2021 Regional Plan
Glossary
2021 Regional Plan Glossary

#

5 Big Moves
The 5 Big Moves are the five key mobility strategies that shape SANDAG’s vision for the San Diego Region and were used to guide the 2021 Regional Plan. The 5 Big Moves include: Complete Corridors, Transit Leap, Mobility Hubs, Flexible Fleets, and Next OS.

A

ABM
See Activity Based Model.

ABM2+
ABM2+ is the second-generation Activity Based Model system used in the 2021 Regional Plan.

accessory dwelling unit
A dwelling unit with complete independent living facilities for one or more persons located on the property of a primary residence. Accessory dwelling units can be detached (separated from the primary structure), attached (attached to the primary structure), or converted existing space (a part of the existing structure that is converted into an independent living unit). Also known as granny flats, in-law units, or backyard cottages.

active transportation
Active transportation includes any method of travel that is human-powered, but most commonly refers to walking and biking. With technological advances, the definition has expanded to include e-scooters and e-bikes.

Active Transportation and Demand Management
The dynamic management, control, and influence of travel demand, traffic demand, and traffic flow of transportation facilities using real-time information and technology to manage the entire trip from origin to destination, including influencing mode choice and how and when the transportation system is used. ATDM uses value pricing and the following strategies:
The dynamic management, control, and influence of travel demand, traffic demand, and traffic flow of transportation facilities

- Active Demand Management (ADM)
The use of information and technology to influence mode choice, route choice, and time of travel.
- **Active Traffic Management (ATM)**  
The ability to manage congestion on roadways in real-time based on current traffic conditions.

- **Active Parking Management (APM)**  
The ability to manage the supply and price of parking in real-time and provide real-time parking availability information to reduce circling around parking facilities.

**activity based model**  
SANDAG transitioned from an enhanced four-step transportation model to an activity based model (ABM) for the 2015 Regional Plan. The ABM simulates individual and household transportation decisions that compose their daily travel itinerary. People travel outside their home for activities such as work, school, shopping, healthcare, and recreation, and the ABM attempts to predict whether, where, when, and how this travel occurs.

**activity centers**  
Places that attract a significant number of people or vehicles daily, including employment centers, shopping centers, business parks, hospitals, major tourist attractions, colleges/universities, and other destinations.

**ADA**  
See *Americans with Disabilities Act*

**adaptation**  
Adjustment in natural or human systems in anticipation of or response to a changing environment in a way that effectively uses beneficial opportunities or reduces negative effects.

**ADT**  
See *average daily traffic*

**ADU**  
See *accessory dwelling unit*

**advanced air mobility**  
Advanced air mobility refers to the use of aerial drones or unmanned air vehicles to transport people and goods. These aerial vehicles use GPS and sensors to fly autonomously, providing a new transportation option in both rural and urban environments. Recent deployments of these aerial services have relied on electric vertical takeoff and landing aircrafts (eVTOLs), which have multiple small rotors enabling them to take off and land like a helicopter, that then rotate forward like a propeller so the vehicles can fly like an airplane upon takeoff.
**Advanced Clean Cars Program**
The Advanced Clean Cars Program is a state program to increase vehicle efficiency by combining the control of smog, soot, greenhouse gases, and other air pollution requirements into a single package of standards.

**affordable housing**
Housing developed and subsidized for residents with low incomes and social equity focused populations.

**AI**
See *artificial intelligence*

**air cargo**
Revenue-producing items in domestic or international air commerce, composed of freight, express, and mail, but excluding passenger baggage.

**air carrier**
An aviation operator that provides regular round-trips per week between two or more points, and publishes flight schedules that specify the times, days of the week, and places between which such flights are performed; or that transports mail by air pursuant to a contract with the United States Postal Service.

**Air Pollution Control District**
The APCD is a government agency that regulates sources of air pollution within San Diego County, other than emissions from motor vehicles. Assembly Bill 423 (Gloria, 2019) restructured and expanded the APCD Board, separated APCD from County of San Diego government structure, and added duties to increase transparency and public engagement. The APCD Governing Board is composed of 11 appointed members representing the Board of Supervisors (two members), the City of San Diego, a City Council member from each of the five supervisorial districts, and three public members.

**air quality conformity**
A demonstration of whether a federally-supported activity is consistent with the State Implementation Plan for air quality — per Section 176 (c) of the Clean Air Act. Transportation conformity applies to plans, programs, and projects approved or funded by the Federal Highway Administration or the Federal Transit Administration.

**alternative transportation fuels**
Low polluting fuels that are used to propel a vehicle, in place of petroleum-based gasoline or diesel fuels. Examples include biodiesel, electricity, hydrogen, ethanol, propane, compressed natural gas, and liquid natural gas.

**American Community Survey**
Ongoing survey that provides vital information related to jobs and occupations, educational attainment, veterans, whether people own or rent their homes, and other topics, on a yearly basis.
**Americans with Disabilities Act**
The federal civil rights legislation for people with disabilities that was passed in 1990; it requires public transportation systems to be more fully accessible; includes the provision of paratransit service.

**Amtrak**
The National Railroad Passenger Corporation, or Amtrak, is the nation’s intercity passenger rail provider. Amtrak operates trains in partnership with 15 states and four commuter rail agencies.

**APCD**
See Air Pollution Control District

**apportionment**
A federal budgetary term that refers to a statutorily prescribed division of assigned funds. It is based on formulas prescribed by law.

**arterial**
Streets with traffic lights that serve primarily to carry traffic through an area as quickly and efficiently as possible.

**artificial intelligence**
A science that focuses on enabling computers to replicate a human body’s ability to sense, learn, reason, and act. It is an umbrella term that covers machine learning, deep learning, reinforcement learning, robotics, computer vision, natural language processing, and the application of algorithmic game theory.

**ATDM**
see Active Transportation and Demand Management

**automated vehicle location**
A transportation device that uses the coordinates from earth-orbit satellites to determine the precise location of a vehicle on the earth’s surface. AVL is used to manage taxi, bus, and commercial vehicle fleet operations.

**autonomous vehicles**
Vehicles that are computer driven and do not require a human to safely operate the vehicle. Sensors collect data about nearby objects (like size and speed) and categorize these objects to determine how the vehicle should react.

**auxiliary lane**
An additional freeway lane between adjacent interchanges that reduces the weaving conflicts between exiting and entering vehicles.
**average daily traffic**
The average number of vehicles that travel through a specific point of a road over a short duration of time (often seven days or less).

**AVL**
See *Automated Vehicle Location*

**B**

**bicycle boulevard**
Mixed traffic environments that operate at speeds ≤20 mph and have a lower threshold for vehicle traffic (≤1,500 ADT). These designs work well as primary routes in a local network, and on roads with narrow lanes and up to 1,500 cars per day. These do not fall under a given class but are most similar to the Class 3 facility. Also referred to as neighborhood greenways.

**big data**
Fusing multiple data sources together to uncover seemingly unrelated facts and identify patterns, trends, and associations. Refers to not only the amount of data, but a mature suite of data handling (including security), usability, analysis, and usage metrics that provide governance teams with the oversight needed to protect this valuable asset.

**bike lane**
An on-road facility in which dedicated space for bikes is demarcated, usually using a painted line. Bike lanes create a space that is for the exclusive use of people bicycling (or bicycle family vehicles). This is considered a Class 2 facility.

**bike path**
A paved path completely separated from a street or highway, sometimes referred to as a “multi-use path”. Bike paths may be used by other active transportation users such as walkers and joggers. This is considered a Class 1 facility.

**bikeshare**
Bikeshare services provide low-cost, on-demand, and convenient access to a fleet of shared bikes for short-term use. Services can be accessed by using a smartphone app.

**bikeway priority**
Priority arrangements for bikeways that are the same as the roadway along which they travel. Where a bikeway on a major road intersects with a minor road, the bikeway would have full priority over the minor road, requiring traffic crossing the bikeway to yield. The design treatments will differ according to the speed and volume of traffic, and function of the road. Design features can include raised continuous sidewalks and bikeways or tight corner radii.
**broadband connectivity**
Broadband refers to any high-speed internet access that is always on and is faster than dial-up. Broadband connectivity is the an individual or household’s access to broadband internet in their home.

**BRT**
See **Bus Rapid Transit**

**buffered bike lane**
Similar to a **bike lane**, a buffered bike lane is a dedicated space for bicyclists, demarcated using paint, but includes a painted buffer (e.g. ≥1.5 ft) between the bike lane and adjacent vehicle travel lanes. Buffered bike lanes are a Class 2 facility.

**Bus Rapid Transit**
Defined in Assembly Bill 1560 (Friedman, 2019) as a public mass transit service provided by a public agency or by a public-private partnership that includes full-time dedicated bus lanes or separate right-of-way with a maximum 15 minute interval service frequency during peak commute periods, transit signal priority, all-door boarding, efficient fare collection system, defined stations, and bus rapid transit stations that clearly define stations served by BRT.

**C**

**CAA**
See **Clean Air Act**

**California Environmental Quality Act**
CEQA requires state and local agencies in California to identify the significant environmental impacts of their actions, including impacts to cultural resources, and to avoid or mitigate those impacts if feasible.

**CalEnviroScreen**
Also known as the California Communities Environmental Health Screening Tool, CalEnviroScreen is screening/mapping tool developed by the California Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment (OEHHA) to identify communities disproportionately impacted by various pollutants and stressors.

