

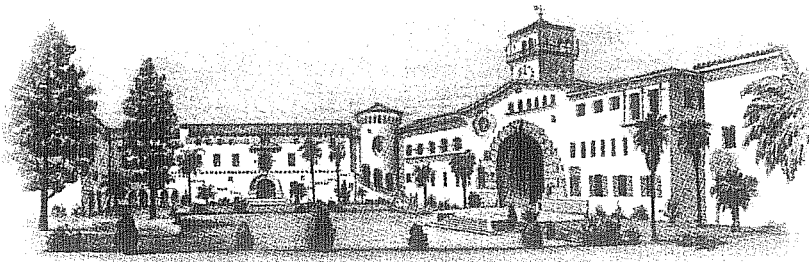
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**BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

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## COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA

September 28, 2010

Santa Barbara County Association of Governments  
260 N. San Antonio Road, Ste. B  
Santa Barbara, CA 93110  
Attention: Jim Kemp, Executive Director

Re: SBCAG Consideration of CalVAN

Dear Mr. Kemp:

For the past 2 years, Santa Barbara County Public Works has operated a farmworker vanpool pilot program utilizing State Agricultural Worker Transportation Program (AWTP) grant funding. The State funding will expire on June 30, 2011, and the County is currently weighing options regarding the future of the program. During the September 28, 2010 hearing of the Board of Supervisors, the Board received a presentation that highlighted the difficulties associated with operating a financially feasible program in our region. One option the Board may consider is ending the program when the State AWTP funding expires.

At this same hearing, the Board of Supervisors received a presentation by Ron Hughes, Executive Director for Kings County Area Public Transit Agency, regarding an opportunity for our region to consider membership in a Joint Powers Agreement (JPA) governing CalVAN – a Statewide Vanpool Agency. Currently, Councils of Governments representing Kings, Madera, Fresno, Tulare, Monterey, San Benito, Santa Cruz, Sacramento, Yolo, Yuba, and Sutter have signed on as members of this agency. CalVAN seeks to consolidate vanpool management and operations for multiple Counties in California under one entity, recognizing that economies of scale can create a more cost-effective way to provide vanpool services to their communities. These services will be available to all types of commuters seeking a vanpool, including farmworker transportation.

The County Board of Supervisors believes that membership in CalVAN may present a valuable opportunity to expand transportation options in our region. Membership in CalVAN would appropriately fall to SBCAG as the Council of Government for our region, and as the region's designated ride-share authority.

We thank you for your consideration of this matter and hope you will invite Mr. Hughes to appear before the SBCAG Board of Directors to explore CalVAN's potential benefits for the residents of Santa Barbara County.

Sincerely,

Janet Wolf, Chair  
Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors