State of California
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Business, Transportation and Housing Agency

Memorandum

To: CHAIR AND COMMISSIONERS

CTC Meeting: May 21-22, 2003

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Information Item

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Ref: **PROGRESS REPORT ON IMPLEMENTING THE INTERREGIONAL TRANSPORTATION STRATEGIC PLAN**

SUMMARY:

The Interregional Transportation Strategic Plan (ITSP) is the Department of Transportation's (Department) framework for guiding investment of Interregional Improvement Program (IIP) funds. These funds, by statute, are programmed for projects that improve the interregional mobility of people and goods. The ITSP identifies a vision for the interregional system, principles and strategies for achieving it, and six critical objectives towards which IIP funds should be directed. Prepared in 1998, after SB 45 legislation, it is the foundation for the interregional program. Progress is made towards meeting the six objectives with each State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) cycle.

BACKGROUND:

The ITSP identifies six key objectives for the Interregional Improvement Program. These objectives are: 1) complete a trunk system of higher standard state highways (expressway/freeway), 2) connect all urbanized areas to the freeway and expressway system, 3) ensure a dependable level of service for movement into and through major gateways of statewide significance and ensure connectivity to key intermodal transfer facilities, seaports, air cargo terminals, and freight distribution facilities, 4) connect urbanizing centers and high growth areas to the trunk system, 5) link rural and smaller urban centers to the trunk system, and 6) implement an intercity passenger rail program that complies with federal and state laws, improves service reliability, decreases running times, and reduces the per-passenger operating subsidy.

The Department will present a progress report on implementing the Interregional Transportation Strategic Plan and addressing the six key objectives at the May 2003 California Transportation Commission meeting.