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Working With Our Neighbors

The SANDAG Borders Committee continues its commitment to enhanced borders planning with several initiatives underway among San Diego, Riverside, Imperial, and Orange Counties, and with Baja California and its municipalities. The Borders Committee is tackling a number of significant issues facing the surrounding counties, tribal lands, and Mexico. A major accomplishment of the Borders Committee was the oversight of the development of the Borders Chapter for the draft Regional Comprehensive Plan. The chapter proposes a number of policies and actions to address these interregional/binational issues: jobs and housing accessibility, transportation, energy and water supply, environment, economic development, and homeland security.

One of SANDAG's most active programs is the I-15 Interregional Partnership (IRP), funded by the California Department of Housing and Community Development. The IRP is a voluntary partnership among elected officials representing communities along Interstate 15. Three regional government agencies, including SANDAG, the Southern California Association of Governments, and the Western Riverside Council of Governments, are working to address the imbalance between jobs and housing that has caused increasing traffic congestion between San Diego and Riverside Counties. It has been a successful, ongoing collaborative effort.

SANDAG's binational planning program calls on a wide array of experts in this region to advise on important binational topics. The Committee for Binational Regional Opportunities (COBRO) serves as a working group to the SANDAG Borders Committee and makes recommendations for actions by appropriate agencies. Innovative leadership among governments, agencies, and other stakeholders in Northern Baja California and Southern California has helped improve transportation infrastructure, enhance economic competitiveness, and provide a more sustainable environment for the region.

SANDAG's intergovernmental planning efforts also include improving communications with tribal governments. SANDAG and the leaders of the region's 17 tribal governments continue to meet periodically to promote consultation, cooperation, and coordination as well as public participation. A tribal government representative now sits on the Borders Committee.



