



## Executive Committee Agenda

Friday, February 14, 2025

9 a.m.

Welcome to SANDAG. The Executive Committee meeting scheduled for Friday February 14, 2025, will be held in person in the SANDAG Board Room. While Executive Committee members will attend in person, members of the public will have the option of participating either in person or virtually.

For public participation via Zoom webinar, click the link to join the meeting: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87683492668>

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**Public Comments:** Members of the public may speak to the Executive Committee on any item at the time the Executive Committee is considering the item. Public speakers are generally limited to three minutes or less per person.

Persons who wish to address the members on an item to be considered at this meeting, or on non-agendized issues, may email comments to the Clerk at [clerkoftheboard@sandag.org](mailto:clerkoftheboard@sandag.org) (please reference Executive Committee meeting in your subject line and identify the item number(s) to which your comments pertain). Comments received by 4 p.m. the business day before the meeting will be provided to members prior to the meeting. All comments received prior to the close of the meeting will be made part of the meeting record.

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**Vision Statement:** *Pursuing a brighter future for all*

**Mission Statement:** *We are the regional agency that connects people, places, and innovative ideas by implementing solutions with our unique and diverse communities.*

**Our Commitment to Equity:** *We hold ourselves accountable to the communities we serve. We acknowledge we have much to learn and much to change; and we firmly uphold equity and inclusion for every person in the San Diego region. This includes historically underserved, systemically marginalized groups impacted by actions and inactions at all levels of our government and society.*

*We have an obligation to eliminate disparities and ensure that safe, healthy, accessible, and inclusive opportunities are available to everyone. The SANDAG equity action plan will inform how we plan, prioritize, fund, and build projects and programs; frame how we work with our communities; define how we recruit and develop our employees; guide our efforts to conduct unbiased research and interpret data; and set expectations for companies and stakeholders that work with us.*

*We are committed to creating a San Diego region where every person who visits, works, and lives can thrive.*



# Executive Committee

Friday, February 14, 2025

## Comments and Communications

### 1. Non-Agenda Public Comments/Member Comments

Members of the public shall have the opportunity to address the Board of Directors on any issue within the jurisdiction of SANDAG that is not on this agenda. Public speakers are limited to three minutes or less per person. Public comments under this agenda item will be limited to eight public speakers. If the number of public comments under this agenda item exceeds eight, additional public comments will be taken at the end of the agenda. Board members and SANDAG staff also may present brief updates and announcements under this agenda item.

## Consent

### +2. Approval of Meeting Minutes

Approve

*Francesca Webb, SANDAG*

The Executive Committee is asked to approve the minutes from its December 6, 2024, meeting.

[Meeting Minutes.pdf](#)

### +3. Review of Draft Board Agendas

Approve

*Ariana Galvan, SANDAG*

The Executive Committee is asked to approve the draft agendas for the February 28, 2025, and March 14, 2025, Board of Directors meetings.

[Draft Board Agenda - February 28, 2025.pdf](#)

[Draft Board Agenda - March 14, 2025.pdf](#)

## Reports

### +4. Proposed 2025 Legislative Program

Recommend

*Ryan Williams, Jose Alvarez, SANDAG*

The Executive Committee is asked to recommend that the Board of Directors approve the proposed 2025 Legislative Program.

[Proposed 2025 Legislative Program.pdf](#)

[Att. 1 - Draft 2025 Legislative Program.pdf](#)

[Att. 2 - Ellison Wilson Legislative Activity Report - January 2025.pdf](#)

[Att. 3 - Peyser & Assoc Legislative Activity Report - January 2025.pdf](#)

### +5. SANDAG Policy Advisory Committees Advisory Membership Request by Association of Planning Groups - San Diego County

Recommend

*Association of Planning Groups*

The Executive Committee is asked to consider a recommendation to the Board of Directors to approve the request of the Association of Planning Groups – San Diego County to be appointed as a regular advisory member of the Regional Planning Committee, Transportation Committee, Borders Committee, Public Safety Committee, and Audit Committee.

[New Advisory PAC Members Request Report.pdf](#)

[Att. 1 - Letter from AGPs -SD County to Chairwoman Lesa Heebner.pdf](#)

## **Adjournment**

### **6. Adjournment**

The next meeting of the Executive Committee is scheduled for Friday, March 14, 2025, at 9 a.m.

+ next to an agenda item indicates an attachment

February 14, 2025

## **December 6, 2024, Meeting Minutes**

[View Meeting Video](#)

Vice Chair Sean Elo-Rivera (City of San Diego) called the meeting of the Executive Committee to order at 9:01 a.m.

### **1. Public Comments/Communications/Member Comments**

Public Comments: Michael Brando, Truth, Mark, Paul the Bold, The Original Dra.

Member Comments: Deputy Mayor David Zito (Ex-Officio), Mayor Rebecca Jones (North County Inland).

### **Consent**

### **2. Approval of Meeting Minutes**

The Executive Committee was asked to approve the minutes from its November 8, 2024, meeting.

### **3. Review of Draft Board Agenda**

The Executive Committee was asked to approve the draft agenda for its December 13, 2024, Board of Directors meeting.

Public Comments: Truth, Mark, The Original Dra.

Action: Upon a motion by Second Vice Chair Lesa Heebner (North County Coastal), and a second by Mayor Racquel Vasquez (East County), the Executive Committee voted to approve the Consent Agenda.

The motion passed.

Yes: Vice Chair Elo-Rivera, Second Vice Chair Heebner, Mayor Vasquez, Mayor Jones, and Councilmember Luz Molina (South County).

No: None.

Abstain: None.

Absent: None.

### **Reports**

### **4. Legislative Status Report**

Director of Public Affairs Robyn Wapner and Borders Program Manager Hector Vanegas presented an update on SANDAG legislative and policy activities.

Public Comments: Truth, Mark, Paul the Bold, The Original Dra, Consuelo.

Action: Upon a motion by Second Vice Chair Heebner and a second by Vice Chair Elo-Rivera, the Executive Committee voted to approve a "support" position on the Border Water Quality Restoration and Protection Act of 2024 (S. 5075 / H.R. 9640) and directed staff to take additional actions to support related efforts at the state and federal level.

### **5. Adjournment**

The next meeting of the Executive Committee is scheduled for Friday, January 10, 2024, at 9 a.m.

Vice Chair Elo-Rivera adjourned the meeting at 9:51 a.m.

## Confirmed Attendance at Executive Committee Meeting

December 6, 2024

Jurisdiction	Name	Member/ Alternate	Attend
City of San Diego	Vice Chair Sean Elo-Rivera	Primary	Yes
	Councilmember Raul Campillo	Alternate	No
	Councilmember Vivian Moreno	Alternate	No
County of San Diego	Chairwoman Nora Vargas	Primary	No
	Supervisor Monica Montgomery Steppe	Alternate	No
East County	Mayor Racquel Vasquez	Primary	Yes
	Councilmember Jack Shu	Alternate	Yes
North County Coastal	Mayor Lesa Heebner, 2nd Vice Chair	Primary	Yes
	Councilmember Melanie Burkholder	Alternate	Yes
North County Inland	Mayor Rebecca Jones	Primary	Yes
	Mayor Steve Vaus	Alternate	No
South County	Councilmember Luz Molina	Primary	Yes
	Councilmember John Duncan	Alternate	Yes
Ex-Officio Members	Name		Attend
Chair, Transportation Committee	Councilmember Jack Shu		Yes
Chair, Public Safety Committee	Councilmember Jose Rodriguez		No
Chair, Borders Committee	Supervisor Jesus Eduardo Escobar		No
Chair, Audit Committee	Councilmember David Zito		Yes
Chair, Regional Planning Committee	Council President Pro Tem Joe LaCava		No

# Board of Directors

Friday, February 28, 2025

## Comments and Communications

### 1. Non-Agenda Public Comments/Member Comments

Members of the public shall have the opportunity to address the Board of Directors on any issue within the jurisdiction of SANDAG that is not on this agenda. Public speakers are limited to three minutes or less per person. Public comments under this agenda item will be limited to eight public speakers. If the number of public comments under this agenda item exceeds eight, additional public comments will be taken at the end of the agenda. Board members and SANDAG staff also may present brief updates and announcements under this agenda item.

## Consent

### +2. Approval of Meeting Minutes

*Francesca Webb, SANDAG*

Approve

The Board of Directors is asked to approve the minutes from its February 14, 2025, meeting.

### +3. Chief Executive Officer Delegated Actions\*

*Beth Lupu, SANDAG*

Information

In accordance with various board policies, this report summarizes delegated actions taken by the Chief Executive Officer.

### +4. Proposed 2025 Legislative Program

*Ryan Williams, Jose Alvarez, SANDAG*

Approve

The Executive Committee recommends that the Board of Directors approve the proposed 2025 Legislative Program.

### +5. Public Beach Restoration Grant Application

*Jenny Russo and Kim Smith, SANDAG*

Adopt

The Board of Directors is asked to adopt Resolution No. 2025-XX, approving the submission of a grant application to the California State Parks Division of Boating and Waterways for the Regional Beach Sand Project III.

