



COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

1600 PACIFIC HIGHWAY, ROOM 335, SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA 92101-2470

AGENDA ITEM

COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO
2019 APR 26 AM 8:25
CLERK OF THE BOARD
OF SUPERVISORS

DATE: April 30, 2019

27

TO: Board of Supervisors

SUBJECT

PROMISES MADE NEED TO BE KEPT (DISTRICTS: ALL)

OVERVIEW

In November 2004, 67 percent San Diego's voters approved a 40-year extension of TransNet, a half-cent sales tax to generate funds for highway, road, and public transit projects. San Diego Association of Governments (SANDAG) is responsible for leveraging these funds with state and federal resources; designing and engineering the projects identified in the 2004 TransNet Extension Ordinance; prioritizing and appropriating funds; and overseeing construction and implementation of the projects. SANDAG's Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) integrates the 2004 TransNet Extension Ordinance projects, among other projects, into one regional plan.

On April 26, 2019, SANDAG staff presented to the Board of Directors a new vision for the RTP. The new vision identifies numerous new public transit projects while removing the majority of the 14 unconstructed highway projects that the San Diego voters were promised in the 2004 TransNet Extension Ordinance.

The purpose of this letter is for the County Board of Supervisors (Board) to direct the Chairwoman to send a letter addressed to SANDAG on behalf of the Board opposing any modification to the TransNet Extension Ordinance; advocating for inclusion of the highway and road projects in the RTP; and requesting SANDAG to pursue new sources of funding for projects not listed in the 2004 TransNet Extension Ordinance.

RECOMMENDATION

SUPERVISOR DESMOND AND SUPERVISOR GASPAR

1. Direct the Chief Administrative Officer to draft a letter for the Chairwoman's signature addressed to the San Diego Association of Governments (SANDAG):
 - a. Opposing any modification to the 2004 TransNet Extension Ordinance, including changes to the highway projects and their funding;
 - b. Advocating for highway and road projects in the new Regional Transportation Plan; and

SUBJECT: PROMISES MADE NEED TO BE KEPT (DISTRICTS: ALL)

- c. Requesting SANDAG pursue new sources of funding for projects not listed in the 2004 TransNet Extension Ordinance.

FISCAL IMPACT

N/A

BUSINESS IMPACT STATEMENT

Highways and roads are critical to our transportation system and a functioning road network is an essential element of our economy. Businesses throughout San Diego rely on the region's road network on a daily basis for a multitude of reasons. Today's action will solidify the County's position on the importance of a functioning road network and will promote inclusion of highway and road projects in the Regional Transportation Plan.

ADVISORY BOARD STATEMENT

N/A

BACKGROUND

In 1987, San Diego voters approved the 20-year TransNet program, a half-cent sales tax to fund a variety of transportation projects throughout San Diego County. This program, which became operative in 1988 and was set to expire in 2008, is one of the largest transportation improvement programs in California. In November 2004, 67 percent San Diego's voters approved a 40-year extension of TransNet. The TransNet Extension Ordinance identified specific highway and public transit projects, along with programs to improve local roads, fund transit operations, fund a congestion relief program, and to fund environmental mitigation.

To date, roughly 6 percent of the money generated from TransNet for major corridors has been appropriated to construct highway projects for the 96.5 percent of the population that use them. Over 66 percent of the money generated from TransNet for major corridors has been appropriated to construct public transit projects for the 3.5 percent of the population that uses public transportation. The public transit projects that were identified in the TransNet Extension Ordinance have been frontloaded and have either been completed or are underway with the exception of one. Alternatively, there are still 14 unfunded highway projects that the San Diego voters were promised in the 2004 TransNet Extension Ordinance.

On April 26, 2019, the San Diego Association of Governments (SANDAG) presented to the Board of Directors a new vision for the Regional Transportation Plan (RTP). The new vision identifies numerous new public transit projects while removing the majority of the unfunded and not completed TransNet highway projects. It takes a 2/3 vote from SANDAG's Board of Directors to amend the TransNet Ordinance and reallocate TransNet funds to other projects. This reallocation of TransNet funding will degrade the confidence of San Diego's voters who were promised highway improvements with the passing of the TransNet Extension Ordinance.

SUBJECT: PROMISES MADE NEED TO BE KEPT (DISTRICTS: ALL)

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jim Desmond". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Jim" written in a smaller, more compact style than the last name "Desmond".

JIM DESMOND
Supervisor, Fifth District

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kristin Gaspar". The signature is highly stylized and cursive, with the first name "Kristin" and last name "Gaspar" written in a flowing, interconnected manner.

KRISTIN GASPAR
Supervisor, Third District

ATTACHMENT(S)
N/A

SUBJECT: PROMISES MADE NEED TO BE KEPT (DISTRICTS: ALL)

AGENDA ITEM INFORMATION SHEET

REQUIRES FOUR VOTES: Yes No

WRITTEN DISCLOSURE PER COUNTY CHARTER SECTION 1000.1 REQUIRED

Yes No

PREVIOUS RELEVANT BOARD ACTIONS:

N/A

BOARD POLICIES APPLICABLE:

N/A

BOARD POLICY STATEMENTS:

N/A

MANDATORY COMPLIANCE:

N/A

ORACLE AWARD NUMBER(S) AND CONTRACT AND/OR REQUISITION NUMBER(S):

N/A

ORIGINATING DEPARTMENT: Click here to enter text.

OTHER CONCURRENCE(S): N/A

CONTACT PERSON(S):

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