



December 6, 2005

**To: Mendocino County News Media**

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### **MCOG Adopts Regional Transportation Plan**

At its regular board meeting December 5, the Mendocino Council of Governments adopted the 2005 Regional Transportation Plan for Mendocino County. The action follows a year-long process of research and public input.

“This is an important planning document that lays out our policies and goals to guide all forms of transportation over the next 20 years,” said Leslie Dahlhoff, City of Point Arena’s Mayor and representative on the MCOG Board of Directors. “I encourage all residents to inform themselves of its content and to give us feedback.” The Plan is updated every four to five years.

The Regional Transportation Plan is prepared by MCOG staff. It provides a vision of regional transportation goals, considers all modes of travel, assesses current transportation, identifies problems, suggests actions to solve these problems and considers financing options. The Plan area encompasses all of Mendocino County, including the cities of Ukiah, Willits, Fort Bragg, and Point Arena.

The 2005 Plan represents an update from the most recent plan adopted in May 2003, when the first major rewrite in many years was completed. This year’s update focused on minor changes triggered by new State guidelines that required more detail in certain topic areas. The 2005 Plan is supported by a comprehensive Environmental Impact Report completed in 2003 for the earlier rewrite, which satisfies requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act.

The Regional Transportation Plan is available online at [www.mendocinocog.org](http://www.mendocinocog.org). To view a print copy, contact your local branch of the public library or the MCOG office at 463-1859.

Acting as the Regional Transportation Planning Agency, MCOG programs or allocates various types of state and federal transportation funds to Caltrans, the County of Mendocino and the four incorporated Cities of Ukiah, Fort Bragg, Willits, and Point Arena. In addition to projects on state highways and within its five member jurisdictions, MCOG helps support transportation activities of the North Coast Rail Authority, California Western Railroad, Mendocino Transit Authority, local airports, and others. Projects involve planning, capital improvements, rehabilitation and maintenance, fleet replacement, and intermodal transit centers.

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