



AM 1: Chairmans' Roundtable: How Do You Keep the Politics Out of Mobility?

Moderator

Fran Inman, Senior Vice President for Governmental Relations and Community Affairs, Majestic Realty Co., Commissioner, California Transportation Commission and Advisory Board Member, Mobility 21

Panelists

- Hon. Daryl Busch, Chair, Riverside County Transportation Commission and Mayor, City of Perris
- Hon. Jack Dale, Chair, San Diego Association of Governments and Councilmember City of Santee
- Hon. John Fasana, First Vice Chair, Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority and Councilmember, City of Duarte
- Hon. Jeffrey Lalloway, Chair, Orange County Transportation Authority and Mayor Pro Tem, City of Irvine
- Hon. Ryan McEachron, Chair, San Bernardino Associated Governments and Councilmember, City of Victorville
- Hon. Keith Millhouse, Vice Chair, Ventura County Transportation Commission and Mayor Pro Tem, City of Moorpark
- Hon. James Predmore, Vice Chair, Imperial County Transportation Commission and Mayor Pro Tem, City of Holtville

Summary

For the first time ever, the Chairs and Vice Chairs of Southern California's Regional Transportation Agencies came together for a dynamic discussion of how, as elected officials, they prioritize among competing demands and funding constraints while achieving mobility and balance. The panelists discussed some tools on prioritizing, including: (1) looking at the community to understand where people live, work and play and determine what types of transit will work; and (2) meeting with the Board and staff to include everyone at the table and provide for informed decision-making.

The audience learned how the self-help counties are more constrained with decision-making due to funding measures that allocate funds to particular types of transit. For

those agencies, priorities are established by understanding what the voters approved and try to execute accordingly. The audience also learned that despite the potential constraints, these self-help counties are given a much-needed tool to provide for transportation funding while allowing the voters to hold the agencies accountable. For the non-self-help counties there is no local tax base to fund infrastructure improvements making creative solutions a necessity. The audience learned that it is important for these counties to figure out other ways for funding.

Takeaway

The agencies discussed the importance of not just prioritizing within the county but also to surrounding counties. It is important that this discussion among the Chairs continues so that mobility is fluid across California.