



Sustainable Communities Working Group Agenda

Thursday, September 19, 2024

1:30 p.m.

Welcome to SANDAG. The Sustainable Communities Working Group (SCWG) meeting scheduled for Thursday, September 19, 2024, will be held in person in the SANDAG Board Room. While SCWG members will attend in person, members of the public will have the option of participating either in person or virtually.

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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.

Sustainable Communities Working Group

Thursday, September 19, 2024

Comments and Communications

1. Non-Agenda Public Comments/Member Comments

Members of the public shall have the opportunity to address the Sustainable Communities Working Group (SCWG) on any issue within the jurisdiction of SCWG 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 five public speakers. If the number of public comments under this agenda item exceeds five, additional public comments will be taken at the end of the agenda. SCWG members and SANDAG staff also may present brief updates and announcements under this agenda item.

Consent

+2. Approval of Meeting Minutes

Approve

Tessa Lero, SANDAG

The SCWG is asked to review and approve the minutes from its September 5, 2024, meeting.

[Meeting Minutes](#)

Reports

+3. Regional Housing Needs Allocation Reform: Revised SANDAG Proposed Legislative Principles

Recommend

Tuere Fa'aola, Stacey Cooper, SANDAG

Staff will present the revised letter outlining legislative principles and ask the SCWG to make a recommendation to EC to submit the letter to Chairs of the Senate and Assembly Housing Committees.

[RHNA Reform - Revised SANDAG Proposed Legislative Principles](#)
[Att. 1 - Revised Draft Letter to Senate and Assembly Housing Chairs](#)
[Supporting Materials](#)

+4. SANDAG's Regional Shoreline Management Program

Information

Courtney Becker, SANDAG

Staff will present an overview of SANDAG's Regional Shoreline Management Program, its accomplishments, and next steps.

[Regional Shoreline Management Program](#)
[Att. 1 - Infobit Got Sand](#)
[Supporting Materials](#)

5. Adjournment

The next SCWG meeting is scheduled for Thursday, October 17, 2024, at 1:30 p.m.

+ next to an agenda item indicates an attachment

September 19, 2024

September 5, 2024, Meeting Minutes

[View Meeting Video](#)

Councilmember Joy Lyndes (Encinitas) called the meeting of the Sustainable Communities Working Group (SCWG) to order at 2:01 p.m.

1. Public Comment/Communications/ Member Comments

Member Comments: None.

Public Comments: Kathryn Rhodes, Purita Javier, Cesar Javier, and The OriginalDra.

Staff Comments: None.

Consent

2. Approval of Meeting Minutes

The SCWG was asked to approve the minutes from its June 20, 2024, meeting.

Public Comments: The OriginalDra.

Action: Upon a motion by Todd Philips (Chula Vista), and a second by Carlos Aguirre (National City), the SCWG voted to approve the Consent Agenda.

The motion passed.

Yes: Eric Lardy (Carlsbad), Todd Philips, Jesse Brown (Coronado), Tara Lieberman (County of San Diego), Amanda Lee (Del Mar), Noah Alvey (El Cajon), Patty Anders (Encinitas), Reyna Ayala (Imperial Beach), Carlos Aguirre, Sergio Madera (Oceanside), Stann Donn (Poway), Heidi Vonblum (City of San Diego), Saima Qureshy (San Marcos), Michael Coyne (Santee), and Joseph Lim (Solana Beach).

No: None.

Abstain: None.

Absent: Escondido, La Mesa, Lemon Grove, and Vista.

Reports

3. Regional Housing Needs Allocation Reform: SANDAG Proposed Legislative Principles

Deputy Director of Planning Tuere Fa'aola and Senior Regional Planner Stacey Cooper presented an overview of the draft RHNA legislative principles letter and requested feedback from the SCWG members.

Public Comments: The OriginalDra.

Action: Discussion.

4. Adjournment

The next meeting of the SCWG is scheduled for Thursday, September 19, 2024, at 1:30 p.m.

Chair Lyndes adjourned the meeting at 3:56 p.m.

