



Date: October 15, 2003
To: Inter-Regional Partnership
From: IRP Staff
RE: Inland Port Feasibility Study Presentation

Background

The economic relationship between the Central Valley and the San Francisco Bay Area encompasses a broad range of commerce activities. While significant public attention has been given to the interconnection between Bay Area job markets and Valley housing markets, the inter-regional movement of goods raises similar issues for transportation, land use, and economic development planning. In recognition of these issues at both the local and national level, policy makers, planning agencies, and private freight interests in the Bay Area and Central Valley regions have been undertaking various freight studies. The purpose of these studies has been to better understand the goods movement industry and to enable communities to position themselves to best respond to challenges and opportunities involved in goods movement activities and inter-regional commerce.

The Inland Port Feasibility Study was sponsored by the San Joaquin Council of Governments through a Caltrans grant to promote inter-regional partnership between the Port of Oakland, the Port of Stockton, public transportation and land use planning agencies, the private freight industry, and economic development interests. The study specifically investigated opportunities to locate seaport activities in the San Joaquin Valley to offset land use constraints on the growth of the Port of Oakland, to develop jobs in the San Joaquin Valley, and to decrease the impacts of truck traffic on I-580 over the Altamont Pass. Building upon previous and concurrent freight studies, the study team, led by the Tioga Group, explored the economic and environmental sustainability of moving goods between the Central Valley and Port of Oakland via a railroad container shuttle.

Discussion

The following topics will be addressed in the oral presentation to the IRP:

1. Relationship of the Inland Port Feasibility Study and the Bay Area Regional Goods Movement Study
2. Inland Port Opportunities
 - Potential benefits to Bay Area and San Joaquin Valley communities in locating seaport facilities/activities in the San Joaquin Valley.
 - Trucking Costs and Market Access
3. Rail Shuttle Concept
 - Market Analysis
 - Rail Operating Scenarios and Costing
 - Economics and Funding
 - Impact Analysis
 - Implementation Issues

Recommended Actions

This item is information only. There are no recommended actions for the IRP to take.