### +6. SANDAG Policy Advisory Committees Advisory Membership Request by Association of Planning Groups - San Diego County

*Association of Planning Groups*

Approve

The Board of Directors is asked to consider the request of the Association of Planning Groups – San Diego County to be appointed as a regular advisory member of the Regional Planning Committee, Transportation Committee, Borders Committee, Public Safety Committee, and Audit Committee.

## Reports

**+7. San Diego LOSSAN Rail Realignment Project Objectives and Alternative Alignments** Approve

*Maria Rodriguez Molina, Keith Greer, Danny Veeh, SANDAG*

The Board of Directors is asked to provide feedback on the project goals and objectives; and provide direction to staff on the alternative alignments to analyze in the Draft EIR for the San Diego LOSSAN Rail Realignment Project.

## Adjournment

**8. Adjournment**

The next Board of Directors meeting is scheduled for Friday, March 14, 2025, at 10:30 a.m.

+ next to an agenda item indicates an attachment

\* next to an agenda item indicates that the Board of Directors also is acting as the San Diego County Regional Transportation Commission for that item

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# Board of Directors

Friday, March 14, 2025

## Comments and Communications

### 1. Non-Agenda Public Comments/Member Comments

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## Consent

### +2. Approval of Meeting Minutes

*Francesca Webb, SANDAG*

Approve

The Board of Directors is asked to approve the minutes from its February 28, 2025, meeting.

### +3. Meetings and Events Attended on Behalf of SANDAG

*Francesca Webb, SANDAG*

Information

This report provides an update on meetings and events attended by Board members.

### +4. Policy Advisory Committee Actions

*Francesca Webb, SANDAG*

Approve

The Board of Directors is asked to ratify the actions taken by the Policy Advisory Committees as noted in the report.

### +5. 2025 Bike Month and SANDAG Bike Anywhere Day Proclamation

*Khalisa Bolling, Rachel Forseth, SANDAG*

Adopt

The Board of Directors is asked to adopt Resolution No. 2025-XX, supporting May as Bike Month, and encouraging member agencies to approve similar proclamations and promote Bike Month activities including SANDAG Bike Anywhere Day.

### +6. Quarterly Project Progress and Budget Update, FY 2025, Quarter 2

*Antoinette Meier, Clint Peace, David Cortez, Grace Mino, Lucinda Broussard, Maria Rodriguez Molina*

Information

This quarterly report provides an update on the status of the agency's projects as approved in the FY 2025 Program Budget through December 2024 (Quarter 2).

### +7. Approval of Proposed Solicitations and Contract Awards

*Kelly Mikhail, SANDAG*

Approve

The Board of Directors is asked to authorize the Chief Executive Officer to conduct the proposed solicitation(s) and contract awards as identified in this report.

## Reports

### +8. Downtown Stopover Update

Information

*David Cortez, SANDAG*

Staff will present an overview and updated of the Downtown Stopover project.

## Adjournment

### 9. Adjournment

The next Board of Directors meeting is scheduled for Friday, March 28 2025, at 9:00 a.m.

+ next to an agenda item indicates an attachment

\* next to an agenda item indicates that the Board of Directors also is acting as the San Diego County Regional Transportation Commission for that item

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February 14, 2025

## Proposed 2025 Legislative Program

### Overview

The proposed 2025 Legislative Program provides a framework to advance policies and legislative initiatives in support of the agency's mission, strategic goals, and long-term vision. Consistent with [Board Policy No. 001](#), the Executive Committee reviews SANDAG's state and federal advocacy agenda and recommends approval of the legislative program to the Board of Directors.

### Action: Recommend

The Executive Committee is asked to recommend that the Board of Directors approve the proposed 2025 Legislative Program.

### Key Considerations

The proposed 2025 Legislative Program is largely similar to the prior year's program, with any revisions shown in tracked changes. There are minor changes throughout the document to clarify language, reduce overlap, and add mention of topics likely to require legislative and funding advocacy in the year ahead, including mention of supporting policy and funding strategies to address the Tijuana River Valley. One new goal has been added to ensure an appropriate level of attention is focused on any new developments around the emerging topic of artificial intelligence (number 32 under "monitor").

### Fiscal Impact:

None.

### Schedule/Scope Impact:

None.

Other minor revisions have been included throughout the program to be consistent with current agency practices and work plans. Attachment 1 shows all of the proposed revisions in tracked changes.

### Next Steps

If recommended by the Executive Committee and adopted by the Board, staff will use the Legislative Program to guide SANDAG legislative advocacy and activities.

### ***Robyn Wapner, Director of Public Affairs***

- Attachments:
1. Draft 2025 Legislative Program
  2. Ellison Wilson Legislative Activity Report – January 2025
  3. Peyser & Associates Legislative Activity Report – January 2025

## 2025 Legislative and Policy Programs

The SANDAG Legislative and Policy Program provides a framework to advance policies and legislative initiatives in support of the agency's mission, strategic goals, and long-term vision. In 2025, SANDAG will work to support the following initiatives:

No.	SUPPORT
1	Efforts to inform the next Federal Surface Transportation Authorization, including appropriate funding levels, goods movement and border programs, transit investment and reforms, <b>grade separation improvements</b> , process improvements (including streamlined environmental processes), active transportation, and tribal transportation planning.
2	Resources and funding mechanisms consistent with financial strategies adopted in the Regional Plan, including but not limited to increasing revenues for transportation, cap-and-trade revenues, gas tax or equivalent revenue sources, bond measures, public/private partnerships, smart growth, and higher pass-through maintenance/preservation funding.
3	Expanded access to resources and technical tools that will enable SANDAG to implement the Regional Plan.
4	Efforts that address border transportation infrastructure needs consistent with the Regional Plan and California-Baja California Border Master Plan.
5	Policy and/or legislative changes to streamline the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) <b>and the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)</b> for public transit improvements, active transportation projects, and other transportation projects located within existing rights-of-way.
6	Policy and/or legislative changes to improve the planning and implementation of the Regional Plan, <b>including efforts to reform SB 375 mandates.</b>
7	Capital and <b>flexible</b> sustaining operations funding for public transit and continued support for intercity rail, including funding to promote zero fare public transit <b>for youth</b> as well as funding to increase specialized transportation, <b>active transportation, and micro-mobility projects</b> for non-profit organizations and transit operators.
8	Efforts to advance connected and autonomous vehicle technology to enhance transportation safety, sustainable and efficient mobility, a healthier environment, and economic growth and job creation.
9	Efforts to advance clean energy and clean transportation policies, programs, and legislation for the region that are consistent with the Regional Energy Strategy, the Zero Emission Freight Transition at the California-Baja California Border Plan, and Regional Plan.
10	Incentives to jurisdictions that provide opportunities for more housing, including affordable and transit-oriented developments; efforts to create social housing to address the shortage of affordable homes by developing publicly owned housing for people of all income levels; regional fair-share allocation of housing funds; and providing additional affordable housing funding with greater local/regional control.
11	Policy and funding to support safe conditions for those who walk, cycle, roll, drive, and use alternate transportation, and reach a Vision Zero goal.
12	Efforts to pursue funding and enact policies, programs, legislation, and other initiatives that advance equity and inclusion, <del>including eliminating the digital divide in underserved communities, rural communities, and tribal lands.</del>

No.	SUPPORT
13	Policies and/or legislation implementing climate action and adaptation plans and programs, including cap-and-trade, that are consistent with the Regional Plan.
14	Efforts to pursue resources to improve regional public safety voice and data communications, <del>and as well as intelligent transportation system interoperability, including connectivity</del> with state, <del>and</del> federal, and <del>binational</del> systems.
15	Efforts to pursue funding at both the state and federal levels to improve public safety and security in the San Diego region through Automated Regional Justice Information System operations and enhancements, regional transportation system improvements, and activities related to regional emergency preparedness, prevention, and response to catastrophic events <del>including the January 22, 2024 flooding disaster.</del>
16	Fiscal reform initiatives that enable regions to develop their own fiscal strategies and oppose unfunded mandates on local governments.
17	Efforts assisting <del>in</del> the implementation <del>of policy</del> and funding <del>strategies to address of</del> key environmental issues, including environmental mitigation, climate resiliency, habitat conservation, <del>planning</del> , beach restoration and replenishment, <del>coastal erosion</del> , and water quality-related issues <del>such as Tijuana River Valley sewage pollution.</del>
18	Efforts to expand available methods of transportation project delivery, including design-build, <del>progressive design-build</del> , design sequencing, construction manager/general contractor, and other alternative methods that expedite connectivity with state and federal systems.
19	Efforts to support funding opportunities and legislation that promote the implementation of effective and collaborative strategies and programs that maintain public safety and promote quality of life and public health, including initiatives that address substance abuse and graffiti abatement and reduce criminal violence.
20	Legislation and/or policies that promote governmental efficiencies and cost savings.
21	Transit boards' legislative programs where consistent with SANDAG Policy.
22	Other organizations' legislative programs where consistent with SANDAG Policy (i.e., California Association of Councils of Governments, American Public Transportation Association, National Association of Regional Councils, California Transit Association, Self-Help Counties Coalition, League of California Cities, California State Association of Counties, Caltrans, International Association of Chiefs of Police, National Sheriffs' Association, California Police Chiefs Association, California State Sheriffs' Association, Coalition for America's Gateways and Trade Corridors (CAGTC), and National Association of Counties).
23	Lead efforts to pursue legislative and/or administrative reform of the Regional Housing Needs Assessment process and state housing element law.
24	<del>Efforts to support public and private funding opportunities to recover from the Jan 22, 2024 flooding disaster, including infrastructure and housing aid.</del>
24	Efforts assisting the implementation of SANDAG Board Resolution 2023-11, "Declaring support of eliminating the debt and toll-only operations on the SR-125 by 2027."