**CALeVIP**
See **California Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Project**

**California Air Resources Board**
California’s state agency responsible for adopting state air quality standards, establishing emission standards for new cars sold in the state, overseeing activities of regional and local air pollution control agencies, and setting regional targets for reducing greenhouse gas emissions from passenger vehicles.
California Clean Air Act
A California law passed in 1988 that provides the basis for air quality planning and regulation, independent of federal regulations.

California Department of Transportation
The state agency that manages more than 50,000 miles of California's highway and freeway lanes, provides inter-city rail services, permits more than 400 public-use airports and special-use hospital heliports, and works with local agencies. Caltrans' mission is to provide a safe and reliable transportation network that serves all people and respects the environment.

California Economic Development Department
A state agency responsible for job growth, economic development, and business assistance efforts throughout the State of California.

California Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Project
The California Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Project (CALeVIP) is an incentive program that provides incentives for electric vehicle charger installations, working with local partners to develop and implement projects that meet current and future regional electric vehicle needs for Level 2 and DC fast charging electric vehicle charging station installation projects. The program is funded by the California Energy Commission and implemented by the Center for Sustainable Energy. In 2020 SANDAG partnered with San Diego County Air Pollution Control District (SDAPCD) and CALeVIP to launch the San Diego County Incentive Project under CALeVIP to promote the installation of electric vehicle charging installations in San Diego County with a total of $21.7 million in available funds over three years.

California High Speed Rail
California High-Speed Rail (HSR) provides air-competitive travel times between major urban centers of the state (when used for long-distance travel); and high capacity for longer distance regional and interregional trips between hubs (often used to link passengers to other services at one or both ends). HSR has numerous nonstop or limited-stop services tied to meeting long-distance market demand, but also offers trains that stop at all stations on a regular basis (every 30 or 60 minutes, based on market demand), allowing connectivity throughout the statewide rail network. Unlike the other categories, most sections of infrastructure used by HSR are designed for speeds over 125 mph (with long sections allowing speeds up to 220 mph). The California High-Speed Rail Authority is responsible for planning, designing, building and operation of the state's high-speed rail system.

California High-Speed Rail Authority
CHSRA was created by the California Legislature in 1996 to develop a plan for the construction, operation, and financing of a statewide, intercity high-speed passenger rail system.
California Highway Patrol
The state law enforcement agency responsible for highway safety.

California State Transportation Agency
The state agency that develops and coordinates the policies and programs of the state’s transportation entities to achieve the state’s mobility, safety, and air quality objectives from its transportation system.

California Transportation Commission
A state agency that is responsible for programming and allocating funds for the construction of highway, passenger rail, transit and active transportation improvements throughout California. The Commission also advises and assists the Secretary of the California State Transportation Agency and the Legislature in formulating and evaluating state policies and plans for California’s transportation programs.

Call Box Program
The Call Box Program is a free motorist aid service designed to help travelers who experience vehicle problems while on the highway. Call boxes are self-contained, solar-powered cellular telephones with voice communication to a call center. The Call Box Program is operated by SANDAG in cooperation with Caltrans and the California Highway Patrol.

CalSTA
See California State Transportation Agency

Caltrans
See California Department of Transportation

CAP
See Climate Action Plan

capacity
A measure of the number of vehicles or people that can be carried by a roadway segment or via transit during a period of time.

Cap-and-Trade Program
A market-based program that limits greenhouse gas emissions from outputters and creates an exchange market in which to trade credits.

CARB
See California Air Resources Board

carbon neutrality
Achieved when the amount of carbon emitted is balanced by the amount of carbon absorbed from the atmosphere
carbon sequestration
The process of capturing and storing atmospheric carbon dioxide.

carpool
An arrangement in which two or more people share the use of a privately-owned automobile to travel together to and from pre-arranged destinations.

carsharing
Carshare services offer access to vehicles 24 hours a day, seven days a week. These cars can be found within a specified service area, at transit stations, or other locations, and people can find them through a smartphone app or provider’s website.

CCAA
See California Clean Air Act

census block group
A geographical unit used by the United States Census Bureau. Typically, Block Groups have a population of 600 to 3,000 people. This is the smallest geographical unit for which the Census Bureau publishes sample data (i.e., data that are only collected from a fraction of all households).

CEQA
See California Environmental Quality Act

CHP
See California Highway Patrol

chronic diseases
Chronic diseases include heart disease, stroke, asthma, diabetes, and cancer, which cause long-term health problems. Poor nutrition and a lack of physical activity are cited as the primary causes for chronic diseases, among other factors.

CHSRA
See California High-Speed Rail Authority

Class 1 bikeway
See bike path

Clean Air Act
Federal legislation that sets national air quality standards and requires each state with areas that have not met federal air quality standards to prepare a State Implementation Plan (SIP). The 1990 amendments to the CAA (often referred to as the CAAA), established new air quality requirements for the development of metropolitan transportation plans and programs.
**Climate Action Data Portal**
The Climate Action Data Portal is an online resource for climate planning data for the San Diego region. "Climate planning" refers to the process of preparing for and reducing the effects of climate change in local planning.

**climate action plan**
A climate action plan (CAP) is a comprehensive policy document that outlines the actions a local jurisdiction is taking or will take to reduce community-wide greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions.

**CMAQ**
See [Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement Program](#)

**CMCP**
See [Comprehensive Multimodal Corridor Plan](#)

**CMP**
See [Congestion Management Program](#)

**commercial vehicles**
A commercial vehicle is a vehicle required to be registered and it is used or maintained for the transportation of persons for hire, compensation, or profit or designed, used, or maintained primarily for the transportation of property. Vehicles may be registered as passenger or commercial.

**community-based organizations**
Community-Based Organizations (CBOs) are non-profit organizations who might be service providers or advocacy organizations who work with the target populations in a specific community/neighborhood.

**community collaborative**
Community collaboratives are made up of a variety of social institutions in a given community, including social service providers, ethnic associations, schools, churches, chambers of commerce, and other local non-profit organizations.

**community plan**
More specific versions of General Plans, generally dealing with smaller geographical areas, but having the same force of law. See [General Plan](#).

**commuter**
A person who travels regularly between home and work or school.
**commuter rail**
High-speed rail passenger service within a metropolitan area serving the most traveled corridors. While predominately used for longer commuter trips, commuter rail connects major residential areas with employment centers, commercial areas, and other popular destinations.

**Complete Corridors**
Roadways that offer dedicated, safe space for everyone, including people who walk, bike, drive, ride transit, and use Flexible Fleets, as well as those who drive freight vehicles. Travelers on highways and major roads benefit from technology deployed to dynamically manage the flow of traffic. Complete Corridors incorporate various transportation improvements to enhance connectivity on urban roads, rural corridors, freeways, highways, regional arterials, and bikeways. These transportation improvements can include active transportation facilities, connectors, managed lanes, and public transit priority lanes.

**Comprehensive Multimodal Corridor Plan**
Comprehensive Multimodal Corridor Plans (CMCPs) evaluate all travel modes and transportation facilities in a defined corridor within San Diego County with the goal of identifying transportation facility enhancements and improvements that will reduce congestion, support climate action initiatives and generate increased transportation choices and access within the region. CMCPs are developed using real-time travel data and shaped by public input.

**conformity**
See air quality conformity

**congestion**
Travel time or delay in excess of what is experienced under free-flow traffic conditions. Congestion is typically accompanied by lower speeds, stop-and-go travel conditions, or queueing, such as behind ramp meters or heavily used intersections.

**congestion management process**
This federal requirement involves addressing congestion management through a process involving an analysis of multimodal metropolitan-wide strategies.

**Congestion Management Program**
Required of every county in California with a population of 50,000 or more to qualify for certain state and federal funds. CMPs set performance standards for roads and public transit and show how local agencies will attempt to meet those standards. The CMP is required to be adopted by the Congestion Management Agency, and it must be consistent with the adopted Regional Transportation Plan (RTP). The San Diego region elected to be exempt from the California State CMP in October 2009 and follows the federal Congestion Management process.
**Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement Program**
A category of federal funds for projects and activities that reduce congestion and improve air quality in regions not yet attaining federal air quality standards.

**connected infrastructure**
Infrastructure, such as roads, that is embedded with sensors that are connected to a communication backbone which allows real-time data to be exchanged with other connected devices.

**connected vehicles**
In-vehicle and wireless technology enables connected vehicle communication. CVs give the car and driver advanced information and warnings to inform safer driving decisions, such as when a car ahead brakes suddenly, or if there is an accident that causes traffic to slow or reroute. CVs can share data about the vehicle with other vehicles (V2V), infrastructure (V2I), and everything (V2X).

**connectivity**
The general ability for people to reach destinations. In the transportation context, enhanced connectivity is achieved by increasing the options and opportunities for travel to various destinations.

**conventional highway**
A highway with no control of access, which may be divided or have grade separations at intersections.

**corridor**
A broad geographical band that follows a general directional flow connecting major trip origins and destinations. A corridor may contain several streets and highways as well as bike routes and transit route alignments.

**courier services**
For-hire delivery services that use an online application or platform (such as a website or smartphone app, like Uber Eats and Instacart) to connect couriers using their personal vehicles, bikes, or scooters with goods (e.g., packages, food, etc.).

**COVID-19**
Coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19), is a contagious disease caused by severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2. It was first detected in humans in December 2019. The World Health Organization declared a COVID-19 pandemic in March 2020, leading to shut-downs and social distancing measures worldwide.

