



September 2013



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### SANDAG Awarded \$14M to Replace Aging Rail Bridges



Competing against hundreds of applicants nationwide, SANDAG recently won a \$14 million federal grant to replace four aging timber trestle bridges in the Los Peñasquitos Lagoon in North County – a project that will improve the reliability of train services in the nation’s second busiest intercity passenger rail corridor. Nationwide, 585 applications from 50 states totaling more than \$9 billion vied for \$474 million in available funding under the federal TIGER grant program (Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery). The rail bridge project was one of 52 projects selected for funding nationwide. [More information](#)

### Violent Crime Down, Property Crime Up



After an increase in 2012, the violent crime rate in San Diego County dropped by 6 percent in the first half of 2013 compared to the same period last year, according to a SANDAG [report](#) released on September 12. However, the mid-year property crime rate continued to climb – with a 4 percent increase in the first six months of 2013 compared to the first half of last year, driven by a greater number of non-residential burglaries and larcenies. [More information](#)

### Blue Line Stations Open During Construction

## Did You Know?



SANDAG recently gave its website a makeover. We refreshed sandag.org with new photos and a modern look. The content and the navigation features remain the same, so visitors who have used the site in the past should have no trouble finding their way around the new version. In the near future, SANDAG plans to undertake a larger effort to redesign the site and reorganize the content. If you have questions or feedback on our website, please contact [joy.dekorte@sandag.org](mailto:joy.dekorte@sandag.org).

Did you know you can listen live to SANDAG Board and Policy Advisory Committee meetings via sandag.org?

Look for the listen live button. 

## Upcoming SANDAG Meetings

10/4/2013  
[Transportation Committee](#)  
[Regional Planning Committee](#)

10/9/2013  
[TransNet Independent Taxpayer Oversight Committee](#)

[Public Meeting on the North Oceanside Double Track Project](#)

10/11/2013  
[Board of Directors](#)  
[Executive Committee](#)

10/17/2013  
[Rose Creek Bikeway Project Open House](#)

10/18/2013  
[Transportation Committee](#)  
[Public Safety Committee](#)

10/25/2013  
[Board of Directors](#)  
[Boarders Committee](#)

## SANDAG Jobs

### Current Openings:

[Regional Planner – Borders](#)

[Transportation Planner – Goods Movement](#)

[Planning Assistant](#)

[Office Services Specialist](#)

[Chief Deputy Executive Director](#)

## Doing Business with SANDAG



The final phase of construction is underway to modernize the 32-year-old San Diego Trolley Blue Line – the most heavily used transit service in the San Diego region, with an average weekday ridership of more than 45,000. Work to refurbish the line from Barrio Logan to San Ysidro includes setting up temporary boarding platforms, demolishing and rebuilding existing stations, and replacing track within stations and at adjacent grade crossings. All Blue Line stations will remain open throughout construction. For more information about the project or to sign up for construction alerts, please visit [KeepSanDiegoMoving.com](http://KeepSanDiegoMoving.com).

## Heroin Use Rising in San Diego County

A new SANDAG study shows that heroin use has grown in popularity in San Diego County, which historically has had relatively low rates of this substance abuse compared to other parts of the nation. Over a ten-year period, between 2002 and 2012, the percent of adult men booked into jail who tested positive for opiates (heroin, morphine, hydrocodone, hydromorphone, and Codeine) jumped from 5 percent to 10 percent, according to the study released September 5 by the SANDAG Criminal Justice Research Division. The rate among women increased from 6 percent to 12 percent. [More information](#)

## Rideshare Commuter Challenge Kicks Off Oct. 1



From October 1-31, San Diego County commuters can win great prizes for taking part in the Rideshare 2013 Commuter Challenge. Simply take an online [pledge](#) and log your alternative commute trips in [TripTracker](#) for chances to win. Carpool, vanpool, take transit, bike, walk, telework, or try a compressed workweek schedule. The Commuter Challenge is a fun and rewarding way to save money, reduce stress, and recapture some time. In addition, organizations will be competing all month in the Corporate Challenge, encouraging their employees to try a new, more sustainable commute choice. [More information](#)



## Wanted: Your Input on Public Transit

SANDAG will hold a series of public meetings in October to discuss updates to the Coordinated Public Transit –

Want to do business with SANDAG? First, [register](#) your firm in the SANDAG vendor database to receive emails about upcoming projects. View a list of current bids [online](#) and browse the tentative list of upcoming projects to find future contracting opportunities.

**Current Bids:**

[On Board Transit Passenger Survey Services](#)

[SANDAG FasTrak Retail Program](#)  
Invitation for bids:

**Mid-Coast Contracting Opportunities:**

Register in the [Mid-Coast Project Vendor Portal](#) to learn about contracting opportunities related to the [San Diego Trolley extension project](#).

Human Services Transportation Plan. This plan provides a framework for developing transit services and systems over the next five years. Community members are encouraged to provide input on the new plan and share their thoughts on how best to meet the transportation needs of elderly, low-income, and disabled individuals. If you are unable to attend the meetings or would like to provide additional comments, please use our [online comment card](#) or call (619) 699-1934 and leave a message. [More information](#)

## About SANDAG

The 18 cities and county government are [SANDAG](#), the San Diego Association of Governments. This public agency serves as the forum for regional decision-making. SANDAG builds consensus; makes strategic plans; obtains and allocates resources; plans, engineers, and builds public transportation, and provides information on a broad range of topics pertinent to the region's quality of life.



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