

SANDAG

Interagency Technical Working Group on Tribal Transportation Issues Agenda

Wednesday, September 29, 2021

10 a.m.

****Teleconference Meeting****

MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT AMIDST COVID-19 PANDEMIC:

The Interagency Technical Working Group on Tribal Transportation Issues meeting scheduled for Wednesday, September 29, 2021, will be conducted virtually in accordance with Governor Newsom's State of Emergency declaration regarding the COVID-19 outbreak, Executive Order N-29-20, and the Guidance for Gatherings issued by the California Department of Public Health. Group members will primarily participate in the meeting virtually, while practicing social distancing, from individual remote locations.

To participate via Zoom webinar, click the link to join the meeting: <https://zoom.us/j/96251236037>

Webinar ID: 962 5123 6037

To participate via Telephone, dial a number based on your current location in the US:

+1 (669) 900-6833

+1 (253) 215-8782

+1 (346) 248-7799

+1 (312) 626-6799

+1 (929) 205-6099

+1 (301) 715-8592

International numbers available: <https://zoom.us/u/aQf4mpu39>

SANDAG relies on commercial technology to broadcast the meeting via Zoom. With the increase of virtual meetings, platforms such as Microsoft Teams, WebEx, GoToMeeting, and Zoom are working to scale their systems to meet the new demand. If we experience technical difficulty or you are unexpectedly disconnected from the broadcast, please close and reopen your browser and click the link to rejoin the meeting. SANDAG staff will take all possible measures to ensure a publicly accessible experience.

Public Comments: 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 (please reference "Wednesday, September 29, 2021, Tribal TWG Meeting," in your subject line and identify the item number(s) to which your comments pertain). Comments received by 4 p.m. on Tuesday, September 28, will be provided to members prior to the meeting. If you desire to provide live verbal comment during the meeting, please join the Zoom meeting by computer or phone and use the "Raise Hand" function to request to provide public comment. On a computer, the "Raise Hand" feature is on the Zoom toolbar. By phone, enter *9 to "Raise Hand" and *6 to unmute. Requests to provide live public comment must be made at the beginning of the relevant item, and no later than the end of any staff presentation on the item. The Clerk will call on members of the public who have timely requested to provide comment by name for those joining via a computer and by the last three digits of for those joining via telephone. All comments received prior to the close of the meeting will be made part of the meeting record. Please note that any available chat feature on the Zoom meeting platform should be used by panelists and attendees solely for procedural or other "housekeeping" matters as comments provided via the chat feature will not be retained as part of the meeting record. All comments to be provided for the record must be made via email or orally per the instructions above.

SANDAG

Welcome to SANDAG. Members of the public may speak to the Tribal TWG on any item at the time the Tribal TWG is considering the item. Public speakers are limited to three minutes or less per person. The Tribal TWG may only take action on any item appearing on the agenda.

In order to keep the public informed in an efficient manner and facilitate public participation, SANDAG also provides access to all agenda and meeting materials online at sandag.org/meetings. Additionally, interested persons can sign up for email notifications at sandag.org/subscribe.

SANDAG operates its programs without regard to race, color, and national origin in compliance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act. SANDAG has developed procedures for investigating and tracking Title VI complaints, and the procedures for filing a complaint are available to the public upon request. Questions concerning SANDAG nondiscrimination obligations or complaint procedures should be directed to the SANDAG General Counsel, John Kirk, at (619) 699-1997 or john.kirk@sandag.org. Any person who believes himself or herself or any specific class of persons to be subjected to discrimination prohibited by Title VI also may file a written complaint with the Federal Transit Administration.

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), SANDAG will accommodate persons who require assistance in order to participate in SANDAG meetings. If such assistance is required, please contact the Clerk of the Board at ClerkoftheBoard@sandag.org or at (619) 699-1985, at least 72 hours in advance of the meeting. To request this document or related reports in an alternative format, please call (619) 699-1900 or (619) 699-1904 (TTY), or fax (619) 699-1905 at least 72 hours in advance of the meeting.

SANDAG agenda materials can be made available in alternative languages. To make a request, call (619) 699-1900 in advance of the meeting.

Los materiales de la agenda de SANDAG están disponibles en otros idiomas. Para hacer una solicitud, llame al (619) 699-1900.

如有需要, 我们可以把SANDAG议程材料翻译成其他语言.

请在会议前至少 72 小时打电话 (619) 699-1900 提出请求.

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. In 2021, SANDAG will develop an equity action plan that 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.

Interagency Technical Working Group on Tribal Transportation Issues

Wednesday, September 29, 2021

Item No.		Action
1.	Welcome and Introductions	
2.	<p>Public Comments/Communications/Member Comments</p> <p>Members of the public shall have the opportunity to address the Interagency Technical Working Group on Tribal Transportation Issues, (Tribal TWG) on any issue within the jurisdiction of Tribal TWG that is not on this agenda.</p>	
+3.	<p>Approval of Meeting Minutes</p> <p><i>Erica Pinto, Working Group Chair, Jamul Indian Village of California</i></p> <p>The Tribal TWG is asked to review and approve the minutes from its June 30, 2021, meeting.</p>	Approve
Chair's Report		
4.	<p>Chair's Report</p> <p><i>Erica Pinto, Tribal TWG Chair, Jamul Indian Village of California</i></p> <p>The Tribal TWG Chair will share updates from their respective agency's meetings relevant to the mission of the Working Group.</p>	Information
Consent		
+5.	<p>Regional Digital Equity Strategy</p> <p><i>Krystal Ayala, Senior Partnerships Strategist</i></p> <p>An overview on the Draft Regional Digital Equity Strategy and an update of early action initiatives to bridge the digital divide, will be presented.</p>	Information
Reports		
+6.	<p>Draft Environmental Impact Report for San Diego Forward: The Regional Plan and Its Sustainable Communities Strategy</p> <p><i>Kirsten Uchitel, SANDAG</i></p> <p>An overview on the draft Environmental Impact Report for San Diego Forward: The 2021 Regional Plan will be presented.</p>	Discussion
7.	<p>San Vicente Comprehensive Multimodal Corridor Plan</p> <p><i>Melina Pereira, Caltrans</i></p> <p>An update on the progress of the San Vicente Comprehensive Multimodal Corridor Plan and an overview of the draft inventory of transportation solutions for the corridor, will be presented.</p>	Information

- | | | |
|-----|--|--------------------------------|
| 8. | <p>Technical Update of the Intraregional Tribal Transportation Strategy
 <i>Matt Horton, Kimley-Horn</i></p> <p>An update on the Intraregional Tribal Transportation Strategy will be presented.</p> | Information |
| 9. | <p>State Route 94 Multi-Use Pathway Feasibility Study
 <i>Madai Parra, SANDAG</i></p> <p>The State Route 94 (SR 94) Multi-Use Pathway Feasibility Study seeks to investigate the viability of seven miles of multi-use pathway along SR 94 between Jamacha Road/Campo Road to the southeastern boundary of the Jamul-Dulzura community, at the California Department of Fish and Wildlife Reservation. An update on the SR 94 Multi-Use Pathway Feasibility Study will be presented.</p> | Information |
| 10. | <p>Tribal Transportation and Climate Adaptation Planning at Pala and Jamul
 <i>Shasta Gaughen, Pala Band of Mission Indians</i></p> <p>The Pala Band of Mission Indians, in partnership with Jamul Indian Village was awarded a Caltrans Senate Bill 1 Sustainable Communities Planning Grant in 2019 to develop a climate-focused tribal transportation adaptation plan. Pala and Jamul have both assessed how their transportations systems are vulnerable to the effects of climate change and developed adaptation plans for adapting to and mitigating those effects. An overview on the process and the road map used for the climate-focused tribal transportation adaptation plan, will be presented.</p> | Information |
| 11. | <p>Upcoming Meetings
 <i>Erica Pinto, Working Group Chair, Jamul Indian Village of California</i></p> <p>The Tribal TWG meets on a quarterly basis, the next meeting will be scheduled for December 2021. As the state has begun lifting COVID-19 meeting restrictions, it is suggested that the Tribal TWG resume in-person meetings at a reservation and meetings locations alternate between the north and south.</p> | Discussion/
Possible Action |
| 12. | <p>Adjournment</p> | |

+ next to an item indicates an attachment

Interagency Technical Working Group on Tribal Transportation Issues

Item: **3**

September 29, 2021

Action: **Approve**

June 30, 2021, Meeting Minutes

Co-Chair Coleen Clementson (SANDAG) called the meeting of the Interagency Technical Working Group on Tribal Transportation Issues (Tribal TWG) to order at 10:10 a.m.

1. Welcome and Introductions (Information)

Co-Chair Erica Pinto (Jamul Indian Village) welcomed the Tribal TWG members to another virtual meeting and announced this may potentially be the last virtual meeting. Co-Chair Coleen Clementson introduced Tribal Chair Raymond Welch (Barona). Tribal Chair Welch (Barona) led the Tribal TWG in a blessing.