**CTC**
See California Transportation Commission
**curb management**
Curb management seeks to inventory, optimize, allocate, and manage curb spaces to maximize mobility, access, and safety for the wide variety of curbside transportation demands through the application of curbside pricing and allocation of priority roadway and street design treatments. Potential curbside users include shared mobility service providers including transportation network companies (TNCs) such as Lyft and Uber, transit services, goods movement delivery services, electric vehicles, and on-demand bike/scooters.

**DARs**
see direct access ramps

**data analytics/data science**
Applying scientific interpretation over data sets by using peer-reviewed and validated processes, algorithms, and other visually interpretative approaches to aid in the broad or deep understanding of information found in raw data.

**data hub**
In transportation systems, a data hub is the central location of data storage, analysis, and transport. It includes data input channels; high-speed, high-volume computing platforms; and data storage technologies. Data hubs are used to receive field data from local and regional data providers; process, analyze, and verify quality of received data; message and communicate data within the system; store data; and provide security measures for stored data.

**dedicated lanes**
Traffic lanes set aside for particular types of vehicles, travel, and shared mobility applications. These include dedicated lanes designated by signs and markings for the preferential or exclusive use of transit services; shared mobility services; bike, pedestrian, and other active transportation modes; and delivery vehicles sometimes permitting limited use by other vehicles, services, and modes. Allocating dedicated lanes can boost reliability, travel speed, capacity, and modal balance, to increase safety and the total performance of the transportation network.

**delivery bot**
A delivery robot is an autonomous robot that is used for delivering goods to specified locations (e.g., Amazon Scout).

**demand responsive**
Services that allow passengers to schedule non-fixed route transportation services in advance or in real-time.

**delay**
see congestion
**delivery bots**  
Small autonomous robots used for last-mile delivery.

**density analysis**  
A method that overlays limited points of data (e.g., population or employment) over a geographic area (e.g., San Diego County) for visualization.

**Department of Finance**  
California’s official source of population estimates for the state, counties, and cities and population projections for the state and county. SANDAG population estimates and forecasts rely on data from DOF for control totals.

**Department of Transportation**  
At the federal level, the cabinet agency headed by the Secretary of Transportation that is responsible for highways, transit, aviation, and ports. The DOT includes the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), the Federal Transit Administration (FTA), the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA), Federal Railroad Administration (FRA), and other agencies. The state DOT is Caltrans.

**development impact fee**  
A fee charged to private developers, usually on a per-dwelling-unit or per-square-foot basis, to help pay for infrastructure improvements necessitated as a result of the development.

**Diamond Awards**  
A program sponsored by SANDAG that honors employers who have developed, maintained, and marketed superior transportation benefit programs for their employees.

**digital divide**  
The digital divide refers to the growing gap between the members of society who have reliable access to broadband service and an adequate device for connecting to the internet and those who do not. This includes people with limited incomes, seniors, tribal communities, and people in rural areas.

**Direct Access Ramps**  
Direct Access Ramps (DARs) allow buses, carpools, vanpools, and motorcycles along with emergency vehicles and low-emission vehicles with appropriate decals to directly access the Managed Lanes in the center of the freeway. They connect from above the mainline, or up from below, and merge into the Managed Lane from inside the median and connect to adjacent transit facilities or roadways.

**disadvantaged communities**  
For the purposes of developing pollution reduction strategies in accordance with AB 805, disadvantaged communities are identified as the highest scoring 25% of Census tracts on the CalEnviroScreen 3.0 environmental/socioeconomic vulnerability scale.
DOF
See Department of Finance

DOT
See Department of Transportation

drive alone
See SOV

drone delivery
Use of a small and unmanned aerial vehicle (UAV) to deliver lightweight goods to a destination.

dynamic pricing
A congestion pricing strategy to manage the demand and availability of a transportation facility (e.g., Managed Lanes and parking facilities). It uses real-time information to continuously monitor the transportation facilities and uses pricing algorithms and tolling technology to apply a charge and change pricing based on current demand. Dynamic pricing/tolls can be applied in response to changing congestion levels or changes in parking availability. The strategy is used to influence travel, provide transportation choices, reduce the negative impacts of travelers searching for parking, reduce traffic impacts associated with peak period trips, and provide incentives and priority access to transportation facilities to more effectively balance the demand and available supply.

dynamic ridesharing
Technology that matches drivers and riders in real time, right before their trips, thereby reducing congestion, pollution, and travel costs to the individual.

E

Early Action Program
A variety of high-priority TransNet transportation projects that have been accelerated into construction. Projects include highway, transit, active transportation, and goods movement.

e-bikes
Electric bikes, also known as e-bikes, are bicycles equipped with an integrated motor to help riders achieve higher speeds and reduce difficulty riding in areas with hilly topography. E-bike motors may be pedal-activated or throttle-based.

e-scooters
see electric scooters

EAP
See Early Action Program
**Economic Development Corporation**
Enhances regional economic competitiveness and supports key industries with policy priorities to improve the region's emerging industries, workforce, infrastructure, transportation, housing, and access to capital.

**EDC**
See Economic Development Corporation

**EIR**
See Environmental Impact Report

**electric scooters**
Kick scooters are equipped with an electric motor, making it easier for people to travel to work or other destinations when topography is challenging. E-scooters typically have two small wheels and can travel at a maximum speed of 15 to 20 mph.

**electric vehicles (EVs)**
There are three different types of electric vehicles: 1) all-electric vehicles known as battery electric vehicles (BEVs) that are powered completely by electricity, 2) plug-in hybrid electric vehicles (PHEVs) that are a combination of gasoline and electric vehicles, so they have a battery, an electric motor, a gasoline tank, and an internal combustion engine, and 3) hydrogen fuel cell electric vehicles (FCEVs) that have electric motors powered by hydrogen gas. EVs can come in different vehicle classes including passenger cars, microtransit vehicles (e.g., NEVs), shuttles, zero emission trucks (ZET), and zero emission buses (ZEB). See also zero emission vehicles, zero emission vehicle infrastructure, electric vehicle charging infrastructure, and neighborhood electric vehicles.

**electric vehicle charging infrastructure**
Electric vehicles (EVs) are fueled by plugging in to an electrical power source, ranging from a standard 120-volt electrical outlet (Level 1) or 240-volt circuit (Level 2), to commercial-grade Direct Current (DC) Fast Chargers. How fast a vehicle can fully recharge continues to advance and is based on the battery size, technology, and rate of charging. Currently, Level 1 charging provides about 5 miles of range per hour (RPH). Level 2 charging can provide about 25 miles RPH. Level 2 chargers are commonly installed in residential as well as commercial settings where parked for 1 or more hours. DC fast charging has high power requirements only suited to commercial settings and can provide 200-300 miles RPH, though not all EVs are capable of DC fast charging. Wireless charging is an emerging technology that could provide similar RPH without a cord connecting the vehicle to the charger. See also wireless electric vehicle charging.
emerging technology
New or unrealized technology practices that result from a convergence of different technologies that work together to achieve a common set of goals. Advances in technology allow for improved communication systems that use big data, wireless communications, sensors, and more, to improve efficiencies in safety, sustainability, infrastructure, and transportation options. For example, emerging technologies can range from evacuation improvements to using connected vehicle features, all with the same goal of improving safety.

EMFAC
Emission FACtor (or EMFAC) is an emissions model developed by CARB to assess emissions from on-road vehicles including cars, trucks, and buses in California. It is used to support air quality and climate planning efforts.

EMP
See Environmental Mitigation Program

Environmental Impact Report
A detailed statement prepared under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) that describes and analyzes the significant environmental effects of a project and discusses ways to mitigate or avoid the effects.

environmental justice
Environmental justice (EJ) is the fair treatment and meaningful involvement of all people regardless of race, color, national origin, or income with respect to the development, implementation and enforcement of environmental laws, regulations and policies

Environmental Mitigation Program
Provides TransNet funding for the mitigation of local and regional transportation projects, and additional funding for activities that help implement the region's habitat preservation plans.

express service
Point to point transit service with very limited stops that often only operates during peak commute periods.

expressway
Similar to a freeway, but with some signal-controlled intersections.

F
FAA
See Federal Aviation Administration
farebox recovery ratio
The proportion of operating expenses covered by passenger fares. The ratio divides the farebox revenue by the total operating expenses.

fare structure
The varying fees charged to use transit, normally differing by the age of the transit rider, single versus multiple transit trips, the type of service (Trolley, bus, etc.), and, for some types of services, the length of the trip.

FasTrak®
The statewide toll collection system used to pay tolls electronically in California. In the San Diego region, FasTrak lets customers pay their tolls electronically on the I-15 Express Lanes and South Bay Expressway. Along the I-15 corridor, the FasTrak® Program uses dynamic pricing that allows solo drivers to use the lanes for a fee. The net revenues generated by the program are used to improve transit and carpool services along the I-15 corridor.

Federal Aviation Administration
The federal agency that regulates the use of airspace and is responsible for evaluating and disseminating information about hazards and obstructions to aviation. FAA is a component of the federal DOT.

Federal Highway Administration
The federal agency responsible for the administration of federal highway funds and issuing policy and procedures for implementing federal legislative directives. FHWA is a component of the federal DOT.

Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration
The federal agency responsible with regulating and providing safety oversight of commercial motor vehicles. FMCSA's mission is to reduce crashes, injuries, and fatalities involving large trucks and buses. FMCSA is a component of the federal DOT.

Federal Railroad Administration
The FRA is a component of the federal DOT and is concerned with intermodal transportation to enable the safe, reliable, and efficient movement of people and goods.

Federal Transit Administration
The federal agency that provides financial and technical assistance to local public transit systems, including buses, subways, light rail, commuter rail, trolleys and ferries. FTA also oversees safety measures and helps develop next-generation technology research. FTA is part of the federal DOT.

ferry
A regular service provided via ship for persons that transports passengers over a relatively short distance.
FHWA
See Federal Highway Administration

fiscal year
The 12-month period established for budgeting purposes. In California, the commonly accepted fiscal year for governmental purposes begins on July 1 and ends on June 30.

fixed route service
Service provided on a regular, fixed-schedule basis along a specific route, with vehicles stopping to pick up and deliver passengers to specific locations.

Fixing America's Surface Transportation (FAST) Act
The current federal surface transportation bill signed into law in 2015 and establishes the nation's surface transportation priorities and federal funding structure to support these priorities.

flexible curb space
Allows the mobility network to better balance street demands as they change throughout the day. For example, specific curb space can be designated for some mobility services during their peak demand periods, while the same space can be designated for other uses such as mobile retail during off-peak periods.

Flexible Fleets
On-demand, shared services that provide different mobility options and vehicles for all types of trips, reducing the need own a car. Vehicle types can range from small, low-speed scooters to a 12-passenger shuttles. These services can make it easier to connect to high-speed transit and other important destinations by providing a last-mile connection or fulfilling a complete trip. See also bikeshare, carpool, carsharing, courier services, delivery bot, dynamic ridesharing, e-bikes, electric scooters, last-mile delivery, micromobility, microtransit, Neighborhood Electric Vehicles, pooled rides, ridehailing, rideshare/ridesharing, scootershare, shared mobility, shared-use mobility, and transportation network company.

FMCSA
See Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration

FRA
See Federal Railroad Administration

freeway
A divided highway with limited access and grade-separated junctions, and without traffic lights or stop signs.
Freeway Service Patrol
An ongoing program to provide a roving tow and motorist aid service with technicians who assist or remove stranded and disabled vehicles on designated urban freeways and state roadways during weekday morning, midday, and afternoon rush hours and on weekends. Freeway Service Patrol is operated by SANDAG in cooperation with Caltrans and the California Highway Patrol.

freight
See goods movement

FTA
See Federal Transit Administration

fuel cell electric vehicles
Fuel cell electric vehicles (FCEVs) are zero-emission and run on compressed hydrogen gas fed into a fuel cell "stack" that produces electricity to power the vehicle. FCEVs can be passenger vehicles, trucks and buses.

fuel tax
See gas tax.

G

gas tax
The tax applied to each gallon of fuel sold. Currently, the federal government has imposed a per-gallon tax of 18.4 cents, and the state of California has imposed a per-gallon excise tax of 50.5 cents per gallon (through June 2021).

General Plan
A policy document required of California cities and counties by state law that describes a jurisdiction's future development in general terms. All land use decisions must be derived from this document. The General Plan contains a set of broad policy statements about the goals for the jurisdiction, and it also must contain seven mandatory elements: Land Use, Circulation, Housing, Conservation, Open Space, Noise, Safety, and Environmental Justice.

general purpose lanes
Term used to refer to traditional mixed-flow freeway lanes. Used to distinguish between high-occupancy vehicle (HOV) lanes, Express Lanes, or toll lanes.

geographic information system
A framework for gathering, managing, and analyzing data. Rooted in the science of geography, a geographic information system (GIS) integrates many types of data. It analyzes spatial location and organizes layers of information into visualizations using maps and three-dimensional scenes. With this unique capability, GIS reveals deeper insights into data, such as patterns, relationships, and situations, helping users make smarter decisions.
GHG emissions
See greenhouse gas emissions

GIS
see geographic information system

goods movement
The flow of goods by land, sea, and air throughout our transportation network. Goods movement includes the flow of raw materials, parts, and finished goods by roadways, border crossings, railroads, seaports, airports, and pipelines.

grade separation
A physical and/or structural separation between intersecting roads and/or railway tracks. One road or railway track typically travels over or under the other via an overpass, tunnel, or other structure.

greenhouse gas emissions
The release of water vapor, ozone, carbon dioxide, methane, nitrous oxide, hydrofluorocarbons, chlorofluorocarbons, perfluorocarbons, and sulfur hexafluoride that influence global climate change.

Guaranteed Ride Home
A program that provides a safety net for people who carpool, vanpool, take transit, walk, or bike to work. Registered participants can get a free ride home by taxi, rideshare service such as Lyft or Uber, rental car, car share, or transit up to three times per year in the event of a personal or family emergency, unexpected overtime, carpool or vanpool ride being unavailable due to unexpected schedule changes or vehicle breakdown, or being stranded at work due to a bike problem, such as a flat tire, mechanical failure, vandalism, or theft.

H

Harbor Drive 2.0
An ITS project sponsored by the Port of San Diego (Port), Caltrans, and SANDAG to facilitate freight and other multimodal movements along Harbor Drive between the Port’s Tenth Avenue Marine Terminal and National City Marine Terminal.

heavy-duty vehicles
A vehicle that is classified as a FHWA vehicle category 8-13 (FHWA definition) or has a gross vehicle weight rating over 8,500 pounds (CARB definition).

heavy rail
Railroad services that operate in a mixed-use environment on conventional railroad tracks. Heavy rail services include freight trains, Amtrak, Commuter Rail, and most conventional rail transit systems.
**hexbin**  
Hexagon-shaped geographic areas used for geospatial analysis. To develop the Vision for the 2021 Regional Plan, 100-acre hexbins were used to represent the San Diego region.

**high-occupancy vehicle**  
A vehicle that carries more than one person, such as a carpool, vanpool, shuttle, or bus.

**highway**  
A general term usually referring to a state or federally designated urban or rural route designed to accommodate longer trips in the region.

**historically marginalized communities**  
Communities or groups that have experienced discrimination and exclusion from economic, social, and political decisions and participation, including, but not limited to, low-income populations, people of color, limited English speakers, people with disabilities, and seniors.

**household**  
All people living in a housing unit, regardless of whether they are related to one another. Housing units include houses, condominiums, apartments, and mobile homes.

**housing cost burdened**  
Housing cost burdened is an indicator used to assess how resilient a household is and what their ability might be to recover from economic setback by measuring how much a household spends on monthly housing costs by calculating the percentage of a household's monthly income that is spent on rent or mortgage.

**HOV**  
see high-occupancy vehicle

**HOV lane**  
An exclusive road or traffic lane that typically has a higher operating speed and lower traffic volumes than a general-purpose or mixed-flow lane. In California, vehicles that can use HOV lanes include carpools, vanpools, buses, other multi-passenger vehicles, motorcycles, and emergency vehicles, as well as decaled low-emission vehicles.

**human-centered design**  
A customer-focused approach to solving problems. A human perspective is taken into consideration in every step of the problem-solving process, from determining the true needs of the people who are served to verifying that the solution designed for them is meeting their needs.
ICM
See Integrated Corridor Management

iCommute
iCommute is a program managed by SANDAG that provides information to commuters and employers on commute choices, such as carpooling, vanpooling, Schoolpool carpooling programs for parents, public transportation, bicycling, Guaranteed Ride Home program (see GRH), and teleworking. iCommute operates a carpool ridematching service, the San Diego Regional Vanpool Program, the San Diego Regional Bike Locker Program, and the Guaranteed Ride Home Program.

Intraregional Tribal Transportation Strategy
The Intraregional Tribal Transportation Strategy (ITTS) was developed in 2016 to identify key multimodal transportation projects for improving tribal mobility while meeting regional, state, and federal goals. The ITTS includes projects, criteria, cost estimates, potential partners, and funding opportunities.

Integrated Corridor Management
This concept includes the connection and integration of the region’s local and regional transportation management systems and centers to enable agencies to cooperatively manage the overall performance and operations of the local and regional transportation systems as unified multimodal network. This concept is a key element under the Multimodal Integration and Performance-Based Management TSM investment area.

Intelligent Transportation Systems
A general classification of transportation technologies, management tools, and services made possible through advances in computer and communication technologies. ITS is used to make transportation systems safer and more efficient.

Interactive Wayfinding
Touchscreen kiosks that provide transit schedules, shared mobility service availability, maps, and directions to key destinations including transit stations, civic and community buildings, parks, and more. This amenity can exist throughout the mobility hub and be customized based on user type and available travel modes.

Intercity Rail
Railroad passenger service that primarily serves longer trips, such as those between major cities or regions.

Intermodal
Passenger or freight transportation services which involve or use more than one type of transportation facility (or mode). Aviation, maritime, automobile and truck, rail, and transit are travel modes.
Interregional Transportation Strategic Plan
The purpose of the ITSP is to demonstrate consistency with implement the interregional portion of the California Transportation Plan by providing guidance and prioritization through interregional corridor analysis for projects focused on improving travel access for people and goods on the State’s Interregional Transportation System in a safe, equitable, sustainable, multi-modal manner.

