

HDCJPA BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

Wednesday, April 1, 2009

2:00 – 4:00 P.M.

Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
500 West Temple Street, Room 864
Los Angeles, California 90012

AGENDA

- | | |
|--|--------------------------------------|
| 1. Call to Order | Chairman Mitzelfelt |
| 2. Approval of Minutes of 9/11/08 | Chairman Mitzelfelt |
| 3. Secretary's Report | Secretary Dena Smith |
| a. JPA Correspondence | |
| b. Membership Roster Update | |
| c. Letterhead Update | |
| 4. Conflict of Interest Code Revision | Secretary Dena Smith |
| 5. Director Reports/Updates | Chairman Mitzelfelt |
| 6. Legislative Update | Laurie Hunter, JPA Special Assistant |
| 7. Budget Update | Norman Kanold, JPA Staff Advisor |
| 8. Receive Status Report and Give Direction
re: RFP for Project Consultant Services | Mazin Kasey, PTAC Chairman |
| 9. Receive Report re: JPA Legal Advisor | Rex A. Hinesley, JPA Legal Advisor |
| 10. Waiver of Conflict of Interest | Rex A. Hinseley, JPA Legal Advisor |
| 11. Notice of Closed Session
Conference with Legal Advisor and Counsel – Anticipated
Litigation Government Code Section 54956.9(b), Significant
Exposure to Litigation (one case) | Rex A. Hinseley, JPA Legal Advisor |
| 12. Public Comment | Chairman Mitzelfelt |
| 13. Adjournment | Chairman Mitzelfelt |

**HIGH DESERT CORRIDOR JOINT POWERS AUTHORITY
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING**

September 11, 2008

10:00 a.m.

**Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
500 West Temple Street, Room 864
Los Angeles, CA 90012**

- Directors Present** **Brad Mitzelfelt**, Supervisor, San Bernardino County First District (Chairman); **Michael Antonovich**, Supervisor, Los Angeles County Fifth District (Vice Chairman); **Ronald D. Smith, Vice Mayor**, City of Lancaster; **Norman L. Hickling**, Deputy to Supervisor Antonovich; **Tim Jasper**, Mayor, Town of Apple Valley; **Mike Rothschild**, Councilman, City of Victorville
- Directors Absent** **James C. Ledford**, Mayor, City of Palmdale; **Charley Glasper**, Acting Mayor, City of Adelanto
- Alternates Present** **Michael Cano**, Transportation Deputy to Supervisor Antonovich
Laurie Hunter, Special Assistant to Supervisor Mitzelfelt
- Call to Order** There being a quorum present, Chairman Mitzelfelt called the meeting to order at 10:25 a.m. at the Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration, 500 West Temple Street, Los Angeles, CA.
- Approval of Minutes** On motion of Director Jasper, seconded by Director Hickling, the minutes of the February 21, 2008 meeting were unanimously approved as submitted.
- Director Reports** Chairman Mitzelfelt reported that, since February, he has been working and meeting with the Governor's office and several State Senators on the subject of Public-Private Partnerships (P3s), including an effort to include authorization language in the budget bill. He also reported that the Victorville project was not approved by the California Transportation Commission (CTC) for Prop 1B TCIF funding but noted that there will be a second opportunity for project consideration and approval in 2010. Chairman Mitzelfelt announced that he will participate, along with CTC Executive Director John Barna, in a panel discussion during the West Coast Infrastructure Partnerships conference for international finance professionals taking place on October 14 & 15 in Los Angeles. The conference is being sponsored by Thomson Reuters.
- Vice Chairman Antonovich reported that there will be a half-cent sales tax increase on the November ballot which would provide approximately \$33 million for this project. The Los Angeles

County Board of Supervisors voted 3/2 to oppose the tax. He also reported that a former top aide to U.S. Senator Barbara Boxer is participating in a P3 “think tank” project sponsored by Governor Schwarzenegger and New York City Mayor Michael Bloomberg.

Vice Chairman Antonovich also reported on a meeting held with United States Department of Transportation Secretary Mary Peters. He noted that Congressmen Oberstar and Petri were also receptive to discussions of this project. He noted that there seems to be specific interest in projects such as this that have a more regional/large scale approach and consider multiple modes of transportation.

Director Jasper reported that the Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) has been approved by the Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG) and the plan includes the E-220.

Director Rothschild reported that Victorville City Council will consider approval of an additional \$300,000 in funding for this project at their meeting on Tuesday, September 16, 2008.

