



Specialized Transportation Workshop Agenda

Thursday, February 24, 2022

2-4:30 p.m.

****Teleconference Meeting****

MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT AMIDST COVID-19 PANDEMIC:

The Specialized Transportation Workshop scheduled for Thursday, February 24, 2022, will be conducted virtually in accordance with Governor Newsom's State of Emergency declaration regarding the COVID-19 outbreak, Government Code Section 54953(e), Assembly Bill 361 (Rivas, 2021), and the COVID-19 Emergency Temporary Standards issued by the California Department of Industrial Relations. Participants will primarily participate in the meeting virtually, while practicing social distancing, from individual remote locations.

To register for this workshop and receive the workshop link, click on this link:

<https://forms.office.com/g/ByXX4kvZ5g>

SANDAG relies on commercial technology to broadcast the meeting via Zoom. With the increase of virtual meetings, platforms such as Microsoft Teams, WebEx, GoToMeeting, and Zoom are working to scale their systems to meet the new demand. If we experience technical difficulty or you are unexpectedly disconnected from the broadcast, please close and reopen your browser and click the link to rejoin the meeting. SANDAG staff will take all possible measures to ensure a publicly accessible experience.

Public Comments: If you desire to provide live verbal comment during the meeting, please join the Zoom meeting by computer or phone and use the "Raise Hand" function to request to provide public comment. On a computer, the "Raise Hand" feature is on the Zoom toolbar. By phone, enter *9 to "Raise Hand" and *6 to unmute. Staff will call on members of the public who have timely requested to provide comment by name for those joining via a computer and by the last three digits of for those joining via telephone. All comments received prior to the close of the meeting will be made part of the meeting record.



Welcome to SANDAG. SANDAG operates its programs without regard to race, color, and national origin in compliance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act. SANDAG has developed procedures for investigating and tracking Title VI complaints, and the procedures for filing a complaint are available to the public upon request. Questions concerning SANDAG nondiscrimination obligations or complaint procedures should be directed to the SANDAG General Counsel, John Kirk, at (619) 699-1997 or john.kirk@sandag.org. Any person who believes himself or herself or any specific class of persons to be subjected to discrimination prohibited by Title VI also may file a written complaint with the Federal Transit Administration.

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), SANDAG will accommodate persons who require assistance in order to participate in SANDAG meetings. If such assistance is required, please contact the Clerk of the Board at clerkoftheboard@sandag.org or at (619) 699-1985, at least 72 hours in advance of the meeting. To request this document or related reports in an alternative format, please call (619) 699-1900 or (619) 699-1904 (TTY), or fax (619) 699-1905 at least 72 hours in advance of the meeting.

SANDAG agenda materials can be made available in alternative languages. To make a request, call (619) 699-1900 in advance of the meeting.

Los materiales de la agenda de SANDAG están disponibles en otros idiomas. Para hacer una solicitud, llame al (619) 699-1900.

如有需要, 我们可以把SANDAG议程材料翻译成其他语言.

请在会议前至少 72 小时打电话 (619) 699-1900 提出请求.

Vision Statement

Pursuing a brighter future for all.

Mission Statement

We are the regional agency that connects people, places, and innovative ideas by implementing solutions with our unique and diverse communities.

Our Commitment to Equity

We hold ourselves accountable to the communities we serve. We acknowledge we have much to learn and much to change; and we firmly uphold equity and inclusion for every person in the San Diego region. This includes historically underserved, systemically marginalized groups impacted by actions and inactions at all levels of our government and society.

We have an obligation to eliminate disparities and ensure that safe, healthy, accessible, and inclusive opportunities are available to everyone. SANDAG will develop an equity action plan that will inform how we plan, prioritize, fund, and build projects and programs; frame how we work with our communities; define how we recruit and develop our employees; guide our efforts to conduct unbiased research and interpret data; and set expectations for companies and stakeholders that work with us.

We are committed to creating a San Diego region where every person who visits, works, and lives can thrive.



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2-4:30 p.m.