Co-Chair Pinto and Senior Regional Planner Jane Clough facilitated self-introductions. Tribal Nations represented were Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians, Barona Band of Mission Indians, Jamul Indian Village of California, La Jolla Band of Luiseño Indians, Pala Band of Mission Indians, San Pasqual Band of Diegueño Indians, Sycuan Band of the Kumeyaay Nations, and Viejas Band of Kumeyaay Nation.

Absent: Campo Kumeyaay Nation, La Posta Band of the Kumeyaay Nation, Pauma Band of Luiseño Indians, and Mesa Grande Band of Mission Indians, Rincon Band of Luiseño Indians, and Sycuan Band of the Kumeyaay Nation.

2. Public Comments/Communications/Member Comments (Information)

None.

3. Approval of Meeting Minutes (Approve)

Action: Upon a motion by Shasta Gaughen (Pala Band of Mission Indians) and a second by Tribal TWG Vice Chair Andrew Orosco, Jr. (San Pasqual Band of Diegueño Indians), the Tribal TWG approved the minutes from its April 21, 2021, meeting.

The motion passed.

Yes: Chair Pinto, Chairman Welch, Shasta Gaughen (Pala Band of Mission Indians), Andrew Orosco Jr. (San Pasqual Band of Diegueño Indians) and Raymond Teran (Viejas Band of Kumeyaay Nation).

No: None.

Abstain: None.

Absent: Campo Kumeyaay Nation, La Posta Band of the Kumeyaay Nation, Pauma Band of Luiseño Indians, and Mesa Grande Band of Mission Indians, Rincon Band of Luiseño Indians, and Sycuan Band of the Kumeyaay Nation.

Chair's Report

4. Co-Chair's Report (Information)

Tribal TWG Co-Chairs Pinto and Coleen Clementson of the Tribal TWG shared updates from their respective agency's meetings relevant to the mission of the Tribal TWG.

Action: Information only.

Reports

5. 2021 Regional Plan: Draft for Public Review (Discussion)

Principal Regional Planner Tuere Fa'aola and Senior Regional Planner Allison Wood, SANDAG, presented an overview of the draft 2021 Regional Plan with a focus on projects and programs in the unincorporated subregion.

Action: Discussion only.

6. Caltrans and San Diego County Updates on Projects Identified in the Interregional Tribal Transportation Strategy (Information)

Rafael Reyes, Caltrans District 11, and Scott Christman, County of San Diego, provided updates on projects in their purview that were identified in the Intraregional Tribal Transportation Strategy.

Action: Discussion only.

7. Tribal Broadband Connectivity Program – Grant Opportunity (Discussion)

Nicholas Courtney, National Telecommunications and Information Administration provided an overview of the Tribal Broadband Connectivity Program, funded by federal stimulus funding for grants to expand access to broadband, remote learning, telehealth, and telework for Tribes and on Tribal Land.

8. Update on the Technical Update of the Interregional Tribal Transportation Strategy (Information)

Mike Connolly, Southern California Tribal Chairmen's Association, and Matt Horton, Kimley-Horn, briefed the Tribal TWG on the status of the Intraregional Tribal Transportation Strategy.

9. Topics/Date for Next Meeting and Adjournment (Discussion/Possible Action)

Chair Pinto asked the Tribal TWG members to discuss potential topics for the next meeting. As a quarterly meeting, the next date should be in September 2021. Should health directive restrictions be lifted by then the meeting may occur in person. Viejas offered to host if the public health directives allow.

Action: Discussion only.

10. Upcoming Meetings (Information)

The next Tribal TWG meeting is tentatively scheduled for Wednesday, September 29, 2021, at 10 a.m.

11. Adjournment

Chair Pinto adjourned the meeting at 12:07 p.m.

Confirmed Attendance at SANDAG Interagency Technical Working Group on Tribal Transportation Issues Meeting

June 30, 2021

Jurisdiction	Name	Attended	Vote-Minutes
Jamul Indian Village	Erica Pinto, Working Group Chair	Yes	
	Michael Hunter, Alternate	No	
Barona Band of Mission Indians	Chairman Raymond Welch	Yes	
	Sheilla Alvarez, Alternate	Yes	
Campo Kumeyaay Nation	Gary Connolly	No	
	Chairman Marcus Cuero, Alternate	No	
Ewiiapaayp Band of the Kumeyaay Nation	William Micklin	No	
Iipay Nation of Santa Ysabel	Bernice Paipa	No	
Inaja-Cosmit Band of Indians		No	
Kwaaymii Laguna Band of Mission Indians		No	
La Jolla Band of Luiseño Indians	Norma Contreras	No	
	John Beresford, Alternate	No	
La Posta Band of the Kumeyaay Nation	James Hill	Yes	
Los Coyotes Band of Cahuilla/Cupeño Indians	Ray Chapparosa	No	
	Alvinia Fletcher, Alternate	No	
Manzanita Band of the Kumeyaay Nation	Angela Elliott Santos	Yes	
	Lisa Haws, Alternate		
Mesa Grande Band of Mission Indians	Mike Linton	No	
	Jesse Morales		
Pala Band of Mission Indians	Robert Smith	No	
	Shasta Gaughen, Alternate	Yes	
	Chris Nejo, Alternate	Yes	
Pauma Band of Luiseño Indians	Temet Aguilar	No	
	Venessa Brown	No	
Rincon Band of Luiseño Indians	Bo Mazzetti	No	
	John Constantino	No	
	Joseph Linton	No	
San Luis Rey Band of Mission Indians			
San Pasqual Band of Diegueño Mission Indians	Andrew Orosco, Jr. Working Group Vice Chair	Yes	
	Steven Cope		

Jurisdiction	Name	Attended	Vote-Minutes
Sycuan Band of the Kumeyaay Nation	Cody Martinez	No	
	Adam Day	No	
	Anna Rzepko	No	
Viejas Band of Kumeyaay Nation	John Christman	No	
	Victor Woods	No	
	Ray Teran, Alternate	Yes	
Advisory Members			
Southern California Tribal Chairmen's Association	Denis Turner	No	
	Mike-Connolly-Miskwish	Yes	
	Chris Devers	No	
Bureau of Indian Affairs, Southern California (BIA)	Steve Wilkie	No	
	Leonard Gilmore	Yes	
Caltrans (District 11)	Rafael Reyes	Yes	
	Anne Fox	No	
County of San Diego	Scott Christman	Yes	
	Richard Chin	Yes	
Metropolitan Transit System	Beverly Neff	No	
	Denis Desmond, Alternate	No	
North County Transit District	Karen Hayford		
SANDAG	Coleen Clementson, Working Group Co-Chair	Yes	
	Jane Clough, Tribal Liaison, Working Group Coordinator	Yes	
Other Attendees			
Matt Horton, Kimley-Horn			
Arnold San Miguel, SCAG			
Carla Rodriguez			
Chris Nejo, Pala			
David Salazar SCAG			
Felix Ketto, BIA			
Jacob Mandel, SDCBC			
Jeremy Zagarella, Pala			
Leonardo Espelet			
Matthew Rantanen, SCTCA			
Nicholas Courtney			
SANDAG Staff			
Allison Wood			
Anna Lowe			
Catherine Matel			
Chris Velasco			
Coleen Clementson			
Jane Clough			
Kendall Reynolds			
Tuere Fa'aola			

Interagency Technical Working Group on Tribal Transportation Issues

September 29, 2021

Action: **Information**

Draft Regional Digital Equity Strategy

Introduction

The growing gap between people who do and do not have reliable access to high-speed, high-quality internet service, and a suitable device for connecting to the internet, is known as the digital divide. This divide has been exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic, but without new policies and programs to address this issue, the divide will continue to worsen.

Recognizing the severity of this issue, Governor Gavin Newsom signed [Executive Order N-73-20](#) on August 14, 2020, directing state agencies to increase access to high-quality broadband statewide. In January 2021, the Board of Directors [adopted Board Resolution 2021-09](#), committing to develop a Digital Equity Strategy and Action Plan that leads to rapid broadband deployment and adoption in the San Diego region. To help shape the development of the Digital Equity Strategy and Action Plan, SANDAG formed a [Regional Digital Divide Taskforce](#) to provide technical input. The taskforce consists of [representatives](#) from public agencies, broadband providers, and non-profit organizations that are actively working to bridge the digital divide.

Discussion

The Draft Regional Digital Equity Strategy will help to bridge the digital divide by:

- Building consensus that broadband is an essential public service and contributes to greater equity; it is critical that our public sector and municipalities develop comprehensive broadband plans to ensure a prosperous future both in the short- and long-term.
- Developing and encouraging local adoption of regionally consistent broadband supportive policies and streamlined permitting practices.
- Strengthening partnerships with private providers and community-based organizations to coordinate initiatives as well as share successes and best practices.
- Expanding infrastructure in areas of greatest need. In urban areas, existing public sector fiber could also be leveraged to expand service, increase competition, and reduce cost.
- Supporting the collection of more reliable data about connectivity by attaining accurate and transparent information on broadband access and adoption are critical to understanding community needs.