**Membership
Roster Update**

Secretary Dena Smith noted that updated rosters for both the JPA Board of Directors and PTAC have been provided.

**Conflict of Interest
Code**

On motion of Director Jasper, seconded by Director Smith and approved unanimously, the Board directed Secretary Dena Smith to file the required notice of intent to amend the Conflict of Interest Code and prepare the proposed amendments for consideration at the next JPA Board of Directors meeting. The amendments will incorporate recent organizational changes in Los Angeles County as well as possible JPA staff positions.

**Legislative Update
and Consideration
of Possible Action**

Laurie Hunter, Special Assistant to Supervisor Mitzelfelt, presented the legislative update.

At the federal level, the U.S. Committee on Energy & National Resources recently conducted a tax and financing hearing on P3s as they provide a reasonable alternative to financing of transportation to meet growing demands.

U.S. Senator Barbara Boxer conducted a transportation hearing last month in Los Angeles. It is clear that she understands the need to address freight issues as the Greater Los Angeles and Inland areas suffer from congestion and air quality degradation resulting from growth at the ports. She is considering including both a Highway Trust Fund and a Freight Trust Fund in the Transportation Reauthorization Bill known as MAP-21 (Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century). Senator Diane Feinstein hosted a more casual discussion, inviting Inland Empire

participants to discuss freight projects, which included a helicopter tour and materials regarding the HDC.

At the State level, the biggest current challenge faced by the project is SB 375 (Steinberg). This is a global warming bill that implements the greenhouse gas legislation, AB 32 (Nunez). It was sent to the Governor on September 2. There will likely be cleanup legislation next session with some "grandfathering" language and we should work to ensure that the HDC is grandfathered in as a pre-existing RTP project. The bill calls for SCAG to adopt regional housing plans and a sustainable communities strategy in the RTP.

SB 974 (Lowenthal) has been sent to the Governor. The bill would create a new JPA to oversee allocation of a \$60/container fee (AB 974-Lowenthal). The funds will be allocated with 50% going to congestion reduction and 50% for air quality. It appears that the Governor is attempting to expand the coverage area (currently Long Beach and Oakland) to include the San Joaquin Valley.

Michael Cano, Transportation Deputy to Supervisor Antonovich, reported that Senator Boxer will accept additional comments for two weeks following the recent transportation hearing and suggested that the JPA send a letter of support for this project. The suggestion was unanimously approved.

**Status Report on
\$500,000 RTIP
Amendment
(Victorville EIS)**

PTAC Chairman Mazin Kasey noted the August 13, 2008 letter to the State Department of Transportation (contained in the Board packets) and reported that the project has been enrolled as the 19th amendment to the Regional Transportation Improvement Program (RTIP). He stated that the project requires a 20% local match. Financing in the amount of \$500,000 was authorized by the City of Victorville last year, and an additional \$300,000 will be authorized by the City of Victorville next week. A letter has been sent to Caltrans to request initiation of the Cooperative Agreement and, once received and approved by Caltrans and the JPA, funds can be obligated through Caltrans Local Assistance.

Director Jasper and Michael Behan (City of Palmdale) asked about the nature/form of the local match funds. Mr. Kasey responded that match can be either cash or in-kind.

**Consideration of
PTAC
Recommendations
re: RFP for Project
Consultant
Services**

PTAC Chairman Mazin Kasey reported that the JPA released a request for proposals (RFP) for consultant services in December of 2007 and received a very positive response from national and international firms. The selection committee identified two top proposers, Tetra Tech and Jacobs Carter Burgess, and conducted interviews with them. Both proposals required public funding to be reimbursed and, as a result, the PTAC is recommending that:

- 1) The RFP be placed on hold;
- 2) Staff from the two counties work together to seek state tolling and design-build authority and utilize funding to hire consultants for project development;
- 3) The hiring of an Executive Director be placed on hold.

Chairman Mitzelfelt noted that the project is at a critical juncture and delay would be extremely disruptive and possibly construed by state and federal officials as a lack of commitment, placing future support and funding at risk. He proposed that the Board consider bringing in specialized assistance to help to fully develop the P3 approach/proposal. He stated his preference to have the PTAC be assisted by the Chair and Vice Chair alternates to the JPA (Laurie Hunter, San Bernardino and Michael Cano, Los Angeles) in the examination and future evaluation of proposals. He also suggested that the JPA offer the proposers an opportunity to provide further information within 10 work days from the meeting date for presentation to the PTAC by October 3. He asked the Board to instruct the PTAC to include Ms. Hunter's and Mr. Cano's reports in the development of their report for the October 8, 2008 JPA meeting and stated his interest in having the JPA Board receive recommendations that would allow them to consider making an award at their next (October 8) meeting.

