The meeting of the Borders Committee was called to order by Vice-Chair Victor Carrillo (Imperial County) at 12:34 p.m. The attendance sheet for the meeting is attached.

Vice-Chair Carrillo began by welcoming and introducing Carey Tovar, a new Clerk for the Borders Committee, and thanked Doree Henry for her support over the years. He also welcomed and introduced Chairman Lee Acebedo, new Alternate Advisory Member representing the Southern California Tribal Chairmen’s Association (SCTCA).

1. APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

   Action: Upon a motion by Councilmember Hueso (City of San Diego) and a second by Councilmember Allan (East County), the Borders Committee approved the minutes from the June 23, 2006, meeting.

2. PUBLIC COMMENTS/COMMUNICATIONS/MEMBER COMMENTS

   None.

   BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

   Councilmember Monroe (South County) commented on Chair McCoy’s absence stating she was on vacation in Colorado and sent best wishes to all.

CONSENT ITEMS (Items 3 – 5)

3. SANDAG’s BINATIONAL ANNUAL EVENT (APPROVE)

   Action: Upon a motion by Councilmember Allan and a second by Councilmember Hueso, the Borders Committee approved Consent Item 3 and accepted Items 4 and 5 for information.

4. STATUS REPORT ON INTERNATIONAL BORDER SEWAGE ISSUES (INFORMATION)

5. REPORT ON WESTERN HEMISPHERE TRAVEL INITIATIVE (INFORMATION)
REPORTS (Items 6 - 11)

6. CALIFORNIA BIODIVERSITY COUNCIL MEETING TO DISCUSS NATURAL RESOURCES ALONG THE BORDER (INFORMATION)

City of Del Mar Mayor Crystal Crawford reminded everyone of the California Biodiversity Council (CBC) meeting to be held September 27 and 28, 2006, in San Diego. On September 27, representatives from state, federal, and local agencies, members of the public, elected officials, and others with interests in border affairs and border efforts to protect special habitat and other resources will begin a tour of the Otay Mesa area, then cross the border into Tijuana, travel toward Tecate and then through the city of Tijuana to Cañón de Los Laureles, and end the tour at Border Field State Park.

On September 28, conference meetings to discuss issues important to the border region will be held at the Coronado Community Center in Coronado. Chair Patricia McCoy will assist Mayor Crawford in hosting. One of the invited speakers, Dr. Exequiel Ezcurra, Director of the Biodiversity Research Center for the San Diego Natural History Museum, will share his experiences and challenges to preserve habitat and protect the environment. Other guests include City of Tijuana Mayor Hank, and the Co-Chairs of the Biodiversity Council, Secretary Mike Chrisman from the California Resources Agency and Mike Pool, the State Director of the Bureau of Land Management.

Vice-Chair Carrillo introduced and welcomed Mr. Alfonso Bustamonte, Director of Binational Affairs for the City of Tijuana, representing Tijuana Mayor Jorge Hank.

Councilmember Monroe asked that arrangements be made with the City of Coronado to make some welcoming remarks to initiate the meeting.

7. OTAY MESA – MESA DE OTAY BINATIONAL CORRIDOR STRATEGIC PLAN: DRAFT FINAL EARLY ACTION PLAN (APPROVE)

Vice-Chair Carrillo began by congratulating Ms. Arias on her promotion to the position of Regional Principal Planner. He also welcomed and introduced Alejandro Flores, Secretary of the Tijuana Council’s Commission on Border Affairs.