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Confirmed Attendance at Sustainable Communities Working Group Meeting

Jurisdiction	Name	Attended
Chair (non-voting)	Joy Lyndes	Yes
	Jeff Murphy	No
City of Carlsbad	Eric Lardy	Yes
	Robb Efird III	No
City of Chula Vista	Todd Philips	Yes
	Laura Black	No
	Desmond Corley	No
City of Coronado	Richard Grunow	No
	Jesse Brown	Yes
	Jasmine Bridges	No
County of San Diego	Rami Talleh	No
	Tara Lieberman	Yes
	Julie Marlett	No
City of Del Mar	Karen Brindley	No
	Clem Brown	No
	Amanda Lee	Yes
City of El Cajon	Noah Alvey	Yes
	Mike Viglione	No
City of Encinitas	Patty Anders	Yes
	Crystal Najera	No
City of Escondido	Veronica Morones	No
	Oscar Romero	No
City of Imperial Beach	Meagan Openshaw	No
	Reyna Ayala	Yes
	Ryan Pua	No
City of La Mesa	Lynnette Santos	No
	Vacant	N/A
City of Lemon Grove	Michael Fellows	No
	Vacant	N/A
City of National City	Angelita Palma	No
	Carlos Aguirre	Yes
	Martin Reader	No

Jurisdiction	Name	Attended
City of Oceanside	Sergio Madera	Yes
	Darlene Nicandro	No
City of Poway	Julie Procopio	No
	Stann Donn	Yes
City of San Diego	Heidi Vonblum	Yes
	Tail Galloway	No
	Seth Litchney	No
	Coby Tomlin	No
City of San Marcos	Saima Qureshy	Yes
	Joe Farace	No
	Scott Nightingale	No
City of Santee	Michael Coyne	Yes
	Sandi Hazelwood	No
City of Solana Beach	Joseph Lim	Yes
	Corey Andrews	No
City of Vista	Patsy Chow	No
	Michael Ressler	No
	Joseph Vacca	No
Advisory Members	Name	
Air Pollution Control District	Mike Watt	No
	Kathy Keehan	No
	Eric Luther	No
Caltrans	Reece Allen	No
	Brandon Tobias	No
	Kim Dodson	Yes
San Diego County Local Agency Formation Commission	Keene Simonds	No
	Priscilla Mumpower	No
	Joelle Burila	Yes
North County Transit District	Lillian Doherty	No
	Katie Persons	No
Metropolitan Transit System	Denis Desmond	No
	Beverly Neff	No
San Diego County Regional Airport Authority	Sydney Noyce	No
	Ralph Redman	No

Jurisdiction	Name	Attended
San Diego County Water Authority	Jeff Stephenson	No
	Tim Bombardier	No
Port of San Diego	Heather Carroll	No
	Vacant	No
SoCal Tribal Chairman's Association	Vacant	N/A
	Vacant	N/A

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September 19, 2024

Regional Housing Needs Allocation Reform: Revised SANDAG Proposed Legislative Principles

Overview

In April 2024, the California Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) released the *California's Housing Future 2040: The Next RHNA full report* and *executive summary* which includes recommendations related to the Regional Housing Needs Allocation (RHNA) process and methodology to promote and streamline housing development. Over the past year, SANDAG staff have presented an overview of HCD's reform efforts to the Sustainable Communities Working Group (SCWG), Executive Committee (EC) and Regional Planning Committee

At the [July 12, 2024](#) EC meeting, staff provided a [draft letter](#) to the senate and assembly housing committee chairs outlining guiding principles to be considered during upcoming legislative cycles.

The five principles focused on: Sustainable Funding, Local Context, Greater Transparency, Regional Approach, and Prioritizing the Number of People Housed. The Executive Committee supported the principles and directed staff to work directly with the SCWG to strengthen the language in the letter and add language related to preserving affordable housing, reducing housing allocations in unincorporated areas, and accounting for short-term and vacation rentals.

At the [September 6, 2024](#) SCWG meeting, staff presented the draft letter and shared the detailed feedback provided by the Executive Committee for discussion from working group members. SCWG members provided feedback and suggestions that have been incorporated into a revised draft letter (Attachment 1) that will be presented to SCWG for a recommendation to the Executive Committee.

Key Considerations

SCWG feedback on the legislative principles is summarized below and incorporated into the revised draft letter:

- **Sustainable Funding:** Members agreed that stronger language was needed and added that the estimated cost of \$700,000 per unit only included construction costs. Housing supportive infrastructure and service costs are also needed to subsidize new housing. In addition, funding should be proportional to where the housing is allocated.
- **Local Context:** Members generally agreed with this principle. In addition to market conditions being out of a local jurisdictions' control, they requested that the state consider other state mandated regulatory processes that can impede housing production. Examples cited were Coastal Commission review and SB 743. Members also expressed that the principle expand on local context by considering housing produced for the region's military and higher education as progress towards RHNA goals.
- **Greater Transparency:** Members agreed with this principle and added that HCD should work with local governments when developing guidance related to housing elements.