The Draft Regional Digital Equity Strategy is available in Attachment 1.

Next Steps

SANDAG staff will finalize the Regional Digital Equity Strategy and present findings to the Board of Directors in October 2021. The Action Plan is anticipated to be completed in December 2021.

Key Staff Contacts: Antoinette Meier, Director of Mobility, and Innovation, antoinette.meier@sandag.org.
Krystal Ayala, Senior Partnerships Strategist, krystal.ayala@sandag.org

Attachment: 1. Draft Regional Digital Equity Strategy

Agenda Item 5 — Attachment 1:

Draft Regional Digital Equity Strategy

The full document in electronic format can be downloaded at
https://www.sandag.org/uploads/meetingid/meetingid_5908_29714.pdf.

A reference copy will be available at the meeting. For a printed copy, please contact the Public Information Office at (619) 699-1950 or pio@sandag.org.

SANDAG

Joint Meeting of the Transportation, Regional Planning, and Borders Committees

Item: **3**

September 17, 2021

Overview of the Draft Environmental Impact Report for San Diego Forward: The Regional Plan and its Sustainable Communities Strategy

Overview

On September 27, 2021, the Draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for San Diego Forward: The 2021 Regional Plan (2021 Regional Plan) was released for a 45-day public review. The Draft EIR analyzes the potential effects of the proposed 2021 Regional Plan on the environment, and mitigation measures to avoid or reduce significant impacts and alternatives. An EIR was prepared to disclose this information to decision makers, members of the public, and public agencies so that informed decisions can be made on the 2021 Regional Plan. The Draft EIR can be found at sdforward.com/mobility-planning/draft-eir and comments will be accepted through October 11, 2021. An online comment form has been made available to assist with the collection and response to public comments on the Draft EIR.

Action: Information

An overview on the draft Environmental Impact Report for San Diego Forward: The 2021 Regional Plan will be presented.

Fiscal Impact:

Funding was budgeted in the FY 2022 Work Plan to complete the Final Environmental Impact Report (EIR). Funding for mitigation measures included in the EIR will be considered as part of the adoption of the 2021 Regional Plan.

Schedule/Scope Impact:

None.

Key Considerations

The Draft EIR analyzes the 2021 Regional Plan's effect on 19 different resources areas and evaluates those effects against baseline conditions. Attachment 1 provides some key takeaways of the Draft EIR related to vehicle miles traveled (VMT), greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, air quality, and loss of native habitat and agriculture. The 2021 Regional Plan's Supporting Policies and Programs (Appendix A, Table 1.17) envisions significant investments to reduce VMT and GHG emissions in the region. The EIR identifies \$242 million of these investments for the mitigation of GHGs that will facilitate local climate action plans, provide new funding for zero emission vehicles, implement a nature-based carbon sequestration program, and advance smart cities and strategies to close the digital divide.

The Draft EIR is considered a Program EIR under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), which is used to evaluate a plan or program that has multiple components or actions as part of a long-term plan. Details on the magnitude and extent of many impacts are not known at the program-level and subsequent environmental review under CEQA will be required. Mitigation included in the EIR can and should be used to guide mitigation during the preparation of subsequent project-level environmental review; however, SANDAG has no authority to require local jurisdictions implementing CEQA and other transportation project sponsors to adopt project specific mitigation measures. In addition, some programmatic mitigation may not be feasible or effective for particular projects based on site-specific circumstances. As such, many impacts in the EIR are considered significant and unavoidable even with the mitigation measures identified in the EIR (Attachment 2).

In addition to mitigation, CEQA also requires that an EIR look at a reasonable range of alternatives that meet the project objectives, including a “No Project” alternative, and identify the environmentally superior alternative. The Draft EIR evaluates three alternatives to the 2021 Regional Plan: Alternative 1: No Project Alternative; Alternative 2: 2019 Transportation Network with New Value Pricing and User Fee Policies; and Alternative 3: All Growth Focused in Mobility Hubs and More Progressive Value Pricing and User Fee Policies. These alternatives were developed based on public input from the Notice of Preparation scoping period and during the development of the proposed 2021 Regional Plan. Alternative 3 is considered the environmentally superior alternative as discussed in Chapter 6.4 of the Draft EIR. A comparison of Alternatives is summarized in Chapter 6, Table 6-3 and Appendix O.

Next Steps

The Draft EIR is available for a 45-day public review period, from August 27, 2021, to October 11, 2021. Following the public review period, SANDAG will prepare written responses to environmental concerns raised in the comments on the Draft EIR. The Final EIR will include revisions to the Draft EIR, comments received on the Draft EIR either verbatim or in summary, and SANDAG’s responses to significant environmental concerns raised in the public comments. The Final EIR will be presented to the Board of Directors for certification as they consider the approval of the 2021 Regional Plan in late 2021.

Coleen Clementson, Director of Regional Planning

Key Staff Contact: Keith Greer,

- Attachments:
1. Key Takeaways from the Regional Plan DEIR
 2. Draft EIR Executive Summary

Key Takeaways from the Regional Plan's DEIR

- The Draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR) analyzes Vehicle Miles Traveled (VMT) as the new metric for environmental impacts to transportation under California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). While total VMT rises a modest 6.6% through 2050, VMT per capita falls 14.1% over the same time. Additional reductions of 2.2% could occur if the off-model transportation demand management (TDM) strategies identified in Appendix S of San Diego Forward: The 2021 Regional Plan (2021 Regional Plan) are implemented for a total reduction of 16.3% per capita VMT. This reduction exceeds the California Air Resources Board (CARB) 2050 statewide goal of 14.3% reductions of VMT per capita,¹ but would require implementation by the local jurisdictions and private employers in partnership with SANDAG.
- The 2021 Regional Plan exceeds both CARB's Senate Bill 375, 2035 target of 19% per capita reduction of passenger vehicle greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions relative to 2005, and the Board of Director's Resolution No. 2021-17 for a 30% reduction of GHG for the entire on-road transportation sector by 2035. The 2021 Regional Plan does not achieve the state's reduction goal of 40% below 1990 emissions levels by 2030 (SB 32), reductions of 80% by 2050 (EO S-03-05) or achieve carbon neutrality by 2045 (EO B-55-18). Mitigation totaling \$242 million has been identified in the draft EIR to promote additional reductions of GHG emissions through new grants for the implementation of local Climate Action Plans, new zero emission vehicles and infrastructure programs, nature-based carbon sequestration programs and efforts to close the digital divide. Even with the identified mitigation, reductions in GHG emissions would not reach the state targets. Achieving the state's mid-century goals will require major shifts in the energy sector, decarbonization of existing buildings and new construction, electrification of the entire transportation sector, sustainable solid waste and wastewater management practices, and direct carbon dioxide removal strategies that are well beyond the scope of and jurisdiction of SANDAG alone.
- Reductions in ozone² (a component of urban smog), carbon monoxide, and inhalable fine particulate matter smaller than 2.5 microns (PM2.5) decrease under the 2021 Regional Plan as the region moves toward newer, cleaner vehicles that emit less emissions on a per mile basis. While auto emission decreases, inhalable coarse particulate matter smaller than ten microns (PM10) associated with brake and tire wear, and dust from paved roads increase as total VMT increases resulting in a significant impact by 2050. Increases of oxides of sulfur (SOx) associated with the expanded heavy rail commuter trains proposed in the 2021 Regional Plan, would be mitigated by the acquisition and operation of zero emission trains on any new rail lines after 2035 as proposed in the draft EIR.
- The Sustainable Communities Strategy land use pattern included in the 2021 Regional Plan, results in more compact development served by a more efficient transportation network resulting in the consumption of less native habitat and agricultural lands compared to prior regional plans. The 2021 Regional Plan would result in 7,656 acres of loss of native habitat and 7,586 acres of agriculture. This represents a decrease of 91% and 72% of native habitat and agriculture loss, respectively, compared to the 2015 Regional Plan.

¹ See California Air Resources Board (CARB) 2017 Scoping Plan – Identified VMT Reductions and Relationship to State Climate Goals. January 2019.

² As measure by the ozone precursors of reactive organic gases (ROG) and oxides of nitrogen (NOx).

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This is the San Diego Association of Governments' (SANDAG's) Draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for San Diego Forward: The 2021 Regional Plan ("the proposed Plan"). It has been prepared in accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) (Public Resources Code [PRC] Section 21000 et seq.) and the Guidelines for Implementation of CEQA (CEQA Guidelines) (14 California Code of Regulations Sections 15000 et seq.). The proposed Plan is an update to San Diego Forward: The 2015 Regional Plan ("the 2015 Regional Plan"), adopted in October 2015, and the 2019 Federal Regional Transportation Plan ("the 2019 Federal RTP"), adopted in October 2019. The proposed Plan updates the Regional Comprehensive Plan (RCP) for the San Diego region and the Regional Transportation Plan/Sustainable Communities Strategy (RTP/SCS).

