

PLANNING AND PROGRAMMING COMMITTEE FEBRUARY 14, 2007

SUBJECT:

MULTI-COUNTY GOODS MOVEMENT ACTION PLAN

UPDATE

ACTION:

RECEIVE AND FILE

RECOMMENDATION

Receive and file this Multi-County Goods Movement Action Plan Update.

ISSUE

At its May 2005 meeting, the Metro Board of Directors authorized staff to award a firm fixed price contract to Wilbur Smith Associates to develop a Multi-County Goods Movement Action Plan. The Multi-County Goods Movement Action Plan is targeted for completion in March 2007. Staff will hold Public workshops in Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, San Bernardino and Ventura Counties in February/March 2007 to obtain feedback on the Draft Action Plan.

BACKGROUND

At its December 2004 meeting, the Board directed staff to utilize the Transportation Planning Bench to advertise and procure a contract for specialized consultant expertise in the development of a Multi-County Goods Movement Action Plan, with the understanding that a combination of Metro, Orange County Transportation Authority, San Bernardino Associated Governments, Riverside County Transportation Commission, Southern California Association of Governments and Caltrans funding be used for the contract. Staff resources of these agencies, as well as Ventura County Transportation Commission's, were also used to complement the consultant effort.

This multi-county collaborative effort has been underway for approximately 18 months. The Action Plan will include an assessment of community and environmental impacts associated with increased goods movement activity, policy recommendations and a multi-county list of major regional projects, programs and

strategies for potential inclusion in the Regional Transportation Plan and County Long Range Transportation Plans. The Action Plan will also identify institutional arrangements, funding scenarios and the necessary mitigation measures associated with capital project recommendations.

An integral part of the Action Plan development process included engaging both public and private sector stakeholders in meaningful dialogue about goods movement challenges, solutions and mitigation measures. Metro and its project partners convened a number of public and private meetings with key stakeholders representing the freight, ports (sea and air), railroads, developers, shipping and transportation industries, and council of governments, environmental organizations and community groups. In addition, a total of five Stakeholder Advisory Group meetings have been held throughout Los Angeles, Orange and San Bernardino counties to obtain input from a broad cross-section of stakeholders throughout the Action Plan development. Survey instruments were developed and utilized to obtain stakeholder perspectives on critical goods movement issues and potential solutions. A project website was created to keep stakeholders apprised of technical memoranda, meetings and workshops. The multi-county outreach program will conclude with a total of nine workshops to be held throughout Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, San Bernardino, San Diego and Ventura counties. The purpose of the workshops is to get feedback on the Draft Action Plan.

NEXT STEPS

Staff, in conjunction with the county transportation commission, SCAG, Caltrans and consultant resources will conduct three workshops in Los Angeles County to obtain feedback on the Draft Action Plan and will return to the Board in April to obtain approval for the Final Action Plan. Staff will continue meeting with Metro's project partners to maintain on-going dialogue and begin implementing early strategies/projects identified in the Action Plan.

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