Action: **Recommend**

Staff will present the revised letter outlining legislative principles and ask the SCWG to make a recommendation to EC to submit the letter to Chairs of the Senate and Assembly Housing Committees.

Fiscal Impact:

None.

Schedule/Scope Impact:

None.

- Regional Approach: Members agreed with the need for regional solutions and the ability for jurisdictions to work together to build additional housing.
- Preservation of Affordable Housing: Members agreed with the importance of preserving naturally occurring affordable housing (NOAH) and added that HCD should develop guidance to allow local jurisdictions to report on NOAH units that are not deed restricted in annual progress reports.

There was not regional consensus on several principles:

- Prioritize the Number of People Housed: Members could not come to a consensus on this principle as not all jurisdictions have the capacity to track this information.
- Short-term and Vacation Rentals: Not all members agreed with the addition of this principle given that short-term and vacation rental market is incredibly volatile and there is a lack of reliable data that could be used for tracking purposes.
- Reducing Housing Allocations in Unincorporated Areas: Depending on SANDAG's methodology for cycle 7, this may not impact our region. SANDAG staff is reaching out to HCD for clarification.

Next Steps

Pending recommendation from the SCWG, staff will bring the revised letter to the Executive Committee in October for approval to send to Chairs of the Senate and Assembly Housing Committees. Staff will also continue to monitor legislation related to housing and RHNA reform and return to working groups and committees as additional information becomes available.

Antoinette Meier, Senior Director of Regional Planning

Attachment: 1. Revised Draft Letter to Senate and Assembly Housing Chairs from the SANDAG Board



October 11, 2024

The Honorable Chris Ward
Chair of the Housing and Community Development Committee
Capitol Office, 1021 O Street, Suite 6350
Sacramento, CA 95814

The Honorable Nancy Skinner
Chair, Senate Housing Committee
Capitol Office, 1021 O Street, Suite 8630
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Chair Ward and Chair Skinner,

Subject: Assembly Bill 101 (2019) Implementation of Regional Housing Needs Assessment (RHNA) Reform

The San Diego Association of Governments (SANDAG) has been closely participating in the RHNA reform process under Assembly Bill 101 (2019) and appreciates your leadership on addressing the ongoing housing challenges throughout the state. We recognize that the development of housing is critical and requires government commitment. However, it is also expensive and complex and the RHNA process does not reflect that complexity. As you take on RHNA reform in the upcoming legislative cycles, we encourage you to consider the following principles.

Sustainable Funding

More funding, including funding for capital investments, for local jurisdictions and developers -is needed to support affordable housing. Local jurisdictions need funding to enact policies and processes that encourage housing development and provide infrastructure and services, and developers need funding to make non-market rate projects financially viable. The Regional Early Action Planning (REAP) grants provided by the State furthered jurisdictions' ability to implement the sixth cycle RHNA, however additional ongoing state and federal funding for planning and capital investments is necessary to meet housing goals.

Fulfilling our region's sixth cycle need of 68,959 low and very low units, with an average cost of \$700,000 per unit, will cost almost \$49 billion in construction costs. Construction costs are not the only expense associated with additional housing. Additional funding proportional to the number of new units allocated is needed to provide the housing supportive infrastructure such as water, sewer, parks, and other ongoing maintenance services. We encourage the state to collaborate with regions to develop a two-tiered approach that analyzes the overall housing need and a funding analysis to determine what is achievable within an 8-year production cycle.

Local Context

Local jurisdictions are responsible for planning and developing policies that encourage housing development, but do not control market conditions or the building industry. An 8-year cycle is not enough time to make up for the decades-long housing shortage as nNew policies and processes take time to take effect. When assessing each jurisdiction's progress towards RHNA, HCD should evaluate jurisdictions based on good faith efforts and consider factors outside of their control such as market conditions and other state mandated regulatory processes that can impede housing production. For example, Coastal Commission review often delays the approval of housing permits, and SB 743 can be considered an additional hurdle to housing development in certain areas of our county. consider comprehensive efforts taken throughout the cycle to encourage housing development.