Director Rothschild received clarification that the JPA would hold off on hiring of an Executive Director and that legislative approval would be required for the project to proceed as a P3. He also asked whether it would be the Board's intent to award the contract with the idea that the successful proposer would be in a position to facilitate development of legislation as a subset of the agreement. Chairman Mitzelfelt indicated that this would be a likely outcome and that both of the proposers had offered some indication of their ability to work with the JPA in this regard.

Ms. Hunter stated that the actual contract would not be signed on October 8 but, rather, proposer selection on that date would allow initiation of a lengthy negotiation process. Director Rothschild noted that such an action would still place the selected firm in the "driver's seat" for this project. He questioned the degree of confidence we have that the firms in question

would be the best choice and whether the JPA would have the option to make a change later in the project, if warranted. Chairman Mitzelfelt stated that, later in the agenda, we are proposing to bring additional specialized legal and financial consulting services on board to assist the JPA in these determinations. Director Rothschild requested a written summary of the factors considered in the review and rating of the proposers. Ms. Hunter agreed that this would be provided.

Supervisor Mitzelfelt made the following motion, seconded by Director Smith:

- 1) That the PTAC be assisted by the Chair/Vice Chair alternates (Laurie Hunter, San Bernardino and Michael Cano, Los Angeles) in the examination of proposals;
- 2) That the JPA offer proposers the opportunity to clarify their work plans and submit those clarifications within 10 work days for presentation to PTAC on or before October 3, 2008;
- 3) That the Board instruct the PTAC to include reports from the Chair/Vice Chair alternates as part of their presentation to the Board;
- 4) That the Board state their intent to make a proposer award at the October 8, 2008 meeting.

The motion was approved unanimously.

Chairman Mitzelfelt expressed support for the PTAC's recommendation to move forward to gain the state authorization needed to complete development of the HDC as a P3 project and assigned Ms. Hunter and Mr. Cano to take charge of the JPA's efforts in this regard.

Delegate authority to the Chairman to enter into agreement with Los Angeles County

Laurie Hunter presented a request that the JPA Board delegate authority to Chairman Mitzelfelt to enter into an agreement with the County of Los Angeles. The agreement will describe services to be provided by the JPA, which may be reimbursed in part or in full by the County, and accept County reimbursement of up to \$250,000 on behalf of the JPA for fiscal year 2008-09. The agreement is under development and, since the MTA grant is only for reimbursement, we have an incentive to work quickly to get this agreement into place. Laurie Hunter and Michael Cano will work out the scope of work and present the agreement to the Chair for signature.

On motion by Vice Chairman Antonovich, seconded by Director Hickling, and approved unanimously, the requested authority was delegated to the Chair.

**Approve \$500,000
Funding
Agreement with
Metropolitan
Transit Authority**

Michael Cano expressed appreciation to the Metropolitan Transit Authority (Metro) for their work on this proposed agreement. This agreement is the culmination of a motion made by Vice Chairman Anotonovich to the Metro Board in May 2008 seeking "seed money" for this project. Metro staff have worked very hard and cooperatively with the staff from both counties to prepare the memorandum of understanding which provides spending and reimbursement guidelines.

The agreement was approved unanimously on motion of Vice Chairman Antonovich, seconded by Director Smith.

**Approve Staff
Coordinator
Reimbursement
Agreement**

Chairman Mitzelfelt requested that the Board consider approval of a reimbursement agreement for Laurie Hunter to serve as Staff Coordinator to the JPA. Laurie's knowledge and experience in government service, legislative affairs, private sector and goods movement make her uniquely qualified to serve the JPA in this capacity. He reported that Laurie currently spends 75% of her time on this project, in addition to legislative and government relations activities. As Staff Coordinator, she would provide day-to-day supervision and oversight for the consultants. Under the agreement, she would maintain her status as a contract employee to the County of San Bernardino. She would work four (4) days per week with 65% of her time reimbursed by the JPA. San Bernardino County would continue to provide administrative, legal, secretarial, financial and PTAC support to the JPA.

