

APPENDIX A

PCTPA COMMUNITY INFORMATION AND PARTICIPATION PROGRAM

PCTPA's community information and participation program, in compliance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, is an on-going effort of informing, encouraging involvement, and inviting public and community participation in the transportation planning process. PCTPA's community information and participation program is consistent with SACOG's adopted Public Participation Program, as amended, and is approved annually by the PCTPA Board of Directors.

PCTPA's community information and participation program is multi-purposed:

- Provide information to the public about key countywide transportation projects, planning, and funding issues;
- Establish the process by which the public can express itself;
- Provide the public with opportunities to be involved in transportation planning;
- Ensure transportation projects and programs are genuinely reflective of the region's values as determined through public input; and
- Establish and continue good relationships with the public.

Community and Public Outreach

Community and public outreach is an ongoing effort that can occur in a variety of ways. PCTPA solicits input through various policy, technical, and public forums using the outreach efforts and techniques summarized below. Outreach to Native American tribal governments, specifically, the United Auburn Indian Community is included.

PCTPA seeks input and feedback from all members of the public, engages stakeholders potentially affected, especially groups considered traditionally underrepresented, such as low-income and minority groups (per FHWA and FTA guidance on Environmental Justice in compliance with Executive order 12898 issued in 1994) in the regional transportation planning process. Environmental Justice is also applicable at the project level when project sponsors are proposing a new project in a local community and federal funds are involved.

Board Meetings

PCTPA Board meetings are open to the public at a convenient and accessible location that complies with Brown Act and ADA requirements. Agendas are posted prior to public meetings.

Public Hearings, Informational Meetings, and Workshops

PCTPA conducts public hearings regarding the development and adoption of the Regional Transportation Plan, the Regional Transportation Improvement Program, and the annual unmet transit needs hearing. Additional public hearings, informational meetings, and workshops are held for specific planning activities and individual projects. Visualization techniques are often used, in the form of printed materials, graphics, mapped information, and power point presentations in narrative summary and bullet points. Sign-in sheets are used to update mailing/e-mail lists for future notification use and document distribution.

Availability of Information

Members of the public have access to technical and policy information and documents - through meeting agendas, which are mailed and distributed by e-mail; can be viewed online at PCTPA's website; and available for review at PCTPA during normal business hours.

Use of Technology

The community information and participation effort has been further enhanced by using technology to reach the public. Expansion of the agency's website on the internet provides citizens with greater access to agency and specific project information, documents, and planning activities. A monthly newsletter, "Planning Ahead," is e-mailed to transportation stakeholders, which provides up-to-date information about transportation issues, including project updates, funding issues, and other policy issues that affect Placer County. PCTPA also established a Facebook Group called, "Fix Placer Traffic," which enables PCTPA and residents to communicate quickly about a variety of transportation issues, with a link back to the PCTPA website so users can access additional information.

Open Houses

PCTPA Board members often host open houses in the area they represent. Open Houses allow the public to learn and ask questions about PCTPA planning and project activities.

Presentations

Upon request, PCTPA's speaker bureau conducts presentations to various community groups.

Media Relations

A greater emphasis is now placed on working with local media outlets - newspapers, radio, television/cable, and the internet. Also included, are reporter briefings, opinion editorial placements, letters to the editor, and editorial board meetings.

Local media is an important component of PCTPA's community information and participation program. It provides an ongoing, highly efficient, and effective tool to communicate important transportation and funding issues to the public.

Consultation and Coordination

Ongoing consultation and coordination breaks down barriers between agencies and jurisdictions; increases chances of reaching consensus; and creates the opportunity to diffuse potentially controversial issues.

Ongoing consultation and coordination occurs with officials responsible for other types of planning activities that are affected by transportation in the area. This includes a wide range of agencies such as Native American tribal governments; federal, state and regional land management, transportation, and environmental agencies; local jurisdictions; and project sponsors. PCTPA also depends on input and feedback from its own advisory committees.