In addition, given the large military and student population in the San Diego region, we strongly advocate for HCD to consider the role of the military and higher education as partners in solving the housing crisis. Housing built on campuses and military bases helps alleviate the pressure on the housing stock in local jurisdictions and should be considered as progress towards achieving RHNA targets.

Greater Transparency

The HCD RHNA report recommends implementing procedural and informational enhancements to the current process, but there is a lack of information on how and when these changes will be made. We request timely guidance and greater transparency on changes to the Regional Housing Need Determination process and any changes that will be required in housing elements. We also recommend that HCD work directly with local governments when developing this guidance.

Regional Approach

Future RHNA cycles should include a more collaborative regional approach to solving the housing crisis. Through the collaboration of local leaders, we can ensure that housing gets developed in the right locations to benefit the entire region while also supporting state climate goals. ~~When more housing is built in the right places, the entire region benefits, but currently just one jurisdiction gets credit in their Annual Progress Reports. A regional approach would also ensure that housing gets developed in locations that support state climate goals.~~

Prioritize the Number of People Housed

~~Currently, RHNA focuses on the number of housing units produced rather than the number of people housed. This approach does not encourage housing types that support families and multigenerational households. To better address the diverse housing needs of our population, we urge HCD and state legislators to consider housing people a priority within the RHNA process.~~

Preservation of Affordable Housing

We urge state leaders to take steps to preserve naturally occurring affordable housing (NOAH), by passing legislation that provides tax incentives to landlords or offers other creative financial incentives. HCD should develop guidance to allow local jurisdictions to report on NOAH units that are not deed restricted in annual progress reports. Preserving existing affordable housing is a critical component to addressing current and future housing needs in our region.

We thank you for your consideration and welcome the opportunity for further collaboration with your offices as we work towards meeting the housing needs of existing and future San Diego residents.

Sincerely,

Nora Vargas
SANDAG Chairwoman

SCOO



Regional Housing Needs Assessment (RHNA) Reform: Revised Legislative Principles

Sustainable Communities Working Group | Item 3
Tuere Fa'aola and Stacey Cooper, SANDAG
September 19, 2024

1

RHNA Reform Timeline

March – September 2023



HCD and SANDAG outreach efforts

March-April 2024



HCD Listening Session with SANDAG BOD & HCD releases CA Housing Future 2040 Legislative Report

June-July 2024



SANDAG presents overview of HCD's report to SCWG and EC

September 2024



SANDAG presents proposed legislative principles letter to SCWG and RPC for feedback

October 2024



Staff presents revised legislative principles letter to for EC approval

SANDAG | 2

2

Proposed Legislative Principles

- Sustainable Funding
- Local Context
- Greater Transparency
- Regional Approach
- Prioritize Number of People Housed
- Preservation of Affordable Housing
- Vacation & Short-term Rentals
- Reducing housing allocations in unincorporated areas

SANDAG | 3

3

Sustainable Funding SCWG Feedback

- Recognize that development of housing is important and requires government commitment, however it is also expensive and complex; RHNA process may not reflect that complexity
- Stronger language about funding for capital investment, not just planning
- There are additional costs associated with housing other than the cost for the units themselves
 - The estimate of \$700k is for unit cost only
 - Comprehensive costs include supportive infrastructure, services, parks, ongoing maintenance for services
- Desire for jurisdictions to receive funding in proportion to housing allocated
- Two-tiered approach: not only analyzing housing need but also production target and funding gap
 - Production numbers need to be tied to what can feasibly be funded
 - If there's a gap, then longer term analysis about how those would be funded
- For affordable housing, funding needed for jurisdictions to fill the need in addition to the private developer market

SANDAG | 4

4

Sustainable Funding Proposed Revised Language

More funding, including funding for capital investments, for local jurisdictions and developers is needed to support affordable housing. Local jurisdictions need funding to enact policies and processes that encourage housing development and provide infrastructure and services, and developers need funding to make non-market rate projects financially viable. The Regional Early Action Planning (REAP) grants provided by the State furthered jurisdictions' ability to implement the sixth cycle RHNA, however additional ongoing state and federal funding for planning and capital investments is necessary to meet housing goals.