This Draft EIR analyzes the significant environmental impacts of the proposed Plan, mitigation measures to avoid or reduce these impacts, and alternatives to the proposed Plan. It was prepared to disclose this information to decision makers, members of the public, and public agencies so that informed decisions can be made about the proposed Plan. CEQA requires that decision makers make informed decisions on a project, considering the information presented in the EIR, along with social, economic, and other factors.

This Draft EIR is available for a 45-day public review period, from August 27, 2021 to October 11, 2021. Following the public review period, SANDAG will prepare written responses to significant environmental concerns raised in the comments on the Draft EIR. The Final EIR will include revisions to the Draft EIR, comments received on the Draft EIR either verbatim or in summary, and SANDAG's responses to significant environmental concerns raised in the public comments.

ES.1 SUMMARY OF THE PROPOSED PLAN

The proposed Plan includes a blueprint for a regional transportation system, serving existing and projected residents and workers within the San Diego region (Figure 2-1) that further enhances quality of life and offers more mobility options for people and goods. The proposed Plan looks ahead to 2050, and accommodates for more than 430,000 new residents, approximately 440,000 new jobs, and over 280,000 new housing units.

The underlying purpose of the proposed Plan, in summary, is to develop a Regional Plan that addresses the many regional transportation challenges that are deeply connected to larger societal issues that impact everyone's quality of life, including economic and social inequities, climate change, public health, and safety. Consistent with this underlying purpose, SANDAG developed the following project objectives for this EIR:

1. Focus population and employment growth in mobility hubs and existing urban areas to protect sensitive habitat and natural resource areas.
2. Provide transportation investments that support compact land development patterns and reduce sprawl.
3. Meet greenhouse gas emissions targets established for the San Diego region by the California Air Resources Board and the SANDAG Board of Directors.
4. Provide transportation investments and land use patterns that promote social equity.
5. Provide transportation investments and land use patterns that reduce vehicle miles traveled and improve air quality.
6. Provide multi-modal access to employment centers and key destinations for all communities.

7. Enhance the efficiency of the transportation network for moving people and goods through the deployment of new technologies.

Under Senate Bill (SB) 375, the regional transportation plan must include an SCS consisting of land use, housing, and transportation strategies that, if implemented, would allow the region to meet its regional targets for greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions reductions from passenger vehicle use established by the California Air Resources Board (CARB). The purpose of an SCS is to align regional transportation, housing, and land use planning to attain the regional GHG reduction target. Although SB 375 sets GHG reduction targets for only the years 2020 and 2035, the proposed Plan also includes a longer 2050 time horizon. This was done because a major local transportation funding program (the *TransNet* Extension Ordinance and Expenditure Plan) extends to almost 2050.

The SCS land use pattern concentrates future development in areas that support connection to high-frequency transit services called *Mobility Hubs*. The proposed Plan incentivizes land uses and transportation infrastructure in Mobility Hub areas that maximize the connectivity of the transportation system. Mobility Hubs are proposed for communities with a high concentration of people, destinations, and travel choices where densification is envisioned in the SCS. Mobility Hubs are unique to each community and reflect respective community transportation needs, and would be developed in accordance with the land use authority reserved to local jurisdictions.

The proposed Plan includes the SCS as well as the “5 Big Moves,” transportation network improvements, and supporting policies and programs. The 5 Big Moves consist of Complete Corridors, Transit Leap, Mobility Hubs, Flexible Fleets, and Next Operating System (Next OS), and each of these elements is discussed in greater detail in Section 2.5.1, *The 5 Big Moves*, of this EIR.

The proposed Plan creates an integrated transportation system throughout the 11 Major Travel Corridors of the San Diego region, specifically: South Bay to Sorrento; Central Mobility Hub; State Route 125 (SR 125); Interstate 15 (I-15); Interstate 5 (I-5) North Coast Corridor; State Route 94 (SR 94); Interstate 8 (I-8); Coast, Canyons, and Trails; State Route 56 (SR 56); San Vicente; and North County. The system components in each Major Travel Corridor consist of transportation improvements under each of the 5 Big Moves, enhanced Airport Connectivity, and improved Border/Ports of Entry. The proposed Plan consists of 11 policies and programs that support the implementation of the transportation network and SCS.

ES.2 PROJECT LOCATION

The project boundary of the proposed Plan includes the entire San Diego region, which is composed of more than 4,200 square miles (see Figure 2-1). To the north, the region is bordered by Orange and Riverside counties, although largely separated from Orange County by Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton. To the south of the region is the U.S. border with Mexico. The Pacific Ocean forms a natural border to the west, and the region shares a border with Imperial County to the east. The majority of urban development lies in the western portion of the San Diego region along the coast. The communities located inland in the eastern portion of the region have focused on maintaining a rural character. Over half of the total land area in the region is not available for public development, including public lands, dedicated parks and open space, lands constrained for environmental reasons, and military use. The San Diego region is supported by an existing network of freeways, expressways, regional arterials, transit corridors, regional bus and rail transit corridors, bikeways, commercial and general aviation facilities, seaport facilities, and ports of entry at the U.S.–Mexico border. The project location and environmental setting are discussed in more detail in Chapter 3, *Environmental Setting*.

ES.3 AREAS OF CONTROVERSY

CEQA Guidelines Section 15123(b)(2) requires that an EIR contain a discussion of areas of controversy known to the lead agency, including issues raised by agencies and the public. Several areas of controversy were identified during the EIR scoping process, and through public input on the proposed Plan outside of the Notice of Preparation (NOP) process.

These areas of concern were brought forth through letters and presented at SANDAG board meetings. In no particular order, areas of controversy known to SANDAG include:

- Providing an increase in *Rapid* transit, the Purple Line as a Trolley, and other rail corridor service enhancements.
- Determining a long-term sustainable solution for continue rail service through the Del Mar Bluffs area.
- Importance of meeting and exceeding SB 375 and other State greenhouse gas reduction targets.
- How to provide an efficient and equitable transportation system.
- How to address the need for affordable housing in the region; make infrastructure investments in areas with future housing growth.
- Whether to provide transit fare subsidies for Youth Opportunity Passes, senior citizens, and disadvantaged community members.
- How to address the regional divide in digital access.
- Whether to reduce expanding freeways and focus land use and transportation growth within urban core areas that would provide affordable housing and transportation needs and meet GHG and vehicle miles traveled (VMT) reduction targets.
- How to reduce transportation-related pollution levels in disadvantaged communities.
- How to accommodate future growth and housing while decreasing sprawl into natural open space areas.
- Providing safe opportunities for biking and walking that encourage increased physical activity.

ES.4 ISSUES TO BE RESOLVED

CEQA Guidelines Section 15123(b)(3) requires that an EIR contain a discussion of issues to be resolved. Issues to be resolved in this EIR include choosing among alternatives to the proposed Plan, and deciding how to mitigate the proposed Plan's significant environmental impacts. Additionally, if it adopts the proposed Plan, the SANDAG Board of Directors must decide whether specific social, economic, or other benefits of the proposed Plan outweigh its significant unavoidable environmental impacts; if so, the Board of Directors must adopt a Statement of Overriding Considerations.

ES.5 SUMMARY OF ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS AND MITIGATION MEASURES

Table ES-1 provides a summary of environmental impacts, mitigation measures to avoid or reduce significant impacts, and significance of the impact after mitigation is applied, for 2020, 2035, and 2050. This summary is based on the impact analyses provided in Chapter 4, Sections 4.1 through 4.19. A detailed analysis of cumulative impacts is provided in Chapter 5, which identifies probable future projects, as well as regional planning documents and other growth projections, and analyzes the cumulative environmental impacts for each environmental resource area when combined with the proposed Plan.

**Table ES-1
Summary of Environmental Impacts and Mitigation Measures**

Impacts of the Proposed Plan in 2025, 2035, and 2050	Mitigation Measures	Level of Significance After Mitigation		
		2025	2035	2050
4.1 Aesthetics and Visual Resources				
AES-1 Have a substantial adverse effect on a scenic vista Significant impact in 2025, 2035, and 2050	AES-1a Protect Public Views of Scenic Vistas for Transportation Network Improvements AES-1b Protect Public Views of Scenic Vistas for Development Projects	Significant and Unavoidable	Significant and Unavoidable	Significant and Unavoidable
AES-2 Substantially damage scenic resources, including, but not limited to, trees, rocks, outcroppings, and historic structures within a state scenic highway Significant impact in 2025, 2035, and 2050	AES-1a Protect Public Views of Scenic Vistas for Transportation Network Improvements AES-2a Reduce Impacts on Scenic Resources within a State Scenic Highway and Local Scenic Resources for Transportation Network Improvements AES-2b Reduce Impacts on Scenic Resources within a State Scenic Highway and Local Scenic Resources for Development Projects	Significant and Unavoidable	Significant and Unavoidable	Significant and Unavoidable
AES-3 Substantially degrade the existing visual character or quality of public views of the site and its surroundings, including adding a visual element of urban character to an existing rural or open space area, conflicting with regulations governing scenic quality Significant impact in 2025, 2035, and 2050	AES-1a Protect Public Views of Scenic Vistas for Transportation Network Improvements AES-2a Reduce Impacts on Scenic Resources within a State Scenic Highway and Local Scenic Resources for Transportation Network Improvements	Significant and Unavoidable	Significant and Unavoidable	Significant and Unavoidable

