

Meeting Summary of the SANBAG Board of Directors

San Bernardino Associated Governments ■ 1170 W. 3rd St., 2nd Floor, San Bernardino, CA 92410 ■ (909) 884-8276
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◆ Franco and Hughes Honored for Service to SANBAG



Above: Jennifer Franco

Two SANBAG staff members were recognized by the Board of Directors for long-time service to the agency.

Jennifer Franco, director of inter-governmental and legislative affairs, was acknowledged for her five years of service. Franco is currently serving as a U.S. Navy Officer in Afghanistan, where she is part of the Navy Mobile Public Affairs Detachment. Franco's role during the one-year tour of active

duty is to establish a new media support center.

Earlier this year, Franco was named a Woman of Distinction by Assembly Member Bill Emmerson.

Beverly Hughes, clerk/receptionist, was honored for ten years of service to SANBAG. Hughes is responsible for directing traffic at the SANBAG offices, whether by phone, in person or via mail.

SANBAG congratulates both women and wishes Franco a safe return home later this year.



Above: SANBAG President Paul Eaton and Beverly Hughes

◆ San Bernardino County Survey Results Announced

SANBAG Board of Directors received a presentation recapping the 2009-2010 San Bernardino County Annual Survey results. The survey is conducted yearly by the Institute of Applied Research and Policy Analysis at Cal State San Bernardino. A total of 1,052 respondents were surveyed in the county.

The purpose of the survey is to provide policy-related research pertinent to issues important to our county, evaluate key public and private sector services, describe the public's current views and changes over time, and provide a regional focus on issues.

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◆ SANBAG President & Vice President Elected

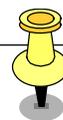


Above: Supervisor Brad Mitzelfelt and Grand Terrace Council Member Bea Cortes

SANBAG Board of Directors elected 1st District County Supervisor Brad Mitzelfelt to serve as president for the 2010-2011 fiscal year. Mitzelfelt will replace outgoing Board President Paul Eaton.

City of Grand Terrace Council Member Bea Cortes was elected to serve as vice president.

Both will take office in July.



Meeting Calendar

- **June 9:** Admin. Committee, 9 a.m.
 - **June 10:** Major Projects Comm., 9 a.m.
 - **June 16:** Plans and Programs Comm., 12 noon
 - **June 18:** Mountain Desert Comm., 9 a.m.
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- **June 10:** Alternative Project Financing Workshop, 10 a.m., SANBAG 1st Floor Lobby

Ramona Avenue/UPRR Ribbon-Cutting Ceremony



Above: Officials celebrate completion of construction on the Ramona Avenue/UPRR grade separation.

The City of Montclair and SANBAG celebrated the completion of construction on the Ramona Avenue and Union Pacific Railroad (UPRR) grade separation project in Montclair on May 20.

Nearly 100 guests attended the ribbon-cutting ceremony, which included many SANBAG Board Members as guest speakers, including Montclair Mayor Paul Eaton, City of Upland Mayor John "JP" Pomierski, and San Bernardino County 4th District Supervisor Gary Ovitt.

Construction of the Ramona Ave/UPRR grade separation began in September 2008, and included a full closure of the Ramona Avenue and State Street intersection. Two new streets, Camulos Avenue and Dale Street, were constructed and served as detour routes for motorists. Full closure of the intersection allowed the project to be completed sooner.

The new bridge over the UPRR tracks features two travel lanes and a left turn pocket in each direction, a striped median and a pedestrian sidewalk on either side of the bridge. The bridge will improve traffic flow by eliminating lengthy waits for trains, therefore improving safety and air quality.

The total cost of the project was \$17.4 million. Funding for the project came from a combination of federal, state and City of Montclair redevelopment funds.

In his opening speech, Eaton noted that it had been 41 years since Montclair completed its last grade separation project at Central Avenue. In recent years, high volumes of rail traffic and growth in vehicle traffic mandated construction of additional grade separations. The next grade separation project expected to go to construction in Montclair is Monte Vista Avenue, which could begin construction in 2012.

San Bernardino County Survey...

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Some positive factors mentioned about the county (in order), which are consistent with findings from previous years, are good area, location, scenery; good climate, weather; affordable housing; and not crowded.

On the other hand, negative factors included (in order); crime, gang activity; smog, air pollution; lack of job opportunities; and traffic. As in previous years, crime and gang activity is the most often mentioned negative factor, although there was a drop from 31 percent in the 2008-09 survey to 26 percent in the 2010 survey. Traffic also has shown improvement, dropping from the second worst factor in 2007-08, third worst in 2008-09, and now fourth worst factor in the 2010 survey.

Rating the County's economy as "Excellent" or "Good," has dropped from 12 percent last year, to only nine percent this year. In the 2007-08 survey, that rating was up to 40 percent. The 2004, 2005 and 2006 surveys reported the highest economy rating at 46 percent.

As for transportation, the results remained fairly consistent with previous year findings. About 32 percent report having used public transportation or ridesharing at least once a month. On the down side, almost half (45 percent) said they never use public transportation or rideshared.

According to respondents, the most critical environmental issues facing the Inland Empire is air pollution due to vehicle emissions (nearly 36 percent), water supply/drought (nearly 22 percent), and pollution in general (10 percent). Nearly 80 percent of respondents would be willing to see tougher air pollution standards on new passenger cars, light trucks, and SUVs, even if it meant buying more costly vehicles.

The survey results can be viewed on SANBAG's website at www.sanbag.ca.gov/news/2010_news/06-03-10_survey.html. For questions about the survey, call Cal State San Bernardino Institute of Applied Research at (909) 537-5733.