assembly Resolution 39, State legislators requested that coastal transportation planning agencies prepare an upgrade study for the Pacific Coast Railroad Route between downtown Los Angeles and downtown San Francisco. Six transportation agencies from coastal counties (Los Angeles, Ventura, Santa Barbara, San Luis Obispo, Monterey, and Santa Cruz) committed local funds to produce the Coast Rail Improvement Study in 1994 (Schiermeyer). An ACTION PLAN for 1999 to 2003 adopted in July, 1999 is attached for your information. In 1996, the Southern Pacific Coast Route Infrastructure Report (HDR) was completed which concluded that fairly significant time savings could be achieved by upgrading the corridor and using “tilt-train” technology. In June 2000, six CRCC agencies working with Caltrans and Amtrak completed the Coast Daylight Implementation Plan (Wilbur Smith & Associates) which provided an operating plan for new train services on the Coast Route.

Organizational Structure
The CRCC includes a Technical Committee which is made up of staff members from the various agencies, and a Policy Committee which is made up of elected officials from each of the agencies. The Technical Committee typically meets three or four times per year, and the Policy Committee meets two or three times per year. During Amtrak’s development of the Master Plan for California, Policy Committee representation was expanded to include additional representation from the San Francisco Bay Area, the railroads, and commuter rail agencies. Meeting alternate between the Technical and Policy Committees. The San Luis Obispo Council of Governments (SLOCOG), since it is located in the middle of the corridor, usually hosts the meetings. Since 1992, SLOCOG has taken on the responsibility for staffing the CRCC, including the preparation and distribution of the agendas.

Current Work Efforts
The CRCC acts as an interregional forum to discuss all intercity rail issues of mutual concern, including, but not limited to; the High Speed Rail Authority’s plans, local and state rail plans, freight railroad issues, and capital improvement projects.

Primarily, the CRCC is working with the Caltrans Rail Program, Amtrak West and Union Pacific to initiate a new train from downtown San Francisco to downtown Los Angeles. The CRCC also acts as the Coastal Corridor Task Force to assist in the development of Amtrak’s 20 Year Rail Improvement Plan Summary Report for California. Railroad capacity modeling work is now underway to estimate capital requirements for starting new LA-SF services.

Participating regional agencies: Los Angeles MTA, Ventura CTC, Santa Barbara CAG, San Luis Obispo COG, Transportation Agency for Monterey County, Santa Cruz CRTC, San Benito, San Mateo County,...and others
RESOLUTION OF THE SANTA BARBARA COUNTY
ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS
STATE OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE MATTER OF THE
FORMATION AND OPERATION OF
SUBREGIONAL PLANNING
COMMITTEES

WHEREAS, the Governing Board of the Santa Barbara County Association of Governments (SBCAG) wishes to create greater public involvement in the planning issues, programs and projects that are within the jurisdiction of SBCAG, and;

WHEREAS, the Governing Board of SBCAG finds that certain issues, programs and projects may have a greater level of interest in one area of the county than in others, and;

WHEREAS, the Governing Board of SBCAG finds that local meetings on such subregionally important issues will enhance the level of public interest, awareness and involvement in the operations and goals of SBCAG, and;

WHEREAS, the Governing Board of SBCAG finds that subregional planning committees of the elected representative members of SBCAG established to deal with these issues, programs and projects within the subregions of the County, would be efficient and beneficial to the purposes of SBCAG, and;

WHEREAS, the Governing Board of SBCAG has previously established subregional planning committees to address the foregoing concerns and wishes to designate the South Coast Subregional Planning Committee to serve as the board steering committee to assist in overseeing the development of the Route 101 Implementation Plan, and;

WHEREAS, the Governing Board of SBCAG finds that it is in the best interests of the public for North County residents to have a voice in the Route 101 Implementation Plan and for residents in all areas of the County to have a voice in other important subregional issues, which may have countywide effect in the future;
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED AS FOLLOWS:

1. As authorized by the SBCAG By-Laws, the SBCAG Chair may designate, upon the request of three or more members of the SBCAG Board, standing committees of the SBCAG Board, denominated as “subregional planning committees.”

2. Such subregional planning committees shall be established along geographic boundaries. No member agency’s territory shall be included within the purview of a subregional planning committee without the approval of that agency’s representative to SBCAG.

3. Non-inclusion of a member agency within a subregional planning committee shall not serve any detriment to that agency with regards to program participation, funding or any other consideration. Likewise, the failure of any subregion to form a subregional planning committee shall not serve as a detriment to any agency within that subregion.