Impacts of the Proposed Plan in 2025, 2035, and 2050	Mitigation Measures	Level of Significance After Mitigation		
		2025	2035	2050
	<p>AES-2b Reduce Impacts on Scenic Resources within a State Scenic Highway and Local Scenic Resources for Development Projects</p> <p>AES-3a Reduce Impacts on Visual Character for Transportation Network Improvements</p> <p>AES-3b Reduce Impacts on Visual Character for Development Projects</p>			
<p>AES-4 Substantially degrade the existing visual character or quality of public views of the site and its surroundings by creating a new source of substantial light or glare that would adversely affect day or nighttime views</p> <p>Significant impact in 2025, 2035, and 2050</p>	<p>AES-4a Minimize Effects of Light and Glare for Transportation Network Improvements</p> <p>AES-4b Minimize Effects of Light and Glare for Development Projects</p>	Significant and Unavoidable	Significant and Unavoidable	Significant and Unavoidable
4.2 Agricultural and Forestry Resources				
<p>AG-1 Convert agricultural lands to nonagricultural use</p> <p>Significant impact in 2025, 2035, and 2050</p>	<p>AG-1a Preserve Existing Agricultural Lands</p> <p>AG-1b Reduce Transportation Network Improvement and Development Conflicts with Agricultural Operations</p>	Significant and Unavoidable	Significant and Unavoidable	Significant and Unavoidable

Impacts of the Proposed Plan in 2025, 2035, and 2050	Mitigation Measures	Level of Significance After Mitigation		
		2025	2035	2050
<p>AG-2 Conflict with existing zoning for agricultural use, or a Williamson Act contract Significant impact in 2025, 2035, and 2050</p>	<p>AG-1a Preserve Existing Agricultural Lands AG-1b Reduce Transportation Network Improvement and Development Conflicts with Agricultural Operations</p>	Significant and Unavoidable	Significant and Unavoidable	Significant and Unavoidable
<p>FR-1 Convert or result in the loss of “Forest Land” as defined in the California Forest Legacy Act of 2007 (Public Resources Code Section 12220(g)) Significant impact in 2025, 2035, and 2050</p>	<p>FR-1 Reduce Impacts on Forest Lands BIO-1a Implement Design, Minimization, and Avoidance Measures for Sensitive Natural Communities and Regulated Aquatic Resources BIO-1b Provide Compensatory Mitigation BIO-1e Implement Best Management Practices to Avoid Indirect Impacts</p>	Significant and Unavoidable	Significant and Unavoidable	Significant and Unavoidable
4.3 Air Quality				
<p>AQ-1 Conflict with or obstruct implementation of the Regional Air Quality Strategy and/or State Implementation Plan Less-than-significant impact in 2025, 2035, and 2050</p>	Not applicable	Not applicable	Not applicable	Not applicable
<p>AQ-2 Result in a cumulatively considerable net increase in nonattainment criteria pollutants, including VOC, NO_x, PM₁₀, PM_{2.5}, and SO_x Significant impact in 2050. Less-than-significant impact in 2025 and 2035.</p>	<p>AQ-2a Secure Incentive Funding AQ-2b Zero Emission Trains GHG-5a Allocate Competitive Grant Funding to Projects that Reduce GHG Emissions and for Updates to CAPs or GHG Reduction Plans GHG-5b Establish New Funding Programs for Zero-Emissions Vehicles and Infrastructure</p>	Not applicable	Not applicable	Significant and Unavoidable

Impacts of the Proposed Plan in 2025, 2035, and 2050	Mitigation Measures	Level of Significance After Mitigation		
		2025	2035	2050
	<p>GHG-5d Develop and Implement Regional Digital Equity Strategy and Action Plan to Advance Smart Cities and Close the Digital Divide</p> <p>GHG-5f. Implement Measures to Reduce GHG Emissions from Development Projects</p> <p>TRA-2 Achieve Further VMT Reductions for Transportation and Development Projects</p>			
<p>AQ-3 Result in construction-related emissions above regional mass emission thresholds</p> <p>Significant impact in 2025, 2035, and 2050</p>	<p>AQ-3a Implement Construction Best Management Practices for Fugitive Dust</p> <p>AQ-3b Reduce Diesel Emissions During Construction from Off-Road Equipment</p> <p>AQ-3c Reduce Diesel Emissions from On-Road Vehicles</p> <p>GHG-5e Implement Measures to Reduce GHG Emissions from Transportation Projects</p> <p>GHG-5f Implement Measures to Reduce GHG Emissions from Development Projects</p>	Significant and Unavoidable	Significant and Unavoidable	Significant and Unavoidable
<p>AQ-4 Expose sensitive receptors to substantial PM10 and PM2.5 concentrations</p> <p>Significant impact in 2025, 2035, and 2050</p>	<p>AQ-2a Secure Incentive Funding</p> <p>AQ-4 Reduce Exposure to Localized Particulate and/or TAC Emissions</p> <p>GHG-5a Allocate Competitive Grant Funding to Projects that Reduce GHG Emissions and for Updates to CAPs or GHG Reduction Plans</p>	Significant and Unavoidable	Significant and Unavoidable	Significant and Unavoidable

Impacts of the Proposed Plan in 2025, 2035, and 2050	Mitigation Measures	Level of Significance After Mitigation		
		2025	2035	2050
	<p>GHG-5b Establish New Funding Programs for Zero-Emissions Vehicles and Infrastructure</p> <p>GHG-5d Develop and Implement Regional Digital Equity Strategy and Action Plan to Advance Smart Cities and Close the Digital Divide</p> <p>GHG-5f. Implement Measures to Reduce GHG Emissions from Development Projects</p> <p>TRA-2 Achieve Further VMT Reductions for Transportation and Development Projects</p>			
<p>AQ-5 Expose sensitive receptors to substantial TAC concentrations Significant impact in 2025, 2035, and 2050</p>	<p>AQ-2a Secure Incentive Funding</p> <p>AQ-4 Reduce Exposure to Localized Particulate and/or TAC Emissions</p> <p>AQ-5a Reduce Exposure to Localized Toxic Air Contaminant Emissions</p> <p>AQ-5b. Reduce Exposure to Localized Toxic Air Contaminant Emissions during Railway Design</p> <p>GHG-5a Allocate Competitive Grant Funding to Projects that Reduce GHG Emissions and for Updates to CAPs or GHG Reduction Plans</p> <p>GHG-5b Establish New Funding Programs for Zero-Emissions Vehicles and Infrastructure</p> <p>GHG-5d Develop and Implement Regional Digital Equity Strategy and</p>	Significant and Unavoidable	Significant and Unavoidable	Significant and Unavoidable

Impacts of the Proposed Plan in 2025, 2035, and 2050	Mitigation Measures	Level of Significance After Mitigation		
		2025	2035	2050
	Action Plan to Advance Smart Cities and Close the Digital Divide GHG-5f. Implement Measures to Reduce GHG Emissions from Development Projects TRA-2 Achieve Further VMT Reductions for Transportation and Development Projects			
AQ-6 Expose sensitive receptors to carbon monoxide hot-spots Less-than-significant impact in 2025, 2035, and 2050	Not applicable	Not applicable	Not applicable	Not applicable
AQ-7 Result in other emissions (such as those leading to odors) adversely affecting a substantial number of people Less-than-significant impact in 2025, 2035, and 2050	Not applicable	Not applicable	Not applicable	Not applicable
4.4 Biological Resources				
BIO-1 Have a substantial adverse effect on any sensitive natural communities identified in local or regional plans, policies, regulations, or by CDFW or USFWS; or have a substantial adverse effect on state or federally regulated waters and wetlands through direct removal, filling, hydrological interruption, or other means Significant impact in 2025, 2035, and 2050	BIO-1a Implement Design, Minimization, and Avoidance Measures for Sensitive Natural Vegetation Communities and Regulated Aquatic Resources BIO-1b Provide Compensatory Mitigation BIO-1c Prepare a Habitat Restoration Plan BIO-1d Prepare Habitat/Long-Term Management Plans	Significant and Unavoidable	Significant and Unavoidable	Significant and Unavoidable

