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Transportation advocates develop recommendations to improve the region at well-attended breakout sessions.



PHOTO: JUAN OCAMPO

## Mobility 21 Proposes Broad Range of Recommendations

(Nov. 15, 2005) Expanding the Mobility 21 Coalition, developing the region's quality of life and better matching Homeland Security funding to needs were among the recommendations approved at Monday's transportation summit in Long Beach.

The recommendations, presented from the summit's breakout sessions were:

### Transportation and the economy

- Broaden the bi-partisan Mobility 21 Coalition to increase awareness about the economic importance of goods movement throughout the region, and the critical role transportation plays in the regional economy and quality of life. Focus the Coalition on the next generation of jobs and transportation infrastructure needed to grow a more sustainable, vibrant economy.
- Develop new state and federal transportation legislation so public-private partnerships can build, fund and secure the transportation system. Focus public-private transportation infrastructure partnerships to facilitate timely movement of goods and people to increase the region's opportunities, economic competitiveness and overall quality of life.

### Quality of Life

- Develop a Quality of Life Index that reflects a contextural shift in the paradigm of decision-making for major transportation corridor studies and infrastructure investments. Minimum indicators would include environment, equity and economy as key indicators for determining the value of proposed improvements and investments.

- Develop indicators that measure the quality of participation, process and education in public outreach and education programs associated with major transportation corridor studies. Use these indicators to establish a threshold for community-based support.

**Homeland Security**

- Allocation of funds must be based on strategic needs and not fixed allocations to states.
- Risk assessment of transportation projects justifies the use of homeland security funds for major infrastructure projects (i.e. the I-710 Freeway and port improvements).
- Reduce red tape within the Department of Homeland Security so that small companies can effectively complete for funding.... DHS needs to incorporate strong incentives in procurement language that encourages big companies to partner with smaller enterprises.