ITS
See Intelligent Transportation Systems

ITSP
See Interregional Transportation Strategic Plan

K
kernel analysis
see density analysis

L
last-mile delivery
The delivery of goods (e.g., small packages or food) by a person or by using semi- or fully automated vehicles, ebikes, drones, and bots to make deliveries from the distribution center to a user’s home or smart lockers at Mobility Hubs. Shared vehicles can make efficient trips by carrying passengers and goods at the same time.

LEP
Limited English Proficiency

Level of Travel Time Reliability
A measure of observed travel time established by FHWA that reviews the length of time it takes to travel along a roadway and the consistency of that travel time. Roadways that have more consistent travel times are considered more reliable.

light-duty vehicles
Include vehicles that have a gross vehicle weight less than 8,500 pounds and are comprised of passenger cars, light-duty-trucks, and medium-duty passenger cars.

light rail transit
Light rail transit (LRT) is a dedicated rail service that serves longer commute trips and shorter local trips (e.g., the MTS San Diego Trolley and NCTD SPRINTER rail service). Light rail is generally integrated into the street network much more than commuter rail but still operates on a dedicated guideway with stations averaging one mile apart.
**Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCO)**
A government agency responsible for assisting the state legislature with promoting orderly development and growth while fulfilling many regional priorities such as accommodating growth within or through expansion of local agency boundaries, extending necessary government services, preserving open space and agricultural lands, and promoting the provision of housing for residents of all incomes.

**LOSSAN**
Los Angeles-San Diego-San Luis Obispo: The LOSSAN Rail Corridor Agency coordinates planning and programming on the coastal rail line. SANDAG, Metropolitan Transit System, and North County Transit District are voting members of LOSSAN, along with regional transportation planning agencies in Orange, Los Angeles, Ventura, Santa Barbara, and San Luis Obispo counties. LOSSAN sets priorities for improvements in the corridor that will increase the capacity of the rail line and the reliability of service.

**Low Carbon Fuel Standard (LCFS)**
Established by the California Air Resources Board in 2009, the LCFS is a policy designed to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and other smog-forming and toxic air pollutants from transportation fuels in California by 2030. The policy encourages the use of low carbon fuels such as electricity, hydrogen and biofuels through a performance-based program.

**low-income**
Low-income is defined as an individual/household having an income that is 200% of the Federal Poverty Limit.

**LRT**
See *light rail transit*

**M**
**MaaS app**
The MaaS app, or integrated application, acts as an umbrella over the various booking and payment systems that participating companies in the MaaS market are making available.

**major transit stop**
A site containing an existing rail or bus rapid transit station, a ferry terminal served by either a bus or rail transit service, or the intersection of two or more major bus routes with a frequency of service interval of 15 minutes or less during the morning and afternoon peak commute periods.

**majority minority county**
A county where no single race or ethnic group comprises more than 50% of the region's total population.
**Managed Lanes**
Managed Lanes, such as those along the Interstate 15 corridor, offer priority access to people using transit, carpooling, or vanpooling. People driving alone can access these lanes for a fee.

**Managed Lane Connectors (MLCs)**
Freeway connectors that provide direct access between one high-occupancy vehicle lanes or Managed Lanes facility with another.

**master geographic reference area**
The basic geographic unit in SANDAG’s Master Geographic Reference File system for storing demographic, economic, and other information. MGRAs are small—comparable to census blocks in size. Currently, there are more than 23,000 MGRAs used to represent the San Diego region.

**megaregion**
Megaregions are interdependent groups of metropolitan areas in a single geographic area bound by interdependent relationships on several levels: environmental, economic, shared border infrastructure, a linked transportation system, related land use policies, history, and culture.

**metropolitan planning organization**
A federally designated agency that is responsible for regional transportation planning in each metropolitan area. SANDAG is the MPO for the San Diego region.

**MGRA**
see **master geographic reference area**

**micromobility**
Small, low-speed, low-occupancy vehicles that fulfill short trips, such as bikes, scooters, or other rideables that may be part of a shared fleet or personally owned. See also **bikeshare**, e-**bikes**, and **electric scooters**.

**microtransit**
Microtransit services use smaller vehicles that carry 5-12 passengers. Riders can typically request service through a mobile app that directs them to common locations along the service route for pick-up.

**mitigation**
Strategies, policies, programs, actions, and activities that, over time, will serve to avoid, minimize, or compensate for the impacts to or disruption of elements of the human and natural environment.

**mixed traffic**
Mixed traffic environments are where bicyclists and motor traffic operate in the same road space.
mixed-use
The combining of commercial, office, and residential land uses to provide easy pedestrian access and reduce the public’s dependence on driving. It can be implemented in multi-story buildings containing businesses and retail stores on the lower floors, and homes on the upper floors.

ML
see Managed Lanes

mobility
The ability to move freely from one place to another

Mobility as a Service (MaaS)
This is an umbrella term that refers to the ability access all modes of transportation in one trip planning and payment app. MaaS has been brought into the public eye with large car companies marketing a service for customers to access any kind of vehicle (bike, scooter, car, pickup, small van, etc.) to serve their needs. MaaS allows people to either pre-pay for transportation as part of a monthly mobility subscription (like Netflix), or pay as they go using a payment account linked to the MaaS app. The goal is to make it so convenient for users to get around with shared mobility and transit so that some they can give up their personal vehicles.

Mobility Hubs
Mobility Hubs are communities with a high concentration of people, destinations, and travel choices. They provide an integrated suite of mobility services, safe roads, and supporting amenities and technology to help people reach high-frequency transit or make short trips around a community. Mobility Hubs can span one, two, or few miles, and each hub is uniquely designed to fulfill a variety of travel needs while strengthening sense of place.

Mobility Hub network
Comprising “right-sized” Mobility Hubs that are situated close to major residential, job, and activity centers across the region. Each mobility hub enhances connections to and from Transit Leap services by offering an array of on demand Flexible Fleet choices throughout a community. Mobility Hubs also integrate with Complete Corridors to ensure walking and biking are safe experiences while prioritizing the movement of shared mobility options over single-occupant vehicles.

mode
One of the various forms of transportation, including automobile, transit, bike, walking, or other means. Intermodal refers to the connection between modes; multimodal refers to the availability and/or use of multiple transportation modes. Mode choice is the process where the means of traveling is determined.
mode split or mode share
The percentage of trips that use each of the various travel modes.

MPO
See Metropolitan Planning Organization

MTS
See San Diego Metropolitan Transit System

Multimodal
Having or using multiple modes of transportation (driving, transit, biking, walking, etc.)

N
NAAQS
See National Ambient Air Quality Standards

NAFTA
See North American Free Trade Agreement

National Ambient Air Quality Standards
Measures of air quality related to health impacts established by the Clean Air Act and periodically updated by U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. The San Diego air basin is classified as a non-attainment area for two Ozone NAAQS.

National Highway Freight Network
A network of highways, including:

- The Primary Highway Freight System (PHFS), a network of highways identified as the most critical highway portions of the U.S. freight transportation system
- Non-PHFS Interstate highway routes that provide important continuity and access to freight transportation facilities
- Critical Rural Freight Corridors (CRFCs), public rural roads that provide access and connection to the PHFS and the Interstate with other important ports, public transportation facilities, or other intermodal freight facilities
- Critical Urban Freight Corridors (CUFCs), urbanized public roads that provide access and connection to the PHFS and the Interstate with other ports, public transportation facilities, or other intermodal transportation facilities

National Highway System
An interconnected system of principal arterial routes that serve major population centers, international border crossings, ports, airports, public transportation facilities, and other intermodal transportation facilities and major travel destinations; meet national defense requirements; and serve interstate and interregional travel.
nature-based Solutions
Planning, design, environmental management, and engineering practices that weave natural features or processes into the built environment to build more resilient communities.

NCTD
See North County Transit District

Neighborhood Electric Vehicles
A low-speed, zero-emission motorized travel option that typically accommodates one to six people while travelling on local roads with posted speed limits of 35 mph or less. Polaris GEM is a common NEV manufacturer, and Circuit (formerly FRED, Free Ride Everywhere Downtown) is an example of a local on-demand NEV shuttle service.

NEV
See Neighborhood Electric Vehicle

Next Generation Rapid
Next Generation (Next Gen) Rapid bus service features priority lanes, better signal technology, longer spans of services, and shorter times between trips to help riders get where they want to go much faster.

Next Operating System
The proposed digital platform of the regional transportation system that compiles information from sources like passenger vehicles, buses, ridesharing vehicles, delivery trucks, bikes, and scooters into a centralized data hub. Analysis of these data will improve how transportation is planned, operated, and experienced. Transportation operators will be able to better manage supply and demand by modifying how infrastructure and services are used throughout the day.

Next OS
see Next Operating System

NHFN
see National Highway Freight Network

NHS
see National Highway System

Non-Attainment Area
A geographic area identified by the United States EPA and/or CARB as not meeting either the national or California Ambient Air Quality Standards for a given pollutant.