4. Purpose – The purpose of the subregional planning committees shall be to increase public participation in the planning process of SBCAG and to establish a local forum for elected officials, staff, and members of the public to provide community input to SBCAG on matters within SBCAG’s jurisdiction with an emphasis on those issues of local importance to the subregion served. The subregional planning committee may address any issue or matter within the jurisdiction or purview of SBCAG or its associated functions, including Airport Land Use Commission, Service Authority for Freeway Emergencies, metropolitan planning organization, regional transportation planning agency or other SBCAG functions. The subregional planning committees shall serve primarily in an advisory capacity and as an adjunct of SBCAG. The subregional planning committees shall make recommendations to the full SBCAG Board of Directors on matters brought to its attention and, when so assigned by authority of the Board of Directors, a subregional planning committee may make discretionary operational decisions regarding the development of plans and specifications for a project, contents of a planning document or project study report, scheduling of a public participation meeting in support of an SBCAG project or other matters assigned to the committee by the full Board. Any member of a subregional planning committee who disagrees with any such discretionary decision by a
subregional planning committee may bring such decision to the full Board for review. Any action by the subregional planning committee is subject to review by the full Board of Directors at any time.

5. Membership and Quorum – Membership of a subregional planning committee shall consist of, at least one county supervisor and city members representing no fewer than two cities within the subregion involved. A subregion shall consist of the entire incorporated area of the cities involved and a clearly designated portion or the entirety of the supervisorial district/s involved. All county supervisors and all city members within a subregion shall be members of the committee. A city member shall be the representative or the alternate appointed by the city council to serve on the SBCAG board. A quorum consisting of a majority of the named members of the committee or their appointed alternates, including at least one county supervisor, shall be required to take any action by the committee. The chair may also designate up to two SBCAG board members representing member agencies other than those in the subregion on each subregional board. The Caltrans District Director or his designee shall sit as a non-voting ex-officio member of subregional planning committees. A representative of the board of directors of any transit district created by statute that provides transit services within a subregion shall serve as a non-voting, ex-officio member of any subregional planning committee.

6. Procedure – The subregional planning committees shall carry out their duties in conformity with the following:
   
   A. The subregional planning committee may make recommendations to the SBCAG Board on programs, projects, funding and other issues within SBCAG’s jurisdiction as they may affect the subregion of the committee.

   B. The committee may review matters coming before the SBCAG Board and provide the committee’s recommendation prior to SBCAG’s formal action on the item. This recommendation may consist of “recommended,” “not recommended,” “no recommendation,” a narrative report or a prioritized recommendation list. Any recommendation must be approved by a majority of the membership of the
committee and failure to achieve a majority vote, or the failure of the committee to review an item, shall be the equivalent of “no recommendation.” Minority reports may be provided to the SBCAG Board.

C. The committee shall not have the authority to restrict submission of matters to the SBCAG Board or to amend or reject staff submittals to the SBCAG Board.

D. The subregional planning committee may independently initiate discussion and study of policy matters, proposals and matters of public interest within the jurisdiction of SBCAG; however, such actions shall be undertaken solely for purposes of making recommendations to the SBCAG Board. Any of these matters requiring significant expenditures of staff time or financial resources shall be approved by the full SBCAG board.

E. When so assigned by authority of the Board of Directors, a subregional planning committee may make discretionary operational decisions regarding the development of plans and specifications for a project, contents of a planning document or project study report, scheduling of a public participation meeting in support of an SBCAG project or other matters assigned to the committee by the full Board. Any member of a subregional planning committee who disagrees with any such discretionary decision by a subregional planning committee may bring such decision to the full Board for review. Nothing in this paragraph shall authorize the subregional planning committee to contract for services, modify contracts, bind SBCAG in any way or take any action that is the statutory duty of the SBCAG Board of Directors. Any such action by the subregional planning committee is subject to review by the full Board of Directors at any time.

F. The committee shall elect a Chair from the named members of the committee. In the absence of said Chair a quorum of the committee may appoint an interim Chair. The Chair shall direct the conduct of meetings of the committee.

G. Meetings of the subregional planning committee shall be conducted in conformity with the Ralph M. Brown Act, including matters of public notice, agenda
preparation and public participation.

H. The SBCAG Executive Director shall establish procedures to provide staff support to the subregional planning committees and budget for the operation of the committees.

PASSED, APPROVED AND ADOPTED by the Governing Board of the Santa Barbara County Association of Governments, this 20th day of July, 2006, by the following vote:

AYE
NAY
ABSTAIN

Attest:
James M. Kemp
Executive Director

By______________________ ______________________
Chair, Santa Barbara County Association of Governments

APPROVED AS TO FORM:
STEPHEN SHANE STARK
COUNTY COUNSEL

By ______________________
Kevin E. Ready, Sr.
Senior Deputy County Counsel

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