

2025 Regional Plan Joint Working Group Forum Summary

On February 9, 2023, SANDAG hosted a Joint Working Group Forum event to kick off the 2025 Regional Plan (Plan) and solicit ideas and input for the Plan's development. The forum hosted a variety of diverse viewpoints from 120 individuals representing members of the public, local jurisdictions, task forces, transit agencies, community-based organizations, and six SANDAG Working Groups, including:

- Sustainable Communities Working Group
- Social Equity Working Group
- Mobility Working Group
- Military Working Group
- Social Services Transportation Advisory Council (SSTAC)
- Shoreline Preservation



Attendees provided feedback alongside SANDAG staff on core aspects of the Plan including the Plan's Vision and Goals, Performance Measures, and Network and Policy Development. Participant input on effective outreach and engagement was also collected to inform SANDAG on how to effectively and equitably communicate with the various audiences and their constituents throughout development of the Plan. Feedback was solicited through multiple formats including

written responses, live online surveys, and verbal discussions. Additionally, materials were translated into Spanish and live interpretation was available throughout the entirety of the forum. Conversations generated valuable feedback that will be useful as SANDAG continues to develop the Plan.

Vision and Goals

The Plan proposes a vision and set of goals that expand upon its 2021 predecessor. The Regional Plan envisions a resilient region and transportation system that are supported by the following proposed goals:

- **Efficient** movement of people and goods
- **Equitable** access to housing and mobility options for everyone
- **Healthy** air and reduced greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions
- **Safe** transportation system for all users

The Plan's vision and goals were largely met with approval from participants, many of whom provided additional feedback and concerns. General feedback points and suggestions include:

- Concerns that achieving efficiency compromises safety goals, and vice versa
- Concerns regarding the lack of economic consideration in the vision and goals
- Positive responses to the equity goal and emphasis on transit investments in disadvantaged neighborhoods
- Improving major streets and prioritizing the safety of non-motorized users
- Expanding the role of health in the Regional Plan



This vital feedback was used to inform the revision of the Plan's Vision and Goals. These changes are intended to address key feedback points and incorporate suggestions from participants, and ultimately clarify the Plan's purpose and messaging. The Plan's vision and goals have since been changed to reflect the following:

Updated Vision Statement: The Regional Plan envisions a sustainable and resilient future for our region and economy – supported by a transportation network that is **convenient, equitable, healthy, and safe**.

Updated Goals:

- **Convenient** and reliable movement of people and goods
- **Equitable** access to essential needs and opportunities
- **Healthy** communities and environment for everyone
- **Safe** transportation system for all users

Performance Measures

The Plan's performance measures are designed to track progress made to achieve the Plan's vision and goals. The previous plan refreshed and restructured SANDAG's performance measures, which will be carried forward for the Plan's update. Primary measures include access to basic needs and opportunities, distance to transit and bicycle facilities, emissions and pollution measures, travel time and delay of goods movement, and transportation system usage to include Vehicles Miles Traveled (VMT) and physical activity.

The introduction of the Safe goal provided forum participants an opportunity to inform the development of its performance measures. Proposed measures from participants include:

- Traffic delay models
- High Injury Network
- Climate Health Equity index

Performance measures for the Safe goal will continue to be explored with continued input from all stakeholders and industry experts. This continued feedback will be useful as SANDAG works to determine the most effective safety measures that will inform ongoing planning strategies.

Network and Policy Development

Since the adoption of the 2021 Regional Plan in December 2021, numerous jurisdictions and agencies have conducted related network planning efforts in the form of general plan updates, housing element updates, and active transportation plans to name a few. SANDAG will continue to review local documents and plans for potential inclusion in the Plan based on their regional significance.

Forum participants provided feedback and suggestions for potential projects, programs, and policies that may help move the needle in reducing emissions. Specific feedback points and suggestions include:

- Implementation of equitable transit improvements via initiatives such as the Youth Opportunity Pass
- Increased investment in micromobility options
- Transit-oriented developments, mixed-use districts, and increased activity near transit
- Improved viability of non-motorized transportation

Achieving the state mandated 19% reduction of greenhouse gases (GHG) by 2035 will require project and policy coordination at all levels. Inclusion of the above-mentioned strategies could help move the needle in reducing emissions.



SANDAG will continue its commitment to working with stakeholders in the region, so that the Regional Plan is truly a plan for everyone. There will be further opportunities for additional Joint Working Group Forums, specific Working Group updates, discussions at CBO and jurisdictional meetings, virtual events and townhalls, and additional stakeholder workshops.

For more information and to stay updated on activities related to the 2025 Regional Plan, visit <https://www.sandag.org/regional-plan/2025-regional-plan> and sign up to receive email updates at [SANDAG - Subscribe](#).