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SACOG 2011 State Advocacy Principles

The principles outlined below help support SACOG's work in linking transportation, air quality, and land use. SACOG will work to advance the interests of the Sacramento region. In order to accomplish these principles, SACOG will advocate for sufficient funding in legislation and the state budget, and seek out grants to effectively plan for and deliver projects that meet these principles.

Financial Stewardship

A transportation system that delivers cost-effective results that are feasible to construct and maintain.

- Give regions and local governments additional revenue options and protections, including transferring legal control of state funds to local governments for transportation.
- Provide local governments more flexibility and options, particularly for transit operations/capital and road maintenance/ rehabilitation in both rural and urban areas.
- Fully fund State Transit Assistance, and expedite repayment of diverted funds.
- Restructure the state budget to help stabilize transportation funding.

Economic Vitality

Efficiently connect people to jobs and get goods to market.

- Fund goods movement improvements in the Sacramento region.
- Fund rail freight improvements and regional air quality programs.
- Fund improvements on rural farm-to-market roads.

Smart Land Use

Design a transportation system to support good growth patterns, including increased housing and transportation options, focusing more growth inward and improving the economic viability of rural areas.

- Create performance-based funding for local governments and regions to implement Senate Bill 375.
- Help local governments and regions use CEQA benefits from Senate Bill 375.
- Fund Williamson Act subventions.

Environmental Quality & Sustainability

Minimize direct and indirect transportation impacts on the environment for cleaner air and natural resource protection.

- Strengthen the Williamson Act through increased local enforcement authority and resources, increased education efforts, and requiring proof of productivity.
- Involve regional and local governments in flood management and water resources.
- Support local flood protection efforts with funding and administrative support.
- Fund innovations that link natural resource mitigation and habitat valuation on agricultural lands.

Access & Mobility

Improve opportunities for businesses and citizens to easily access goods, jobs, services and housing. Support complete streets designed to accommodate cars, transit, bicyclists, and pedestrians including education, encouragement and infrastructure for Safe Routes to School.

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SACOG 2011 Federal Advocacy Principles

The principles outlined below help support SACOG's work in linking transportation, air quality, and land use. SACOG will work to advance the interests of the Sacramento region. In order to accomplish these principles, SACOG will advocate for sufficient funding in legislation and seek out grants to effectively plan for and deliver projects that meet these principles.

Economic Vitality

Efficiently connect people to jobs and get goods to market.

- Include hard-to-fund, large-scale MTP2035 projects in the transportation authorization bill, such as the Intermodal Transportation Facility, South Line Light Rail Extension, Downtown-Natomas-Airport Light Rail Extension, and bridges at the American River near Truxel and Sacramento River near Broadway.
- Adjust funding formulas to support rural roads and other infrastructure needs, including rural farm-to-market roads.
- Fund local food access and national food security, especially to assist with promoting a connection between rural and urban areas of the region, and also to help producers get their products to all markets.

Smart Land Use

Design a transportation system to support good growth patterns, including increased housing and transportation options, focusing more growth inward and improving the economic viability of rural areas.

- Create incentives for linking transportation and land use planning, support for regional planning tools for modeling and data gathering, and ongoing public education and engagement related to travel behavior.
- Fund SACOG to implement the Blueprint preferred growth scenario, and continue technical assistance for cities and counties.
- Enact greenhouse gas reduction measures that support and incentivize land use benefits from implementation of Blueprint and MTP2035 objectives.
- Encourage implementation of Blueprint preferred growth scenario with unique funding sources for new and improved infrastructure to support concentrated housing and employment in high frequency transit corridors.

Equity and Choice

Provide real, viable travel choices for all people throughout our diverse region.

- Support planning and fund streets designed to accommodate cars, transit, bicyclists, and pedestrians including education, encouragement and infrastructure for Safe Routes to School.
- Provide discretionary funding for a balanced transit network. To support light rail: planned extension projects, Northeast and Folsom light rail double tracking, and passenger railcar rehabilitation. To support buses: continue to pursue funding for bus replacements and bus facilities. To support regional rail: seek funding for enhanced passenger rail service on Capitol Corridor.

Environmental Quality & Sustainability

Minimize direct and indirect transportation impacts on the environment for cleaner air and natural resource protection.

- Create a regulatory strategy with the Army Corps of Engineers that incentivizes Blueprint implementation.
- Seek to influence legislation and work to acquire funds which will support RUCS-identified innovations that link natural resource mitigation and habitat valuation on agricultural lands.
- Seek incentives for energy conservation, for regional efforts as well as grants for local implementation.
- Fund natural resources data development, including implementation of the Six-County Aquatic Resources Inventory, and overall planning to support habitat conservation plans in the region.
- Improve public safety and fund local flood protection efforts, while protecting local land use authority and not penalizing communities based on floodplain designation.

Access and Mobility

Improve opportunities for businesses and citizens to easily access goods, jobs, services and housing.

- Fund evacuation planning and transportation infrastructure.
- Continue eligibility for diesel engine replacement/retrofit programs.