



April 21, 2011

Terri Daly
Chief Administrative Officer
El Dorado County
931 Spring Street, Suite 4
Placerville, CA 95667

EL DORADO COUNTY
C.A.O.
2011 APR 25 AM 11:00

Dear Ms. Daly:

In October, SACOG received a Sustainable Communities Regional Planning Grant from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) – one of 42 nationwide from 244 applications. The grant is a central element of the new Partnership for Sustainable Communities between the Department of Transportation, Environmental Protection Agency and HUD. SACOG will be using the award to partially fund the update of our Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP); which includes our region's first Sustainable Communities Strategy (SCS) as required under SB 375.

In order to offer the greatest benefits from the grant to our member jurisdictions and the region, we are seeking your participation. The grant requires a Memorandum of Understanding among SACOG's members and grant partners to establish a Regional Consortium to participate in the work of the grant. A majority of SACOG's members, based on population, already signed a draft version of a Consortium MOU which was required as part of the original grant application. However, whether or not your jurisdiction signed the previous draft version, your signature is requested on a new version of the MOU to a) expand the Consortium to all SACOG members and b) meet some new requirements for HUD's forthcoming Preferred Sustainability Status Program.

This new Preferred Sustainability Status program will offer bonus points to jurisdictions and entities applying for competitive HUD grants. Applicants with projects or programs within regions that received the HUD Sustainable Communities grants and that help meet the goals of the federal Partnership will be eligible for extra points as certified by the region's Consortium. The MOU (Attachment A, paragraph six) outlines SACOG staff's recommendation to our Board on how specifically this process will work.

SACOG staff has negotiated the attached updated version of the MOU with HUD representatives to meet the minimum requirements that will both allow staff to complete work on the grant program and allow our region access to the bonus points through HUD's Preferred Sustainability status.

Auburn
Citrus Heights
Colfax
Davis
El Dorado County
Elk Grove
Folsom
Galt
Isleton
Lincoln
Live Oak
Loomis
Marysville
Placer County
Placerville
Rancho Cordova
Rocklin
Roseville
Sacramento
Sacramento County
Sutter County
West Sacramento
Wheatland
Winters
Woodland
Yolo County
Yuba City
Yuba County

In addition to cities and counties, we are required to include a broad group of public and private sector advisors to assist us in the work. Attachment D includes the overall grant scope of work; Attachment B includes the work scopes for our grant partners, who are already using an open monthly meeting process to involve many stakeholders in examining Transit Priority Areas (TPAs) for opportunities to streamline environmental review under SB 375. (A letter asking for candidate TPA sites was sent to your planning director on April 14 with responses due by May 13).

SACOG needs the attached MOU, approved by the SACOG Board of Directors, signed by the required grant partners by **May 24, 2011**. Please sign and return all of the signature pages for your jurisdiction in the enclosed return envelope. If you have further questions on the program, MOU or Transit Priority Area nomination process, please contact Joe Concannon at 916-340-6234 or jconcannon@sacog.org.

Sincerely,



Mike McKeever
Chief Executive Officer

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Enclosures