Fulfilling our region's sixth cycle need of 68,959 low and very low units, with an average cost of \$700,000 per unit, will cost almost \$49 billion in construction costs. Construction costs are not the only expense associated with additional housing. Additional funding proportional to the number of new units allocated is needed to provide the housing supportive infrastructure such as water, sewer, parks, and other ongoing maintenance services. We encourage the state to collaborate with regions to develop a two-tiered approach that analyzes the overall housing need and a funding analysis to determine what is achievable within an 8-year production cycle.

SANDAG | 5

5

Local Context SCWG Feedback

- Acknowledge that the Coastal Commission approval process eliminates any streamlining benefits a project may have benefitted from and prevents jurisdictions from achieving RHNA allocation
- Market conditions are preventing developers from continuing with projects
- State should align its housing goals with other state goals, i.e. coastal commission review, SB 743
- Need to better define group quarters and eligible in the RHNA process (maybe additional principle)
- Assess jurisdictions based on good faith efforts considering factors outside jurisdiction control, such as market conditions and other regulatory processes when capacity and production is evaluated

SANDAG | 6

6

Local Context Proposed Revised Language

Local jurisdictions are responsible for planning and developing policies that encourage housing development, but do not control market conditions or the building industry. An 8-year cycle is not enough time to make up for the decades-long housing shortage as new policies and processes take time to take effect. When assessing each jurisdiction's progress towards RHNA, HCD should evaluate jurisdictions based on good faith efforts and consider factors outside of their control such as market conditions and other state mandated regulatory processes that can impede housing production. For example, Coastal Commission review often delays the approval of housing permits, and SB 743 can be considered an additional hurdle to housing development in certain areas of our county.

In addition, given the large military and student population in the San Diego region, we strongly advocate for HCD to consider the role of the military and higher education as partners in solving the housing crisis. Housing built on campuses and military bases helps alleviate the pressure on the housing stock in local jurisdictions and should be considered as progress towards achieving RHNA targets.

SANDAG | 7

7

Greater Transparency SCWG Feedback

- Guidance on how to report on NOAH units that are not deed restricted
- Use data sets that are publicly available
- HCD work directly with local governments when developing guidance

SANDAG | 8

8

Greater Transparency Proposed Revised Language

The HCD RHNA report recommends implementing procedural and informational enhancements to the current process, but there is a lack of information on how and when these changes will be made. We request timely guidance and greater transparency on changes to the Regional Housing Need Determination process and any changes that will be required in housing elements. We also recommend that HCD work directly with local governments when developing this guidance.

SANDAG | 9

9

Regional Approach SCWG Feedback

- Clarify “credit;” makes sense from a climate goal (and other state goals) for City of San Diego to support much of the housing growth in the region
- Funding resources allocated proportionally as part of regional solution
- Need regional solutions, not all jurisdictions have resources and space capacity
- Greater consideration through the allocation process, in coordination with local jurisdictions, when projects built outside County jurisdiction but still rely on County resources built on County land or relying on trust funds provided by the County
- Collaboration during methodology and allocation process to support jurisdictions being successful in the RHNA and housing element update process

SANDAG | 10

10

Regional Approach Proposed Revised Language

Future RHNA cycles should include a more collaborative regional approach to solving the housing crisis. Through the collaboration of local leaders, we can ensure that housing gets developed in the right locations to benefit the entire region while also supporting state climate goals.

SANDAG | 11

11

Prioritize Number of People Housed Feedback

SCWG Feedback:

Note: Agreement on comments between members was not reached on this principle

- Consideration of long-term forecast relative to reduction in persons per household in the future
- Consider jurisdiction demographic in allocation process
- HCD to collaborate directly with local jurisdictions to prioritize the number of people housed
- Alternative pathway might be counting people housed
- No consensus: Develop formula for counting homes, locating at number of bedrooms and square footage, looking to count people housed

RPC Feedback

- Jurisdictions should be given the flexible to chose between number of units and number of people

SANDAG | 12

12

Prioritize Number of People Housed Proposed Revised Language

Currently, RHNA focuses on the number of housing units produced rather than the number of people housed. This approach does not encourage housing types that support families and multigenerational households. To better address the diverse housing needs of our population, we urge HCD and state legislators to consider flexibility in achieving state housing goals *by allowing jurisdiction to count units or people housed.*

SANDAG | 13

13

Preservation of Affordable Housing SCWG Feedback

- Account for jurisdictions that already have NOAH and restricted units

SANDAG | 14

14

Preservation of Affordable Housing Proposed Revised Language

We urge state leaders to take steps to preserve naturally occurring affordable housing (NOAH), by passing legislation that provides tax incentives to landlords or offers other creative financial incentives. HCD should develop guidance to allow local jurisdictions to report on NOAH units that are not deed restricted in annual progress reports. Preserving existing affordable housing is a critical component to addressing current and future housing needs in our region.