No.	MONITOR
25	Proposals that limit the use of eminent domain for public infrastructure projects.
26	Legislation affecting solid waste, water supply, and storm water; support funding opportunities to assist in these areas, and implementation of the Regional Plan.
27	Legislation relating to personnel matters (i.e., workers' compensation, Public Employee Retirement System benefits) and other labor related issues.
28	Legislation requiring local agencies to implement new administrative compliance measures.
29	Legislative efforts related to offshore oil drilling in the coastal waters within the San Diego region.
30	Legislation and policies impacting the development and implementation of Alternative Planning Strategies, as well as planning requirements set forth by the California Air Resources Board and other state agencies.
31	Legislation relating to transportation operating agency coordination.
32	Legislation relating to applications of artificial intelligence and technologies within transportation and infrastructure.

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**TO:** SANDAG BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
**FROM:** ELLISON WILSON ADVOCACY, LLC  
**SUBJECT:** SANDAG LEGISLATIVE REPORT – JANUARY 2025

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### **Legislative Overview**

The Legislature reconvened in Sacramento on January 6<sup>th</sup>, when in addition to conducting its regular work for the 2025-26 Regular Session, also began work on the special session to authorize additional resources to the Attorney General's office for anticipated litigation involving the incoming Trump administration. Further, the Legislature expanded the special session to include proposals related to the recent L.A. fires, including a proposed plan to spend \$2.5 billion on related emergency response and disaster recovery.

The remaining legislative calendar for 2025 includes:

- February 21: Last day for bills to be introduced
- May 2: Last day for policy committees to hear first house fiscal bills
- May 23: Last day for fiscal committees to hear first house bills
- June 6: Last day for each house to pass first house bills
- June 15: Last day for Budget bill to be passed
- July 18: Last day for policy committees to hear all bills
- July 18-August 18: Summer Recess
- August 29: Last day for fiscal committees to hear all bills
- September 5: Last day to amend bills on the Floor
- September 12: Last day for each house to pass bills
- October 12: Last day for the Governor to sign or veto all bills

### **SB 10 (Padilla) Introduced to Authorize Otay Mesa East Toll Facility Toll Revenues to Tijuana River Mitigation**

In this new legislative session, Senator Steve Padilla introduced SB 10, which would authorize SANDAG to also use the toll revenues from the Otay Mesa East Toll Facility for: "Costs associated with environmental mitigation and restoration of the Tijuana River Valley and adjoining lands by way of wastewater infrastructure and related projects to address the sewage crisis and benefit of the residents of the southern portion of the County of San Diego." SANDAG has engaged in ongoing discussions with Senator Padilla and his office to ensure any proposed changes do not unnecessarily place the project in jeopardy. Further amendments are expected before the bill is heard by any policy or fiscal committees.

### **Governor Released his January State Budget Proposal**

On January 10<sup>th</sup>, Governor Newsom released his January 2025-26 Budget Proposal, which formally kicks off this year's budget process. Details are still scarce, but typically, both budget committees will begin reviewing the Governor's proposal, with committee and subcommittee hearings discussing the proposal, as well as legislative budget priorities, in-depth beginning in mid-March. The Governor will subsequently release his May Revise, before the Legislature passes its budget in mid-June for the Governor's signature by July 1<sup>st</sup>.

Overall, the Governor is proposing a \$322.3 billion budget (\$228.9 billion in General Fund spending) and touts a "modest surplus" of \$363 million. However, this includes a proposed withdrawal of \$7.1 billion from the Budget Stabilization Account (BSA), also known as the Rainy Day Fund.

Of note for SANDAG, the proposal, as noted in the Governor's Budget Summary, includes:

#### Climate Bond

The Governor's Budget proposes \$2.7 billion for the first year of a multi-year expenditure plan to implement the \$10 billion Climate Bond (Proposition 4) authorized by voters in November, including investments for:

- **water-related infrastructure**
- **wildfire and forest resilience**
- **coastal resilience**, specifically including:
  - Coastal Resilience – \$30.8 million for projects to protect coastal lands, public access facilities, and habitats, as well as an additional \$20 million for projects that address sea level rise, flood management, and wetland restoration, consistent with the San Francisco Bay Restoration Authority Act or the San Francisco Bay Area Conservancy Program.
  - Sea Level Rise Mitigation and Adaptation – \$20.3 million for planning and implementation of projects that help communities prepare for impacts of sea level rise and coastal flooding, and \$7.5 million for grants to increase resilience of coastal ecosystems and protect marine wildlife.
- **extreme heat mitigation**, specifically including:
  - Urban Greening Program – \$46.8 million for greening communities through the creation and expansion of green streets, parks, and schoolyards.
  - Fairground Updates – \$37.6 million to modify or upgrade fairgrounds to enhance communities' emergency preparedness capabilities, particularly in response to climate change.
  - Extreme Heat and Community Resilience Program – \$16.1 million to fund projects that reduce the impacts of extreme heat, reduce urban heat island effect, and build community resilience to extreme heat.
- **nature-based solutions**
- **climate smart agriculture**
- **outdoor access**
- **clean air and energy**

#### Cap-and-Trade

The Governor states, "The Administration, in partnership with the Legislature, will need to consider extending the cap-and-trade program beyond 2030 to achieve carbon neutrality. Although the current cap-and-trade program does not expire until 2030, considering extension sooner could provide greater certainty and attract stable investment. Key to any conversation around extension is the usage of the proceeds from the cap-and-trade program. The Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund must support Californians as the state makes the transition to a clean economy by investing in programs that deliver effective pollution reduction results, support clean transportation and communities, and help address energy affordability."



## Transportation

The Budget maintains the entirety of the transportation package included in recent budgets. This includes \$15.4 billion from various funds over multiple years for the following:

- \$7.7 billion for high-priority transit and rail infrastructure projects that will improve rail and transit connectivity between state and local/regional services that are designed to provide options to opt-out of traffic congestion and reduce greenhouse gas emissions. A portion of these funds can also be used to support transit operations.
- \$4.2 billion Proposition 1A for the High-Speed Rail Authority to continue building the 1019-mile Central Valley Segment from Madera to just north of Bakersfield.
- \$1.2 billion for projects that improve goods movement on rail and roadways at port terminals, including railyard expansions, new bridges, and zero-emission modernization projects.
- \$1.1 billion for Active Transportation Program projects, the Reconnecting Communities Highways to Boulevards Pilot program, and climate adaptation projects to advance equity and health outcomes.
- \$1.1 billion for the Zero Emission Transit Capital Program.
- \$150 million for grade separation projects that support critical safety improvements and improve traffic and rail movement by separating the vehicle roadway from the rail tracks.

In addition to maintaining the transportation package, the Budget includes \$25 million General Fund for the Clean California Program for a Community Cleanup and Employment Pathways Grant Program. This funding will provide matching grants to communities with a Clean California Community designation focused on both litter remediation and jobs creation.

## Housing & Homelessness

- **New California Housing & Homelessness Agency:** the Administration is proposing to establish a new California Housing and Homelessness Agency to create a more integrated and effective administrative framework for addressing the state's housing and homelessness challenges. This new agency will strengthen California's ability to plan, produce, and preserve housing while enhancing the state's homelessness response now and over the long term by aligning housing initiatives with complementary policy areas – such as transportation, health, climate, energy, and community planning. As a result, the agency will foster greater coordination and strategic alignment across state government. More details will be provided in the spring through a Reorganization Plan submitted to the Little Hoover Commission.
- **[Unspecified] Housing Proposals:** The Administration is committed to working with the Legislature to advance policies that reduce housing costs and enhance accountability for jurisdictions to meet their state housing obligations. Additionally, the Administration is focused on policies to promote efficient land use practices that integrate housing and transportation, including removing barriers to infill housing and supporting transit-oriented development, to help achieve the state's housing and environmental goals while reducing costs for communities across California.

Accordingly, the Administration puts forth the following policy principles:

- **Reduce Costs** – The state should help lower housing construction costs by streamlining processes and removing unnecessary barriers to development, including addressing delays in project approvals and permitting. Additionally, the state should pursue policies to reduce costs associated with existing laws that hinder housing production and increase costs and development risks.
- **Enhanced Accountability** – The state should strengthen mechanisms to ensure jurisdictions meet their state housing obligations and comply with existing laws, including the Housing Accountability Act and Permit Streamlining Act.