Elisa Arias, SANDAG, explained that the Draft Final Early Action Plan proposed several initiatives. In the transportation arena, it includes advancing the implementation of the East Otay Mesa-Otay II Port of Entry (POE) and connecting roads, improvements to the current Otay Mesa POE, and advanced planning for the Otay Mesa segment of the South Bay Bus Rapid Transit service. Among the initiatives related to economic development and housing strategies, the plan includes the update of the San Diego Regional Economic Prosperity Strategy, selected tasks from San Diego Dialogue’s Borderless Innovation research project, and collaboration with the City of San Diego in the update of the Otay Mesa Community Plan update. In the area of environmental conservation, the Plan seeks to develop a framework for a binational approach for habitat conservation for the Tijuana river watershed; exploring the feasibility of binational land use and open space conservation study in relation to State Route 11, the new POE, and connecting roads in Tijuana, and supporting the Air Pollution Control District’s binational clean air demonstration projects.
The Plan was distributed for review and comment to many agencies and organizations. A request was made to update the housing data for the Otay Mesa Community Plan to reflect the latest figures from the City of San Diego. Another was to include San Isidro Mountain and Jesus Maria Mesa, located in Tijuana, in future studies as potential mitigation areas and/or open space/conservation zones due to their high habitat and connectivity values. Staff concurred with both requests and revised the draft plan accordingly. Staff will continue to develop the Strategic Plan along with members from IMPLAN (Tijuana’s Municipal Planning Institute), Caltrans and SIDUE (Secretariat of Infrastructure and Urban Development of Baja California). It is anticipated that the Plan will be finalized in early 2007.

Vice-Chair Carrillo noted the uniqueness of this Plan, in that it collaborates with the City of Tijuana in adopting and approving the Plan.

Mr. Alejandro Flores, Secretary to the Tijuana Council’s Commission of Border Affairs, commented on the Plan’s mutual benefit to both countries and indicated the issue will soon be brought to vote by Council members in Tijuana.

Councilmember Monroe commented that the South County Economic Council should be briefed on the Plan.

SANDAG Borders Program Manager, Hector Vanegas, advised that the Vice-Chair of COBRO, Cindy Gompper-Graves will be contacted to do so.

Councilmember Hueso commended staff on the Plan and suggested an eventual formation of an Infrastructure Finance District, provided by State Senate Bill 207. He also said that partnering with Mexico and co-investing in the development of the border region will bring about some very significant improvements to all.

Vice-Chair Carrillo also said that the creation of dialogue and a partnership is instrumental to the improvement of the border region.

Councilmember Allan praised the Borders Committee for their efforts and positive contributions to the quality of life in San Diego. He suggested investigating the proposal to provide a pedestrian crossing linking the Otay Mesa Community with the Tijuana airport.

Consul Cabrera congratulated Ms. Arias, stating the binational cooperation greatly aids in the development of the new border crossing.

Action: Upon a motion by Councilmember Allan and a second by Councilmember Hueso, the Borders Committee approved Item 7.
Vice-Chair Carrillo brought the blue sheet, which provided updated information on the item to everyone's attention and informed them that Items 8, 9, and 10, were outcomes of the 2006 San Diego Regional Tribal Summit.

Jane Clough-Riquelme, SANDAG, reported that a set of recommended “next steps” from the 2006 San Diego Regional Tribal Summit were approved by the SANDAG Board of Directors and the Board of the Southern California Tribal Chairmen’s Association (SCTCA). Those steps included the formation of an ongoing Interagency Technical Working Group on Tribal Transportation Issues (Working Group). The purpose of the Working Group is to serve as a forum for tribal governments in the region to discuss and coordinate transportation issues of mutual concern with the various public planning agencies in the region.

The blue sheet provided is an updated version of the Draft Charter, which is to be approved. If approved, the Draft Charter will then be presented to the SCTCA Board and the Reservation Transportation Authority (RTA) Executive Council for approval. One of the main changes reflected on the blue sheet is that the voting membership of the working group shall be comprised of one representative of each of the federally recognized tribal governments and California tribes in San Diego County appointed by the leadership of their respective tribes for a term of one calendar year. The RTA and the public agencies, including Caltrans, County, MTS, and NCTD shall each be entitled to appoint an advisory member to the Working Group. The working group shall have a Chair and Vice-Chair, who will be chosen by a vote of the voting members of the group on an annual basis. The working group will meet quarterly. The location will rotate among tribal reservations, and when deemed appropriate, at the SANDAG offices. The working group will continue as long as the tribal governments and participating agencies determine that it serves an effective means of communication and coordination on transportation-related planning and will be subject to annual review.