SANDAG | 15

15

Vacation & Short-term Rentals SCWG Feedback

Note: Not full agreement between members on including this as a principle

- Short term rentals should not be a factor in determining units, market condition outside jurisdiction control
- A housing unit is a housing unit
- Challenges with counting these types of units, but its important in addressing the housing crisis
- Lack of reliable data to account for these type of units

SANDAG | 16

16

Reducing housing allocations in unincorporated areas

- Should not impact our region; will clarify with Executive Committee

SANDAG | 19

19

Next Steps

- Pending SCWG recommendation, return to EC for approval and submit letter to the Senate and Assembly Housing Chairs
- Actively monitor legislation related to housing and RHNA and HCD's implementation efforts
- Continue to provide updates on RHNA reform to jurisdiction staff, SCWG, the Regional Planning Committee, Executive Committee and Board


SANDAG | 20

20

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21

September 19, 2024

SANDAG's Regional Shoreline Management Program

Overview

With about 70 miles of coastline, San Diego is known world-wide for its dramatic shoreline and beautiful beaches. However, with increasing global temperatures and rising sea-levels, policy makers are challenged with figuring out how to sustain San Diego's beaches and address new threats to coastal infrastructure. As a response to these threats, SANDAG established the Shoreline Preservation Working Group (SPWG) in the 1980s to address regional shoreline erosion and shoreline preservation issues through policy, planning and the implementation of climate adaptation projects.

Over the span of 40 years, the SPWG has been key in the adoption of regional shoreline policy documents, establishment and implementation of a regional shoreline monitoring program, and completion of two regional beach sand nourishment projects to provide protection against coastal erosion and flooding (Attachment 1). This report provides an overview on what the program has accomplished and next steps.

Action: Information

Staff will present an overview of SANDAG's Regional Shoreline Management Program, its accomplishments, and next steps.

Fiscal Impact:

The program is part of SANDAG's Overall Work Program with funding provided by the local coastal jurisdictions and through grant funding.

Schedule/Scope Impact:

N/A

Key Considerations

- SANDAG has adopted four shoreline policy documents to address regional shoreline issues: [Shoreline Preservation Strategy for the San Diego Region](#) (1993), [Regional Beach Sand Retention Strategy](#) (2001), [Sand Compatibility and Opportunistic Use Program Plan](#) (2006) and [Coastal Regional Sediment Management Plan](#) (2009).
- SANDAG established and is implementing a [Regional Shoreline Monitoring Program](#) to track beach width change over the last three decades.
- SANDAG has implemented two regional beach nourishment projects in 2001 and 2012 ([Regional Beach Sand Project I and II](#)) which placed a total of 3.6 million cubic yards of sand on severely eroding beaches around the region. Efforts are currently underway to complete the planning studies for a third project.

Next Steps

The Regional Shoreline Management Program's next steps include: 1) continuing the Regional Shoreline Monitoring Program data collection and publication; 2) finalizing Regional Beach Sand Project III – Preliminary Planning Activities; and 3) updating and combining the outdated SANDAG Shoreline Policy documents into one comprehensive plan.

Keith Greer, Deputy Director, Environmental Compliance and Climate

Attachment: 1. Infobit: Got Sand?

SANDAG Infobits

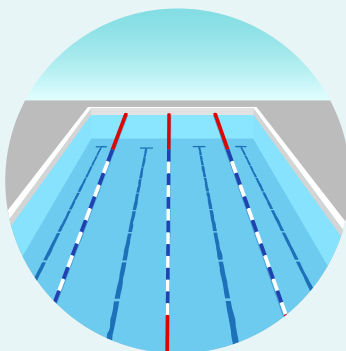
Got Sand? Why Our Beaches Need TLC

July 2020

Did you know?



Coastal erosion, a reduction in sediment from inland waterways, and rising sea levels threaten our region's beaches.



