

RIVERSIDE COUNTY TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

DATE:	January 10, 2007
TO:	Riverside County Transportation Commission
FROM:	Cathy Bechtel, Project Delivery Director
THROUGH:	Eric Haley, Executive Director
SUBJECT:	Memorandum of Understanding No. 07-65-087-00 on Improvement of Transportation Facilities - Pigeon Pass and Reche Canyon Road Corridors

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

This item is for the Commission to:

- 1) Approve Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) No. 07-65-087-00 on Improvement of Transportation Facilities between the San Bernardino Associated Governments (SANBAG), Riverside County Transportation Commission, the county of Riverside, the county of San Bernardino, and the cities of Colton, Grand Terrace, Loma Linda, Moreno Valley, Redlands, Riverside and San Bernardino; and
- 2) Authorize the Chair, pursuant to legal counsel review, execute the MOU on behalf of the Commission.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

Transportation issues between Riverside and San Bernardino Counties have been discussed and reviewed by Two-County Policy and Technical Committees comprised of representatives from affected local jurisdictions. These committees were initially formed to guide the efforts of the Moreno Valley to San Bernardino County CETAP Corridor. There has been agreement that accommodating additional traffic growth should be shared among the jurisdictions along the Riverside and San Bernardino County border, and not absorbed by a single corridor. To that end, technical staff from both counties has been meeting periodically to discuss planned improvements crossing the county line.

The county of Riverside has programmed funds to begin project development and environmental work for improvements to the Pigeon Pass and Reche Canyon Road corridors. Since corridor improvements are needed in both counties, a MOU has been drafted to outline the agreement points for the upcoming studies. The Commission has been requested to provide coordination and oversight, along with SANBAG, of the corridor development activities.

Staff is supportive of the proposed transportation studies to consider improvements on Pigeon Pass and Reche Canyon Roads and recommends participation in this effort as outlined in the MOU.

Attachment: MOU No. 07-65-087-00

**Memorandum of Understanding
On Improvement of Transportation Facilities between
SANBAG, RCTC, the County of Riverside, the County of San Bernardino,
and the cities of Colton, Grand Terrace, Loma Linda, Moreno Valley, Redlands,
Riverside and San Bernardino**

WHEREAS, it is agreed that the need to accommodate additional traffic growth in the Two-County Corridor study area should be shared among the jurisdictions along the Riverside/San Bernardino County border, not absorbed by a single corridor; and

WHEREAS, it is desired to improve traffic circulation, safety, and emergency access for existing residents within and between communities along the Riverside/San Bernardino County border within the study area; and

WHEREAS, it is desired to maintain the rural environment of the Reche Canyon area and other areas of lower density development in the study area; and

WHEREAS, it is desired to respect the concerns of residents and businesses along any of the corridors between Riverside and San Bernardino Counties; and

WHEREAS, it is recognized that widening of I-215 will not be adequate to address north/south travel demand between Riverside and San Bernardino Counties; and

NOW, THEREFORE, SANBAG, RCTC, the County of Riverside, the County of San Bernardino, and the cities of Colton, Grand Terrace, Loma Linda, Moreno Valley, Redlands, Riverside, and San Bernardino (the "Agencies") agree as follows:

1. Development of roadway facilities will proceed in parallel on two corridors:
 - a. **Center Street/Main Street/Pigeon Pass Corridor** – extends from I-215 generally along Center Street or Main Street and proceeds easterly/southerly to connect to Pigeon Pass Road in Moreno Valley
 - b. **Reche Canyon Road Corridor** – extends from Washington Street in Colton along Reche Canyon Road to connect to Reche Vista Drive north of Moreno Valley
2. An interagency group of elected officials (the Two-County Corridor Policy Committee) will monitor progress and provide guidance on project development activities for both routes, meeting on an as-needed basis.

3. The following Agencies will serve as lead agencies for the corridors:
 - a. RCTC and SANBAG will be the respective lead agency in each county for coordination and oversight of the corridor development activities including the Agencies.
 - b. Reche Canyon Road Corridor – The County of Riverside will be the Contract Manager for the preparation of an environmental document and project development work for the entire corridor. The County of Riverside will be the lead agency for the processing of the environmental document for the portion of Reche Canyon within Riverside County. The City of Colton will be the lead agency for the processing of the environmental document for the portion within San Bernardino County. The County of Riverside and the City of Colton will enter into an agreement addressing the City's financial contribution towards the project development and environmental work.
 - c. Center Street/Main Street/Pigeon Pass Corridor – The County of Riverside will be the Contract Manager for the preparation of an environmental document for the entire corridor. The County of Riverside will be the lead agency for the processing of the environmental document and project development work for the portion of Center Street/Main Street/Pigeon Pass Corridor within Riverside County. If additional widening is required in the portion of San Bernardino County, the City of Grand Terrace will be the lead agency for processing of an environmental document for the portion within San Bernardino County.
4. The Agencies agree to pursue the project development and environmental work on both corridors simultaneously, under separate documents. The County of Riverside as the Contract Manager agrees to provide status reports to the Two-County Corridor Committee and all other agencies on a quarterly basis.
5. Each Agency will be responsible for the design and construction of its own segments, unless alternate agreements are reached among individual Agencies.
6. The following design principles will generally govern project development activities for each of the corridors.
 - a. All facilities will consist of four through lanes, with a landscaped median in urbanized areas, and turn lanes at appropriate locations.

- b. Principles of "context-sensitive design" will be used in all corridors. Preserving the rural environment of Reche Canyon will be a high priority. Considerations will include curb treatments, landscaping, design speed, lighting, signalization, wildlife crossings, trails and pathways.
 - c. Each Agency will control the access, landscaping and other aesthetic requirements of the facility within its jurisdiction, guided by these overall design principles.
7. An effective outreach and citizen input process will be undertaken in both corridors as part of the project development and environmental process. The Agencies affected by each corridor will determine the form of outreach most appropriate for that corridor and advise the County of Riverside as the Contract Manager. This may take the form of public meetings, newsletters, city council presentations, citizen advisory committees, or other techniques appropriate to the issues within each corridor.

Signatures to this Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) are as follows:

San Bernardino Association of Governments (SANBAG)

Date

By _____
(Print Name)

Riverside County Transportation Commission (RCTC)

Date

By _____
(Print Name)

County of Riverside

Date

By _____
(Print Name)

County of San Bernardino

Date

By _____
(Print Name)

City of Colton

Date

By _____
(Print Name)

City of Grand Terrace

Date

By _____
(Print Name)

City of Loma Linda

Date

By _____
(Print Name)

City of Moreno Valley

Date

By _____
(Print Name)

City of Redlands

Date

By _____
(Print Name)

City of Riverside

Date

By _____
(Print Name)

City of San Bernardino

Date

By _____
(Print Name)