Item No.		Estimated Timeframe
1.	Welcome, Introductions, and Housekeeping Staff will kick-off the workshop, invite participant introductions, and provide housekeeping instructions.	2 - 2:10 p.m.
+2.	Preparation for Upcoming SANDAG Calls for Projects Related to Specialized Transportation Staff will provide an overview of the outreach efforts conducted to-date to prepare the upcoming calls for projects. Staff will also highlight recent feedback received as well as input from the 2020 Coordinated Plan and the past two Specialized Transportation Grant Program Calls for Projects.	2:10 – 2:20 p.m.
3.	Facilitated Group Discussion Staff will lead a discussion to solicit feedback on the vision for specialized transportation in the region, the most significant barriers to mobility for seniors and individuals with disabilities, and the most pressing operational challenges in providing specialized transportation services.	2:20 – 3 p.m.
4.	Break	3 – 3:10 p.m.
5.	Break-out Discussions Staff will facilitate two break-out discussions on the Specialized Transportation Grant Program (STGP) and Access for All Grant Program (AFA). Topics for each grant program will include program goal(s) and objectives, eligibility and evaluation criteria, and performance measures.	3:10 – 4:00 p.m.
6.	Reporting Back from Break-out Discussions Staff facilitators, with the help of workshop participants, will report on major ideas heard during the break-out discussions.	4:00 – 4:20 p.m.
7.	Next Steps and Timeline Staff will provide an overview of the timeline for the STGP and AFA Calls for Projects, including opportunities to review comments received during the workshop and provide further input.	4:20 – 4:30 p.m.
8.	<i>Adjournment</i>	4:30 p.m.

+ next to an item indicates an attachment



Attachment 2: Summary of Stakeholder Feedback

Below is a summary of the stakeholder feedback SANDAG has received since January 2022 from Council on Access and Mobility and Social Service Transportation Advisory Council meetings. Additional stakeholder feedback from the last two Specialized Transportation Grant Program (STGP) Calls for Projects and the 2020 Coordinated Plan is provided.

Comments Received Since January 2022

- Allow for flexibility given the uncertainties surrounding COVID-19, such as continuation of meal deliveries
- Consolidate the number of Access for All grants awarded to support a coordinated approach and avoid duplicative services
- Make the cost of vehicle permits in the MTS service area eligible for grant funding
- Allow grant funding to help providers recruit and retain volunteer drivers following the pandemic
- Increase on-demand response time for individuals with disabilities, especially for students who need to access school and worksites.
- Ensure service to individuals with disabilities, especially those that are not in a paratransit service area
- Increase the availability of Wheelchair Accessible Vehicles (WAVs)
- Clarify the definition of on-demand service and if the Access for All Program is focused only on wheelchair users
- Promote the availability and use of on-demand service to ensure individuals with disabilities and seniors can safely evacuate during emergency situations
- Allow for flexibility to account for fluctuation in on-demand pricing with ambulatory trips in low-density areas
- Pursue vision of regional, on-demand, accessible and affordable transportation for all
- Encourage consistency across various services so passengers more easily navigate multiple programs with differing requirements

Comments Received from the Last Two STGP Calls for Projects

- Maximize number of seniors and individuals with disabilities served
- Provide maximum number of trips
- Maximize cost-effectiveness and benefit of dollars spent
- Promote the use of technology
- Provide service to seniors and individuals with disabilities with the greatest need, such as low income, underserved, isolated, and low mobility



- Encourage coordination and partnerships
- Fill gaps in areas where transit service is unavailable
- Prioritize trips that provide access to healthcare
- Ensure a broad geographic coverage of services
- Encourage increasing efficiencies in service provision over time
- Support a variety of organizations of varying sizes

Comments Received Through the 2020 Coordinated Plan

The Coordinated Public Transit-Human Services Transportation Plan (Coordinated Plan) is a federally mandated document developed by SANDAG that identifies transportation needs of individuals with disabilities, older adults, and people with low incomes; provides strategies for meeting those local needs; and prioritizes transportation services for funding and implementation. The Coordinated Plan is available at www.sandag.org/CoordinatedPlan. Below is a summary of comments received through the 2020 Coordinated Plan.

- Prioritize existing transportation programs
- Recognize that it can be difficult for public agencies to coordinate due to the risks and liabilities for cross-jurisdictional transportation services
- Acknowledge that the lack of accessible vehicles supplied by Transportation Network Companies such as Uber and Lyft is a huge issue
- Foster driver sensitivity to the special needs of seniors and individuals with disabilities
- Prioritize trips for essential services such as medical appointments
- Support coordination among organizations and create a compendium for riders on how to access transportation services in the region
- Investigate processes to streamline service delivery such as grant application processes and billing times
- Promote more use of shared vehicles among specialized transportation providers
- Include rural areas in the allocation of grant funding