Since 2001, SANDAG has placed approximately **3.6 million cubic yards** of beach quality sand onto our region's beaches. That's enough sand to fill **1,100 Olympic-size swimming pools!**



Sea level rise poses a **threat to our coastal transportation facilities**, including the railroad on top of the Del Mar Bluffs, which could impact the movement of goods and people in our region.

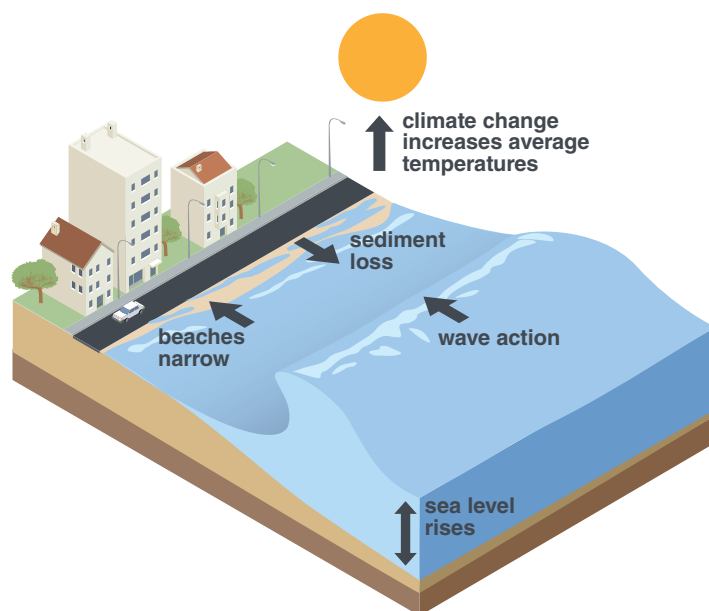
With about 70 miles of coastline, the beaches in the San Diego region are enjoyed by locals and tourists alike. But many people are unaware that policy makers are working to ensure our beaches are maintained and sustainable for years to come.

Why are our beaches at risk? Erosion is a continuous process in which rock, soil, and other materials are worn away and transported by natural forces such as wind and water. California's shorelines are steadily eroding and development has decreased the natural supply of sand that helps to sustain our beaches. Rising sea levels exacerbate this issue and create new threats to the coastline and coastal infrastructure including the second busiest rail corridor in the nation linking San Diego to Los Angeles and San Luis Obispo.

Since the 1980s, the SANDAG Shoreline Preservation Working Group has advised the SANDAG Regional Planning Committee, one of the five SANDAG policy committees that advises the SANDAG Board of Directors.

Thanks to the work of the Shoreline Preservation Working Group, during the last 25 years SANDAG has developed regional sediment management policies, managed an ongoing shoreline monitoring program, and completed several projects to maintain local beaches and coastlines.

Beach Erosion



Key actions include:

- Development of the [Shoreline Preservation Strategy \(1993\)](#) which recommends beach nourishment as the primary shoreline management strategy to address critical erosion areas on the scale of approximately 30 million cubic yards (cy) of sand across the region for initial restoration and nearly 400,000 cy/ year thereafter for maintenance.
- Creation of the [2001 Sand Retention Strategy](#) which concluded that structures that help keep sand on the beach, such as groins, breakwaters, or reefs, have the potential to increase the cost-effectiveness of beach nourishment activities.
- Preparation of yearly beach monitoring reports as part of the [Regional Shoreline Monitoring Program](#). Did you know that most beaches in the San Diego region were at least 20 ft wider prior to the start of the 2015–2016 El Niño than they were before the 1997–1998 El Niño? Wider beaches may have helped to reduce storm impacts in 2015–2016 winter months.
- Implementation of two regional beach sand nourishment projects in [2001](#) and [2012](#) (RBSP I and RBSP II, respectively) that placed a total of 3.6 million cy of sand on badly eroding local beaches.
- Development of the [Regional Transportation Infrastructure Sea Level Rise Assessment and Adaptation Guidance](#) (2020) to examine how sea level rise may impact regional coastal transportation facilities and determine possible ways to adapt to future conditions.



