

STREET SMART



Meeting Summary of the SANBAG Board of Directors

www.sanbag.ca.gov

San Bernardino Associated Governments ■ 1170 W. 3rd St., 2nd Floor, San Bernardino, CA 92410 ■ (909) 884-8276

► MARCH NEWS BRIEFS

► Non-Motorized Transportation Plan Update

Following an arduous process of data collection and updating of the Non-Motorized Transportation Plan (NMTP), SANBAG staff presented the board with a recommendation to reaffirm prior policy direction that ensures compliance with SB 821 and helps maintain funding eligibility from the State's Bicycle Transportation Account. Identifying current and proposed bike facilities, establishing accurate counts of bicycle use, and listing bicycle serving facilities were among the elements necessary for inclusion into the NMTP.

SANBAG Staff spent extensive time interacting with bicycle advocacy groups and general ridership. Follow-up activities are scheduled for post-plan interactions with these same groups to allow for appropriate modifications to the plan. The process has revealed one significant revelation about the growth of bicycle opportunities over the past decade. The infrastructure has experienced more than a 750% growth spurt during that time (53 centerline miles to 468).

► Washington, D.C. Advocacy Trip Highlighted

Despite the many challenges facing the advocacy team that traveled to Washington, D.C. in recent weeks, the group returned appreciating the positive element that there is a desire for a surface transportation authorization bill to be in print by late-summer. Not all details have been worked out and still require additional discussion.

In addition, it was felt that Congress seemed interested in finding creative ways to develop and implement a national transportation strategy that allows for effective prioritization of projects.

The team assured Congress that the efforts of SANBAG fit that national priority model and have identified ways to continue to put Americans in jobs while improving transportation in the county.



Representatives from the San Bernardino Unified School District and the Interstate 215 Project Team gather to celebrate the opening of the 9th Street Bridge in San Bernardino. The bridge was demolished and reconstructed to meet the wider freeway requirements. It was completed in exactly 12 months.



► SANBAG Employee Service Award

SANBAG Board President **Brad Mitzelfelt** presented SANBAG employee **Lisa Poe**, Senior Programming Analyst, with her well-deserved 20-year Service Pin.

Lisa's experience and work ethic have proven invaluable to SANBAG's ability to serve the people of the county of San Bernardino.

MEETING CALENDAR

- MAR 9:** Administrative Com., 9:00 am
- MAR 10:** Major Project Com., 9:00 am
- MAR 16:** Plans & Progs Com., 12 noon
- MAR 17:** Commuter Rail/Transit, 12 noon
- MAR 18:** Mountain/Desert Comm. Mtg., 9:00 a.m., Apple Valley
- MAR 24/25:** City-County Conference
- APR 6:** SANBAG Board Mtg., 9:30 am

SPECIAL PUBLIC EVENTS:

- MAR 8:** I-10 Westbound Groundbreaking 2:00 pm - I-10/Yucaipa Blvd. Interchange, Yucaipa/Redlands
- MAR 16/17:** Colton Crossing Community Mtgs.
Luque Center: 3/16 - 6-8 pm
Hutton Center: 3/17 - 6-8 pm



sbX BRT Line Offers Inland Empire Alternative

The development of a Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) line in San Bernardino continues to roll forward as the SANBAG Board approved ongoing negotiations for right-of-way acquisitions at this month's SANBAG Board Meeting. This highlights the public's interest

and provides the project team the opportunity to address right of way issues that are necessary for the ultimate construction of the infrastructure that supports the line.

Known as the sbX (San Bernardino Express), this intercity transit option looks to advance the move towards alternative transportation within the Inland Empire. "The sbX line represents a key step toward building a regional multi-modal transit system that supports economic development," said **Mitch Alderman**, SANBAG Director of Rail and Transit, "as well as addresses a significant element of the Long Range Transit Plan (LRTP)." The LRTP, adopted by SANBAG in 2010, focuses on the future transit needs as an overall system and contributes to the Southern California Associated Governments Regional Transportation Plan and sustainability community strategy in regard to SB 375.

Ultimately, the sbX line will offer a 16-mile corridor linking north San Bernardino and Loma Linda. Within the corridor 5.6 miles is proposed to have dedicated center running lanes that offer optimized operation of the system. At key points along the corridor, 16 stations will provide the anticipated 5,600 initial daily riders access to a variety of business, education, recreation, civic and health services.

Other California areas have seen the benefit of BRT lines. For example, the Metro Orange Line in Los Angeles initiated service with an anticipated ridership of approximately 7,500 and projected growth to 22,000 by the year 2020. The line reached 22,000 in just seven months after opening. Nearly half the riders use the system for work commutes with another third for shopping, school or medical appointments.

Perhaps the most significant feature of the ridership, however, is that more than a 1/3 of them had a car option but chose to use the system. Instead, marking it a viable, functional option to the transportation demands of the region.

The sbX line has the very same potential. In addition to function, however, the new line offers beauty as well. State-of-the-art transit stations and pedestrian upgrades will adorn the route. The proposed transit center at the heart of the system will connect sbX riders to future light rail options to Redlands and Metrolink choices that serve many cities throughout the county and beyond. To follow the progress of sbX, visit the web at www.estreet-sbx.com.

