

## Regional Infrastructure Improvement Zones

At the 2006 NARC Annual Conference, the Transportation Executive Committee adopted the concept of Regional Infrastructure Improvement Zones (RIIZ) as an officially endorsed policy of the Association.

RIIZs are a method of infrastructure construction where a private entity donates money or property toward the new facilities. This proposal would make these donations tax deductible under IRS law.

As Federal, state, and local sources of funding for transportation dwindles, innovative sources of funding such as RIIZs will become more important to our financing system.

The Ohio-Kentucky-Indiana Regional Council of Governments and NARC have issued a joint white paper which discusses RIIZs in greater depth. The paper includes sample Federal legislation that would make RIIZs a reality. To download a copy of the white paper, [CLICK HERE](#).

**At the CALCOG Delegates meeting in Monterey this year, CALCOG reaffirmed its support of RIIZs and voted to consider applying this concept to the state and directed that it be furthered considered at the next Executive Committee meeting.**

**After a recent discussion with NARC staff, NARC staff recommended that CALCOG wait until Congress approves legislation before adopting state legislation. Neither the Congress nor any state have approved RIIZ legislation at this time. It would be time consuming for CALCOG to lobby on behalf of RIIZ legislation in the absence of federal legislation.**

**It is suggested that this concept be referred to the State Treasurer's Office because the Treasurer has expertise in infrastructure funding mechanisms and it has the expertise to determine if RIIZs would work in the absence of federal legislation.**