North American Free Trade Agreement
A formal agreement between Canada, Mexico, and the United States that promoted ways to improve and increase free trade among the three countries. See USMCA.
North County Transit District
The agency created by the California legislature to operate transit facilities in North San Diego County. Its geographical boundary encompasses 1,020 square miles of North San Diego County extending from Del Mar in the south, northeasterly to Escondido, north to the Riverside County line, and west to the Orange County line.

off-peak period
The time of day when the lowest concentration of vehicles or transit riders is on the road or on another transit facility. These times are generally before 6 a.m., between 9 a.m. and 3 p.m., and after 6 p.m.

on-demand transportation services
A form of transportation where services are requested in real time by the traveler and fulfilled by services providers based on location and availability. On-demand rideshare services, for example, allow someone to request a ride in real time using a mobile app. Services match drivers and passengers traveling in the same direction based on their origin and destination while identifying the quickest route.

package delivery lockers
Secure locations from which online orders including groceries and other cold storage items can be held for pick up at any time of day (e.g., Amazon Locker, Click & Collect). These ‘smart lockers’ help automate package delivery and notification, and they can be conveniently situated at transit stations or retail centers. Offering package delivery and return services within a Mobility Hub can save people an extra trip by car to pick up or return a package.

paratransit
A specialized, door-to-door transport service for people with disabilities who are unable to use standard bus or commuter rail services.

park & ride
A travel option in which commuters park their personal vehicles in a public lot or other location, and continue their trip via carpool, vanpool, or transit.

parking management
Collecting and analyzing local data to identify current parking issues and evaluate solutions that seek to continuously balance parking supply and demand to create a parking system that serves the needs of businesses, residents, and visitors alike.

Parking Management Toolbox
A range of parking management strategies for addressing specific challenges in varied community types and special uses.
Particulate Matter PM$_{2.5}$
Particulate Matter PM$_{2.5}$ is a mixture of solid particles and liquid droplets found in the air, such as dust, dirt, soot, or smoke. PM$_{2.5}$ are fine inhalable particles, with diameters that are generally 2.5 micrometers and smaller.

passenger cars
Motor vehicles designed for transporting people; usually a maximum of eight passengers plus the driver. Examples include sedans, sport utility vehicles, and minivans. Passenger cars are considered light-duty vehicles.

passenger fares
Payment for rides on public transit.

passenger miles
The total number of passengers carried by a transit system, multiplied by the number of miles each passenger travels. Passenger miles are normally measured on a daily or annual basis.

passenger revenue
The value of cash, tickets, and pass receipts given by passengers for payment for rides on public transit.

peak period
The time of day when the highest concentrations of vehicles or transit riders are on the road or on another transit facility. The morning peak period is generally considered to be from 6 to 9 a.m.; the afternoon peak period is from 3 to 6 p.m.

Performance Measurement System
The PeMS program uses urban freeway data collected through freeway loop detectors to provide current, ongoing data on freeway volumes and speeds that can be displayed graphically and exported to other monitoring applications.

PeMS
see Performance Measurement System

person trip
Any person's one-way travel to any destination for any purpose. More specifically, a trip is the one-way movement from an origin to a destination. A chain of trips made up of a tour.

PIP
See Public Involvement Plan

port of entry
Trans-border facilities that process conveyances, passengers, and goods entering and exiting the United States.
POE
See Port of Entry

pooled rides
A rideshare service that matches multiple passengers with similar origins and destinations with the same driver. These rides tend to have reduced pricing to encourage increased vehicle occupancy. Pooled rides are also known as pooled ridehailing or shared rides offered by TNC companies such as uberPOOL and Lyft Shared.

predictive maintenance
Predictive maintenance is a proactive way to monitor a system’s performance and schedule necessary maintenance. Predictive maintenance uses asset management data (warranty, useful life) and specific data measurements and calculations to inform future maintenance schedule needs of the system.

predictive traveler information
Use of a combination of real-time and historical transportation data to predict upcoming travel conditions and convey that information to travelers pre-trip and en route (such as in advance of strategic route choice locations) in an effort to influence travel behavior. In an ATDM approach, predictive traveler information is incorporated into a variety of traveler information mechanisms (e.g., multimodal trip planning systems, 511 systems, dynamic message signs) to allow travelers to make better informed choices.

priority treatments
Improvements, modifications, or design features of either the operations or the environment in which selected transportation systems or modes operate that improve performance. The most prevalent priority treatment is for transit priority, which attempts to increase speeds, reduce delays, or otherwise benefit bus operations by improving reliability or attractiveness to patrons.

PRONTO
The region’s Fare Collection system that allows passengers to pay the fare to ride transit services using a PRONTO card or through the PRONTO mobile app.

propensity analysis
A process in which observed data is used to predict the likelihood of a certain outcome. For example, transit propensity may assume that there are certain physical, locational, and socioeconomic factors that can potentially serve as predictors of where transit service may be successful. By assessing those factors in relationship to existing or future transit services, propensity models may be used to plan future transit routes.
**protected bikeways**
Protected bikeways are dedicated biking facilities that are adjacent to the roadway, but physically separated with a continuous vertical element. The level of horizontal separation from the roadway should increase proportionately with increases in traffic volumes and vehicle speeds. These facilities preferably accommodate uni-directional bike traffic, however mitigating factors such as a high density of destinations along one side of the roadway or the presence of significantly fewer conflict points may warrant the exploration of a bi-directional facility. These are also known as Class 4 bike facilities.

**project study report**
A preliminary engineering report that documents agreements on the scope, a set of reasonable and feasible alternatives, the schedule, and the estimated cost of a project so that the project can be included in a future State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP).

**Positive Train Control**
Positive Train Control is a state-of-the-art train signaling and communication system that improves the efficiency of operations and enhances safety.

**public-private partnership (P3)**
Any formal collaboration between a public agency and a private company to deliver a public service or facility.

**public transit**
See public transportation

**public transportation**
Travel by bus, rail, or other vehicle, either publicly or privately owned, that provides general or specialized service on a regular or continuing basis.

**queue warning**
Informs travelers of upcoming incidents, congestion, or stop-and-go traffic. The information is based on realtime traffic data. Queue warning systems can alert drivers through dynamic message signs on overhead gantries or in-vehicle alert systems.

**ramp metering**
Electronic traffic control devices located at freeway access points to meter the entry of vehicles onto the freeway. The goal is to help optimize the movement of persons and vehicles.
**Rapid**
Provides rapid and frequent transit service along arterials and express lanes. Arterial *Rapid* bus services use signal priority and queue-jumper lanes at major intersections, while freeway *Rapid* services use express lanes to maintain reliable, high-speed service (e.g., Mid-City *Rapid* transit service). All day, all-stop trunk *Rapid* services can be complemented with peak-period commuter express services designed to provide very limited stop connections to major employment centers (e.g., Interstate 15 *Rapid* transit).

**RAQS**
See [Regional Air Quality Strategy](#)

**RBMS**
See [Regional Border Management System](#)

**RCP**
See [Regional Comprehensive Plan](#)

**ReCAP**
See [Regional Climate Action Planning Framework](#)

**ReCAP Snapshot**
A ReCAP Snapshot is resource provided to SANDAG member agencies to help jurisdictions monitor communitywide GHG emissions and/or CAP implementation over time.

**Regional Air Quality Strategy**
The San Diego County Air Pollution Control District developed the Regional Air Quality Strategy (RAQS) pursuant to California Clean Air Act requirements. It identifies emission control measures to provide expeditious progress toward attaining the state ozone standard.

**Regional Bike Network**
A regionwide connected system of bikeways and bike facilities intended to be safe and comfortable for people of all ages and abilities throughout the San Diego region.

**Regional Border Management System**
A regional management transportation system that applies advance and smart technologies to help improve transportation options and manage traffic accessing the border crossings in the San Diego-Tijuana region. The RBMS will be one of the first projects in the region to support the development and implement the Next OS concept.

**Regional Climate Action Planning Framework**
ReCAP identifies best practices and guidance for preparing CAPs and monitoring implementation over time.
**Regional Comprehensive Plan**
A plan that serves as the foundation for integrating land uses, transportation systems, infrastructure needs, and public investment strategies within a regional smart growth framework. The RCP was adopted by SANDAG in 2004. San Diego Forward: The 2015 Regional Plan combined the RCP with the RTP/SCS. San Diego Forward: The 2021 Regional Plan is a combined update of the RCP, RTP, and SCS.

**Regional Growth Forecast**
The Regional Growth Forecast is long-range forecast of population, jobs, and housing units for the San Diego region and its neighborhoods. It extends to the year 2050 and is based on the general plans of each of the region’s 19 jurisdictions. Forecasts are developed through collaborative effort with experts in demography, housing, economics, and other disciplines, along with close cooperation of the local planning directors and their staff.

**Regional Housing Needs Assessment**
The Regional Housing Needs Assessment (RHNA), mandated by state law, quantifies the need for housing and informs land use planning in addressing identified existing and future housing needs resulting from population, employment, and household growth. The RHNA process is reassessed every eight years, SANDAG is currently in its 6th cycle covering April 15, 2021 – April 15, 2029.

**Regional Resilience Framework**
A Framework intended to identify best practices and guidance to prepare the Region for changing conditions and withstand, respond to, and recover rapidly from disruptions.

**Regional Transit Management System**
A management tool used to monitor and report on the performance of the transit system in real time, used for more than 50% of the region’s fixed route services.

**Regional Transportation Improvement Program**
A five-year listing of major highway, transit, and active transportation projects including project costs, funding sources, and development schedules. Compiled from priority lists submitted by local jurisdictions and transportation agencies.

**Regional Transportation Planning Agency**
A state-designated agency responsible for preparing the RTP and the RTIP, and for administering state transportation funds. SANDAG is the San Diego region’s Regional Transportation Planning Agency.

