

**CITY OF SAN ANTONIO
INTERDEPARTMENTAL MEMORANDUM
PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT**

TO: Mayor and City Council

FROM: Thomas G. Wendorf, P.E. Director of Public Works

THROUGH: Terry M. Brechtel, City Manager

COPIES: Melissa Byrne Vossmer, Andrew Martin, Peter Zaroni, Milo D. Nitschke; file

SUBJECT: Transportation System Goals and Strategies

DATE: June 10, 2004

SUMMARY AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The purpose of this presentation is to provide the Mayor and the City Council with a holistic overview of the transportation system goals and strategies for the City of San Antonio; an in depth analysis of where our City is headed with the current rate of growth; and transportation funding issues.

There is no formal action requested.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Traffic congestion has steadily increased in San Antonio due to our city's growth rate. In 2000, San Antonio experienced the greatest percentage increase in congestion of the 75 largest U.S. cities. In 2001, San Antonio experienced the second highest percentage increase in the country. Given the current trend, Public Works staff developed and presented four transportation goals at the December 19, 2003 City Council Meeting:

1. Create a comprehensive plan for the transportation system;
2. Integrate transportation elements to achieve operability, efficiency, and effectiveness for users of all modalities;
3. Utilize existing resources to the maximum extent possible, then use new resources; and
4. Encourage common understanding of the transportation environment and its challenges.

City Council directed staff to develop detailed strategies and tactics to support the four transportation goals. The identified strategies will serve as a guide and resource for citizens and elected officials regarding transportation issues. The presentation will outline six transportation strategies developed and recommended by Public Works staff:

1. Strength through Partnership
2. Proactive Planning
3. Visible/Effective Mobility Improvements

4. Maximum Use of Existing Infrastructure
5. New Transportation Financing
6. Implementation of Smart Development

A major component of the transportation system goals and strategies is the Advanced Transportation District (ADT). The ADT can present a referendum to the voters requesting authorization to increase sales for transportation. Voters can elect to raise sales tax by 1/8 to 1/2 cent. The sales tax increase would help meet the \$3.6 billion shortfall between now and 2025 in local mobility needs by providing resources for the City's transportation capacity improvements, transit system expansion and leveraging Texas Department of Transportation System projects.

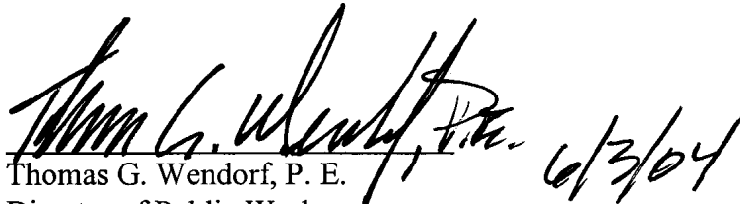
Staff will return to Council in the near future to discuss the transportation system preservation plan.

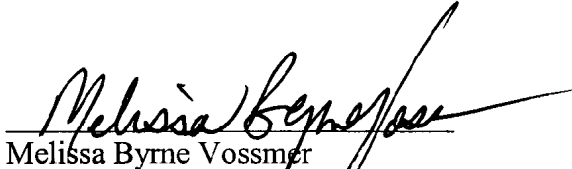
FISCAL IMPACT

There are no direct costs associated with this Council briefing.


COORDINATION

This agenda item is being brought forward at the request of the City Council and the Mayor's Office.


Thomas G. Wendorf, P. E. 6/3/04
Director of Public Works


Melissa Byrne Vossmer
Assistant City Manager

Approved:


Terry M. Brechtel
City Manager