DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DIVISION OF HOUSING POLICY DEVELOPMENT

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July 21, 2020

Hasan Ikhrata, Executive Director San Diego Association of Governments 401 B Street, Suite 800 San Diego, CA 92101

Dear Hasan Ikhrata:

RE: Review of Adopted 2021-2029 Regional Housing Need Allocation (RHNA) Plan

Thank you for submitting the adopted San Diego Association of Governments (SANDAG) Sixth Cycle Regional Housing Need Allocation (RHNA) Plan. Pursuant to Government Code Section 65584.05(g), the California Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) is required to review RHNA plans for consistency with statutory requirements.

HCD completed its review and is pleased to approve SANDAG's adopted RHNA Plan, upon finding it consistent with HCD's July 5, 2018 RHNA determination of 171,685 housing unit need. Please distribute the RHNA Plan to inform all local governments of their share of new housing need to address their sixth cycle housing elements, due by April 15, 2021. In updating their housing elements, local governments may take RHNA credit for new units approved, permitted, and/or built since the start date of the RHNA projection period, June 30, 2020.

HCD is committed to assisting SANDAG's local governments prepare and implement updated housing elements to effectively address the region's housing need. Increasing the availability of affordable homes, ending homelessness, and meeting other housing goals continues to be a priority for the State of California.

To further these efforts, the 2019-20 Budget Act allocated \$250 million for all regions and jurisdictions for planning activities through the Regional Early Action Planning (REAP) and Local Early Action Planning (LEAP) grant programs. SANDAG has \$6,851,680 available through the REAP program and HCD applauds SANDAG's efforts to engage early on how best to utilize these funds and HCD looks forward to continuing this collaboration. All SANDAG jurisdictions are also eligible for LEAP grants and are encouraged to apply to support meeting and exceeding sixth cycle housing element goals. The deadline for that program was recently extended to January 31, 2021 so there is still time to apply and work

with HCD on an application. For more information, please contact HCD at <u>EarlyActionPlanning@hcd.ca.gov</u>. While the SB 2 Planning Grant deadline has passed, ongoing regionally tailored technical assistance is still available through that program as well.

HCD applauds SANDAG's completion of the RHNA allocation process and we look forward to continued partnership with SANDAG and its member jurisdictions to assist with planning efforts to accommodate the region's share of housing need.

If HCD can provide any additional assistance, or if you, or your staff, have any questions, please email me at megan.kirkeby@hcd.ca.gov; or Tom Brinkhuis, Housing Policy Specialist, at tom.brinkhuis@hcd.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

Megan Kirkeby

My

Acting Deputy Director