**Regional Transportation Plan**
A minimum 20-year plan that is required by state and federal law to guide the development of the region’s transportation system. San Diego Forward: The Regional Plan includes all required elements of an RTP.
remote work
See telework

resilience
The ability to prepare for changing conditions and withstand, respond to, and recover rapidly from disruptions and hazardous events.

reverse commute
Travel in the direction opposite to the main flow of peak period commute traffic.

RHNA
See Regional Housing Needs Assessment

ridehailing
Ridehailing services allow people to request rides in real-time from drivers who provide the ride in their personal vehicle in exchange for payment (e.g., Lyft, Uber).

rideshare/ridesharing
Shared trips for people with a common origin and destination. Technology enabled pooled ridehailing services to thrive in addition to traditional carpools and vanpools.

ridership
The number of transit users, usually reported as a yearly total or as the average for a normal workday.

right-of-way
The land required for the construction and/or operation of transportation infrastructure.

road usage charge
A road usage charge is a user fee system where all drivers pay to maintain the roads based on roadway utilization, rather than how much gas they purchase. Under a road usage charge, all drivers share roadway maintenance and repair costs based on what they actually use.

Roadmap Program
A program, primarily funding through a Local Government Partnership with San Diego Gas & Electric through 2020, that provided energy efficiency and climate action planning support to SANDAG member agencies to help mitigate greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions in municipal facilities and in the community.

robotaxis
Driverless vehicles that operate within urban environments, fulfill short or medium distance trips, and can be hailed in real-time through a mobile app.
route miles
The length of a transit route or service multiplied by the number of trips made by transit vehicles or trains each day.

RTIP
See Regional Transportation Improvement Program

RTMS
See Regional Transit Management System

RTP
See Regional Transportation Plan

RTPA
See Regional Transportation Planning Agency

S
Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act

Safe Routes to School
A state and federal program that funds education, encouragement campaigns, and infrastructure improvements to help decrease traffic congestion around schools, and to make the journey to school on foot or bike safer and more feasible for children.

Safe Routes to Transit
A program that funds strategies to address the challenges of getting to and from a transit stop or station. These strategies include first-mile/last-mile solutions such as enhanced pedestrian crosswalks near transit stations, bike lanes that connect to transit and bike parking at transit stations, feeder-distributor bus/shuttle routes, carsharing/station cars, mobility hubs, and ridesharing.

shared streets
Temporary roadway modifications that create safe and healthy spaces for people of all ages and abilities to bike or use other micromobility options (e.g., scooters, skateboards) while reducing vehicle miles traveled.

SAFETEA-LU
See Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act
SANDAG
See San Diego Association of Governments

SANDAG State of the Commute
The State of the Commute is a monitoring program that monitors the performance of the transportation network and provides information on freeway, transit, and local roadways use and performance data.

San Diego and Arizona Eastern Railway
The SD&AE Railway straddles the United States – Mexico border, connecting San Diego, Tijuana, Tecate, and the Imperial Valley.

San Diego Association of Governments
SANDAG is responsible for long-range transportation planning and programming under both federal and state laws.

San Diego County Air Pollution Control District (SDAPCD)
See Air Pollution Control District

San Diego Metropolitan Transit System
The agency created by the California legislature to operate in 570 square miles of the urbanized areas of San Diego County, as well as in the rural parts of East County. The system covers 3,240 total square miles, providing service to more than 2 million San Diego residents.

scootershare
Scootershare provides low-cost, on-demand, convenient access to a fleet of shared electric scooters for short-term use. Services may include kick scooters or mopeds and are typically dockless and can be accessed by using a smartphone app.

SCS
See Sustainable Communities Strategy

SCS Land Use Pattern
Subregional allocation of the Series 14 Regional Growth Forecast reflecting a pattern of growth and development that aligns with the transportation investments proposed in the 2021 Regional Plan.

SCTCA
See Southern California Tribal Chairmen's Association

SD&AE
See San Diego and Arizona Eastern Railway
**seamless transportation**
A multimodal trip made without any sudden changes, interruption, or difficulty, and in which people have confidence in the accuracy of the information they are provided.

**Secretaría de Infraestructura y Desarrollo Urbano**
State of Baja California Secretariat of Infrastructure and Urban Development.

**Series 14 Regional Growth Forecast**
Population, housing unit, household, and job estimates for the future. The Series 14 Forecast projects several demographic and socioeconomic variables from the base year of 2016 to the horizon year of 2050 using data and assumptions about the region in the future.

**shared mobility**
Transportation services that are shared among users, either concurrently or one after another. Services may include shared vehicle fleets (e.g., dockless bikes and scooters) or shared ride options (e.g., Lyft and Uber).

**shared-use mobility**
Shared ownership of a service or program to provide commuters who use alternative transportation with a reliable option to make other trips (e.g., carshare, bikeshare, rideshare).

**SHOPP**
See **State Highway Operation and Protection Program**

**SIDUE**
See **Secretaría de Infraestructura y Desarrollo Urbano**

**single occupant vehicle**
A vehicle with one occupant – the driver. Also referred to as a "drive alone."

**SIP**
See **State Implementation Plan**

**Smart City**
Technology and data that enables more efficient operations out of our hard infrastructure. This can include streetlights, roadways, or even buildings, embedded with sensors that communicate with each other and provide real-time conditions.

**Smart Growth**
A compact, efficient, and environmentally-sensitive pattern of development that provides people with additional travel, housing, and employment choices by focusing future growth away from rural areas and closer to existing and planned job centers and public facilities, while preserving open space and natural resources.
**Smart Growth Incentive Program**
Competitive grant program funding by the TransNet Extension Ordinance that provides funding for transportation-related infrastructure improvements and planning efforts that support smart growth development in **Smart Growth Opportunity Areas**.

**Smart Growth Opportunity Areas**
Locations of existing, planned, or potential smart growth areas that can support smart growth, transit, walking, and biking. Transportation and planning professionals from all jurisdictions have provided recommendations for these locations.

**smart infrastructure**
Smart infrastructure is the combination of physical infrastructure with digital infrastructure, using data to provide improved information that enables better decision making and more efficient operations.

**smart intersections**
Technology focused on improving safety at intersections for all users: personal vehicles, transit, bike riders, and pedestrians. Sensors, connected vehicle technology, and mobility applications facilitate communication among users to improve situational awareness and provide improved signal operations and intersection safety.

**smart lockers**
See **package delivery lockers**

**smart parking**
Parking inventory-management system that provides the ability to disseminate real-time parking information and maximize the use of parking facilities.

**smart signals**
Application of signal timing system technologies that operate in conjunction with transit and freight signal priority treatments and Smart Intersections. Smart signals use advance detection systems to improve signal timing (e.g., turning traffic signals to green sooner or extending the green phase) based on real-time vehicle, bike, and pedestrian demand levels.

**social equity**
Social equity means ensuring that all people are treated fairly and are given equal opportunity to participate in the planning and decision-making process, with an emphasis on ensuring that traditionally disadvantaged groups are not left behind. Social equity is comprised of procedural, distributional, and structural equity.
**social equity focus populations**
Identified for the purposes of modeling performance measures include: minority, low-income, and senior populations. The term “minority” is described by the Federal Highway Administration as: Black (having origins in any of the black racial groups of Africa); Hispanic (of Mexican, Puerto Rican, Cuban, Central or South American, or other Spanish culture or origin, regardless of race); Asian American (having origins in any of the original peoples of the Far East, Southeast Asia, or the Indian subcontinent); American Indian and Alaskan Native (having origins in any of the original people of North and South America and who maintains cultural identification through tribal affiliation or community recognition); or Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander (having origins of the original peoples of Hawaii, Guam, Samoa, or other Pacific Islands). Low-income populations are those with income levels below 200% of the Federal Poverty Rate, and senior populations include anyone 75 years old and older.

**Social Equity Planning Framework**
A framework for how social equity will be approached, incorporated, and prioritized in all SANDAG plans, programs, and projects. Five inter-reliant actions form the basis of this framework: (1) engagement, (2) data accountability, (3) measure impact, (4) prioritize investments, and (5) monitor, report, and evolve. These five actions rely on continuous learning.

**Southern California Tribal Chairmen's Association**
The Southern California Tribal Chairmen's Association (SCTCA) is a multi-service non-profit corporation established in 1972 for a consortium of 20 federally recognized Indian tribes in Southern California. The primary mission of SCTCA is to serve the health, welfare, safety, education, cultural, economic and employment needs of its tribal members and descendants in San Diego County. A board of directors comprised of tribal chairpersons from each of its member Tribes governs SCTCA.

**SOV**
See Single Occupant Vehicle

**sphere of influence**
A plan for the probable physical boundaries and service area of a local government agency, as determined by LAFCO.

**SPRINTER**
The SPRINTER light rail train system, operated by NCTD, provides service between Oceanside and Escondido.

**state highway**
A state-designated roadway. It may be urban or rural.
State Highway Operation and Protection Program
Caltrans’ three-year program to address traffic safety, roadway rehabilitation, roadside rehabilitation, or operations needs on the state highway system.

State Implementation Plan
A document that shows the steps planned to meet federal air quality standards (outlined in the Clean Air Act). Each non-attainment area prepares an air quality improvement plan; those are combined to make up the statewide SIP.

State Transportation Improvement Program
A multi-year program of major transportation projects to be funded by the state. The CTC adopts the STIP every two years, based on projects proposed in RTIPs and from Caltrans.