- Housing and Transportation – The state should advance policies that remove barriers to infill housing near transit, including efforts to align long-term housing and transportation planning, and further the ability to utilize housing as a mitigation strategy for infrastructure projects.
- **Homelessness:** The Budget continues to include \$100 million General Fund for Encampment Resolution Fund grants as committed to in the 2024-25 Budget.

### **San Diego Delegation Received Committee Assignments**

Following Speaker Rivas’ and President pro Tem McGuire’s appointment of committee members, the members of the San Diego delegation have been placed on the following committees:

#### **Assembly Member David Alvarez (AD-80)**

Budget (First Extraordinary) - Member  
 Budget - Member  
 Budget Subcommittee No. 3 on Education Finance - Chair  
 Education - Member  
 Governmental Organization - Member  
 Insurance - Member  
 Rules (First Extraordinary) - Member  
 Water, Parks, and Wildlife - Member  
 Joint Legislative Budget - Member

#### **Assembly Member Tasha Boerner (AD-77)**

Communications and Conveyance - Chair  
 Higher Education - Member  
 Public Employment and Retirement - Member  
 Utilities and Energy - Member  
 Water, Parks, and Wildlife - Member

#### **Assembly Member Laurie Davies (AD-74)**

Governmental Organization - Member  
 Military and Veterans Affairs - Vice Chair  
 Transportation - Vice Chair  
 Water, Parks, and Wildlife - Member

#### **Assembly Member Carl DeMaio (AD-75)**

Budget - Member  
 Budget Subcommittee No. 5 on State Administration - Member  
 Emergency Management - Member  
 Higher Education - Vice Chair  
 Privacy and Consumer Protection - Member  
 Revenue and Taxation - Member  
 Joint Legislative Audit - Member

#### **Assembly Member Dr. Darshana Patel (AD-76)**

Budget - Member  
 Budget Subcommittee No. 3 on Education Finance - Member  
 Economic Development, Growth, and Household Impact - Member  
 Education - Member  
 Health - Member

Higher Education - Member  
Rules (First Extraordinary) - Member  
Rules - Member

**Assembly Member Dr. LaShae Sharp-Collins (AD-79)**

Aging and Long-Term Care - Member  
Budget - Member  
Budget Subcommittee No. 2 on Human Services - Member  
Health - Member  
Higher Education - Member  
Public Safety - Member

**Assembly Member Chris Ward (AD-78)**

Arts, Entertainment, Sports, and Tourism - Chair  
Budget - Member  
Budget Subcommittee No. 5 on State Administration - Member  
Labor and Employment - Member  
Local Government - Member  
Privacy and Consumer Protection - Member  
Transportation - Member

**Senator Catherine Blakespear (SD-38)**

Budget And Fiscal Review - Member  
Budget And Fiscal Review Subcommittee No. 2 On Resources, Environmental Protection And Energy - Member  
Environmental Quality - Chair  
Governmental Organization - Member  
Transportation - Member  
Joint Legislative Committee On Climate Change Policies - Member  
Subcommittee on LOSSAN Rail Corridor Resiliency - Chair

**Senator Brian Jones (SD-40)**

Governmental Organization - Member  
Insurance - Member  
Rules – Member  
Joint Rules - Member  
Joint Committee on Fisheries and Aquaculture - Member

**Senator Steve Padilla (SD-18)**

Agriculture - Member  
Governmental Organization - Chair  
Health - Member  
Housing - Member  
Insurance - Member  
Joint Committee on Fairs Allocation and Classification - Member

**Senator Akilah Weber Pierson (SD-39)**

Budget and Fiscal Review – Member  
Budget and Fiscal Review (First Extraordinary) – Member  
Budget Subcommittee #3 on Health and Human Services - Chair

Business, Professions and Economic Development - Member  
Governmental Organization - Member  
Health - Member  
Judiciary - Member  
Joint Committee on Fisheries and Aquaculture - Member  
Joint Legislative Committee on Climate Change Policies - Member  
Joint Legislative Budget Committee - Member

**PEYSER ASSOCIATES**  
**LLC**

Peter A. Peyser

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January 31, 2025

**Transportation Update from Peyser Associates**

**DOT On Fast Track to Review Executive Order Alignment for Grants, Policies, Rules**

It has been a head-snapping week that took us from a government wide funding freeze, to the withdrawal of the freeze, to an agency-wide review of all DOT grants, policies, rules and activities to ensure their alignment with Trump Administration priorities. After that review, DOT will initiate actions to bring its grants and policies into alignment with the key executive orders issued last week.

As this update is written, we are on day 2 of a ten-day review period at the end of which all elements of DOT will report to the Secretary on how all aspects of their work align with White House executive orders on DEI, energy and environment policy and gender issues. Ten days after that – around February 18 – the first actions flowing from this process are scheduled to unfold.

Under the Memorandum sent to all DOT offices on Wednesday, Secretary Sean Duffy pointed out that in addition to changing policy statements, rules and regulations, guidance and NOFOs, the actions resulting from this review could include actions to “rescind, revoke, cancel or terminate” all types of agency actions including funding agreements.

Given the significant detailed review that will be required to analyze all grant agreements, it is most likely that the initial actions taken 20 days after the release of the Duffy memo will be changes and cancellation of policy statements and guidelines. Actions to delay, alter or cancel NOFO’s would be the next easiest to accomplish. Actions relating to specific grants would likely take more time.

Access to DOT agencies to discuss the potential impacts of this review process on specific grants may be difficult. Some DOT offices have severely restricted contact between grantees and agency staff. Others have not. In the coming days a more consistent approach to communication may emerge.

**New DOT Order Requires New Policy Guidance on DOT Programs**

Secretary Duffy last night released a DOT Order to all elements of the Department that “updates and resets the principles and standards underpinning U.S. Department of Transportation (Department or DOT) policies, programs, and activities to mandate reliance on rigorous

economic analysis and positive cost-benefit calculations and ensure that all DOT grants, loans, contracts, and DOT-supported or -assisted State contracts bolster the American economy and benefit the American people.”

The order will require new Benefit Cost Analysis guidelines from the Department to remove any reference to hard-to-quantify social costs of greenhouse gas emissions benefits from BCAs. It also requires that policies and requirements for programs focus on benefits to communities and families and reduce harms to communities and families. Among its specific directions is one that programs should give preferences to communities with marriage and birth rates higher than the national average and that grants should “require local compliance or cooperation with Federal immigration enforcement and with other goals and objectives specified by the President of the United States or the Secretary.” The order specifically calls out the FTA Capital Investment Grant program in reference to the preference for communities with higher marriage and birth rates.

This order is likely to require DOT agencies to amend existing guidance – including for the CIG program – or cancel that guidance and reissue new guidance as needed.

### **Former New York Rep. Marc Molinaro Rumored as Trump FTA Pick**

Media outlets in New York are stoking a story that former New York Rep. Marc Molinaro (R) is in line to be nominated as Federal Transit Administrator. Molinaro served one term in the House from a Hudson Valley district and was defeated for re-election this past November. His service in the House was a capstone on a career in elected office that began in 1994 when he was elected to the village of Tivoli, New York’s Board of Trustees at the age of 18. He moved up to Mayor, New York State Assembly and Dutchess County Executive. He was the GOP candidate for Governor of New York in 2018 and lost to then-Governor Andrew Cuomo. He got elected to Congress in 2022 on his second try, having lost a special election in 2021.

Molinaro’s home turf is served by the Metro-North Commuter railroad and by Amtrak’s Empire Corridor. He was not strongly engaged on transportation issues while in Congress but did create something of a profile as an Amtrak critic when he led the effort in 2024 to pass legislation to force Amtrak to disclose the bonuses paid to its top executives. He has also been a strong critic of New York MTA’s congestion pricing program, which just went into effect earlier this month.

Meanwhile, FTA is about to get its first political appointee on Monday when Melissa Mejias joins the agency as Director of Governmental and Legislative Affairs. Melissa has been at APTA for the past three-plus years on their government affairs and advocacy team and worked at EPA in the first Trump Administration.

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January 24, 2025

### **Transportation Update from Peyser Associates**

#### **Brief Halt in Transportation Funding Points Out Risks for Grant Recipients**

For 24 hours this week, the Department of Transportation shut down its systems for reimbursing grant recipients, including those seeking routine formula funding disbursements. The cause of the interruption was an Executive Order issued by the White House that called on federal agencies to halt for 90 days funding for certain programs under the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law and the Inflation Reduction Act. While the description of the intent of the order appeared to target programs surrounding EV and other green technologies and policies the Administration sees as discouraging oil and gas production, the wording to the section directing action by agencies appeared to be broadly applied to all programs under those two bills.

OMB on Tuesday issued what they referred to as a clarification that their only target was programs to encourage EVs and discourage oil and gas production. About \$11 billion of unobligated funds is the target of the order.