Impacts of the Proposed Plan in 2025, 2035, and 2050	Mitigation Measures	Level of Significance After Mitigation		
		2025	2035	2050
	Bio-1e Implement Best Management Practices to Avoid Indirect Impacts			
<p>BIO-2 Have a substantial adverse effect, either directly or indirectly, on any species identified as a candidate, sensitive, or special-status species in local or regional plans, policies, or regulations, or listed by CDFW or USFWS, including their federally designated critical habitat, or species that are considered sensitive in CEQA Guidelines Section 15380</p> <p>Significant impact in 2025, 2035, and 2050</p>	<p>BIO-2a Implement Design, Minimization, and Avoidance Measures for Special-Status Animal Species</p> <p>BIO-2b Provide Compensatory Mitigation for Special-Status Plant Species</p> <p>BIO-2c Provide Compensatory Mitigation for Special-Status Animal Species</p> <p>BIO-1a Implement Design, Minimization, and Avoidance Measures for Sensitive Natural Vegetation Communities and Regulated Aquatic Resources</p> <p>BIO-1b Provide Compensatory Mitigation</p> <p>BIO-1c Prepare a Habitat Restoration Plan</p> <p>BIO-1d Prepare Habitat / Long-Term Management Plans</p>	Significant and Unavoidable	Significant and Unavoidable	Significant and Unavoidable
<p>BIO-3 Interfere substantially with the movement of any native resident or migratory fish or wildlife species or with established native resident or migratory wildlife corridors, or impede the use of native wildlife nursery sites</p> <p>Significant impact in 2025, 2035, and 2050</p>	BIO-3 Facilitate Wildlife Movement	Significant and Unavoidable	Significant and Unavoidable	Significant and Unavoidable

Impacts of the Proposed Plan in 2025, 2035, and 2050	Mitigation Measures	Level of Significance After Mitigation		
		2025	2035	2050
<p>BIO-4 Conflict with the provisions of an adopted HCP, NCCP, or other conservation plan, or with any local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources Less-than-significant impact in 2025, 2035, and 2050</p>	Not applicable	Not applicable	Not applicable	Not applicable
4.5 Cultural Resources				
<p>CULT-1 Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource or unique archaeological resource Significant impact in 2025, 2035, and 2050</p>	<p>CULT-1a Develop Project-Level Measures for Development Projects and Transportation Network Improvements CULT-1b Implement Monitoring and Data Recovery Programs for Development Projects and Transportation Network Improvements</p>	Significant and Unavoidable	Significant and Unavoidable	Significant and Unavoidable
<p>CULT-2 Disturb any human remains, including those interred outside of dedicated cemeteries, in violation of existing laws and regulations protecting human remains Less-than-significant impact in 2025, 2035, and 2050</p>	Not applicable	Not applicable	Not applicable	Not applicable
4.6 Energy				
<p>EN-1 Result in a potentially significant environmental impact due to wasteful, inefficient, or unnecessary consumption of energy during project construction or operations</p>	Not applicable	Not applicable	Not applicable	Not applicable

Impacts of the Proposed Plan in 2025, 2035, and 2050	Mitigation Measures	Level of Significance After Mitigation		
		2025	2035	2050
Less-than-significant impact in 2025, 2035, and 2050				
EN-2 Conflict with or obstruct a state or local plan for renewable energy or energy efficiency Less-than-significant impact in 2025, 2035, and 2050	Not applicable	Not applicable	Not applicable	Not applicable
4.7 Geology, Soils, and Paleontological Resources				
GEO-1 Directly or indirectly cause potential substantial adverse effects, including the risk of loss, injury, or death involving: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rupture of a known earthquake fault, as delineated on the most recent Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zoning Map issued by the State Geologist for the area, or based on other substantial evidence showing an earthquake fault is active; • Strong seismic ground shaking; • Seismic-related ground failure, including liquefaction; and • Landslides Less-than-significant impact in 2025, 2035, and 2050	Not applicable	Not applicable	Not applicable	Not applicable
GEO-2 Locate projects on a geologic unit or soil that is expansive or unstable, or that would become unstable as a result of the project, and potentially result in on- or off-site landslide, lateral spreading, subsidence, liquefaction or collapse, creating substantial direct or indirect risks to life or property	Not applicable	Not applicable	Not applicable	Not applicable

Impacts of the Proposed Plan in 2025, 2035, and 2050	Mitigation Measures	Level of Significance After Mitigation		
		2025	2035	2050
Less-than-significant impact in 2025, 2035, and 2050				
GEO-3 Result in substantial soil erosion or the loss of topsoil Less-than-significant impact in 2025, 2035, and 2050	Not applicable	Not applicable	Not applicable	Not applicable
GEO-4 Have soils incapable of adequately supporting the use of septic tanks or alternative wastewater disposal systems where sewers are not available for the disposal of wastewater, potentially causing adverse groundwater impacts Less-than-significant impact in 2025, 2035, and 2050	Not applicable	Not applicable	Not applicable	Not applicable
PALEO-1 Directly or indirectly destroy a unique paleontological resource or site or unique geologic feature Significant impact in 2025, 2035, and 2050	PALEO-1a Identify the Potential for Unique Paleontological Resources or Unique Geologic Features for Development Projects or Transportation Network Improvements PALEO-1b Avoid or Reduce Impacts on Unique Paleontological Resources or Unique Geologic Features for Development Projects or Transportation Network Improvements	Significant and Unavoidable	Significant and Unavoidable	Significant and Unavoidable
4.8 Greenhouse Gas Emissions				
GHG-1 Directly or indirectly result in an increase in GHG emissions compared to existing conditions (2016)	Not applicable	Not applicable	Not applicable	Not applicable

Impacts of the Proposed Plan in 2025, 2035, and 2050	Mitigation Measures	Level of Significance After Mitigation		
		2025	2035	2050
Less-than-significant impact in 2025, 2035, and 2050				
GHG-2 Conflict with the SANDAG region’s achievement of SB 375 GHG emissions reduction targets for 2035 Less-than-significant impact in 2035	Not applicable	Not applicable	Not applicable	Not applicable
GHG-3 Conflict with or impede achievement of an at least 30% reduction in per capita GHG emissions from the entire on-road transportation sector by 2035 compared to existing conditions (2016) Less-than-significant impact in 2035	Not applicable	Not applicable	Not applicable	Not applicable
GHG-4 Conflict with or impede the implementation of local plans adopted for the purpose of reducing GHG emissions Less-than-significant impact in 2025, 2035, and 2050	Not applicable	Not applicable	Not applicable	Not applicable
GHG-5 Be inconsistent with the State’s ability to achieve the 2030 reduction target of SB 32 and long-term reduction goals of Executive Orders S-3-05 and B-55-18. Significant impact in 2030, 2045, and 2050	GHG-5a Allocate Competitive Grant Funding to Projects that Reduce GHG Emissions and for Updates to CAPs or GHG Reduction Plans GHG-5b Establish New Funding Programs for Zero-Emissions Vehicles and Infrastructure GHG-5c Implement Nature-Based Climate Solutions to Remove Carbon Dioxide from the Atmosphere GHG-5d Develop and Implement Regional Digital Equity Strategy and	Significant and Unavoidable (in 2030)	Significant and Unavoidable (in 2045)	Significant and Unavoidable

Impacts of the Proposed Plan in 2025, 2035, and 2050	Mitigation Measures	Level of Significance After Mitigation		
		2025	2035	2050
	Action Plan to Advance Smart Cities and Close the Digital Divide GHG-5e Implement Measures to Reduce GHG Emissions from Transportation Projects GHG-5f Implement Measures to Reduce GHG Emissions from Development Projects AQ-3b Reduce Diesel Emissions During Construction from Off-Road Equipment AQ-3c Reduce Diesel Emissions from On-Road Vehicles AQ-4 Reduce Exposure to Localized Particulate and/or TAC Emissions TRA-2 Achieve Further VMT Reductions for Transportation and Development Projects WS-1a Implement Water Conservation Measures for Transportation Network Improvements WS-1b Implement Water Conservation Measures for Development Projects			
4.9 Hazards and Hazardous Materials				
HAZ-1 Create a significant hazard by generating hazardous emissions or handling hazardous materials, or result in the release of hazardous materials into the environment during pre-construction, demolition, and/or construction activities, including being located on a Government	Not applicable	Not applicable	Not applicable	Not applicable

Impacts of the Proposed Plan in 2025, 2035, and 2050	Mitigation Measures	Level of Significance After Mitigation		
		2025	2035	2050
<p>Code Section 65952.5 hazardous materials site Less-than-significant impact in 2025, 2035, and 2050</p>				
<p>HAZ-2 Create a significant hazard to the public, schools within one-quarter mile, or the environment through the routine use, handling, transport, or disposal of hazardous materials Less-than-significant impact in 2025, 2035, and 2050</p>	Not applicable	Not applicable	Not applicable	Not applicable
<p>HAZ-3 For a project located within an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or public use airport, result in a safety hazard for people residing or working in the project area Less-than-significant impact in 2025, 2035, and 2050</p>	Not applicable	Not applicable	Not applicable	Not applicable
<p>HAZ-4 Impair implementation of or physically interfere with an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan or result in inadequate emergency access Less-than-significant impact in 2025, 2035, and 2050</p>	Not applicable	Not applicable	Not applicable	Not applicable
4.10 Hydrology and Water Quality				
<p>HWQ-1 Substantially degrade surface water or groundwater quality, including in violation of any water quality standards or</p>	Not applicable	Not applicable	Not applicable	Not applicable

