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**SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS
BRIEFS BRITISH TRANSPORTATION DELEGATION**

**Deputy Transportation Minister Meets with Regional Planning Agency
To Discuss Transportation Planning Issues**

LOS ANGELES – A delegation of high-ranking transportation leaders from Great Britain met yesterday with officials from the Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG) to gather information about the transportation planning process in Southern California. The British delegation, led by the Hon. Allstair Darling MP, the Secretary of State for Transport, and included Robert Devereux, Director General for Roads, Local and Regional Transport; and Peter Hunt, British Consul-General. Delegation members met with Executive Director Mark Pisano, Deputy Director Jim Gosnell, Manager of Transportation Planning Rich Macias and other high-ranking SCAG officials.

The delegation was briefed on the unique regional issues impacting transportation pricing efforts in Southern California and was provided an overview on efforts to reduce traffic congestion and implement various kinds of traffic improvements.

“It is always important to share ideas and approaches with decision-makers, whether they are from another metropolitan area or another country,” said Pisano. “Today’s meeting was very informative and insightful for everyone involved, and SCAG was very pleased to have the opportunity to share some of our ideas and initiatives with our British counterparts.”

SCAG officials shared with the delegation insight on how the agency seeks to facilitate regional cooperation among the hundreds of jurisdictions that make up Southern California. They more specifically spoke of efforts to better coordinate land use and transportation planning. SCAG also spoke of its current efforts to adopt *Destination 2030*, the recently released 2004 Draft Regional Transportation Plan that is currently undergoing public review.

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