Councilmember Abarbanel (North County Coastal) asked if there would be a representative from the Transportation Committee on the working group. He recommended that a provision be entered to show that reports could be given to other committees for their input.

Ms. Clough-Riquelme responded that as a technical working group elected officials would not be included.

Mr Bob Leiter, SANDAG Director of Land Use and Transportation Planning, responded by saying that the proposed technical working group would report to the Borders Committee on a number of transportation issues. The Borders Committee would then, if necessary, take it to the Transportation Committee before having it finalized.

Councilmember Monroe questioned the one-year term for members of the Working Group and asked that the term be extended. He also inquired as to the product resulting from this Working Group.
John Kirk, SANDAG General Counsel, stated the annual appointment is not dictated, and as a committee, the Working Group itself could decide upon a reasonable term.

Mr. Leiter explained the working group is a technical advisory group that discusses and tries to reach a consensus on issues and make recommendations to a policy committee.

Ms. Clough-Riquelme added that the technical working group creates a mechanism for obtaining input from each of the tribal nations in the region, but it doesn't exclude outreach to each of the individual nations.

Vice-Chair Carrillo said the Working Group will provide feedback and comment on current and planned transportation activities and provide technical advice on the implementation of these activities.

Councilmember Allan offered a motion to replace the words “one calendar year” with “up to three calendar years”.

Vice-Chair Carrillo asked for a second to the amended motion. Councilmember Monroe seconded the amended motion, however, asked for input from the representative of the Southern California Tribal Chairmen’s Association.

Vice-Chair Carrillo introduced Chairman Lee Acebedo of the Jamul Band of the Kumeyaay Nation.

Mr. Acebedo explained that he is the Chairman of the Jamul; however, he sits on the Borders Committee representing the Southern California Tribal Chairmen’s Association on this particular item. Mr. Acebedo supported the amended motion to provide flexibility within tribal governments regarding the term of appointment to the Working Group.

Councilmember Allan expressed concern in dictating how the Working Group should operate.

Mr. Kirk added that under the original wording, every tribe has the ability to reappoint the same member for an unlimited amount of terms or to appoint new member. Both the amendment and the original wording allow flexibility to the tribes.

A member of the public, Andrew Masiel Sr., from the Pechanga Tribal Council, and part of the Tribal Alliance of Sovereign Indian Nations, representative to the SCAG (Southern California Association of Governments) Regional Council offered his experience with the process of tribal representation in a Council of Governments.

Further discussion ensued and Mr. Kirk read the amended motion, which was to approve the Charter with the amendment showing members shall be appointed by the leadership of their respective tribes for a period of up to three calendar years.

Vice-Chair Carrillo asked for a vote on the amended motion. It resulted in a 3-3 stalemate. It therefore did not pass.
Mr. Kirk stated that in the absence of a majority, there is no action taken.

Vice-Chair Carrillo then asked for a vote on the first motion, reading as “Adopting the Charter for Interagency Technical Working Group on Tribal Transportation Issues” as presented to the Board.

**Action:** Upon a motion by Councilmember Allan and a second by Councilmember Abarbanel the Borders Committee unanimously approved Item 8.

9. **IMPLICATIONS OF SAFETEA-LU ON THE INDIAN RESERVATION ROADS PROGRAM (INFORMATION)**

Cynthia Gomez, Branch Chief of Caltrans Native Americans Liaison from Sacramento explained that she did not represent the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA). She was providing information on the Indian Reservation Roads Program (IRR), in which State or Federal funding is used for the maintenance, construction or reconstruction of routes and bridges. Established in 1928, the BIA IRR Program is funded under the Federal Lands Highway Program and jointly administered by the BIA and Federal Lands Highway Office of the FHWA. The IRR Program includes local routes, bridges and associated rights of way, and other programs, such as bridge and ferry boat discretionary programs and public transportation on Indian Reservations. A funding priority list is generated in March and funds are distributed in May. The California IRR Program includes 108 tribes, and fund distribution is based on population, vehicle miles traveled, and construction costs. The IRR Program beneficial in that it provides tribes with funding for transportation planning and programming, system planning, and the information assists all during consultation, collaboration, and coordination.

