



# ***Lompoc City Council Agenda Item***

***City Council Meeting Date: May 16, 2006***

***TO: Gary P. Keefe, City Administrator***

***FROM: Larry A. Bean, Public Works Director***

***SUBJECT: MEASURE D RENEWAL EXPENDITURE PLAN***

## **RECOMMENDATION:**

That the City Council receive a presentation by the Santa Barbara County Association of Governments (SBCAG) and adopt Resolution No. 5337(06) approving the Transportation Expenditure Plan for the renewal of Measure D (Exhibit "A" of the Resolution).

## **BACKGROUND:**

Measure D is the existing one-half percent countywide sales tax that funds local and regional transportation improvements and maintenance. The measure was approved in November of 1989 by 55% of the voters. This transportation tax, Measure D, will expire in 2010 unless renewed. SBCAG is seeking the City's support of the expenditure plan so that a ballot measure to renew Measure D can be placed before the County voters at the November 7, 2006, general election. Renewal under current law will require a super majority (2/3) voter approval.

Measure D has been a huge success for the City of Lompoc. With 70% of the existing sales tax distributed by a population-based formula to local agencies, the City of Lompoc has been able to maintain its streets, sidewalks, and urban forest (street trees and medians). These locally controlled funds have also provided the required matches for federal funding of projects such as the Old Town Pedestrian Improvements, the Santa Ynez Bike Bridge, and East/West Channel Bike Path.

## **DISCUSSION:**

On April 20, 2006, the SBCAG Board unanimously adopted the attached Transportation Expenditure Plan—a critical and historic step in securing the future of our local and regional transportation systems. The plan provides nearly \$1.6 billion in funding to relieve traffic congestion, maintain existing transportation infrastructure, improve local roads and highways, provide safe routes to school, expand transportation alternatives and protect mobility for seniors and disabled individuals. The adopted plan would continue Measure D—our existing half percent local sales tax for transportation—for 30 years and provide for a one-quarter percent (1/4 percent) increase in the sales tax rate to fund specific projects and programs.

This plan is the product of 18 months of hard work and compromise by SBCAG Board members, staff, consultants, local agency representatives and stakeholder groups. Many public outreach workshops and meetings were held to arrive at this comprehensive plan. The plan has been prepared to address important existing and future transportation needs in Santa Barbara County. It proposes a diverse program of transportation investments to address those needs while being sensitive to the regional differences within our County.

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Under the plan, 50 percent of the revenues generated by Measure D will be allocated to local agencies, for expenditure on projects selected by the City Councils and Board of Supervisors, based on each community's priorities. This provision ensures that each City and the County will continue to receive at least the same amount of local flexible funding as they currently receive from the revenues generated by the current Measure D 1/2 percent sales tax. The other 50 percent of funds will be used to deliver important regional projects that will benefit the citizens of the County and our local economy for years to come.

**IMPACT TO THE COMMUNITY:**

The renewal of Measure D will have a significant impact to our local community, bringing approximately \$83,500,000 to the City to maintain, reconstruct, and improve local roads, bikeways and alternative transportation over the next 30 years. In addition, \$49,000,000 for Regional Projects in or near Lompoc is included for the widening of Highway 246 to four (4) lanes from Purisima Road to Domingos Road, improving the connection of Route 246 to Lompoc providing an all weather crossing of the Santa Ynez River, and widening Highway 1 from Central Avenue to Purisima Road.

The original Measure D was at a one-half percent rate, while the renewal of Measure D will be at a three-quarter percent rate.

**ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATIONS:**

SBCAG has adopted a Notice of Exemption (Exhibit "B" of Resolution No. 5337(06)) regarding this matter.

**OTHER AGENCY REVIEW:**

All Cities and the County Board of Supervisors will be asked to approve the Measure D Renewal Expenditure Plan. A majority of the agencies representing a majority of the County population and the Board of Supervisors must approve the Expenditure Plan to permit the Measure D renewal to be put on the November 2006 general election.

**Attachment:** [Resolution No. 5337\(06\)](#), including [Exhibit "A"](#), Transportation Expenditure Plan, and [Exhibit "B"](#), Notice of Exemption

**APPROVED FOR SUBMITTAL TO THE CITY ADMINISTRATOR:**

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Larry A. Bean, P.E.  
Public Works Director

**APPROVED FOR SUBMITTAL TO THE CITY COUNCIL:**

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Gary P. Keefe  
City Administrator