

RESOLUTION OF THE SANTA BARBARA
COUNTY ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS

CERTIFY FINAL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT)
REPORT FOR THE 2008 REGIONAL)
TRANSPORTATION PLAN FOR SANTA)
BARBARA COUNTY)
_____)

RESOLUTION NO. 08-17

WHEREAS, Title 23 Code of Federal Regulations, part 450, and Title 49 Code of Federal Regulations, part 613, require the preparation and updating of a long-range regional transportation plan by the Metropolitan Planning Organization; and

WHEREAS, the Santa Barbara County Association of Governments (SBCAG) has been designated as the Metropolitan Planning Organization for Santa Barbara County; and

WHEREAS, SBCAG, through the conduct of a continuing, comprehensive, and coordinated transportation planning process and in conformance with all applicable federal requirements, has prepared a 2008 Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) for Santa Barbara County; and

WHEREAS, SBCAG is the designated Regional Transportation Planning Agency for Santa Barbara County under state law; and

WHEREAS, Section 65080 of the California Government Code requires the preparation and adoption of a regional transportation plan by the Regional Transportation Planning Agency; and

WHEREAS, the 2008 RTP is subject to the California Environmental Quality Act and requires preparation of an Environmental Impact Report (EIR); and

WHEREAS, SBCAG selected and retained the firm of Rincon Consultants to prepare an EIR; and

WHEREAS on August 19, 2004, SBCAG filed a Notice of Preparation with the State Clearinghouse for a 30 day public review period from August 19, 2004 to September 17, 2004; and

WHEREAS, draft copies of the 2008 RTP and Draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIR) were made available and members of the public were given a reasonable opportunity to review the draft documents and provide input on the documents; and

WHEREAS, the 2008 RTP is financially constrained and funds are needed to implement the RTP; and

WHEREAS, Ordinance No. 5: Road Repair, Traffic Relief and Transportation Safety (Measure A 2008) would establish a local funding sources for road repair, traffic relief and transportation improvements through continuation of a half-percent transportation sales tax for an additional 30 years. Measure A includes a Transportation Investment Plan that identifies transportation projects and programs expected to be funded through imposition of the tax. The 2008 RTP and DEIR contain all the projects from the Transportation Investment Plan; and

WHEREAS; on July 18, 2008, SBCAG filed a Notice of Completion with the State Clearinghouse for a 46 day public review period from July 18, 2008 to September 2, 2008 and the availability of the reports were duly noticed; and

WHEREAS; on August 5, 2008, and August 6, 2008 SBCAG held public workshops to answer questions and take comments on the DEIR and Draft RTP; and

WHEREAS; on August 21, 2008, SBCAG held an additional public hearing to receive comments on the Draft RTP and DEIR; and

WHEREAS; the Final EIR incorporated the public comments submitted on the DEIR and provides written responses to all public comments; and

WHEREAS; SBCAG provided public agencies with responses to their comments on September 8; and

WHEREAS; on September 12, 2008, SBCAG published a comprehensive list of all changes to the FEIR; and

WHEREAS; SBCAG has reviewed Title 14 (California Code of Regulations), Chapter 3, (Guidelines for Implementation of the California Environmental Quality Act) as amended October 6, 2005, Section 15090 describing actions a lead agency shall take upon Certification of the Final EIR.

NOW, THEREFORE, the Santa Barbara County Association of Governments does resolve as follows:

1. That the foregoing recitations are true and correct.
2. That the 2008 Regional Transportation Plan Final Environmental Impact Report, dated July 2008 and on file with SBCAG, is hereby certified based on the following Findings.
3. FINDINGS:
 - A. The Final EIR has been completed in compliance with CEQA in that a Draft EIR was prepared and circulated for public review and comment, that proper notification was given to other public agencies and the citizens of Santa Barbara of the availability of the document, and that the appropriate notice of hearing of the discussion and certification of the Final EIR has been given.
 - B. The Final EIR was presented to SBCAG and SBCAG has reviewed and considered the information contained in the Final EIR. The Draft EIR and Final EIR were presented to SBCAG upon its availability to provide time for adequate review. SBCAG then reviewed the contents of the documents prior to the certification and considered the information contained therein at its regular public meeting prior to rendering decisions on the project.
 - C. The Final EIR reflects SBCAG's independent judgment and analysis.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Santa Barbara County Association of Governments does hereby certify the Final EIR for the 2008 Santa Barbara County Regional Transportation Plan.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this 19TH day of September by the following vote:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:

ABSTAIN:

ATTEST:

Jim Kemp
Executive Director
Santa Barbara County
Association of Governments

Brooks Firestone
Chair
Santa Barbara County
Association of Governments

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Kevin E. Ready, Sr.
Deputy County Counsel