Impacts of the Proposed Plan in 2025, 2035, and 2050	Mitigation Measures	Level of Significance After Mitigation		
		2025	2035	2050
<p>waste discharge requirements or in conflict with a water quality control plan or its implementation</p> <p>Less-than-significant impact in 2025, 2035, and 2050</p>				
<p>HWQ-2 Substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of an area, including through the alteration of the course of a stream or river or through the addition of impervious surfaces, in a manner which would result in substantial erosion or siltation on- or off-site</p> <p>Less-than-significant impact in 2025, 2035, and 2050</p>	Not applicable	Not applicable	Not applicable	Not applicable
<p>HWQ-3 Substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of an area, including through the alteration of the course of a stream or river or through the addition of impervious surfaces, in a manner which would (i) substantially increase the rate or amount of surface runoff in a manner which would result in flooding on- or off-site or (ii) impede or redirect flood flows</p> <p>Less-than-significant impact in 2025, 2035, and 2050</p>	Not applicable	Not applicable	Not applicable	Not applicable
<p>HWQ-4 Substantially increase risk of pollutant release due to inundation of a flood hazard, tsunami, or seiche zone</p> <p>Less-than-significant impact in 2025, 2035, and 2050</p>	Not applicable	Not applicable	Not applicable	Not applicable

Impacts of the Proposed Plan in 2025, 2035, and 2050	Mitigation Measures	Level of Significance After Mitigation		
		2025	2035	2050
4.11 Land Use				
LU-1 Physically divide an established community Significant impact in 2025, 2035, and 2050	LU-1 Provide Access and Connections for Transportation Network Improvements	Significant and Unavoidable	Significant and Unavoidable	Significant and Unavoidable
LU-2 Cause a significant environmental impact due to a conflict with any land use plan, policy or regulation (including, but not limited to, the general plan, local coastal program, or zoning ordinance) and result in a physical change to the environment not already addressed in the other resource chapters of this EIR Less-than-significant impact in 2025, 2035, and 2050	Not applicable	Not applicable	Not applicable	Not applicable
4.12 Mineral Resources				
MR-1 Result in the loss of availability of known aggregate and mineral resources supply sites that would be of value to the region and the residents of the state, or result in the loss of availability of a locally-important mineral resource recovery site delineated in a local general plan, specific plan, or other land use plan Significant impact in 2025, 2035, and 2050	MR-1a Conserve Aggregate and Mineral Resources During Planning and Design of Development Projects MR-1b Conserve Aggregate and Mineral Resources During Planning and Design of Transportation Network Improvements	Significant and Unavoidable	Significant and Unavoidable	Significant and Unavoidable
4.13 Noise and Vibration				
NOI-1 Generation of a substantial temporary or permanent increase in ambient noise levels in the vicinity of the project in excess of standards established in the local general plan or noise ordinance, or applicable	NOI-1a Implement Construction Noise Reduction Measures for Development Projects and Transportation Network Improvements	Significant and Unavoidable	Significant and Unavoidable	Significant and Unavoidable

Impacts of the Proposed Plan in 2025, 2035, and 2050	Mitigation Measures	Level of Significance After Mitigation		
		2025	2035	2050
standards of other agencies; or generate a substantial absolute increase in ambient noise Significant impact in 2025, 2035, and 2050	NOI-1b Implement Operational Noise Reduction Measures for Transportation Network Improvements NOI-1c Implement Operational Noise Reduction Measures for Development Projects			
NOI-2 Generation of excessive groundborne vibration or groundborne noise levels Significant impact in 2025, 2035, and 2050	NOI-2a Implement Construction Groundborne Vibration and Noise Reduction Measures NOI-2b Implement Groundborne Vibration and Noise-Reducing Measures for Rail Operations	Significant and Unavoidable	Significant and Unavoidable	Significant and Unavoidable
NOI-3 For a project located within the vicinity of a private airstrip or an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or public use airport, the project would expose people residing or working in the project area to excessive noise levels Less-than-significant impact in 2025, 2035, and 2050	Not applicable	Not applicable	Not applicable	Not applicable
4.14 Population and Housing				
POP-1 Induce substantial unplanned population growth to areas of the region either directly (e.g., by proposing new homes and businesses) or indirectly (e.g., by extending roads and other infrastructure) Significant impact in 2025, 2035, and 2050	No feasible mitigation	Significant and Unavoidable	Significant and Unavoidable	Significant and Unavoidable

Impacts of the Proposed Plan in 2025, 2035, and 2050	Mitigation Measures	Level of Significance After Mitigation		
		2025	2035	2050
<p>POP-2 Displace substantial numbers of people or housing units, which would necessitate the construction of replacement housing elsewhere Significant impact in 2025, 2035, and 2050</p>	<p>POP-2a Design Development Projects to Reduce Displacement POP-2b Design Transportation Network Improvement Projects to Reduce Displacement</p>	Significant and Unavoidable	Significant and Unavoidable	Significant and Unavoidable
4.15 Public Services and Utilities				
<p>PS-1 Result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of or need for new or physically altered (i.e., expanded) public facilities, in order to maintain adequate fire and police protection, emergency services, schools, libraries, and recreation facilities Significant impact in 2025, 2035, and 2050</p>	<p>PS-1 Implement Mitigation Measures for New/Expanded Public Service Facilities</p>	Significant and Unavoidable	Significant and Unavoidable	Significant and Unavoidable
<p>REC-1 Increase the use of existing neighborhood and regional parks or other recreational facilities such that substantial physical deterioration of the facility would occur or be accelerated Significant impact in 2025, 2035, and 2050</p>	<p>REC-1 Implement Mitigation Measures for Parks and other Recreational Facilities</p>	Significant and Unavoidable	Significant and Unavoidable	Significant and Unavoidable
<p>U-1 Result in the expansion, relocation, or construction of wastewater collection and treatment, stormwater drainage, electric power, natural gas, or telecommunications facilities to adequately meet projected capacity needs, the construction of which could cause significant environmental impacts Significant impact in 2025, 2035, and 2050</p>	<p>U-1a Implement Mitigation Measures for New/Expanded Wastewater, Stormwater, Electrical, Natural Gas, and Telecommunications Facilities Associated with Development Projects U-1b Implement Mitigation Measures for New/Expanded Stormwater Facilities Associated with Transportation Network Improvements</p>	Significant and Unavoidable	Significant and Unavoidable	Significant and Unavoidable

Impacts of the Proposed Plan in 2025, 2035, and 2050	Mitigation Measures	Level of Significance After Mitigation		
		2025	2035	2050
<p>U-2 Generate solid waste in excess of state or local standards or in excess of the capacity of local infrastructure; negatively impact the provision of solid waste services or impair the attainment of solid waste reduction goals; or fail to comply with federal, state, and local management and reduction statutes and regulations related to solid waste</p> <p>Significant impact in 2035 and 2050. Less-than significant-impact in 2025.</p>	<p>U-2a Implement Mitigation Measures for New/Expanded Solid Waste Facilities</p> <p>U-2b Reduce Construction Waste</p> <p>U-2c Reduce Operational Waste</p>	Not applicable	Significant and Unavoidable	Significant and Unavoidable
4.16 Transportation				
<p>TRA-1 Conflict with a program, plan, ordinance, or policy addressing the circulation system, including transit, roadway, bicycle, and pedestrian facilities</p> <p>Less-than-significant impact in 2025, 2035, and 2050</p>	Not applicable	Not applicable	Not applicable	Not applicable
<p>TRA-2 Conflict or be inconsistent with CEQA Guidelines Section 15064.3 by not achieving the substantial VMT reductions needed to help achieve statewide GHG reduction goals</p> <p>Significant impact in 2025, 2035, and 2050</p>	<p>TRA-2 Achieve Further VMT Reductions for Transportation and Development Projects</p> <p>GHG-5a Allocate Competitive Grant Funding to Projects that Reduce GHG Emissions and for Updates to CAPs or GHG Reduction Plans</p> <p>GHG-5d Develop and Implement Regional Digital Equity Strategy and Action Plan to Advance Smart Cities and Close the Digital Divide</p>	Significant and Unavoidable	Significant and Unavoidable	Significant and Unavoidable

Impacts of the Proposed Plan in 2025, 2035, and 2050	Mitigation Measures	Level of Significance After Mitigation		
		2025	2035	2050
	GHG-5f Implement Measures to Reduce GHG Emissions from Development Projects			
TRA-3 Substantially increase hazards due to a design feature (e.g., sharp curves or dangerous intersections) or incompatible uses Less-than-significant impact in 2025, 2035, and 2050	Not applicable	Not applicable	Not applicable	Not applicable
TRA-4 Lead to a lack of parking supply that would cause significant secondary environmental impacts not already analyzed in other resource chapters of this EIR Less-than-significant impact in 2025, 2035, and 2050	Not applicable	Not applicable	Not applicable	Not applicable
4.17 Tribal Cultural Resources				
TCR-1 Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a tribal cultural resource, defined in Public Resources Code Section 21074 that is either (1) listed or eligible for listing in the California Register of Historical Resources, or in a local register of historical resources as defined in Public Resources Code Section 5020.1(k); or (2) determined by the lead agency, in its discretion and supported by substantial evidence, to be significant pursuant to criteria set forth in subdivision (c) of Public Resources Code Section 5024.1	TCR-1a Implement Tribal Cultural Resources Mitigation Measures for Development Projects and Transportation Network Improvements TCR-1b Implement Monitoring and Mitigation Programs for Development Projects and Transportation Network Improvements	Significant and Unavoidable	Significant and Unavoidable	Significant and Unavoidable

