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**TO: Board of Directors**

**DATE: February 10, 2009**

**FROM: Stan Tidman, Senior Planner**

**SUBJECT: PUBLIC HEARING: PLACER PARKWAY CORRIDOR PRESERVATION PARTIALLY REVISED DRAFT TIER 1 ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT/ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT (PRD TIER 1 EIS/EIR)**

### **Action Requested**

Conduct a public hearing to obtain public input on the Partially Revised Draft Tier 1 EIS/EIR for the Placer Parkway Corridor Preservation Project.

### **Background**

On February 27, 2008, the SPRTA Board conducted a workshop in response to several comments about how the project's access and 'no-development' buffer components were referred to in the Draft Tier 1 EIS/EIR, which was released in June 2007. These components would limit access (no new interchanges) between Pleasant Grove Road and Fiddyment Road as well as create a no-development buffer along the future roadway. The comments identified concerns that in the future, new proposals by others might result in additional interchanges, or reduce/eliminate the no-development buffer, resulting in potentially more growth inducement.

On March 26, 2008, the SPRTA Board directed the staff to prepare an analysis of these hypothetical future actions as a Partially Revised Draft (PRD) Tier 1 environmental document and circulate for public comment. The board felt that this approach would provide a fuller disclosure of potential future impacts and would provide a stronger foundation for later Tier 2 (construction-level) environmental work, which will analyze the impacts of roadway alignments within the selected corridor.

### **Discussion**

The purpose of the public hearing is to receive comments on the Partially Revised Draft (PRD). While the staff will provide a brief overview of the PRD Tier 1 EIS/EIR as background, neither the Board nor the staff can respond to public questions and comments at the hearing itself.

Once the public comment period closes, responses to PRD comments as well as the Draft Tier 1 EIS/EIR comments will be prepared for the Final Tier 1 EIS/EIR. This is still scheduled for a summer 2009 release.