While in the end this order and its aftermath were only a temporary blip for most transportation-related programs, the Administration's willingness to disrupt the operation of programs created by Congress to achieve policy goals different from those pursued by the legislation points out the risk of future actions that would re-direct funds already awarded, repurpose grants for programs they don't agree with and even claw-back funds in executed grants. In fact, based on recent conversations with GOP staffers on Capitol Hill, it is clear they are expecting that projects that received multi-year funding commitments from the Biden Administration under BIL programs may see their FY 2026 awards pulled-back. This is viewed as "low hanging fruit" for the new Administration.

### **GOP Seeks a Path to Debt-Limit Increase, Tax Cuts and Spending Cuts**

House GOP leaders are working to develop the scope of a massive reconciliation measure that would accomplish some of President Trump's key goals, most particularly raising the federal debt limit and extending and potentially expanding tax cuts enacted during his first term. In previous years, the spending cuts would have been considered as offsets to the revenue losses resulting from tax cuts. This time around however, the spending cuts are needed because a group of the most conservative Members of the GOP caucus insist on them in exchange for their votes for the debt limit increase. The need for spending cuts as offsets for the tax cuts appears to have been eliminated by the GOP's adoption of "dynamic scoring," which allows them to assume that the increased economic activity resulting from the tax cuts will result in sufficient revenue to offset the cut in rates.

The House Budget Committee this week began circulating an options paper for potential cuts. The highlight appears to be entitlement cuts in the Medicaid program, which provides health care for low-income people. The proposed cuts would limit eligibility for legal immigrants, change formula reimbursement rates to states, put a per capita cap on benefits, and make other changes that shift Medicaid costs to states.

The high-wire the GOP House leadership is walking here is treacherous. As three of their Members are about to be confirmed in jobs in the Trump Administration, they are entering about a 90-day period when they will essentially have only 1 vote to spare. Unlike previous efforts to

enact Continuing Resolutions, on this one Democrats will not supply any votes for a package including the tax cuts and Medicaid cuts.

Leadership will also need to navigate the timing of the reconciliation package alongside the need for pushing forward to complete spending bills for Fiscal Year 2025 before the current CR expires on March 14. Given the difficulties in pulling together a reconciliation package that can pass the House, it is likely the focus will be on completing the spending bills and the Reconciliation Package will move later in the Spring.

### **Duffy Headed for Easy Confirmation**

Sean Duffy's nomination for Secretary of Transportation advanced to the Senate floor with a unanimous vote on Wednesday from the Senate Commerce Committee. His confirmation could occur in the next few working days and he could be sworn in before the end of next week.

The Commerce Committee has not yet scheduled a hearing on the nomination of Stephen Bradbury as Deputy Secretary or David Fink for Administrator of the Federal Railroad Administration.

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January 17, 2025

### **Transportation Update from Peyser Associates**

#### **Duffy Enjoys a Smooth Confirmation Hearing**

President-elect Trump's pick for Secretary of Transportation gave a solid performance Wednesday at a peaceful confirmation hearing at the Senate Committee on Commerce, Science and Transportation. There appear to be no barriers to his speedy confirmation, possibly as early as next week.

The hearing began with new Chair Ted Cruz (R-TX) and former Chair, now Ranking Member Maria Cantwell (D-WA) professing their desire for the committee to operate on a bipartisan basis in the 119<sup>th</sup> Congress, even though, as Sen. Cruz said, there will be "vigorous disagreements" from time-to-time. The bipartisan tone largely continued through the questioning from Senators.

With regard to transit, Sen. Cantwell raised the importance of continued support for transit in general and the capital program of Sound Transit in particular. She asked if Duffy is committed to "working with this Committee on public transit investment." He said "I am." New Senator Andy Kim (D-NJ) also referenced the importance of NJ Transit to his state and pointed out the impact to NJT rail service from service disruptions on the Northeast Corridor rail line. Duffy's response to Kim's statement was to say "I would welcome the opportunity to continue to work with you and learn more about the issues that you have with New Jersey Transit." Sen. Lisa Blunt Rochester (D-DE) mentioned the importance of rural transit and Duffy agreed that it is important. That was the extent of the discussion on public transit in the hearing.



Kim's question on NJ Transit offered a natural transition to a question about Amtrak. Kim gently pointed out he was aware of Mr. Duffy's voting record in opposition to Amtrak funding when he represented a Northern Wisconsin district in the House. Duffy responded by pointing out that his district had no Amtrak service and that he used to hear about that at town hall meetings. But he went on to say that "this committee has spoken loudly about Amtrak and rail in their home communities. And so, I'm going to continue to work with the committee and abide by the law, enforce the law, and implement the law as passed by this body." GOP Senators Jerry Moran (R-KS) and Roger Wicker (R-MI), together with Democratic Senator Amy Klobuchar (D-MN) and Sen. Rochester also voiced support for Amtrak service in their states and received similar responses from Duffy.

With regard to high-speed rail, both the California High Speed Rail and Brightline West projects were discussed, but in very different contexts. Sen. Cruz used part of his question time to decry the Biden Administration's decision to provide more than \$3 billion to what he described as "this ill-fated project." He said the Biden Administration had refused to supply him with information on the DOT ratings ascribed to applications from the project that resulted in funding award and asked if he would supply that information to the committee once he got into office. Duffy said he would. In contrast to that exchange was the warm exchange between Sen. Jacky Rosen (D-NV) and Duffy regarding the Brightline West Project. Reacting to a statement of support for Brightline West from the Senator Duffy said: "I think it's projects like that that make a lot of sense. A lot of ridership and it can take cars off the road."

At the close of the hearing, Chairman Cruz indicated Members could submit questions for the record to Duffy until COB yesterday and that he would respond by COB on Sunday the 19<sup>th</sup>. Later yesterday, Cruz scheduled a committee meeting for next Wednesday to vote on the nomination. GOP Senate leaders are hoping to confirm as many of Trump's cabinet picks as possible next week and Duffy is very likely to be on that list.

### **House Transportation Committee Kicks off the Year New Subcommittee Chairs Named**

The House Committee on Transportation & Infrastructure on Wednesday held its organizational meeting for the 119<sup>th</sup> Congress. In connection with that, Majority and Minority leaders of the committee announced the roster of subcommittee chairs, which includes new leadership for the railroad subcommittee.

Taking over from Rep. Troy Nehls (R-TX) on the subcommittee will be Rep. David Rouzer (R-NC). Rep. Rouzer represents a district with an Eastern boundary on the North Carolina coastline that includes Wilmington and then extends to the Northwest to reach Fayetteville. Rep. Rouzer has expressed some support for continued investment in rail infrastructure, but his major focus recently has been to demand more transparency from Amtrak concerning its compensation of senior executives. He is the primary author of a bill that passed the House this week to require Amtrak to disclose the compensation of its leadership.

On the Democratic side, Rep. Dina Titus (D-NV) will become the new Ranking Member of the subcommittee. In her press release about her appointment to the position, Rep. Titus noted her

“decades of advocacy” for high-speed rail between Las Vegas and Los Angeles. She is also a strong supporter of Amtrak funding.

These appointments don’t materially change the way passenger rail issues will be treated by the subcommittee or the full committee.

### **OMB Nominee Says Impoundment Control Act is Constitutional But Doesn’t Eschew Impoundment**

In a nomination hearing this week Russell Vought, President-elect Trump’s nominee for Director of the Office of Management and Budget raised the specter that the Trump Administration will seek ways to release less than appropriated amounts of funds for government programs – a practice called impoundment that has been prohibited by law for more than 50 years.

Under repeated questioning from Democratic Senators, Vought acknowledged that the Impoundment Control Act, enacted in 1974, is the law of the land and that the Supreme Court has ruled on multiple occasions in the past that it is constitutional. However, he pointed out that he and President Trump disagree with those previous court decisions and will be exploring through the policy process and in consultation with the Department of Justice how to exercise executive authority over spending. This is a clear indication that the Trump Administration is considering bringing the issue of impoundment back to a Supreme Court they believe will be more friendly to assertions of executive power than the previous courts.

If they decide to take this course, they will likely force the issue by issuing an impoundment order on a specific program or programs or by issuing an Executive Order directing agencies to bring forward a list of programs for which they propose to impound funds. Either one of those actions could trigger litigation that would come to the Supreme Court either directly or after an initial ruling in the DC Circuit. The ultimate success of this effort would be a sea change in American fiscal policy that would render Congress’ vaunted “power of the purse” much less powerful. In the realm of domestic policy, this may be the most consequential battle during the Trump years.

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January 10, 2025

### **Transportation Update from Peyser Associates**

#### **GOP Leaders Seeking A Path to Accomplishing the Trump Agenda**

When this week started, GOP leaders in the House and Senate appeared to be on divergent paths to accomplishing key parts of President-elect Trump’s agenda. House Speaker Mike Johnson (R-LA) was preparing to follow the public and private statements of Mr. Trump that he wanted “one big beautiful bill” that would deal with border security, the extension of his tax cut, the lifting of the debt ceiling and spending cuts. Senate Majority Leader John Thune (R-SD) on the other hand was pushing for a two-bill approach that would bring up the border security and

immigration issues first and tackle the tax cut, entitlement spending cuts and debt limit issues in a separate reconciliation bill later.