STIP
See State Transportation Improvement Program

STP
See Surface Transportation Program

streetcar
Designed for short-distance trips with station spacing every few blocks or every quarter-mile on average. Streetcars are designed for dense urban areas, such as downtown areas and operates either in mixed traffic with automobiles or on a dedicated right-of-way.

Surface Transportation Program
A federal program that provides flexible funding allocated by regional agencies such as SANDAG for a wide range of projects including highways, transit, local streets and roads, and bicycles.

Sustainable Communities Strategy
An element of the RTP, as required by SB 375, that demonstrates how development patterns and the transportation network, policies, and programs can work together to achieve the targets set by CARB for reducing regional greenhouse gas emissions from cars and light trucks in a region.

sustainability
Meeting current economic, environmental, and community needs without jeopardizing the ability of future generations to meet their needs.

T
traffic volumes
see average daily traffic

TAZ
See Traffic Analysis Zone
TCM
See Transportation Control Measure

TDA
See Transportation Development Act

TDM
See Transportation Demand Management

telework
Teleworkers or e-workers are employees who conduct some or all of their daily work activities from their home or from a remote site other than the normal work site, in order to avoid commuting during peak periods.

Tier 1 employment centers
The region's largest employment centers of Sorrento Valley, Kearny Mesa, and Downtown San Diego that account for more than 325,000 jobs in the San Diego region.

Tier 2 employment centers
The region's medium-sized employment centers of Carlsbad Palomar Airport, El Cajon, Escondido – Palomar, Hillcrest, La Mesa, Mission Valley, National City, Ocean Beach, San Marcos Civic Center, and West Bernardo that account for more than 240,000 jobs in the San Diego region.

Title VI of the Civil Rights Act
Title VI of the Civil Rights Act states that “no person in the United States, shall, on the grounds of race, color or national origin be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subject to discrimination under any program or activity receiving federal financial assistance.”

TNC
See Transportation Network Company

TOD
See transit-oriented development

tour
A basic modeling unit in an activity based model. It is a journey that begins and ends at home. A tour includes a chain of trips.

traffic analysis zone
a geographic unit used for transportation modeling. A TAZ is smaller than a census tract and a Trip Distribution Zone.
Transit Leap
A complete network of high-speed, high-capacity, high-frequency transit services that connects major residential areas with employment centers and attractions. High-speed services, covering longer distances with limited stops, are separated from vehicle traffic with bridges, tunnels, or dedicated lanes. Improvements to existing transit services, such as the Trolley, COASTER, SPRINTER, and Rapid, may include additional rail tracks, more frequent service, dedicated transit lanes, and traffic signal priority.

transit-oriented development
Residential and employment growth that occurs near existing and planned public transit facilities.

Transit Priority Area
Under SB 743, local jurisdictions can potentially make use of streamlined environmental review for projects within Transit Priority Areas, defined as an area within a half-mile of a “major transit stop” that is existing or planned.

Transit Priority Project
Under SB 375, a project is exempt from CEQA if it: (1) qualifies as a “transit priority project” and (2) meets the “sustainable communities project” requirements as declared by the legislative body of the local jurisdiction. A transit priority project needs to meet various environmental, land use, and housing open space criteria as outlined in Public Resources Code § 21155.1.

transit signal priority
Technology that uses GPS along with bus route schedules and real-time performance data to give special treatment to transit vehicles at signalized intersections. This can involve holding or extending a green signal or shortening a red signal in order to minimize or eliminate delays to transit passengers.

Transportation Control Measure
A transportation strategy intended to reduce vehicle miles traveled (VMT) and to make VMT more efficient. TCMs include transportation system management (TSM) and transportation demand management (TDM) elements. Examples include carpooling, transit, and computer-optimized traffic signals.

Transportation Demand Management
Policies and programs to reduce demand by automobiles on the transportation system, by promoting telecommuting, flex-time, bicycling, walking, transit use, staggered work hours, and ridesharing.

Transportation Development Act
TDA funds are generated from a tax of one-quarter of 1% on all retail sales in each county. Funds are used for transit, specialized transit for disabled people, and bike and pedestrian purposes.
**transportation network company**
Transportation Network Companies (TNCs) is a term used by the California Public Utilities Commission to define companies that provide prearranged transportation services for profit using an online or app-based platform to connect drivers with passengers (such as Lyft and Uber).

**Transportation System Management and Operations**
A revitalized Federal program that identifies a set of strategies, focusing on operational improvements, to maintain and even restore performance of the existing transportation system before extra capacity is needed.

**travel demand**
The general phenomenon of the movement of people and goods within a given area. Demand is typically measured in trips, characterized by a trip origin and either single or multiple trip destinations. For the purposes of travel forecasting and analysis, trip purpose, trip mode, time of day, and other travel factors are considered.

**trolley**
The San Diego Trolley is the urban light rail transit service currently provided in the San Diego region. MTS operates three primary lines.

**Truck Travel Time Reliability (TTTR) Index**
A measure of travel time for on-road wheeled truck freight that is indexed for comparison purposes. A roadway that has a value of 1.0 does not experience travel time changes, or unreliability. As the TTTR index value increases the reliability of a roadway decreases.

**TSMO**
See Transportation System Management and Operations

**TSP**
See transit signal priority

**U**

**United States Department of Transportation**
The federal cabinet-level agency with responsibility for highways, mass transit, aviation, and ports, and headed by the Secretary of Transportation. The DOT includes the Federal Highway Administration and the Federal Transit Administration, among other agencies.

**United States Environmental Protection Agency**
The federal agency charged with setting policy and guidelines, and carrying out legal mandates, for the protection of national interests in environmental resources.

**United States-Mexico-Canada Trade Agreement**
A formal free trade agreement between the United States, Mexico, and Canada that includes provisions for improving and increasing free trade among the three countries. USMCA came into effect in 2020 and builds upon provisions included in NAFTA.
**Universal Transportation Account**
An access account that combines all forms of public transportation payment into a single user-friendly interface.

**U.S. DOT**
See United States Department of Transportation

**U.S. EPA**
See United States Environmental Protection Agency

**USMCA**
See United States-Mexico-Canada Trade Agreement

\[ V \]

**vacancy rate**
The number of housing units in a given geography that have no one living in them divided by the total number of housing units in that same geography.

**vacation rental**
A housing unit that is rented out to visitors on a temporary basis usually as an alternative to a hotel.

**value pricing**
A congestion management strategy that applies a surcharge to users of a transportation roadway or facility to reduce congestion during periods of peak demand. Value pricing is a way of harnessing the power of the market demand to maximize use of the available supply. Concepts include dynamic pricing, cordon pricing that charges are either dynamic or fixed within or into an area, and areawide pricing generally applied on a per-mile basis within an area.

**vanpool**
A vehicle operating as a ridesharing arrangement, providing transportation to a group of individuals typically traveling directly between their homes and employment locations within the same geographic area.

**vehicle miles traveled**
The total number of miles traveled on all roadways by all vehicles. Reducing vehicle miles traveled (VMT) can help ease traffic congestion and improve air quality.

**vehicle operating costs**
Costs associated with operating a vehicle such as maintenance and fuel. Vehicle operating costs are calculated on a per-mile basis.

**vehicle trip**
A single vehicle movement from the beginning of travel to its destination, in a vehicle that is motor-driven (e.g., automobiles, motorcycles, trucks, buses, and vans).
Vision for the 2021 Regional Plan
The Vision applied the strategies known as the 5 Big Moves to the San Diego region and serves as the foundation for the 2021 Regional Plan. The Vision addresses transportation challenges identified by residents, employers, and stakeholders across the San Diego region and was developed using a data-driven approach that analyzed where people live and work, how they get around, what transportation infrastructure exists, and what is needed to support future growth.

Vision Zero
Vision Zero is a national campaign that uses a variety of strategies to work toward eliminating deaths and severe injuries on our streets by focusing on roadway design and policies that affect people’s choices.

VMT
see vehicle miles traveled

vulnerability assessment
Identifies and characterizes the climate hazards and other climate effects a community faces.

W
weighted population density
The average of the population densities of subareas (e.g., block groups) of a larger area (e.g., census tract) weighted by the populations of those subareas. Weighted population density is an alternative to the conventional population density measure—total population divided by total area.

wireless communications
The sending and receiving of data across radio spectrum waves.

wireless electric vehicle charging
Emerging technology that allows vehicles to charge without plugging a chord into the electric vehicle. Also referred to as “inductive charging,” this technology can be static or dynamic. Static wireless chargers can be installed in parking spaces where the electric vehicle then drives over it, parks, and charges wirelessly. Dynamic wireless charging is an emerging technology that allows vehicles to recharge while being driven on a road or highway.

work trip
Any "person" or "vehicle" trip whose purpose (on at least one trip end) involves work or work-related business.
**Z**

**zero-emission vehicle**
ZEVs are vehicles that produce no emissions from the onboard source of power. The only technologies that meet this definition are battery-electric vehicles (BEVs) and hydrogen fuel cell electric vehicles (FCEVs). ZEVs can be passenger vehicles, micro-mobility, buses and trucks.

**zero-emission vehicle infrastructure**
ZEV infrastructure includes electric vehicle charging stations to support plug-in electric vehicles and hydrogen fueling stations to support fuel cell electric vehicles. Wireless charging (static and dynamic) is an emerging technology for ZEV infrastructure. See wireless electric vehicle charging.

**ZEV**
See zero-emission vehicle