

To: Chairperson and Authority Members **Date:** February 13, 2002
From: Mehdi Morshed, Executive Director
Subject: Agenda Item 5 – Los Angeles-Orange County-San Diego (LOSSAN) Corridor Update

Discussion:

In October, the Authority entered into an agreement with the Department of Transportation (the Department) for funding technical studies in the Los Angeles-Orange County-San Diego (LOSSAN) Corridor related to the preparation of the Authority's program EIR/EIS on the proposed statewide high speed rail system. The funding agreement has been finalized and the Authority's \$2.5 million technical studies for rail improvements in the existing LOSSAN rail corridor are underway. Staff will present an update of the work being done in the LOSSAN corridor in connection with this agreement to the board as an informational item. Attached is a "Briefing Package" which outlines the relationship between the Authority and the Department, the study overview, alternatives to be studied, alignment descriptions and work schedules. Following the LOSSAN corridor presentation, other agencies/entities that play critical roles in the ownership, planning, operation and maintenance of the LOSSAN corridor will be encouraged to comment.