

Work Group: Transportation
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By Goal and Objective – Description of Activity, Planned Activities, Challenges/Problems/Bottlenecks/Feedback

- a. = Description of Activity
- b. = Planned Activities
- c. = Challenges/Problems/Bottlenecks/Feedback

Goal 1: Implement a universally accepted Route 99 Corridor Master Plan (Enhancement and Business Plan Elements) for the 274-mile section within the San Joaquin Valley as a leading economic development strategy.

Objective A: Improve Highway 99 to freeway standards to increase safety.

- a. Working to find ways to promote adoption of resolutions supporting the Master Plan for Route 99 by working closer with COGs and notifying the public and elected officials of the gap in funding and creating goals to decrease gap.
- b. Explore ways to augment current funding for transportation projects, including private-public partnerships.
- c. Public is not aware of the gap in funding needed to improve Highway 99 standards to increase safety.

Objective B: Increase Highway 99 capacity which will result in improved mobility and reduced congestion while protecting environmental resources and fostering economic vitality.

- a. Caltrans hired a consultant to conduct an economic benefits study. Work group plans to evaluate the study to determine what can be done to support it and expand awareness of the study to key stakeholders.
- b. Contact Caltrans to determine status of study.
- c. Barriers exist to turning Highway 99 into a freeway. We need to determine if some of them can be waived.

Objective C: Create a San Joaquin valley Route 99 Corridor identity.

- a. Work group is working to determine a vision for the San Joaquin Valley Route 99 corridor identity and what can be done to create that vision; agreed to work closer with the COGs and provide them with quarterly reports.
- b. GVC to work with the Transportation Work Group to determine vision for the Route 99 corridor identity.
- c. Creating a consensus on an identity for the Route 99 corridor with the Transportation Work Group and getting buy-in from COGs and other key stakeholders.

Objective D. Build an ongoing coalition of civic leaders to support improvements to the Highway 99 corridor.

- a. Work group determined the best way to create a coalition of civic leaders to support the improvements to the Highway 99 corridor would be to conduct a forum to educate elected officials of its current standing. Bring activity before work group to identify if it should become a priority.
- b. Creating educational materials for elected officials and staff which provide best practices and best use of land adjacent to freeways

Goal 2: Improve safety and capacity of vital east-west corridors.

Objective A: Support construction of projects to improve safety and capacity of vital east-west corridors.

- a. At the August 2008 meeting, work group discussed the importance of east-west corridors and determining the most important and how to get them funded.
- b. Solicit from COGs a list of priorities and discuss and resolve key right-of-way issues.

Objective B: Incorporate plans for improving east-west corridors into Regional Blueprint Plan.

- a. Work group is working on outreach to promote greater understanding of east-west corridors of the Blueprint.
- b. Once Blueprint is complete, review east-west corridor plans.

Goal 3: Improve goods movement within the region to increase economic vitality, traffic safety, and mobility.

Objective A: Increase benefits to the San Joaquin Valley from goods movement through a “goods movement enhancement system” specific to the region.

- a. Work group provided Goods Movement Action Plan for review at the August 2008 meeting. Work group will now begin working to support the plan and increase its awareness.
- b. San Joaquin Valley Goods Movement Plan review at coming work group meetings.

Goal 4: Enhance goods movement capacity while increasing safety, decreasing congestion, improving air quality, and promoting economic development.

Objective A: Accommodate current and future goods movement needs while improving air quality and economic prosperity.

- a. Discussions were held regarding contacting the Policy Council to determine what they are currently working on and what we can do to support them.
- b. Review Policy Councils latest minutes and invite representative to attend work group meeting.

Goal 5: Develop a sustainable regionwide transit system.

Objective A: Implement a comprehensive and efficient alternative transportation system for intra-regional and inter-regional passenger trips.

- a. GVC to bring dialogue for discussion of alternatives in transportation; what is the ideal mix of transportation choices for the Valley; where are the best choices now; why and how do they work and why aren't they everywhere?
- b. Define what is meant by alternative, research on alternative transportation, consider an eight county coordinated transit plan, partner on passenger rail plan.

Goal 6: Transform roadside rest stops into user-friendly amenities that benefit the overall region and host communities.

Objective A: Improve roadside rest stop amenities and facilities to benefit user safety, facilitate tourism and educate users about the environment and local communities.

- a. Determining the feasibility of private/public endeavors to improve rest stops.
- b. Review Caltrans RFP for roadside improvements, determine if private sector can be a partner, identify BTH current progress on this issue.
- c. Funding continues to be an issue in improving rest stops and there maybe legal barriers to including the private sector to alleviate these cost.

Goal 7: Improve mobility through more efficient land use patterns that will reduce single-occupant trip generation and support use of alternative modes.

Objective A: Encourage the Regional Blueprint Plan process to integrate land use and transportation planning to improve mobility.

- a. Transportation Work Group to host a joint meeting between the Land Use, Housing and Agriculture Work Group and Blueprint to discuss similar goals and concerns.
- b. Joint meeting

Objective B: Incorporate into regional transportation plans those actions that support and encourage implementation of the Regional Blueprint Plan.

- a. See Goal 7 Objective A
- b. See Goal 7 Objective A

Goal 8: Improve understanding by public officials and public of the relationship between investments in transportation improvements and economic development.

Objective A: Develop and implement a system for tracking economic development that results from investments in transportation improvements.

- a. GVC will create a plan for a forum to champion technology and to educate public officials and the general public of the relationship between investments in transportation improvements and economic development.
- b. Identify stakeholders for event (LUAH, Blueprint, COGs, Individual city staff); determine how technology can be used to automate roads.

Goal 9: Implement “intelligent transportation system” (ITS) technologies to assist the region in achieving mobility goals.

Objective A: Integrate ITS into all transportation planning and construction projects.

- a. Discussions are ongoing with next steps including contacting Caltrans and COGs to determine the status of this plan.
- b. Update of status of ITS Strategic Deployment Plan, info sharing and best practices.

Goal 10: Assure the high-speed rail system, if implemented, supports the San Joaquin Valley in achieving its economic, environmental, land use, and mobility goals.

Objective A: Provide tangible benefits and mitigate impacts to the region while assisting the state in meeting transportation goals.

a. High-Speed Rail passed in November 2008.

If you have coordinated any outreach, please describe briefly.

Great Valley Center continues to coordinate outreach for WG activities including encouraging COG Directors and their staff to attend meetings.