

December 4, 2025

Updating SANDAG's Shoreline Policies

Overview

Acknowledging the critical role of our region's beaches in the economy and quality of life for the region, SANDAG adopted a [Shoreline Preservation Strategy for the San Diego Region](#) in 1993, Regional Beach Sand Retention Strategy in 2001, a [Sand Compatibility and Opportunistic Use Program Plan](#) in 2006, and a [Coastal Regional Sediment Management Plan](#) in 2009. These policy documents outline specific shoreline management goals and objectives, a vision for the region's beaches, provide guidance for regional shoreline management, and influence the development of future projects. However, since 2009, developments in coastal science, shifts in regional and local coastal policies, and lessons learned from shoreline management efforts have changed, creating inconsistencies with SANDAG's current shoreline policies.

Over the next year, SANDAG will be creating an updated, comprehensive shoreline policy document that incorporates a new vision for the region's beaches, incorporating best available coastal science, lessons learned from past Regional Beach Sand Projects (RBSP I and II), and information from the Regional Beach Sand Project 3 planning studies. SANDAG is requesting volunteers from the Shoreline Preservation Working Group (SPWG) to participate in a Shoreline Policy Task force to help guide the update of the shoreline policy document.

Key Considerations

- A SANDAG technical task force is a short-term, non-Brown Act group that allows for in-depth discussions around the specific technical topic.
- A Task force cannot comprise a quorum of any existing SANDAG Committees or Working Groups.
- The Task force would be comprised of Shoreline Preservation Working Group members, technical experts, coastal managers, and interested parties that would be tasked with providing input on four technical topic areas including: updated vision and shoreline management strategy, shoreline monitoring and lagoon management, sand retention devices, and economics and funding. Additional topics could also be discussed during the development of the policy document if needed.
- The Task force is expected to meet a minimum of 5 times over the next 12 months, beginning in March 2026. Meetings are envisioned to be approximately 2 hours in length. Recommendations and discussion from the task force will help staff shape the policy document.

Action: Discussion

SANDAG staff will ask for volunteers from the Shoreline Preservation Working Group members to serve on a Shoreline Policy Task force that will focus on updating SANDAG's Shoreline Policies.

Fiscal Impact:

None.

Schedule/Scope Impact:

The Shoreline Policy Task force will meet approximately four times over the next 12 months to provide technical input on the draft Shoreline Policy document.

Next Steps

SPWG members interested in participating on the Shoreline Policy Task force are requested to submit an email to courtney.becker@sandag.org by January 02, 2026. SANDAG will host the first meeting in the spring of 2026 and report back to the SPWG at subsequent meetings.

Keith Greer, Deputy Director Environmental Compliance and Climate

Attachment: 1. Shoreline Policy Task force Schedule