President Trump met with Senators on Wednesday night to try to bring some clarity to the issue but ended up only muddying the waters. When he left an evening meeting with Senators he said that while he would prefer one bill he was okay with two if that's what it takes to get the entire agenda done. Late yesterday, Trump announced he is inviting a large group of House GOP Members to Mar-A-Lago over the coming weekend to seek a path forward.

All of this jockeying around the agenda could have an impact on the Fiscal Year 2025 appropriations process. The current continuing resolution expires on March 14 and appropriators want to have a clear path back to the floors of the House and Senate when they are ready to move full-year spending bills forward. If leadership wants to accomplish the Trump agenda quickly and they end up doing it in two bills, that could make floor time very precious in the Senate around the time the spending bills would be ready for action. The complications of scheduling could lead to another CR. This potential early logjam points out the wisdom of the appropriators who were urging last fall that the full-year bills be completed before the end of the 118<sup>th</sup> Congress so the decks would be clear for the new President's agenda.

### **DOT Nominee Duffy to Have Confirmation Hearing Next Week**

Sean Duffy, President-elect Trump's pick for Secretary of Transportation will have his confirmation hearing at the Senate Commerce Committee next Wednesday, the 15<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Duffy has stayed out of the news since his expected nomination was announced (formal nominations can't happen until Trump takes office). That bodes well for a low-wattage, non-controversial hearing and a smooth confirmation. There do not appear to be any significant hurdles in his path to the Cabinet.

### **Trump Announces Intent to Nominate David Fink as Federal Railroad Administrator**

President Trump right before the holiday announced he plans to nominate David Fink as Administrator of the Federal Railroad Administration. Mr. Fink is a fifth generation railroader with 45 years experience in the industry. He led Pan Am Railway, a regional freight railroad in New England, before its sale to CSX in 2022.

The announcement of Mr. Fink's impending nomination brought praise from the railroad industry, especially from the American Short Line Railroad Association, of which he was an active member. Amtrak CEO Stephen Gardner also expressed support for the Fink nomination.

In the first Trump Administration, the confirmation of Ron Batory for the same job was held up for more than a year by Sen. Chuck Schumer (D-NY) because of the Trump Administration's blocking of progress on the Hudson Tunnel Project in New York and New Jersey. There does not appear to be a similar controversy on the horizon at the present, so Mr. Fink's confirmation should be able to advance in the first half of this year.

### **Biden Administration Continues its Sprint to the Finish with Grant Announcements**

Making good on the Biden Administration’s pledge to “run through the tape,” DOT this morning announced the award of nearly \$5 billion in funding from seven grant programs funded under the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law. The programs for which awards were announced are:

- Reconnecting Communities Program
- Railroad Crossing Elimination
- RAISE
- Rural Transportation Grants
- FRA Restoration and Enhancement Program
- Airport Infrastructure
- EV Charging.

Click [HERE](#) to see the press release with links to the awards..

DOT on Tuesday released the formal announcement of \$44.5 million in Active Transportation Infrastructure Investment program grants. Awards went to projects in 13 states.

Click [HERE](#) to see the DOT press release on the announcement with a link to the list of awards.

February 14, 2024

## **SANDAG Policy Advisory Committees Advisory Membership Request by Association of Planning Groups – San Diego County**

### **Overview**

On January 14, 2025, the Association of Planning Groups – San Diego County submitted a request to serve as an advisory member of the Regional Planning Committee, Transportation Committee, Borders Committee, Public Safety Committee, and Audit Committee (Attachment 1).

The existing SANDAG Board, PAC and Working Group Structure is included as Attachment 2.

### **Action: Recommend**

The Executive Committee is asked to consider a recommendation to the Board of Directors to approve the request of the Association of Planning Groups – San Diego County to be appointed as a regular advisory member of the Regional Planning Committee, Transportation Committee, Borders Committee, Public Safety Committee, and Audit Committee.

### **Key Considerations**

**The Regional Planning Committee** provides oversight for the preparation and implementation of the Regional Comprehensive Plan that is based on the local general plans and regional plans and addresses interregional issues with surrounding counties and Mexico. The components of the plan include transportation, housing, environment, economy, regional infrastructure needs and financing as well as land use and design. Committee recommendations are forwarded to the SANDAG Board of Directors for action.

### **Fiscal Impact:**

None. (Advisory Board Members do not receive a stipend or other compensation)

### **Schedule/Scope Impact:**

This request is scheduled to be considered by the Board of Directors at its February 28, 2025, meeting.

**The Transportation Committee** advises the SANDAG Board of Directors on major policy-level matters related to transportation. The Transportation Committee assists in the preparation of the Regional Transportation Plan and other regional transportation planning and programming efforts. It provides oversight for the major highway, transit, regional arterial, and regional bikeway projects funded under the Regional Transportation Improvement Program, including the *TransNet* Program of Projects. Areas of interest include project schedules, costs, and scope.

**The Borders Committee** provides oversight for planning activities that impact the borders of the San Diego region (Orange, Riverside, and Imperial Counties and the Republic of Mexico) as well as government-to-government relations with tribal nations in San Diego County. The preparation and implementation of SANDAG's Binational, Interregional, and Tribal Liaison Planning programs are included under this purview. It advises the SANDAG Board of Directors on major interregional planning policy-level matters. Recommendations of the Borders Committee are forwarded to the SANDAG Board of Directors for action.

**The Public Safety Committee** advises the SANDAG Board of Directors on major policy-level matters related to public safety. Composed of both elected officials and public safety representatives, the goals of the group include improving the quality of life in the region by promoting public safety and justice through collaboration, information sharing, effective technology, and objective monitoring and assessment.

**The Audit Committee** is composed of five voting members with two members of the Board of Directors and three members of the public, whose role is to assist the Board in fulfilling its oversight responsibilities and provide a forum for pursuing the opportunities for improvements in operations, financial reporting and internal controls identified through the agency's audit products. The Audit Committee may hear items within the subject areas of audits, internal controls and investigations into fraud, waste, or impropriety, and may be asked to provide actions or recommendations on other matters within the Audit Committee's purview. Members are appointed by the Board of Directors to serve on the Audit Committee. Public members must have at least ten years of experience as a certified public accountant, a certified internal auditor, or other professional accounting, financial, or legal experience in audit management.

### ***SANDAG's Governing Law and Board Policy***

California Public Utilities Code 132351.1(g) allows the Board of Directors to appoint advisory, nonvoting members to sit with it. In determining whether to supplement the Board with additional advisory members, Section 5 of [SANDAG Board Policy No. 004: Rules of Procedure for Board of Directors, Policy Advisory Committees, and Other Legislative Bodies](#), states that the Board will consider adding a new regular advisory member to the Board or a Policy Advisory Committee (PAC) if it finds that the additional advisory member would provide beneficial advice and information to the Board or PAC, and that such advice/information cannot be provided by the existing Board and PAC membership structures. The agency/group wishing to become a regular advisory member shall submit a written request to the Board Chair or PAC Chair. In addition, the following criteria for selection of additional advisory members also apply:

- The additional advisory member has land use and/or eminent domain authority;
- The additional advisory member has regional authorities and responsibilities important to the SANDAG mission;
- Membership by the additional advisory member would enhance SANDAG's regional decision-making;
- The additional advisory member desires representation, submits a written request, and commits to participation;
- The additional advisory member is able to agree on the form of representation and who will represent it.

### **Next Steps**

Pending a recommendation by the Executive Committee, this item will be considered by the Board of Directors.

### ***Robyn Wapner, Director of Public Affairs***

- Attachments:
1. Letter from Association of Planning Groups – San Diego County to Chairwoman Lesa Heebner dated January 14, 2025
  2. FY 2025 Working Groups and Task Force List

## ASSOCIATION OF PLANNING GROUPS - SAN DIEGO COUNTY

January 14, 2025

Lesa Heebner, Chair  
San Diego Association of Governments  
401 B Street, Suite 800  
San Diego, CA 92101

Re: Advisory Board Member Representative and Alternate from the Association of Planning Groups - San Diego County to the SANDAG Policy Advisory Committees

Dear Chair Heebner,

The Association of Planning Groups - San Diego County (APG) held a meeting on January 4, 2025 to elect a Representative and an Alternate to the following SANDAG Policy Advisory Committees:

Regional Planning Committee:

The APG Representative: Ron Nehring  
The APG Alternate: Kiki Skagen Munshi

Transportation Committee:

The APG Representative: Jim Custeau  
The APG Alternate: Paul Dombkowski

Borders Committee:

The APG Representative: Lynne Malinowski  
The APG Alternate: Harriet Taylor

Public Safety Committee:

The APG Representative: Paul Dombkowski  
The APG Alternate: Eileen Delaney

Audit Committee:

APG Representative: Carol Hake

The Association of Planning Groups - San Diego County requests membership on these Policy Advisory Committees and looks forward to working with SANDAG through the Policy Advisory Committees to ensure all San Diego County residents are included in the regional planning and funding entrusted to SANDAG.