Impacts of the Proposed Plan in 2025, 2035, and 2050	Mitigation Measures	Level of Significance After Mitigation		
		2025	2035	2050
Significant impact in 2025, 2035, and 2050				
4.18 Water Supply				
<p>WS-1 Not have sufficient water supplies available to serve the projected regional demand during normal, dry and multiple dry years</p> <p>Significant impact in 2050. Less-than-significant impact in 2025 and 2035</p>	<p>WS-1a Implement Water Conservation Measures for Transportation Network Improvements</p> <p>WS-1b Implement Water Conservation Measures for Development Projects</p> <p>WS-1c Ensure Adequate Water Supply for Development Projects</p>	Not applicable	Not applicable	Significant and Unavoidable
<p>WS-2 Substantially decrease groundwater supplies, or interfere substantially with groundwater recharge such that the proposed Plan would impede sustainable management of groundwater basins or obstruct implementation of a sustainable groundwater management plan</p> <p>Significant impact in 2025, 2035, and 2050</p>	<p>WS-1a Implement Water Conservation Measures for Transportation Network Improvements</p> <p>WS-1b Implement Water Conservation Measures for Development Projects</p> <p>WS-2 Implement Groundwater Measures to Ensure Sustainable Yield for Development Projects</p>	Significant and Unavoidable	Significant and Unavoidable	Significant and Unavoidable
<p>WS-3 Require or result in the relocation or construction of new or expanded water facilities, the construction or relocation of which could cause significant environmental effects</p> <p>Significant impact in 2025, 2035, and 2050</p>	<p>WS-1a Implement Water Conservation Measures for Transportation Network Improvements</p> <p>WS-1b Implement Water Conservation Measures for Development Projects</p> <p>WS-1c Ensure Adequate Water Supply for Development Projects</p> <p>WS-2 Implement Groundwater Measures to Ensure Sustainable Yield for Development Projects</p> <p>WS-3 Implement Measures for New or Expanded Water Facilities</p>	Significant and Unavoidable	Significant and Unavoidable	Significant and Unavoidable

Impacts of the Proposed Plan in 2025, 2035, and 2050	Mitigation Measures	Level of Significance After Mitigation		
		2025	2035	2050
4.19 Wildfire				
WF-1 Due to slope, prevailing winds, and other factors, exacerbate wildfire risks, and thereby expose project occupants to pollutant concentrations from a wildfire or the uncontrolled spread of a wildfire; or expose people or structures, either directly or indirectly, to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving wildland fires Significant impact in 2025, 2035, and 2050	WF-1 Reduce Wildfire Risk for Development and Transportation Projects	Significant and Unavoidable	Significant and Unavoidable	Significant and Unavoidable
WF-2 Require the installation or maintenance of associated infrastructure (such as roads, fuel breaks, emergency water sources, power lines or other utilities) that may exacerbate fire risk or that may result in temporary or ongoing impacts to the environment Significant impact in 2025, 2035, and 2050	WF-2 Reduce Wildfire Risk Related to Wildfire-Associated Infrastructure Required to Support Development or Transportation Projects	Significant and Unavoidable	Significant and Unavoidable	Significant and Unavoidable
WF-3 Expose people or structures to significant risks, including downslope or downstream flooding or landslides, as a result of runoff, post-fire slope instability, or drainage changes Significant impact in 2025, 2035, and 2050	WF-3 Reduce Post-Fire Risks Related to Flooding, Landslides, Slope Instability, or Drainage Changes for Development and Transportation Projects	Significant and Unavoidable	Significant and Unavoidable	Significant and Unavoidable

ES.6 ALTERNATIVES TO THE PROPOSED PLAN

Chapter 6 in this EIR analyzes three alternatives to the proposed Plan in detail. The analysis determines the extent to which alternatives are capable of avoiding or substantially lessening the significant environmental effects of the proposed Plan. Chapter 6 also explains why other alternatives were considered but rejected from detailed consideration. The three alternatives analyzed in detail are listed below and summarized in Table ES-2:

- **Alternative 1:** No Project Alternative
- **Alternative 2:** 2019 Transportation Network with New Value Pricing and User Fee Policies
- **Alternative 3:** All Growth Focused in Mobility Hubs and More Progressive Value Pricing and User Fee Policies

The alternatives respond to public suggestions for alternatives that reduce vehicle miles traveled, air pollutants, and GHG emissions, while decreasing sprawl and the consumption of native habitat areas. The alternatives were developed based on public input from the NOP scoping period and during the development of the proposed Plan.

Alternative 3 is considered the environmentally superior alternative. As discussed in Chapter 6, although Alternative 3 would not reduce any of the proposed Plan's significant impacts to less-than-significant levels, it would reduce many of the proposed Plan's significant impacts. Compared to the proposed Plan's significant impacts, Alternative 3 would have decreased impacts for one or more significance criteria for the following environmental resources: aesthetics and visual resources, agricultural and forestry resources, air quality, biological resources, cultural resources, energy, paleontological resources, greenhouse gas emissions, mineral resources, noise and vibration, public services, transportation, tribal cultural resources, water supply, and wildfire. Compared to the proposed Plan's significant impacts, Alternative 3 would have increased impacts for only a few significance criteria: for land use, and population and housing.

Alternative 3 would result in a -23 percent per capita GHG reduction, which would result in a greater reduction than the proposed Plan (-20.7 percent below 2005). In addition, Alternative 3 would result in VMT per capita of 16.3 (for all vehicle classes) compared to the proposed Plan VMT per capita of 16.8 in 2050 (see Table O-2 in Appendix O). Alternative 3 would result in a total VMT increase of 3,479,273 miles per day in year 2050, which is approximately 38 percent lower than the proposed Plan (total VMT increase of 5,611,752 miles per day in year 2050). Alternative 3 would also result in a decrease in ROG, NO_x, CO, PM_{2.5}, PM₁₀, and SO_x emissions compared to the proposed Plan from on-road sources. Among the alternatives, Alternative 3 would achieve the greatest reductions for VMT, GHG emissions, and air quality emissions compared to the proposed Plan.

**Table ES-2
Summary of Alternatives Considered in Detail**

Components		Alternative 1: No Project	Alternative 2: 2019 Transportation Network with New Value Pricing and User Fee Policies	Alternative 3: All Growth in Mobility Hubs and More Progressive Value Pricing and User Fee Policies
<i>Land Use Pattern</i>		2019 Federal RTP Land Use Pattern	2019 Federal RTP land use pattern	Similar to Proposed Plan except land use pattern with new growth focused in proposed mobility hubs
<i>Transportation Network</i>		“No Build” Projects	2019 Federal RTP transportation network	Proposed Plan transportation network
<i>New Value Pricing and User Fees Policies</i>	<i>Toll Pricing</i>	Existing Policy	Same as proposed Plan (By 2035, update toll pricing to \$0.30 per mile on I-15 and other Managed Lane facilities)	Same as proposed Plan (By 2035, update toll pricing to \$0.30 per mile on I-15 and other Managed Lane facilities)
	<i>Road User Charge</i>	None	None	By 2026, increase road user charge rate to 3 cents/mile, compared to 2 cent/mile in the proposed Plan.
	<i>Parking Costs</i>	Existing Policy	2019 Federal RTP	Increases in parking costs by 50% compared to the proposed Plan.
	<i>Transit Costs</i>	Existing Policy	2019 Federal RTP (No planned transit fare discounts.)	Free transit by 2035.
	<i>Microtransit Costs</i>	N/A	N/A	Free Microtransit by 2035, compared to \$1.25 one way/\$3 day in the proposed Plan
	<i>Micro-Transponder ownership</i>	N/A	Same as proposed Plan (Microtransponder ² ownership of 100 percent by 2035)	Same as proposed Plan (Microtransponder ownership of 100 percent by 2035)
	<i>Telework Assumptions</i>	N/A	Same as proposed Plan	Same as proposed Plan

Components		Alternative 1: No Project	Alternative 2: 2019 Transportation Network with New Value Pricing and User Fee Policies	Alternative 3: All Growth in Mobility Hubs and More Progressive Value Pricing and User Fee Policies
	<i>Micromobility</i>	N/A	Same as proposed Plan (Increases in micro-mobility through assumed personal owned e-bike growth)	Same as proposed Plan (Increases in micro-mobility through assumed personal owned e-bike growth)
<i>Funding</i>		Committed funding	2019 Federal RTP (\$130 billion)	Same as Proposed Plan (\$163 billion)

¹These consist of transportation projects with environmental clearance, that have full funding, are under construction, or are otherwise reasonably foreseeable based on current plans.

²A microtransponder is an electronic toll collection device that allows users to pay tolls automatically from inside their vehicle