

2019 SANDAG LEGISLATIVE PROGRAM



OBJECTIVE

The SANDAG Legislative Program provides a framework to advance policies and legislative initiatives in support of the agency's mission, strategic goals, and long-term vision.

The SANDAG Office of Government Relations works in close collaboration with the SANDAG Executive Team, policymakers, and regional stakeholders to analyze, monitor, and respond to state and federal legislation and policy related to the objectives outlined in the Legislative Program. In addition, SANDAG works to support the legislative programs of partner agencies when consistent with agency policy.

2019 LEGISLATIVE AND POLICY PRIORITIES

The following state and federal priorities for 2019 encompass broad, policy-oriented objectives that will help to advance SANDAG goals by securing necessary legislative authority, program funding, and regulatory actions at the state and federal levels.

Funding

Sustainable sources of funding at the state and federal levels are needed to support ongoing implementation of the Regional Plan. SANDAG will continue to seek formula and discretionary awards to advance the delivery of major regional projects,

as well as support efforts that expand access to technical tools and resources for the region, and oppose efforts to redirect transportation funding to other purposes.

Regional Plan

SANDAG is committed to creating a long-range blueprint for the San Diego region that supports a sustainable and healthy region, vibrant economy, and outstanding quality of life for all. SANDAG will pursue policy and/or legislative changes needed to support the development and implementation of this effort.

Airport Connectivity

SANDAG is leading the development of a comprehensive transportation infrastructure plan to connect public transit directly to the San Diego International Airport. SANDAG will work with regional stakeholders to identify potential funding and legislative authorities needed to advance this project throughout the next year.

Technology

The San Diego region is a leader in piloting and deploying innovative transportation solutions and infrastructure that leverage technology to improve the

transportation system. SANDAG will seek policies and infrastructure investments to continue this effort, including new ways of conducting business in partnership with the private sector.

Housing / Affordable Housing

A lack of housing production in the San Diego region has led to higher rents and housing costs - affecting residents, the business community, and quality of life. SANDAG will partner with its member agencies and other stakeholders to support legislative efforts that help incentivize housing development near existing and planned transportation investments through redevelopment, transit-oriented development, and the Regional Housing Needs Assessment process.

Climate and Energy

SANDAG has a long history of working closely with local jurisdictions and stakeholders to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and achieve other environmental goals through sustainable transportation projects, programs, and services. SANDAG will partner with stakeholders to maximize transportation electrification investments to help advance the region's mobility and sustainability goals.



NO.	SPONSOR	JURISDICTION
1A	Work with federal, state, and local stakeholders to inform the next Federal Surface Transportation Authorization, including appropriate funding levels, goods movement and border programs, transit investment and reforms, process improvements (including streamlined environmental processes), active transportation, and tribal transportation planning. (2007, 2012)	Federal/State
2A	Pursue resources and funding mechanisms consistent with financial strategies adopted in the Regional Plan, including but not limited to increasing revenues for transportation, cap-and-trade revenues, gas tax or equivalent revenue sources, bond measures, public/private partnerships, smart growth, and higher pass-through maintenance/preservation funding. (2012)	Federal/State/Local
3A	Expand access to resources and technical tools that will enable SANDAG to implement San Diego Forward: The Regional Plan, including value pricing, Managed Lanes, High Occupancy Toll Lanes, the alleviation of current constraints on transponder technology, transit priority treatments, Transportation Demand Management, and other efforts that promote efficient use of highways and local roads. (2003, 2009, 2015)	Federal/State
4A	Pursue efforts that address border transportation infrastructure needs consistent with the Regional Plan and California-Baja California Border Master Plan. (2012)	Federal/State/Local
5A	Pursue policy and/or legislative changes to streamline the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) for public transit improvements, active transportation projects, and other transportation projects located within existing rights-of-way. (2013, 2015)	State
6A	Pursue policy and/or legislative changes to improve the planning and implementation of the Regional Plan. (2013)	Federal/State
7A	Pursue public transit funding and continued support for intercity rail. (2008, 2013, 2015, 2017)	Federal/State
8A	Support efforts to advance connected and autonomous vehicle technology to enhance transportation safety, sustainable and efficient mobility, a healthier environment, and economic growth and job creation. (2018)	Federal/State/Local
9A	Support efforts to advance clean energy and clean transportation policies, programs, and legislation for the region that are consistent with the Regional Energy Strategy and Regional Plan. (2002, 2015)	Federal/State/Local
10A	Support incentives to jurisdictions that provide opportunities for more housing, including affordable and transit-oriented developments, supports regional fair-share allocation of housing funds, and provides additional affordable housing funding with greater local/regional control. (2002)	Federal/State