Respectfully,

*Robi Jo Maxso*

Robin Joy Maxson

Chair, Association of Planning Groups - San Diego County  
associationofplanninggroups@gmail.com

*Eileen Delaney*

Eileen Delaney

Vice-Chair, Association of Planning Groups - San Diego County  
associationofplanninggroups@gmail.com

Alpine . Boulevard . Campo/Lake Morena . Crest/Dehesa/Granite Hills/Harbison  
Canyon Descanso . Fallbrook . Jamul/Dulzura . Julian . Lakeside . Pine Valley . Potrero .  
Rainbow Ramona . San Dieguito . Spring Valley . Sweetwater . Valle De Oro . Valley  
Center Bonsall . Borrego Springs . Jacumba . Twin Oaks Valley



# FY 2025 WORKING GROUPS AND TASK FORCES

BOARD OF DIRECTORS: Ariana Galvan
AUDIT COMMITTEE: Emilee Mullin/Cortney Ruby
BORDERS COMMITTEE: Hector Vanegas
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE: Ariana Galvan
PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE: Anthony Ray
REGIONAL PLANNING COMMITTEE: Stacey Cooper
TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE: Brian Lane

## WORKING GROUPS

Working Group Name	Membership	Responsibilities	Applicable Laws	Current Status
1 ITOC Selection Committee  Staff Lead: Adrian Paniagua Vanessa Leon	Chair: Appointed by the Selection Committee members to lead each meeting.	The ITOC selection committee shall be established to select an ITOC member from the list of qualified candidates recommended by a technical screening committee. The selection committee shall consist of the following: two members of the County of San Diego Board of Supervisors; the mayor of the City of San Diego; a mayor from the cities of Chula Vista, Coronado, Imperial Beach, or National City selected by the mayors of those cities; a mayor from the cities of El Cajon, La Mesa, Lemon Grove, or Santee selected by the mayors of those cities; a mayor from the cities of Carlsbad, Del Mar, Encinitas, Oceanside, or Solana Beach selected by the mayors of those cities; and a mayor from the cities of Escondido, Poway, San Marcos, or Vista selected by the mayors of those cities.	Brown Act	Standing Meeting Schedule: as needed when vacancies occur

# FY 2025 WORKING GROUPS AND TASK FORCES

Working Group Name		Membership	Responsibilities	Applicable Laws	Current Status
1	<p>Social Services Transportation Advisory Council (SSTAC)</p> <p>Staff lead: Brian Lane</p>	<p>Chair: Public member appointed by SSTAC.</p> <p>Representatives of transit users who are seniors (aged 60 years or older), disabled, and/or persons with limited means; staff from social service providers serving seniors, persons with disabilities, and persons of limited means; representatives from the Consolidated Transportation Services Agency; and representatives from MTS and NCTD</p>	<p>Designated as the Local Review Committee for FTA Section 5310 grant applications, holds required unmet needs hearings, and advises on regional issues of accessible transportation provided by the public and private sector; fulfills state Public Utilities Code requirement; also, reviews and advises on transit capital improvement projects for Americans with Disabilities Act compliance.</p>	Brown Act	<p>Standing</p> <p>Established: 1979</p> <p>Meeting schedule: Bimonthly</p>
2	<p>Mobility Working Group (MOBWG)</p> <p>Staff lead: Jennifer Williamson Cecily Taylor</p>	<p>Chair: CM Jose Rodriguez</p> <p>Chair appointed by the Chair of the Transportation Committee.</p> <p>The Chair shall be a member of the Transportation Committee and serve as a non-voting Chair of the MOBWG for a period of one year. The MOBWG membership shall include one voting member and one alternate member from each SANDAG member agency, including the region's 18 cities, the County of San Diego, Metropolitan Transit System, North County Transit District, Port of San Diego, and the San Diego County Regional Airport Authority. Each member agency shall have one vote. MOBWG agency representatives shall be appointed by the membership agency for a two-year term and be an executive or senior staff level. Membership may also include participation from non-voting agency partners including, but not limited to, Caltrans, Department of Defense, Southern California Tribal Chairman's Association.</p>	<p>Provides an institutional forum and structure for regional stakeholders to:</p> <p>(1) collaborate, coordinate, research, and peer exchange innovative mobility solutions;</p> <p>(2) identify legislative and regulatory barriers and opportunities; (3) implement and operate regional solutions that require cross-jurisdictional coordination; (4) develop guidelines and adopt standards that will facilitate seamless implementation of mobility solutions across the region; and (5) promote best practices and technical assistance that prepare for the future of mobility. The MOBWG also provides SANDAG staff and the Transportation Committee with input and recommendations on preparation and implementation of the Regional Plan and other transportation projects, programs, and policies. MOBWG activities are identified through annual workplans. SANDAG staff will update the workplan in coordination with the MOBWG to foster collaboration and consensus on priority projects that advance the goals and projects contained in the Regional Plan as well as the TransNet Local Streets and Roads program.</p>	<p>Brown Act</p> <p>Conflict Laws/Form 700</p>	<p>Established: 2022</p> <p>Meeting Schedule: Bimonthly – charter change proposed to meet monthly beginning in FY 2025</p>

# FY 2025 WORKING GROUPS AND TASK FORCES

Working Group Name		Membership	Responsibilities	Applicable Laws	Current Status
1	<p>Sustainable Communities Working Group (SCWG)</p> <p>Staff lead: Sara Toma Chesley DeLeon</p>	<p>Chair: CM Joy Lyndes</p> <p>Chair appointed by the Regional Planning Committee chair.</p> <p>Membership includes representatives from the region's 18 cities and the County of San Diego. Membership may also include participation from non-voting agency partners including, but not limited to, Caltrans, Metropolitan Transit System (MTS), North County Transit District (NCTD), San Diego County Regional Airport Authority, San Diego County Water Authority, Air Pollution Control District, the Local Agency Formations Commission (LAFCO), Department of Defense, Southern California Tribal Chairman's Association, and the Port of San Diego.</p>	<p>Provides an institutional forum and structure for regional stakeholders to: (1) collaborate, coordinate, research, and peer exchange innovative solutions to address regional issues related to land use, housing, sustainability, habitat conservation, climate resilience and equity; (2) identify legislative and regulatory barriers and opportunities; (3) implement regional solutions that require cross-jurisdictional coordination; (4) develop guidelines that will facilitate implementation of policies, programs and solutions across the region; and (5) promote best practices and technical assistance that helps local jurisdictions align policies and programs with the Regional Plan and SCS.</p>	<p>Brown Act Conflict Laws/Form 700</p>	<p>Established 2022</p> <p>Bi-monthly</p>
2	<p>Military Working Group (MWG)</p> <p>Staff lead: Danielle Kochman</p>	<p>Chair: CM Steve Goble</p> <p>Chair appointed by the BOD Chair.</p> <p>MWG is composed of thirteen members, including four representatives from the armed forces: Navy Region Southwest; Marine Corps Installation West; Marine Corps Recruitment Depot; and U.S. Coast Guard San Diego Sector. In addition, the voting membership includes one representative from the following jurisdictions and agencies: City of Coronado, City of Imperial Beach, City of Oceanside, City of National City, City of San Diego, County of San Diego, the Port of San Diego, the San Diego Metropolitan Transit System (MTS), and the North County Transit District (NCTD).</p>	<p>Provides a collaborative forum for the various branches of the military and SANDAG to address areas of mutual interest, including growth management, habitat, transportation, regional growth, housing, water, energy, and other related topics</p>	<p>Brown Act</p>	<p>Standing</p> <p>Established: 2012</p> <p>Meeting schedule: Quarterly</p>

# FY 2025 WORKING GROUPS AND TASK FORCES

Working Group Name		Membership	Responsibilities	Applicable Laws	Current Status
3	<p>Social Equity Working Group (SEWG)</p> <p>Staff lead: Paula Zamudio Cat Matel</p>	<p>Chair: MPT Priya Bhat-Patel</p> <p>Chair appointed as non-voting member by Chair of BOD.</p> <p>12 representatives from community-based organizations (CBOs) or community collaboratives serving underserved/disadvantaged communities</p>	Reviews and provides input that will be used to develop and adopt the Regional Plan as well as provides a social equity perspective on other agency initiatives or planning efforts, including Public Participation Plan, and assists with associated public outreach and helps inform and encourage diverse, inclusive and active, public involvement in the Regional Plan	Brown Act Conflict Laws/Form 700	<p>Established: 2018</p> <p>Meeting schedule: Monthly</p>
4	<p>Shoreline Preservation Working Group (SPWG)</p> <p>Staff lead: Courtney Becker Kim Smith</p>	<p>Chair: Mayor Dwight Worden.</p> <p>The Chair is appointed by the Chair of the RPC and will be a member of the SPWG representing one of the bayfront and coastal cities to serve as Chair for a period of one year.</p> <p>The SPWG has eleven voting members which include one voting representative from each of the bayfront and coastal cities, the County of San Diego, the San Diego Unified Port District and the U.S. Navy. In addition, the SPWG includes non-voting: (1) technical advisors from the California Coastal Commission, State Department of Fish and Wildlife, State Department of Parks and Recreation, State Lands Commission, National Marine Fisheries Service, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers; and (2) community advisors from the Southern California Tribal Chairmen's Association, non-profit coastal advocacy group, environmental justice/climate equity community, lobster and fishing associations, and the Scripps Institution of Oceanography</p>	Advises on the implementation of the Shoreline Preservation Strategy, the Coastal Regional Sediment Management Plan, and San Diego Forward: The Regional Plan. Supports the region's ongoing and future beach nourishment efforts and other sea-level rise adaptation strategies	Brown Act	<p>Standing</p> <p>Established 1980s</p> <p>Meeting schedule: Quarterly</p>

