



VICTORVILLE
California

For Immediate Release

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SANBAG Board Approves Additional Funding for La Mesa/Nisqualli Interchange *Yucca Loma Bridge Also Receives Additional Funding*

Victorville, CA— The San Bernardino Association of Governments (SANBAG) Board of Directors earmarked another \$7.5 million toward the La Mesa/Nisqualli Interchange and approved actions that will ultimately fund half of the \$63 million project. The action was taken at the March 3 regular SANBAG Board Meeting.

SANBAG Vice-President and First District Supervisor Brad Mitzelfelt lauded the Board's actions. "I would like to thank the Board for directing funding to this important project. Providing another east-west corridor in the Victor Valley has been a critical need for years, and we're about to see it become a reality."

Victorville Councilman Ryan McEachron, who represents the City on the SANBAG Board, said the project is critical to local circulation. "It's a great day for our citizens and

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anyone driving in and around Victorville,” said McEachron. “This interchange will reduce gridlock in the City, and will provide emergency personnel an additional arterial to travel from the east to the west side of the City.”

During the SANBAG meeting, the Board approved allocating federal Surface Transportation Program (STP) funds to the La Mesa/Nisqualli Interchange in the amount of \$7.5 million and \$7.5 million for the Yucca Loma Bridge in Apple Valley.

Additionally, the SANBAG Board took action to approve the allocation of Measure I funding for the 2010/2011 fiscal year, which will allocate \$24 million in Measure I funds and \$7.5 million in STP funds to total \$31.5 million for the construction of the La Mesa/Nisqualli Interchange. The City of Victorville will fund the other half of the \$63 million project with Development Impact Fees (DIF).

In a related item, the SANBAG Board also allocated \$1.2 million in federal Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) funds to the City of Victorville to install traffic signals at intersections along La Mesa Road. Traffic signals will be installed at Del Gado, El Evado and Pacoima roads. They will be interconnected and synchronized from Amethyst Road to the I-15 La Mesa/Nisqualli Interchange.

The entire cost of the Interchange is approximately \$91.7 million with construction costs totaling \$63 million. As a result of today’s action by the SANBAG Board of Directors, the City of Victorville has been allocated a total of \$53.6 million for construction, design and right-of-way costs. (See attachment)

Victorville officials are hopeful that the La Mesa/Nisqualli Interchange project will be ready for construction by late 2010. The final funding agreements are anticipated to be approved with all local, regional and state agencies. Once under construction the project is estimated to be completed in 24 months.

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