

## **SUPERVISOR HELEN THOMSON NEW SACOG BOARD CHAIR**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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**SACRAMENTO** – The Sacramento Area Council of Governments inducted Yolo County Supervisor Helen Thomson as the 2009 SACOG Board Chair and Galt Councilmember Darryl Clare as Board Vice Chair at their regularly scheduled Board meeting today.

Supervisor Thomson will be Board Chair for the metropolitan planning organization with 31 board members representing six counties and the 22 cities within them. SACOG provides transportation planning and funding for the greater Sacramento region, and serves as a forum for the study and resolution of regional issues. In addition to long-range transportation planning, SACOG coordinates regional discussion of land use and air quality issues.

SACOG is leading regional efforts to ensure the Sacramento region is competitive and receives its fair share of funding for federal infrastructure funding in the proposed economic recovery package as well as in the reauthorization of the federal transportation bill.

Supervisor Thomson will also continue to lead the board on the critical issue of successfully implementing the region's Blueprint growth strategy, adopted in 2005. Under her leadership, SACOG will focus on the Rural-Urban Connections Strategy, a multi-year effort to understand and address infrastructure, agriculture, economic development and other issues in the rural areas of the region.

In addition to the SACOG Board of Directors, Supervisor Thomson was first elected to the Yolo County Board of Supervisors in 1986. She served for three terms before representing the 8<sup>th</sup> Assembly District in the California Legislature. In 2002, when her assembly term ended, Thomson again won a seat on the Yolo County Board of Supervisors, and was re-elected in 2006.

She chairs the Yolo Natural Heritage Program and the First 5 Yolo Commission and the Yolo Children's Alliance. She serves on the California State Association of Counties Health and Human Services Committee, the Yolo-Solano Air Quality Management District Board, and the Lower Putah Creek Coordinating Committee.

Councilmember Clare was first elected to the Galt City Council in 2002 and has served two consecutive terms as Mayor. He serves on the Sacramento Metropolitan Air Quality Management District Board, the San Joaquin Valley Rail Commission, the Galt Redevelopment Agency, and the City and Schools Together Committee.

The SACOG Board meets on the third Thursday of each month at 9 a.m. at 1415 L Street, Suite 300 in Sacramento. Board meetings are open to the public. Agendas and minutes may be obtained by visiting the SACOG website at [www.sacog.org](http://www.sacog.org) or by calling (916) 321-9000.

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