To learn more about the efforts SANDAG and its partners are taking to ensure the region's natural resources are maintained, please visit sandag.org/shoreline

About infobits

SANDAG serves as the region's clearinghouse for information and data. InfoBits publish timely, relevant information informing the public while providing context on complex issues facing the region.

sandag.org



SANDAG's Regional Shoreline Management Program

Sustainable Communities Working Group | item 4
Keith Greer, Courtney Becker, SANDAG
Thursday, September 19, 2024

1

Shoreline Preservation Working Group Since 1980's



2

1983 El Nino

Unprecedented Storm Damage in California

Oceanside Strand,
El Nino Winter of 1983



Crystal Pier Storm Damage



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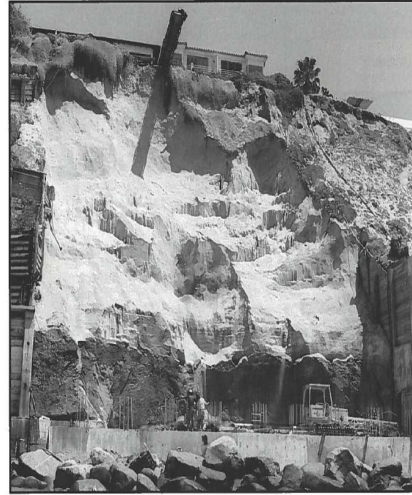
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Proliferation of Seawalls

Leucadia in 1991



Leucadia in 1992



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4

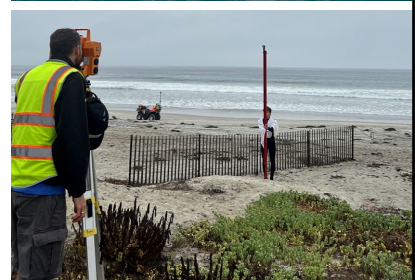
Regional Shoreline Monitoring Program

Established 1996

Purpose

Measure the changes in beach width and nearshore sand volume over time to evaluate the change in erosion, sand transport and document the benefits of sand replenishment projects.

Annual Reports



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7

Regional Beach Sand Projects I & II



2001 – Regional Beach Sand Project

- 2.1 million cubic yards of sand
- Cost \$18 million
- Jurisdiction's paid for Planning
- Engineering, Environmental and Construction
 - 60% Federal Funding & 40% State Funding



2012 – Regional Beach Sand Project II

- 1.4 million cubic yards of sand
- Cost \$26 million
- Jurisdiction's paid for Planning
- Engineering, Environmental and Construction
 - 85% State Funding & 15% Local Funding

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8

The 3 Stages of RBSP III



Phase I
Planning, Feasibility &
Economic Analysis

Est. \$200,000
(To be completed in 2025)



Phase II
Engineering & Environmental

Est. \$3 million



Phase III
Construction & Monitoring

Est. \$37 million

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9

Sediment Management Technical Taskforce Recommendations

- Update & combine SANDAG Shoreline Policy documents into one plan
 - Reflect current science and identified data gaps
 - Use RBSP III studies to update nourishment and sand retention strategy
 - Nourishment Program not "one-off" projects
 - Form science and engineering taskforce to guide plan development
 - Include S. California peer agencies as advisors

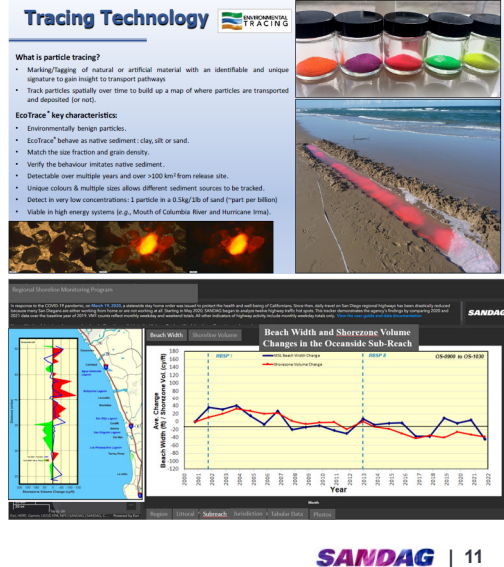


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10

Sediment Management Technical Taskforce Recommendations

1. Continue the Regional Shoreline Monitoring Program data collection and publications
 - Seek funding to create an open data portal for the 28+ years of data
 - Seek funding to perform sediment tracer study
2. Finalize Regional Beach Sand Project III – Phase I: Feasibility Study and Economic Analysis
 - Seek funding to implement RBSP III
3. Develop and maintain regional Sand Compatibility Opportunistic Use Permit (SCOUP)



11

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12