



Board of Directors

Meeting Minutes

January 9, 2026, 9 a.m.
SANDAG Boardroom
1011 Union Street, First Floor
San Diego, CA 92101

**Voting Members
Present:**

Chair Lesa Heebner (Solana Beach)
First Vice Chair Joe LaCava (City of San Diego – Seat A)
Second Vice Chair John Minto (Santee)
Councilmember Kevin Shin (Carlsbad)
Councilmember Carolina Chavez (Chula Vista)
Mayor John Duncan (Coronado)
Councilmember Terry Gaasterland (Del Mar)
Mayor Bill Wells (El Cajon)
Mayor Bruce Ehlers (Encinitas)
Mayor Dane White (Escondido)
Mayor Mitch McKay (Imperial Beach)
Vice Mayor Lauren Cazares (La Mesa)
Mayor Alysson Snow (Lemon Grove)
Councilmember Luz Molina (National City)
Mayor Esther Sanchez (Oceanside)
Councilmember Christopher Pikus (Poway)
Council President Pro Tem Kent Lee (City of San Diego - Seat B)
Mayor Rebecca Jones (San Marcos)
Councilmember Jeff Fox (Vista)
Supervisor Paloma Aguirre (County of San Diego - Seat A)
Supervisor Joel Anderson (County of San Diego - Seat B)

Others Present:

Robin Joy Maxson (Association of Planning Groups)
Ann Fox (Caltrans)
Anna Shepherd (Department of Defense)
Councilmember Jewel Edson (North County Transit District)
James Sly (San Diego County Regional Airport Authority)

[Meeting Video](#)

1. Call to Order

Chair Heebner called the meeting to order at 9:03 a.m.

2. Non-Agenda Public Comments/Member Comments

Public Comments: Purita Javier, Cesar Javier, Truth, Mike Bullock, Andrea Ebbing, Geoff Hueter, Leif Gensert, Consuelo, Blair Beekman, Paul the Bold, The Original Dra.

Member Comments: Ann Fox, Chair Heebner.

Chief Executive Officer Mario Orso presented an update on agency activities.

3. Consent

Public Comments: Truth, Cesar Javier, Blair Beekman, Consuelo, Andrea Ebbing, The Original Dra, Paul the Bold.

Motioned by: Second Vice Chair Minto

Seconded by: Councilmember Chavez

to approve Consent Agenda Item Nos. 3.1 - 3.4.

For (19): Chair Heebner, First Vice Chair LaCava, Second Vice Chair Minto, Councilmember Shin, Councilmember Chavez, Mayor Duncan, Councilmember Gaasterland, Mayor Wells, Mayor Ehlers, Mayor White, Mayor McKay, Vice Mayor Cazares, Mayor Snow, Councilmember Molina, Mayor Sanchez, Councilmember Pikus, Mayor Jones, Councilmember Fox, Supervisor Aguirre.

The motion passed. (19 to 0)

3.1 Approval of Meeting Minutes

Approved the minutes from its December 12, 2025, meeting.

3.2 Meetings and Events Attended on Behalf of SANDAG

This report provided an update on meetings and events attended by members of the SANDAG Board of Directors. This item was provided for information only.

3.3 Revised 2026 Legislative Calendar

Approved the revised 2026 calendar of meetings of the Board and the Policy Advisory Committees.

3.4 Proposed FY 2026 Program Budget Amendments: Tribal Projects

Approved the proposed amendments to the FY 2026 Program Budget to transfer \$600,000 from the Willows Road/I-8 Interchange Improvement project (Capital Improvement Program [CIP] Project No. 1147900) to the SR-76 Roadway Straightening project (CIP Project No. 1147800).

4. 2025 Year in Review and 2026 Look Ahead

Chair Lesa Heebner and Chief Executive Officer Mario Orso presented an overview of agency accomplishments for 2025 and key topics of discussion for the Board of Directors in 2026. This item was presented for information only.

Public Comments: Truth, Cesar Javier, Consuelo, Mike Bullock, The Original Dra, Blair Beekman, Paul the Bold.

5. Disadvantaged Business Enterprise Program Analysis

General Counsel Teddy Low presented an update on recent changes to Federal program requirements, including SANDAG's Disadvantaged Business Enterprise and other programs. This item was presented for information only.

Public Comments: Truth, Cesar Javier, Paul the Bold, Andrea Ebbing, The Original Dra, Consuelo.

Motioned by: Second Vice Chair Minto

Seconded by: Vice Mayor Cazares

to extend the meeting end time to 12:30 p.m.

For (17): Chair Heebner, First Vice Chair LaCava, Second Vice Chair Minto, Councilmember Shin, Councilmember Chavez, Mayor Duncan, Councilmember Gaasterland, Mayor White, Mayor McKay, Vice Mayor Cazares, Mayor Snow, Councilmember Molina, Mayor Sanchez, Councilmember Pikus, Mayor Jones, Councilmember Fox, Supervisor Aguirre.

Abstain (1): Mayor Wells

Absent (1): Mayor Ehlers

The motion passed. (17 to 0)

6. Closed Session: Significant Exposure to Litigation - Government Code Section 54956.9(d)(2): (One Potential Case)

Public Comment: Truth, Andrea Ebbing, The Original Dra, Consuelo, Paul the Bold.

Chair Heebner adjourned to closed session at 11:58 a.m.

Chair Heebner resumed open session at 12:38 p.m.

Board Counsel Lolly Enriquez reported that the Board met in closed session on Item No. 6 and there was no reportable action.

7. Adjournment

The next Board of Directors meeting is scheduled for Friday, January 23, 2026, at 9 a.m.

Chair Heebner adjourned the meeting at 12:38 p.m.