

Work Group: Transportation
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Goal and Objective: Activity Description, Planned Activities, Challenges

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.

▪ Activity Description

Feasibility study now being done.

▪ Planned Activities

Once study is completed at the end of the summer, there will be enough information to determine how big a gap there is between funding needed to complete the desired improvements and available funds from all sources.

▪ Challenges

Work to this point indicates there is a large gap between costs and available resources. Raising taxes to generate funds is unlikely in the state. Private/public partnerships not far enough advanced to close the gap.

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

▪ Activity Description

Nothing further

▪ Planned Activities

Beginning study

▪ Challenges

Momentum declining for seeking interstate designation as cost is prohibitive.

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

▪ Planned Activities

No progress.

▪ Challenges

Need to restart this activity.

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

▪ Planned Activities

Bring activity before work group to identify if it should become a priority.

▪ Challenges

Vague goal

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.

▪ Activity Description

Base case drawn from general plans.

▪ Planned Activities

Preferred alternatives are being submitted and should be examined to identify which projects are projected for implementation/expansion and report that information to work.

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

▪ Activity Description

Complete Valleywide Blueprint.

▪ Planned Activities

Work will be done in second half of the year.

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.

- Activity Description

Re-focus work group activities—will determine ways to address this very broad goal in practical steps.

- Planned Activities

Decide how to take positive steps at a time when air quality, economic prosperity and goods movement are declining.

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.

- Activity Description

Nothing new about study. However, the Altamont Corridor Working Group has made progress on identifying improvements in the conventional passenger train route as part of the High Speed Rail initiative.

- Planned Activities

Monitor activity related to AB 3034 and results of Prop 1 in November.

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.

- Activity Description

Incorporate best practices in rest stops along Highway 99.

- Planned Activities

Check with Caltrans project director whether enough funds have been amassed to move forward on plans.

- Challenges

Lack of funding continues to be a barrier.

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.

- Activity Description

Blueprint process continuing.

- Planned Activities

Counties turning in preferred alternatives.

- Challenges

Process slowed by COG resource issues and local politics. Two counties met June 30 deadline to submit preferred alternatives.

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

- Activity Description

Too soon to accomplish

- Planned Activities

Must wait until Blueprint developed

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.

- Activity Description

Study not completed.

- Planned Activities

Congress not held since study not completed.