On motion by Director Jasper, seconded by Director Hickling, the agreement was approved unanimously.

**Adopt FY 2008/09
HDCJPA Budget**

San Bernardino County Assistant County Administrator Norm Kanold introduced Gerry Newcombe, Associate Administrative Officer, to present the proposed 2008-09 JPA budget. Mr. Newcombe stated the proposed budget reflects approximately \$1.25 million of funding, primarily allocated to consulting services and reimbursements for county staff time. Funds include \$500,000 from the City of Victorville (the additional \$300,000 pending approval is not reflected), \$500,000 from the MTA and \$250,000 from Los Angeles County.

Michael Cano asked whether the funding source is a consideration in the budget, given some of the restrictions on the use of allocated funds. Mr. Newcombe advised that, for budget purposes, the source/restrictions are not considered. However, it must be considered for the actual allocation of funds.

On motion by Director Smith, seconded by Director Jasper, the proposed 2008-09 JPA budget was approved unanimously.

**Consideration of
Consultant
Contract with
Nossaman LLP for
Specialized Legal
Services**

Laurie Hunter presented a request for approval of a consultant services agreement with Nossaman LLP. Mr. Corey Boock, of Nossaman LLP, presented an overview of P3s to the Board at their meeting in February of this year. Nossaman has an established relationship with Riverside and San Bernardino county transportation commissions (RCTC and SanBAG) and this agreement will allow the JPA to access Nossaman's specialized legal services for assistance with negotiating with the proposer within the parameters of the RFP, legislative actions and connecting with regional tolling systems.

Chairman Mitzelfelt asked about the acquisition of these services through a sole source, as opposed to bid, process. JPA Legal Counsel Andy Hartzell responded that, since the JPA has not adopted a procurement policy, there is nothing in place that would prohibit a sole source procurement.

Director Rothschild asked about opportunities for the JPA to leverage lessons learned from Riverside County's experience. Mr. Boock responded that Nossaman is very active regionally and has developed a close working relationship with Caltrans and the Governor's office on tolling and P3 issues. Some of the legislative work that Riverside County has done (i.e., educating legislators with respect to regional needs) in their pursuit of tolling authority for the 91 Freeway will help this project. He also noted that Riverside County did not get P3 authority, so that remains as a major goal. In response to a question from Chairman Mitzelfelt, Mr. Boock described the scope of work as "soup to nuts." He stated his expectation that the first steps would be providing assistance with legislation, the RFP selection process in October and negotiation of the resultant agreement. Later into the project, their services would extend to assistance with financing and further negotiation with awarded teams, as well as assistance in dealing with federal and state agencies. He also stated that the anticipated reporting relationship would be to Michael Cano, Laurie Hunter and legal counsel from both counties.

Chairman Mitzelfelt stated his interest in having regular status and financial reports provided to the JPA Board, in order to ensure budgetary controls and performance accountability. Director Smith noted that this should be brought back to the board at the next meeting.

On motion by Chairman Mitzelfelt, seconded by Director Rothschild, the contract for specialized legal services was approved unanimously.

**Status of
Executive Director
Recruitment**

Mr. Kanold reported that 14 applications were received for the position of Executive Director to the JPA. Applicants have already been notified of the delay in the recruitment and hiring process. Based on actions taken by the Board during this meeting, he would intend to provide additional notice to the candidates that the process will be suspended, at least through the end of the calendar year. The Board unanimously approved this direction.

Public Comment

None.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned by Chairman Mitzelfelt at 11:25 a.m.

Next Meeting

**Wednesday, October 8, 2008
2:00 p.m.
Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
500 West Temple Street, Room 739
Los Angeles, CA 90012**

High Desert Corridor Joint Powers Authority Correspondence

Attachments for Agenda Item # 3(a)
JPA Correspondence

- Barbara Boxer Correspondence
- Diane Feinstein Correspondence
- Howard “Buck” McKeon Correspondence
- SCAG Correspondence

September 18, 2008

The Honorable Barbara Boxer
Chairman
U.S. Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works

RE: Include Support for the **High Desert Corridor and Public Private Partnerships**, In
Testimony from the September 4, 2008 Field Briefing on Transportation in Los Angeles

Dear Senator Boxer:

On behalf of the High Desert Corridor (HDC) Joint Powers Authority (JPA), we are requesting that you include this letter in **support of Public Private Partnerships (P3s)**—and specifically the **High Desert Corridor**—in the testimony from the Los Angeles Field Briefing held September 4, 2008.

