

Regional Transportation Planning Agency Executive Directors' Meeting with California Transportation Commission Chairman Bob Balgenorth, Sacramento, August 18, 2004

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CTC Chair Balgenorth:

- The state has “borrowed” over \$5 B in transportation funds and “people aren’t doing enough about it”
- The Governor’s tribal gaming compacts, which will allow for repayment of some of these loans, will only be enacted if Propositions 68 & 70 are defeated in Nov.
- RTPAs must communicate their support for ACA 24 immediately
- There is the prospect of no money for AB3090 reimbursements or GARVEEs
- FY04-05 STIP allocations will probably only be for high priority Caltrans safety and rehabilitation projects - \$500 M
- Everyone needs to be getting the word out in our own regions

Discussion:

- This is a jobs & economy issue
- Other state & local priorities seem to be more important (e.g. health & welfare, education); where is the transportation constituency?
- Need for a transportation ballot initiative which permanently protects gas tax & Prop. 42 funds; Self-Help Counties considering this
- Project delivery system is broken – tie new transp. revenue with new delivery options (e.g. design-build)
- Governor doesn’t want ACA 24 on the November ballot
- The transportation funding crisis is like the lobster stewing in a pot: the lobster doesn’t notice it’s too hot until its cooked.

Action Plan:

- CTC will transmit county specific information on at-risk projects next week
- LAMTA will work on a statewide information campaign a la APTA’s PT2
- CALCOG will look into doing a poll on where transportation stands in voter’s priorities
- RTPA’s will get the word out via press releases, agenda items, etc (see Attachment for SCCRTC 8/5/04 press release & news articles)
- Support for ACA 24 will be communicated immediately
- Group will reconvene in a couple of months

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Attachments

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