Scoping Meeting
Program Environmental Impact Report for the 2025 Regional Plan
Agenda

1. Introduction
2. Project Overview
3. Scope of PEIR
4. Process for Submitting Public Scoping Comments
Introduction
Staff Introductions

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Purpose and Objectives of the Scoping Meeting

**Purpose**

- Solicit input and refine scope of the 2025 Regional Plan Program EIR (PEIR) analysis

**Objectives**

- Project Overview
  - Background
  - Location
  - Description
- Scope of the PEIR analysis
- Process for submitting comments
Project Overview
Federal Metropolitan Transportation Planning

- SANDAG must develop a regional transportation plan (RTP) addressing no less than a 20-year planning horizon.
- The RTP must include both long-range and short-range strategies/actions that provide for the development of an integrated multimodal transportation system facilitating the safe and efficient movement of people and goods in addressing current and future transportation demand.
- SANDAG must also make an air quality conformity determination in accordance with the Clean Air Act and the EPA transportation conformity regulations.
SANDAG must develop a Sustainable Communities Strategy (SCS) that demonstrates how the region would achieve the GHG emissions reduction targets for passenger vehicles set by the California Air Resources Board (CARB).

In March 2018, CARB updated regional GHG emissions reduction targets. SANDAG’s 2035 target is a per capita carbon dioxide emissions reduction from passenger vehicles of 19% as compared to 2005 levels.

If the SCS falls short of meeting that target, SANDAG would have to prepare an “alternative planning strategy” that, if implemented, would meet the target.

The 2025 Regional Plan will build on the visioning completed for the 2021 Regional Plan with the latest planning assumptions to identify projects, programs, and policies to achieve the state’s emissions reduction targets and attain federal air quality conformity standards.
The Project location includes the 18 cities and unincorporated areas of San Diego County.
The 2025 Regional Plan

- The 2025 Regional Plan will consist of a Regional Transportation Plan and a Sustainable Communities Strategy that identify the future of the San Diego region’s transportation investments and growth.
- The 2025 Regional Plan will be a 20+ year plan with transportation projects, a forecasted development pattern, and supportive programs and strategies.
- SANDAG is required to update the Regional Plan every four years.
- On December 10, 2021, the SANDAG Board adopted the 2021 Regional Plan and certified the Final Program EIR. SANDAG anticipates the Board considering adoption of the 2025 Regional Plan in late 2025.
• SANDAG posted a Notice of Preparation of a Program Environmental Impact Report (PEIR) for the Project on January 4, 2023 to CEQA.net
  • State Clearinghouse # 2023010039
  • CEQA review and comment period:
    • January 4, 2023 to March 6, 2023
• SANDAG is seeking feedback on the scope and content to be considered in the Draft PEIR
Scope of PEIR
What Environmental Impacts Will be Analyzed in the PEIR?

As part of the PEIR for the 2025 Regional Plan, SANDAG will analyze the impacts to the resource areas listed below:

- Aesthetics
- Agriculture and Forestry Resources
- Air Quality
- Biological Resources
- Cultural Resources
- Energy
- Geology/Soils
- Greenhouse Gas Emissions
- Hazards & Hazardous Materials
- Hydrology/Water Quality
- Land Use/Planning
- Mineral Resources
- Noise
- Population/Housing
- Public Services
- Recreation
- Transportation
- Tribal Cultural Resources
- Utilities/Service Systems
- Wildfire

Additionally, the EIR will address cumulative impacts and growth inducing impacts.
The PEIR will also analyze a reasonable range of alternatives to the 2025 Regional Plan that would feasibly attain most of the Project’s basic objectives, while avoiding or substantially lessening any of the Project’s significant effects on the environment.

The EIR will also identify other alternatives that were initially considered, but rejected for reasons including, but not limited to, infeasibility due to economic, legal, or other considerations, inability to meet most of the Project’s basic objectives, or failure to avoid or substantially lessen any of the Project’s significant environmental impacts.

SANDAG is seeking input on alternatives as part of this scoping process.
Process for Submitting Public Scoping Comments
Timeline for the PEIR

- Scoping Meeting: 1/12/23
- NOP released: 1/4/23
- Close of Scoping Comment Period: 3/6/23
- Release of Draft PEIR: Spring 2025
- 45 Day Public Comment Period for Draft PEIR: Summer 2025
- Release of Final PEIR and Response to Comments: Fall 2025
- SANDAG Board Consideration of 2025 Regional Plan and PEIR: Fall 2025
Public Participation in the PEIR

There will be multiple opportunities for public participation in the PEIR:

(1) Comments can be submitted until **March 6, 2023**, on the scope of the PEIR by mail or email – please include a contact name.

(2) Comments can be submitted on the **Draft PEIR** when it is released in the Spring of 2025. SANDAG will include Responses to Comments received on the Draft PEIR in the Final PEIR.

(3) Comments can be provided to the **Board of Directors** during their deliberation on the 2025 Regional Plan and PEIR in late 2025.
• Comments submitted as part of the PEIR scoping process will inform the approach taken in the PEIR.

• There will be a separate public engagement process for the 2025 Regional Plan, with multiple opportunities to engage in the planning process between 2023 and 2025.
Throughout 2023, SANDAG also will be working on a Supplemental EIR for an Amendment to the 2021 Regional Plan.

The focus of the SEIR is limited to analyzing the physical environmental impacts of removing the regional road usage charge from the 2021 Regional Plan, along with a cumulative impacts analysis and an analysis of alternatives that further reduce environmental impacts.

The SEIR analysis is entirely separate from the 2025 Regional Plan PEIR.
Submitting Scoping Comments on the PEIR

Please submit your comments by **5:00 p.m. PST on March 6, 2023**

Comments can be submitted by mail to:

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Comments can also be submitted by email to:

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