# FY 2025 WORKING GROUPS AND TASK FORCES

Working Group Name		Membership	Responsibilities	Applicable Laws	Current Status
1	<p>Chiefs'/Sheriff's Management Committee (CSMC)</p> <p>Staff lead: Anthony (Tony) Ray Linda Cimmino</p>	<p>Chair: appointed by the members of CSMC.</p> <p>Sheriff and police chiefs from around the region, and SD County probation and District Attorney offices.</p>	<p>Reviews, evaluates, and provides recommendations and input to the Public Safety Committee on issues relating to the SANDAG ARJIS and Criminal Justice work programs and budgets; and evaluates and recommends regional public safety initiatives</p>	<p>Brown Act</p> <p>Conflict Laws/Form 700</p>	<p>Meeting monthly</p>

# FY 2025 WORKING GROUPS AND TASK FORCES

## TASK FORCES

Task Force Name		Membership	Responsibilities	Applicable Laws	Current Status
1	Bayshore Bikeway Task Force  Staff lead: Josh Clark	National City Councilmember Marcus Bush, Imperial Beach Councilmember Matthew Leyba-Gonzalez, San Diego Councilmember Vivian Moreno, Chula Vista Councilmember Jill Galvez, Coronado Councilmember Mike Donovan, County of San Diego Supervisor Nora Vargas, Port of San Diego Commissioner Sandy Naranjo, San Diego County Bicycle Coalition Executive Director Andy Hanshaw, Public Member Mike Woiwode	Plans for future improvements on the Bayshore Bikeway, provides oversight and support for projects being developed, advocates for funding to plan and construct projects, coordinates with local land use authorities to provide for future bikeway right-of-way, and promotes the bikeway as a regional transportation facility.	n/a	Standing Established: 2023* Meeting schedule: Quarterly or as needed  *as a Task Force – previously established as a Working Group in 1989
2	Regional Digital Divide Task Force  Staff Lead: Kate McCauley Michael Terlep	Representatives from government organizations, educational institutions, community based organizations, Internet Service Providers, community technology training and network providers, and other social service and civic organizations that are actively working to bridge the digital divide.  See membership list: <a href="#">committeeid_124_31667.pdf (sandag.org)</a>	The SANDAG Regional Digital Divide task force brings together a wide range of stakeholders to develop and implement the Regional Digital Equity Strategy and Action Plan and to collaborate and provide expert input on regional digital equity programs and projects.	n/a	Standing Established: 2021 Meeting schedule: Quarterly or as needed
3	Freight Stakeholders Task Force  Staff Lead: Danielle Kochman	Representatives from Caltrans, Port of San Diego, San Diego County Regional Airport Authority, Imperial County Transportation Commission, Federal Highway Administration, transit operators, railroads, trucking companies, chambers of commerce, and other private and nonprofit organizations.	Provides input on goods movement planning projects and activities to improve the efficiency of goods movement, advance the deployment of medium and heavy-duty zero-emission vehicles, and implement the SANDAG Regional Plan.	n/a	Standing Established: 2013 Meeting schedule: Quarterly

# FY 2025 WORKING GROUPS AND TASK FORCES

Task Force Name		Membership	Responsibilities	Applicable Laws	Current Status
4	Committee on Binational Regional Opportunities (COBRO)  Staff lead: Mariela Rodriguez	Stakeholders from both sides of the United States/Mexico border, including representatives from local jurisdictions, businesses, and academia	Provides input on binational-related planning and project development issues	n/a	Standing Established: 1995 Meeting schedule: Bimonthly
5	Interagency Technical Task Force on Tribal Transportation Issues  Staff lead: Paula Zamudio Jorge Estrada-Tello	Representatives from each of the 17 federally recognized tribal governments and California tribes in San Diego County	Discusses and coordinates tribal transportation issues of mutual concern with the various public planning agencies in the region, including SANDAG, Caltrans, the County of San Diego, and the transit operators	n/a	Standing Established: 2006 Meeting schedule: Quarterly
6	Tribal Task Force  Staff lead: Paula Zamudio Jorge Estrada-Tello	Tribal liaisons or staff from SANDAG, County, Caltrans, BIA, transit operators and tribal representatives.	Provides input on agenda setting for the Interagency Technical Task Force on Tribal Transportation Issues meetings as well as helps with continued collaboration between agencies and tribal nations.	n/a	Standing Established: 2019 Meeting schedule: Monthly
7	San Diego Region Conformity Working Group*  Staff lead: Kirsten Uchitel Keith Greer  *name set by law but functionally a Task Force	Staff from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, FHWA, Federal Transit Administration (FTA), California Air Resources Board, Caltrans, and San Diego County APCD	Reviews and comments on Regional Transportation Plan and Regional Transportation Improvement Program transportation conformity and State Implementation Plan development or updates and fulfills federal and state requirements for interagency consultation.	n/a	Standing Established: 1994 Meeting schedule: Monthly

# FY 2025 WORKING GROUPS AND TASK FORCES

Task Force Name		Membership	Responsibilities	Applicable Laws	Current Status
8	AB 43 Task Force  Staff lead: Josh Clark	Zoubir Ouadah - County of San Diego, Edd Alberto – City of Escondido, Maureen Gardiner and Phil Rust – City of San Diego, Cecily Taylor - SANDAG	At its June 11, 2021, meeting, the SANDAG Executive Committee approved taking a support position on Assembly Bill (AB) 43 and on October 8, 2021, the bill was approved by the Governor. The bill grants the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) and local authorities greater flexibility in setting speed limits, this Task Force focuses on the impacts of AB 43.	n/a	Standing Established: April 19, 2022 Meeting schedule: Bimonthly, one week ahead of the Mobility Working Group
9	ARJIS Business Working Group  Staff lead: Anthony “Tony” Ray Linda Cimmino	Appointed staff members from each agency represented on the Chiefs’/Sheriff’s Management Committee (CSMC)	Provides input to the CSMC on ARJIS matters relating to criminal justice information-sharing, business practices, crime statistics, data quality, and budget	n/a	Standing Established: 1998 Meeting schedule: Bimonthly
10	ARJIS Technical Working Group  Staff lead: Anthony “Tony” Ray Linda Cimmino	Appointed staff members from each agency represented on the CSMC	Provides input to the CSMC on ARJIS matters relating to state-of-the-art information technology that enhances both officer and public safety	n/a	Standing Established: 1998 Meeting schedule: Bimonthly
11	Regional Habitat Conservation Task Force  Staff Lead: Kim Smith	Staff representatives of the City of San Diego, County of San Diego, and the four SANDAG subregions (North County Coastal, North County Inland, East County and South County). The staff representatives from each SANDAG subregion will be from local jurisdictions with an adopted, or in development, habitat conservation plan. <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Staff representatives of federal agencies, state agencies, and tribal governments that are directly involved in</li></ul>	Provides technical expertise, background knowledge and cross-agency coordination on regional habitat conservation issues, including input on issues related to coordination and implementation of the EMP.	n/a	Standing Established: 2004 Meeting schedule: Quarterly



# FY 2025 WORKING GROUPS AND TASK FORCES

Task Force Name		Membership	Responsibilities	Applicable Laws	Current Status
		<p>implementation of habitat conservation plans in the San Diego region (U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, California Department of Fish and Wildlife, California Wildlife Conservation Board, Caltrans, and the Southern California Tribal Chairman's Association).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Staff representatives of the following organizations, representing disciplines and interests involved in implementation of regional habitat conservation plans. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Nature Conservancy (Land Acquisition)</li> <li>Conservation Resource Network (Land Management)</li> <li>U.S. Geological Survey (Science and Technology)</li> <li>Endangered Habitats League (Environmental Policy)</li> <li>Building Industry Association (Business)</li> <li>San Diego Foundation (Land Acquisition and Endowments)</li> <li>Resource Conservation District of Greater San Diego County (Land Management)</li> <li>Natural History Museum (Science)</li> <li>Alliance for Habitat Conservation (Business)</li> </ul> </li> </ul>			