

INTRODUCTION

DEVELOPING INDICATORS

The set of performance indicators included in the RCP were discussed and developed by The SANDAG Regional Planning Committee and the Regional Planning Technical and Stakeholders Working Groups to monitor the region's progress toward achieving the goals and objectives of the RCP. A primary prerequisite for all of the annual indicators was that they must be based on data that is available, consistent, and reliable. In addition, the groups clarified other characteristics for the indicators:



- **Regional:** The indicators are intended to focus on the region as a whole, not on individual jurisdictions or subregions.
- **Quality of Life:** The indicators are to be used for monitoring the region's quality of life and are not intended to be used as the criteria for distributing incentives. Overall, the indicators are intended to answer the questions: "Is the RCP being implemented?" and "Is RCP implementation having a positive impact on the region?"
- **Flexibility:** Some of the indicators may evolve. As new technologies and data resources become available, the list of indicators could be updated and indicators that were once the best available could be replaced by better, more representative, or more informative indicators.
- **Annual and Periodic Indicators:** While it is the intent to update the indicators on an annual basis, the final project monitoring could include both a core group of annually-updated indicators and a set of periodic, more comprehensive indicators updated every three to five years. For example, specific habitat monitoring projects may only be feasible every few years, but would yield valuable information.

When the SANDAG Board of Directors adopted the Regional Comprehensive Plan (RCP) in July 2004, a commitment was made to monitor our progress toward implementing the plan.

In addition to monitoring the RCP, SANDAG undertakes three other performance monitoring programs on a regular basis:

- The Regional Transportation Plan
- The State of the Commute
- The Sustainable Competitiveness Index

These programs are currently maintained independently, but work is underway to coordinate and integrate the four performance monitoring programs. Integration of the programs will result in greater consistency at a policy level, and improved efficiency of data collection at an administrative level.

In integrating the programs, the RCP will provide the overarching framework for all performance monitoring at SANDAG. All monitoring efforts would use RCP monitoring indicators to the extent possible.

Staff responsible for each monitoring program is currently working to refine and integrate the programs, streamline the indicators required by each program, and perhaps even collapse or combine some of the reports or the indicators included therein.

Table 1 presents the final set of annual indicators developed by the three groups and includes the addition of one new indicator (Balanced Job Growth). The indicators are grouped by RCP subject and goal category:

- Urban Form and Transportation
- Housing
- Healthy Environments – Natural Habitats, Water Quality, Shoreline Preservation, Air Quality
- Economic Prosperity
- Public Facilities – Water Supply, Energy, Waste Management
- Borders

ESTABLISHING A BASELINE

This report provides a baseline by which to measure future performance. The report features a discussion of the significance and initial findings from the data collected for each indicator. Data were not available for five indicators at the time this report was prepared: Travel Times and Volumes for Key Auto and Transit Corridors; Habitat Conserved Within Designated Preserve Areas; Percent of Habitat Preserve Area Actively Maintained; Lagoon Health; and Participation in SENTRI Lanes, Pedestrian Commuter Program, Free and Secure Trade Program. However, data for these indicators is expected to be available in the next one to two years. Additionally, since the initial list of indicators was prepared, the SANDAG Board of Directors approved the Regional Housing Needs Assessment, which will be part of future reporting for the Share of New Units by Structure Type and Income Category.

At the conclusion of each section of this report, there is a discussion of work efforts underway that may, over time, influence the outcome of the various indicators. For example, the Smart Growth Incentive Program is intended to increase the region's share of housing and jobs in Smart Growth Opportunity Areas and to reduce pressure for development outside the San Diego County Water Authority Boundary.

Table 1
ANNUAL INDICATORS FOR MONITORING THE REGIONAL COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

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|---|
| 1. URBAN FORM / TRANSPORTATION |
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Share of new units and jobs located in Smart Growth Opportunity Areas 2. Share of new housing units within County Water Authority water service boundary 3. Annual transit ridership 4. Commute mode shares (single occupancy vehicles, carpool, transit, walking, biking, etc.) 5. Travel times and volumes for key auto corridors and key transit corridors 6. Miles of deficient roads on Congestion Management Program network 7. Annual hours of traffic delay per traveler 8. Regional crime rates |
| 2. HOUSING |
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Housing Affordability Index (compares median home ownership costs to median income) 2. Percent of households with housing costs greater than 35 percent of income 3. Ratio of new jobs to new housing units 4. Share of new and existing units by structure type (single family, multifamily) and income category 5. Vacancy rates 6. Percent of households living in overcrowded conditions 7. Number of households on the waiting list for Section 8 (housing assistance) Vouchers |
| 3. HEALTHY ENVIRONMENT |
| <p>Natural Habitats</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Habitat conserved within designated preserve areas (acres and percent of preserve area) 2. Percent of preserve area actively maintained (removal of invasive species, trash removal, fence repairs) <p>Water Quality</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3. Number of beach closure days 4. Impaired waterbodies (miles or acres) based on Federal Clean Water Act 303(d) criteria <p>Shoreline Preservation</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 5. Beach widths 6. Lagoon health (salinity, dissolved oxygen levels) <p>Air Quality</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 7. Air Quality Index (number of days "unhealthy for sensitive groups" with AQI > 100) |
| 4. ECONOMIC PROSPERITY |
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Labor force educational attainment (Share of adult population with high school, college, and graduate education) 2. Balanced job growth 3. Employment growth in high-wage economic clusters 4. Regional unemployment rate compared to state and nation 5. Real per capita income 6. Regional poverty rate compared to state and nation |

5. PUBLIC FACILITIES

Water Supply

1. Water consumption
2. Diversity of water supply (share of regional water supply, by source)
3. Recycled water use

Energy

4. Per capita electricity consumption and peak demand
5. Share of energy produced in the region vs. imported
6. Share of energy produced from renewable resources

Waste Management

7. Percent of waste that is recycled
8. Landfill space available

6. BORDERS

1. Interregional traffic volumes into San Diego from surrounding counties and Baja California
2. Border wait times for personal trips and goods movement
3. Participation in SENTRI Lanes, pedestrian commuter program, Free and Secure Trade (FAST) program

SETTING TARGETS

Specific targets to be used as part of the performance measures have been identified for four indicators: Beach Widths, Per Capita Electricity Consumption and Peak Demand, Share of Energy Produced in the Region vs. Imported, and Share of Energy Produced from Renewable Resources. All four of these targets are either included in existing legislation or adopted SANDAG policies and were reviewed with the Regional Planning Committee in December 2005.

Setting targets for the other indicators will be done with the Regional Planning Committee, the Regional Planning Stakeholders Working Group and the Regional Planning Technical Working Group over the next year. Where possible, both a short-range target—possibly five years—and a year 2030 target will be developed for each indicator.

By establishing a comprehensive set of performance indicators, we can begin to measure our success as we realize the goals of the Regional Comprehensive Plan.

COMPILING THE REPORT

In preparing this report, SANDAG coordinated with technical staff from other agencies to verify the accuracy of data and analysis. The report was presented to the Regional Planning Stakeholders and Technical Working Groups, and released for a 60-day public comment period, prior to acceptance by the SANDAG Board of Directors on October 27, 2006. Where possible, changes were made to the report, largely for clarification and further explanation.