REPORT

DATE: January 4, 2007

TO: Transportation and Communications Committee
Regional Council

FROM: Michael Armstrong
213-236-1914/armstrong@scag.ca.gov

SUBJECT: Comments to the Southern California Regional Airport Authority

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S APPROVAL:

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Approve comments regarding membership, powers and mission of the Southern California Regional Airport Authority

BACKGROUND:
At its last meeting on October 12, 2006 the Southern California Regional Airport Authority (SCRAA) discussed a number of issues including making potential changes that may be needed in its powers, mission and composition/membership to remove structural problems that inhibited effective decision making by the authority in its past. These include very broad powers (including the authority to own and operate commercial air carrier airports, to exercise the power of eminent domain and to issue revenue bonds) in combination with a single-member veto provision. The SCRAA's membership currently includes the City of Los Angeles and counties of Los Angeles, Orange, San Bernardino and Riverside, with SCAG included as non-voting ex-officio member on the SCRAA's Board. At the October 12 meeting it was decided that members would consult with their legal counsels and present their recommended changes at their next meeting on January 11, 2007.

At its meeting on December 13, 2006 the SCAG Aviation Task Force developed and approved a number of comments relating to the powers, membership and mission of the Southern California Regional Airport Authority (SCRAA), as well as the relationship of the Authority to SCAG. These comments are intended to be submitted to the SCRAA for discussion as part of its next meeting on January 11, 2007 (see attached memorandum to the TCC).

FISCAL IMPACT:
None

Reviewed by:
Division Manager

Reviewed by:
Department Director

Reviewed by:
Chief Financial Officer

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA ASSOCIATION of GOVERNMENTS

MEMO

DATE: December 15, 2006

TO: Regional Council

FROM: Michael Armstrong, Aviation Program Manager
213-236-1914/armstron@scag.ca.gov

SUBJECT: Comments to the Southern California Regional Airport Authority

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SUMMARY:
At its meeting on December 13, 2006 the SCAG Aviation Task Force developed and approved a number of comments relating to the powers, membership and mission of the Southern California Regional Airport Authority (SCRAA), as well as the relationship of the Authority to SCAG. These comments are intended to be submitted to the SCRAA for discussion as part of its next meeting on January 11, 2007. The comments are as follows:

1. That SCRAA re-define its mission and responsibilities based upon current situation.

2. That the composition of SCRAA's membership be related to its new mission and responsibilities.

3. That SCRAA consider expanding its membership to include the counties of San Diego, Imperial and Ventura provided that inclusion of such counties is consistent with SCRAA's new mission and responsibilities.

4. That SCRAA re-examine its name so as to be consistent with its new mission and responsibilities.

5. That SCRAA revise its Joint Powers Agreement ("Agreement") so as to eliminate all proprietary powers, including but not limited to, its power of eminent domain.

6. That SCRAA revise the Agreement so as to eliminate its powers relating to airport operation.

7. That SCRAA further define its relationship with SCAG, and that the Agreement be revised to establish a clear delineation of SCRAA's powers and SCAG's responsibilities as a Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for the region with respect to regional aviation and ground access planning.

8. In accordance with Comment #7 above, if SCRAA revises its role and responsibilities, a more formal role for SCAG shall be considered.

9. That SCRAA establish a technical advisory committee, whose membership would include airport operators.

10. That SCRAA appoint a person to serve on SCAG's Aviation Task Force.

BACKGROUND:
At its last meeting on October 12, 2006 the Southern California Regional Airport Authority (SCRAA) discussed a number of issues including making potential changes that may be needed in its powers, mission and composition/membership to remove structural problems that inhibited effective decision making by the authority in its past. These include very broad powers (including the authority to own and operate commercial air carrier airports, to exercise the power of eminent domain and to issue revenue bonds) in combination with a single-member veto provision. The SCRAA's membership currently includes the City of Los Angeles and counties of Los Angeles, Orange, San Bernardino and Riverside, with SCAG included as a non-voting ex-officio member on the SCRAA's Board. At the October 12 meeting it was decided that members would consult with their legal counsels and present their recommended changes at the January 11, 2007 meeting.