Vice-Chair Carrillo asked if there is a requirement for matching funds, and if so, does it come from the Metropolitan Planning Organization, such as SANDAG, or would it come from the tribe themselves.

Ms. Gomez responded that if the project meets the criteria, it does not require matching funds. It also is the only Federal money that is eligible to be a matching fund to the Federal aid money.

Mr. Thomas Buckley (Western Riverside Council of Governments) asked for clarification of coverage for city streets.

Ms. Gomez replied there are a few Reservations with city streets going through them. In most cases, however, state highways and county roads pass through or provide access to the Reservation.

10. **WATER MANAGEMENT ISSUES FROM A TRIBAL PERSPECTIVE (INFORMATION)**

Councilman Michael Connolly Miskwish of the Campo Band of the Kumeyaay Nation presented information on ground water and policy decisions regarding ground water on the Reservation. The Reservation consists of fractured bedrock, decomposed granite, and
sandy alluvium. Over the years, there has been a downtrend in precipitation recharge. Water usage in the area of the Reservation comes from water companies, agriculture, cattle grazing, invasive species, recreation, human consumption, and septic systems. So far, there has been no encouragement to do projects to increase water storage occurring in the basins and no incentive to conserve. Unfortunately tribes are accused of using all the water and have to compensate due to impact on wells in the area. They are asking for realistic proposals to control usage and enhancement of supply and tribal usage should, at a minimum, be assumed to be 100% of safe yield.

Supervisor Pam Slater (County of San Diego) remarked that due to general development and gaming, there are now competing interests for water and agreed that they need to continue to work together. She recommended the presentation be made at the San Diego County Water Authority. She concurred that the County of San Diego would be a good partner in discussion and possibly SANDAG, the San Diego County Water Authority and the County of San Diego could look at the issue in terms of a global arrangement.

Councilmember Monroe - noted that this could be part of a County workshop and expressed an interest in attending the workshop to discuss the actions that are going to be taken regarding the uses that exist and the basin that is there presently.

Mr. Howard Williams of the San Diego County Water Authority invited Councilman Miskwish to meet with the Water Authority to begin discussions.

Vice-Chair Carrillo, as a representative of Imperial County, empathized with Councilman Miskwish and offered to act as a conduit for meetings with the Imperial Irrigation District or Imperial County Supervisors.

11. 2007 REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION PLAN (RTP) WHITE PAPER: CROSSBORDER TRANSPORTATION (DISCUSSION)

Vice-Chair Carrillo pulled Item 11 and rescheduled it for the October 27, 2006, meeting due to time constraints.

12. UPCOMING MEETINGS

Vice-Chair Carrillo noted that the next meeting of the Borders Committee is scheduled for Friday, October 27, 2006, at 12:30 p.m.

13. ADJOURNMENT

Vice-Chair Carrillo adjourned the meeting at 2:23 p.m.

Attachment: Attendance Sheet
## CONFIRMED ATTENDANCE
### BORDERS COMMITTEE MEETING
**September 8, 2006**
**12:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.**

### GEOGRAPHICAL AREA
**South County**
- **City of Imperial Beach**: Patricia McCoy (Chair)  
  - Member
- **City of Coronado**: Phil Monroe  
  - Alternate

**Imperial County**
- **County of Imperial**: Victor Carrillo (Vice Chair)  
  - Member
- **City of Calexico**: David Ouzan  
  - Alternate

**North County Coastal**
- **City of Oceanside**: Shari Mackin  
  - Member
- **City of Del Mar**: Henry Abarbanel  
  - Alternate

**North County Inland**
- **City of San Marcos**: Pia Harris-Ebert  
  - Member
- **City of Escondido**: Ed Gallo  
  - Alternate

**East County**
- **City of La Mesa**: David Allan  
  - Member
- **City of El Cajon**: Jillian Hanson-Cox  
  - Alternate