Bi-County JPA: The HDC JPA was formed joining the Counties of Los Angeles and San Bernardino to create a single-purpose agency dedicated to planning and constructing the HDC, between State Route 14 in Los Angeles County and Interstate 15 in San Bernardino County, in the most efficient, expeditious and innovative manner possible.

The fastest growing portions of both Counties are in the High Desert—Victor Valley in San Bernardino County (pop. 450,000) and Antelope Valley (pop. 465,000) in Los Angeles County. Connecting these two regions directly with a six-to-eight-lane expressway will create the first true east/west link, providing a safe route for freight, commuters, residents, and visitors.

Additionally, the High Desert Corridor will link the LA/Palmdale Airport with the Southern California Logistics Airport (former George Air Force Base), providing the entire High Desert with access to air facilities that will offer regional air flights, national air flights, and air freight opportunities.

Page Two
Senator Barbara Boxer
High Desert Corridor
September 18, 2008

Constructing the High Desert Corridor will provide a vital missing link in the national highway system between the two major north/ south Interstates in the Western United States (I-5 and I-15). Without this highway, trucks moving goods between these two Interstates must travel down into the Los Angeles and San Bernardino basins and use the I-210 and I-10, and the I5 through the Santa Clarita Valley, which are corridors already heavily congested with local traffic and trucks moving to and from the ports.

With State Route 138 linking Interstate 5 to State Route 14, the final missing piece for trucks to get to and from Interstate 15 is the High Desert Corridor. Removing these trucks from these east/ west corridors will improve the movement of freight between the ports and their national destinations, relieve traffic congestion for local residents, reduce air pollution in the SCAQMD, reduce road maintenance costs on SR 138.

Connects Inland Ports planned in Palmdale and Victorville: At either end of the High Desert Corridor, Inland Ports are planned to relieve pressure from the growth of container cargo logistics and warehouse needs. Cargo transported by trains into the Inland Ports would reduce the volume of truck traffic on the east/ west freeways in the SCAQMD. There is political support for hundreds of millions of square feet of logistics facilities, and land to master plan it to market demand for larger, technologically advanced developments. Unlike the SCAQMD, the Mojave Desert Air Districts do not pose the health problems encountered in the Los Angeles/ southern Inland Empire area.

Strategic Component of Regional Plans: Currently the High Desert Corridor is in SCAG's RTP as a Public Private Partnership, in the State's MCGMAP (Goods Movement Action Plan), and listed as a strategic project in the Metro LRTP to be constructed using funds that are neither identified nor available in the course of the 25-year plan. In addition to the congestion and air quality relief, it would provide immediate and long range economic stimulus, and provide reductions in commuter VMT by balancing jobs and housing in the one of the nation's fastest growing areas.

P3 Status: Joining Los Angeles and San Bernardino Counties into the JPA in a collaborative and consolidated effort to advance the project using private funding and innovative public financing strategies is the solution to many of the problems that will be caused by growth of cargo arriving at our ports. An RFP for a private sector Project Manager was issued in December, 2007, and the selection of a contractor is scheduled for October 8, 2008, by the JPA Board.

Page Three
Senator Boxer
High Desert Corridor
September 18, 2008

To move forward with our effort to form a Public Private Partnership and advance the High Desert Corridor, the HDCJPA request that you consider the High Desert Corridor a pilot P3 project that will provide a contribution to the goods movement crisis in California.

For further information, please contact my Special Assistant Laurie Hunter, at 909/ 387-4219. We look forward to working with you during the MAP-21 process.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Brad Mitzelfelt". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "B" and a stylized "M".

Brad Mitzelfelt
Chairman
High Desert Corridor Joint Powers Authority.



February 4, 2009

The Honorable Diane Feinstein
United States Senate
331 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

**RE: Regional Support for SANBAG'S High Desert Corridor (E-220)
FY10 Appropriations Request of \$5 Million**

Dear Senator Feinstein:

I am writing to enlist your support in helping to foster the High Desert region's economic recovery by funding SANBAG's FY 10 request for Appropriations Funding for the High Desert Corridor. As you may be aware, San Bernardino County has the second highest rate of foreclosures in the state. Forty percent of those foreclosures are in the High Desert district I represent.

