

**MEMORANDUM
CITY OF LANCASTER, CA**

TO: Mayor Parris and City Council Members
FROM: Vice Mayor Ron Smith
DATE: April 7, 2009
SUBJECT: **Report on the Activities of the Board of Directors for the High Desert Corridor Joint Powers Authority**

Recommendation:

Receive a report of the proceedings and issues discussed at the April 1, 2009, Board of Directors meeting of the High Desert Corridor Joint Powers Authority (HDCJPA).

Background:

In 2006, the County of San Bernardino, County of Los Angeles, and the Cities of Adelanto, Victorville, Apple Valley, Lancaster, and Palmdale formed a Joint Powers Authority (JPA) to develop a new freeway/expressway from SR-14 to I-15 titled the High Desert Corridor. The High Desert Corridor/E220 is officially designated in Section 1305 of SAFETEA-LU as a High Priority Corridor on the National Highway System from Los Angeles to Las Vegas via Palmdale and Victorville. Vice Mayor Smith has one seat on the nine member Board of Directors.

The Board heard the following items during the April 1, 2009 meeting:

- Since the last meeting on September 11, 2008, Tetra Tech, the firm not selected for planning, permitting, financing, project management, design and construction services, filed a formal protest disputing their non-selection. Due to a significant exposure to litigation, the Board voted to cancel the request for proposal process for these services. Therefore, the selected consultant, Jacobs Carter Burgess will not complete any work for the Board.
- The Authority is seeking \$10,000,000, for tasks related to environmental clearance in the reauthorization of SAFETEA-LU, the current federal transportation bill which expires on September 30, 2009.
- The Board granted authority to the JPA legal advisor to, at any time, waive conflicts of interests for Board members, JPA staff, and consultants.

The other items approved by the Board of Directors were routine.