

Goal 14 *COORDINATE WITH REGIONAL SYSTEMS AND GOALS.*

Increase the City's participation in regional transportation planning activities and continue to influence the development of regional plans.

BACKGROUND

This chapter focuses on increasing City participation in regional transportation planning efforts through cooperation and communication. The City recognizes that it is an integral part of a regional and statewide transportation system. The City's facilities connect to areas outside the City's boundaries. These connections need to be coordinated with facilities in other jurisdictions.

Effective South Coast participation decisions result from membership on and participation in the Santa Barbara County Association of Governments (SBCAG) and the Metropolitan Transit District (MTD) Board of Directors. Close coordination with the County of Santa Barbara and the City of Carpinteria is critical to the success of these efforts. Other important agencies with overlapping jurisdictions are the Santa Barbara County Air Pollution Control District (APCD) and the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans).

CONSTRAINTS

Although the City has twenty-five percent of the County's population, it has but one of twelve votes on SBCAG. Therefore the City has limited influence over regional planning and funding efforts.

OPPORTUNITIES

Active participation in the development of regional plans and programs may result in greater cooperation between jurisdictions and greater consideration of the City's transportation goals and objectives.

POLICIES AND IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGIES

REGIONAL PLANS

- 14.1 The City shall encourage regional transportation plans and programs (such as those under the jurisdiction of the Santa Barbara County Association of Governments) that support the Circulation Element.**
- 14.1.1 Proactively participate in the development and review of regional plans. Allocate resources to ensure input from City Council, Planning Commission, the Planning and Public Works Departments, the offices of the City Attorney and the City Administrator's Office.
- 14.1.2 The City's representation on the SBCAG Board shall reflect the strength of the Circulation Element's community consensus.
- 14.1.3 The City's representative to the SBCAG Board shall inform the Planning Commission and the City Council if regional plans or impending decisions are discussed or decisions are made that are inconsistent with this Circulation Element.
- 14.1.4 Prior to each annual adoption of the Capital Improvements Program, public work sessions shall be held with the Planning Commission and the City Council to develop project priorities for funding.

REGIONAL COORDINATION

- 14.2 The City shall encourage coordination with the County of Santa Barbara and other agencies and jurisdictions through joint work sessions in order to pursue regional transportation goals.**
- 14.2.1 Hold regular annual sessions with the Planning Commission and City Council on regional transportation issues. Invite the First, Second, and Third District Supervisors as well as the City of Carpinteria to the meeting.
- 14.2.2 Explore funding to expand a coordinated regional traffic model to include City streets (not just Congestion Management Plan routes).

14.2.3 Establish a South Coast Land Use and Transportation Work Group that includes representatives from:

- City of Santa Barbara Planning Department,
- City of Santa Barbara Public Works Department,
- City of Santa Barbara Airport Department,
- City of Santa Barbara Waterfront Department,
- County of Santa Barbara Planning and Development Department,
- County of Santa Barbara Public Works Department,
- County of Santa Barbara Affordable Housing Program,
- City of Carpinteria Planning Department,
- City of Carpinteria Public Works Department,
- Santa Barbara County Association of Governments,
- Air Pollution Control District,
- Metropolitan Transit District,
- Caltrans,
- school districts,
- Traffic Solutions and/or other regional transportation demand management programs,
- private sector transportation planners,
- private sector transportation engineers, and
- where appropriate, the Cities of Ventura, Lompoc, and Santa Maria.

The work group shall focus on:

- regional and local coordinated planning efforts,
- developing a comprehensive list of funding sources, and
- developing a prioritized list of potential projects for funding.

The public shall be notified and permitted to observe all meetings of the South

Coast Land Use and Transportation Work Group.

- 14.2.4 The City shall review and comment on significant development projects located outside of, but with potential impacts upon, the City of Santa Barbara. Each proposal's consistency with the Circulation Element should be addressed and the comments forwarded to appropriate agencies.

AIRPORT

14.3 The City shall coordinate with the County and other agencies and jurisdictions to improve transportation to and from the City's Airport.

- 14.3.1 Work with the County on high priority projects such as:
- the South Kellogg extension,
 - Highway 217 off-ramp,
 - the Hollister/Los Carneros intersection,
 - electric shuttles,
 - bicycle/pedestrian paths parallel to Hollister and the Railroad,
 - the extension of the South Fairview bike path,
 - bicycle/pedestrian bridge over the freeway either at La Patera or west of Fairview, and
 - developing a direct connection between the Goleta Rail Depot and the Airport.
- 14.3.2 Encourage the development of transit services to, into, and from the Airport Terminal, such as:
- increased and enhanced taxi service,
 - increased/regular bus service, and
 - increased on-demand services such as airport shuttles.
- 14.3.3 Explore the development of bicycle paths/amenities to encourage bicycling to and from the Airport.

EDUCATION/OUTREACH**14.4 The City shall develop an education/outreach program about the City's Circulation Element.**

- 14.4.1 Distribute the adopted Circulation Element to SBCAG, other jurisdictions, transportation related agencies, and affected groups.
- 14.4.2 Encourage regional marketing of transportation services to educate the public about the availability and benefit of alternative modes of transportation.
- 14.4.3 Review proposed State and Federal legislation for effects on the Circulation Element and comment as appropriate.

REGIONAL COOPERATION AND COORDINATION**14.5 The City shall cooperate with regional efforts that promote the use of alternative transportation.**

- 14.5.1 Work with regional agencies to explore the feasibility of a regional commuter shuttle system linking City employment centers with distant residential areas.
- 14.5.2 Encourage development of new or expanded regional park and ride facilities.
- 14.5.3 Encourage the development of regional rail service between Carpinteria and Goleta/Isla Vista.
- 14.5.4 Encourage station improvements and the development of intermodal connections between the Union Pacific Railway Depots and employment centers.
- 14.5.5 Encourage regional transit providers (e.g. APCD's Clean Air Express) to provide express service from Ventura, Santa Barbara, and Goleta/Isla Vista.
- 14.5.6 Encourage the development of and provide incentives for telecommuting and a regional teleconferencing system to reduce interregional trips.
- 14.5.7 Work with other agencies to implement the adopted Regional Bikeway Plan.
- 14.5.8 Encourage and support the possibility of the expansion of Metrolink service to Santa Barbara.