The Antelope Valley in Los Angeles County and the Victor Valley in San Bernardino County have been experiencing explosive population growth and are among your hardest hit constituents in terms of foreclosures and unemployment, particularly in the construction sector. We have deficient and dangerous highway infrastructure, which is suffering increasing impacts from truck-related goods movement that seek to bypass the Los Angeles area's congested freeways.

I serve as Chairman of the High Desert Corridor Joint Powers Authority (HDC JPA), and with Vice Chairman Supervisor Michael Antonovich, as well as representatives from each of the cities in our respective High Desert districts. We have begun to partner with SANBAG, MTA and SCAG to foster a Public-Private Partnership to plan, build and operate the High Desert Corridor as the missing link between SR 14 and Interstate 15. The HDC will not only relieve pressure from LA Basin traffic, but it will attract logistics jobs to stimulate intermodal Inland Ports in Palmdale and Victorville.

Senator Diane Feinstein

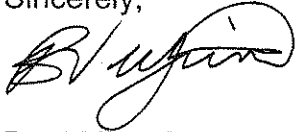
February 4, 2009

Page Two

Please lend your support to the early planning and development funding needed from the public sector to attract the private sectors' investment in our recovery. As an early indication of the breadth of support in the SANBAG region, I have attached signatures of some of our strong supporters.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if I can provide any additional information to bolster your support of this request.

Sincerely,

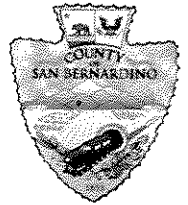
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Brad Mitzelfelt
Supervisor, First District

Attachment



High Desert Corridor Joint Powers Authority



E-220 HIGH DESERT CORRIDOR

February 11, 2009

The Honorable Howard "Buck" McKeon
United States House of Representatives
2351 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

**RE: Regional Support for SANBAG'S High Desert Corridor (E-220)
FY10 Appropriations Request of \$5 Million**

Dear Congressman McKeon:

I am writing to enlist your support in helping to foster the two-county High Desert region's economic recovery by funding an FY 10 request for Appropriations Funding for the High Desert Corridor.

The Antelope Valley in Los Angeles County and the Victor Valley in San Bernardino County have been experiencing explosive population growth and are among your hardest hit constituents in terms of foreclosures and unemployment, particularly in the construction sector. We have deficient and dangerous highway infrastructure, which is suffering increasing impacts from truck-related goods movement that seek to bypass the Los Angeles area's congested freeways.

I serve as Chairman of the High Desert Corridor Joint Powers Authority (HDC JPA), and with Vice Chairman Supervisor Michael Antonovich, as well as representatives from each of the cities in our respective High Desert districts. We have begun to partner with SANBAG, MTA and SCAG to foster a Public-Private Partnership to plan, build and operate the High Desert Corridor as the missing link between SR 14 and Interstate 15. The HDC will not only relieve pressure from LA Basin traffic, but it will attract logistics jobs to stimulate intermodal Inland Ports in Palmdale and Victorville.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Brad Mitzelfelt

Supervisor, San Bernardino County First District (Chairman)

Henry Hearn

Mayor, City of Lancaster

James C. Ledford

Mayor, City of Palmdale

Norm L. Hickling

Los Angeles County

Vacant

JPA

Michael D. Antonovich

Supervisor, Los Angeles County Fifth District (Vice-Chairman)

Tim Jasper

Mayor, Town of Apple Valley

Jim Nehmens

Mayor, City of Adelanto

Mike Rothschild

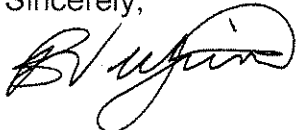
Councilman, City of Victorville

The Honorable Howard "Buck" McKeon
February 11, 2009
Page Two

Please lend your support to the early planning and development funding needed from the public sector to attract the private sectors' investment in our recovery. As an early indication of the breadth of support in the region, I have attached signatures of some of our strong supporters.