NO.	SUPPORT	JURISDICTION
1B	Policies and/or legislation implementing climate action and adaptation plans and programs, including cap-and-trade that are consistent with the Regional Plan. (2007, 2015)	Federal/State/Local
2B	Efforts to pursue resources to improve regional public safety voice and data communications and interoperability, including connectivity with state and federal systems. (2005)	Federal/State/Local
3B	Efforts to pursue funding at both the state and federal levels to improve public safety and security in the San Diego region through Automated Regional Justice Information System operations and enhancements, regional transportation system improvements, and activities related to regional emergency preparedness, prevention, and response to catastrophic events. (2003, 2005, 2011)	Federal/State/Local
4B	Fiscal reform initiatives that enable regions to develop their own fiscal strategies and oppose unfunded mandates on local governments. (2002)	Federal/State/Local
5B	Lower the current two-thirds voter requirement for special purpose taxes, such as transportation and quality of life improvements, to a simple majority vote. (2002)	State
6B	Efforts assisting in the implementation of key environmental issues, including habitat conservation, planning, beach restoration and replenishment, and water quality-related issues. (2002)	State/Local
7B	Efforts to expand available methods of transportation project delivery, including design-build, design sequencing, construction manager/general contractor, and other alternative methods that expedite connectivity with state and federal systems. (2005)	State
8B	Efforts to support funding opportunities and legislation that promote the implementation of effective and collaborative strategies and programs that maintain public safety and promote quality of life and public health, including initiatives that address substance abuse and graffiti abatement and reduce youth and gang violence.	Federal/State/Local
9B	Pursue policy and/or legislative changes to enable the use of freeway shoulders as transit lanes on major corridors in the San Diego region. (2006)	State
10B	Legislation and/or policies that promote governmental efficiencies and cost savings. (2009, 2015)	Federal/State
11B	Transit boards' legislative programs where consistent with SANDAG Policy. (2002)	Federal/State
12B	Other organizations' legislative programs where consistent with SANDAG Policy, i.e., California Association of Councils of Governments, American Public Transportation Association, National Association of Regional Councils, California Transit Association, Self-Help Counties Coalition, League of California Cities, California State Association of Counties, Caltrans, International Association of Chiefs of Police, National Sheriffs' Association, California Police Chiefs Association, California State Sheriffs' Association, and National Association of Counties. (2003, 2005)	Federal/State



NO.	MONITOR	JURISDICTION
1C	Efforts to pursue legislative and/or administrative reform of the Regional Housing Needs Assessment process and state housing element law.	State
2C	Proposals that limit the use of eminent domain for public infrastructure projects. (2005)	Federal/State
3C	Legislation affecting solid waste, water supply, and storm water, support of funding opportunities to assist in these areas. (2003)	State/Local
4C	Legislation relating to personnel matters, i.e., workers' compensation, Public Employee Retirement System benefits, and other labor related issues. (2003)	Federal/State/Local
5C	Legislation requiring local agencies to implement new administrative compliance measures. (2005)	Federal/State
6C	Legislative efforts related to offshore oil drilling in the coastal waters within the San Diego region. (2018)	Federal/State

ⁱ Dates in parenthesis indicate the year in which the goal was added to the SANDAG Legislative Program. Subsequent dates indicate substantive revisions.