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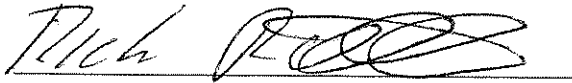
Brad Mitzelfelt
Chairman
Supervisor, First District
San Bernardino County

Attachment

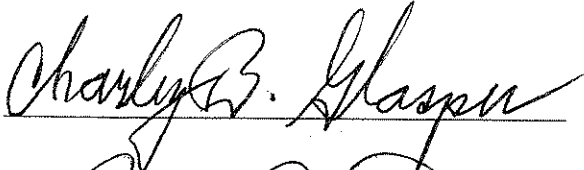
cc: Senator Barbara Boxer
Congressman Jerry Lewis

REGIONAL SUPPORT for the HIGH DESERT CORRIDOR

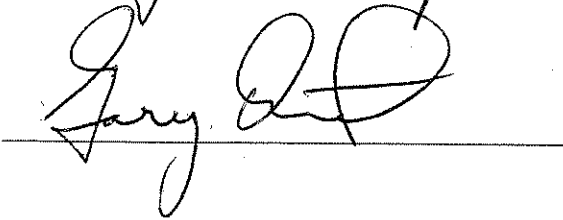
To stimulate the creation of construction and logistics jobs in the Antelope and Victor Valleys, we support the regional advocacy efforts for FY 2010 appropriations funding of the High Desert Corridor (E-220), as designated in SAFETEA-LU as a High Priority National Corridor.



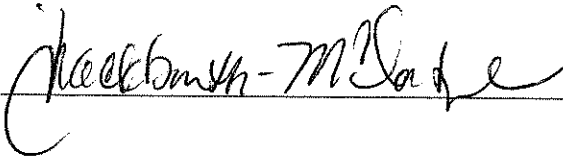
Rick Roelle, Mayor,
Town of Apple Valley



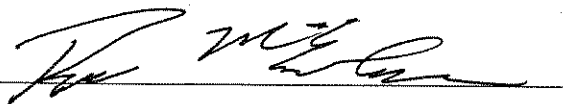
Charley B. Glasper, Mayor
City of Adelanto



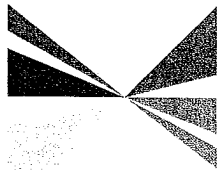
Gary Ovitt, Chairman of the Board of
Supervisors, San Bernardino County



Julie Hackbarth-McIntyre, Mayor Pro
Tem, City of Barstow



Ryan McEachron, Councilmember
City of Victorville



**ASSOCIATION of
GOVERNMENTS**

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Human Development
Larry McCallon, Highland
Energy & Environment
Keith Hanks, Azusa
Transportation
Mike Ten, South Pasadena

February 13, 2009

Patrick Halley, Office Chief
Office of Local Assistance
Caltrans District 8
464 West 4th Street, 6th Floor MS760
San Bernardino, CA 92401-1400

Subject: High Desert Corridor Joint Powers Authority

Dear Mr. Halley:

We understand that you are facilitating the transfer of federal funds from the City of Victorville to the High Desert Corridor Joint Powers Authority (HDC JPA).

It is my understanding that there may be questions regarding the legal authority of the HDC JPA. I am writing to certify that the HDC JPA is a legitimate entity, established under state law by the Counties of Los Angeles and San Bernardino, with the legal authority to carry out its purpose and the duties as prescribed in its Joint Power Agreement. For your reference, I have attached herein the Joint Powers Agreement of the HDC JPA which is on file with the California Secretary of State, as well as additional background information.

The Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG) recognizes the HDC JPA as the entity that is overseeing the governance of the planning, construction, operation and maintenance of the High Desert Corridor (E-220) from the SR 14 to the I-15. Moreover, the High Desert Corridor project is included in SCAG's 2008 Regional Transportation Plan. In addition, HDC JPA Vice-Chairman Michael Antonovich currently sits on SCAG's Regional Council, which helps foster our participation in the development of the project.

We hope that this letter provides clarification regarding the HDC JPA's legal authority. Please feel free to contact us if we can be of further assistance in the transfer of funds to the HDC JPA. Thank you in advance for helping this vital project move forward.

Sincerely,

Joanna Africa,
Acting Chief Counsel

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA



**ASSOCIATION of
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Keith Hanks, Azusa

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JGA:her
Enclosures

cc: Hasan Ikhtrata, Executive Director, SCAG (w/o enclosures)
The Hon. Brad Mitzelfelt, HDC JPA Chairman, Supervisor,
San Bernardino First District (w/o enclosures)
The Hon. Michael Antonovich, HDC JPA Vice-Chairman, Los
Angeles County Fifth District (w/o enclosures)

**HIGH DESERT CORRIDOR JOINT POWERS AUTHORITY
ROSTER OF BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND ALTERNATES
February 2009**

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<p>Ryan McEachron, Councilman, City of Victorville 17177 Yuma Street Victorville, CA 92395 Office: (760) 241-7900 Alternate: (760) 694-7049 Email: ryan.mceachron@isu-armac.com</p>	