**City of San Diego**
- ****  
  - Ben Hueso  
  - Member
- ****  
  - Brian Maienschein  
  - Alternate

**County of San Diego**
- ****  
  - Greg Cox  
  - Member
- ****  
  - Pam Slater-Price  
  - Alternate

### ADVISORY/LIAISON MEMBERS
**County of Riverside**
- **City of Lake Elsinore**: Thomas Buckley  
  - Member

**County of Orange**
- **City of Huntington Beach**: Debbie Cook  
  - Member

**Republic of Mexico**
- **Consul General of Mexico**: Luis Cabrera Cuaron  
  - Member
- **Deputy Consul**: Ricardo Pineda  
  - Alternate
- **Deputy Consul**: Lydia Antonio  
  - Alternate

**Caltrans**
- ****  
  - Pedro Orso-Delgado  
  - Member
- ****  
  - Bill Figge  
  - Alternate

**San Diego County Water Authority**
- ****  
  - Howard Williams  
  - Member

**Southern California Tribal Chairmen’s Assn.**
- **Pala**: Robert Smith  
  - Member
- **Pauma**: Christopher Devers  
  - Alternate
- **Jamul**: Lee Acebedo  
  - Alternate

**COBRO**
- ****  
  - Dr. Paul Ganster  
  - Member
- ****  
  - Cindy Gompper-Graves  
  - Alternate
- ****  
  - Angelika Villagrana  
  - Alternate
San Diego Association of Governments
BORDERS COMMITTEE

October 27, 2006

AGENDA ITEM NO.: 3

Action Requested: REVIEW/COMMENT

COMMITTEE ON BINATIONAL REGIONAL OPPORTUNITIES (COBRO): File Number 3003200
MEMBERSHIP AND LEADERSHIP

Introduction

At the September 5, 2006, meeting of the Committee on Binational Regional Opportunities (COBRO), the Committee agreed to amend its charter to add a category of Advisory Members. Also, COBRO reaffirmed its leadership (Chair and Vice Chair) for the coming two years and approved a new membership list. This revised draft charter and membership list is now being presented to the Borders Committee for review and comment.

Discussion

COBRO’s mission is to provide input to the Borders Committee of the San Diego Association of Governments (SANDAG) concerning both short- and long-term binational-related activities, issues, and actions; provide input regarding binational border-related planning and development; and identify ways to assist and coordinate with existing efforts in the binational area.

Since 2002, COBRO has brought together representatives from cities, government agencies, businesses, academia, and other organizations located on both sides of the U.S.-Mexico border. COBRO informs the Borders Committee regarding its leadership and membership every two years or as needed. Appointments are for a two-year term but have no limit on consecutive terms.

This year, COBRO formed a task force to discuss issues related to its guidelines on membership and leadership, vacancies, and quorum. The task force reviewed an attendance matrix and a list of stakeholders that have expressed interest in becoming members of COBRO and others whose work is related to COBRO’s work plan. Recommendations from the task force were approved by COBRO at its September 5, 2006, meeting.

The following is presented to the Borders Committee for review and comment:

1. COBRO is considering changes to its Charter (Attachment 1) to form a category of Advisory Members, and to establish a rule for regular members that fail to attend three consecutive meetings to be changed in status to advisory members. COBRO will endeavor to keep a minimum membership of 15 regular members.

2. COBRO approved a new membership list (Attachment 2).
3. COBRO reaffirmed its current leadership (Chair and Vice Chair) for the coming two years. The Chair will continue to be Dr. Paul Ganster and the Vice-chair will continue to be Ms. Cindy Gompper-Graves.

BOB LEITER
Director of Land Use and Transportation Planning

Attachments: 1. Draft COBRO Charter
            2. List of Members

Key Staff Contact: Hector Vanegas, (619) 699-1972, hva@sandag.org
Committee on Binational Regional Opportunities
Working Group Charter

Purpose
The Committee on Binational Regional Opportunities (COBRO) was formally established in 1996 as a policy advisory committee to the SANDAG Board of Directors. In 2002, COBRO was changed to serve as a working group to the SANDAG Borders Committee in order to facilitate a better understanding of binational border-related issues and needs of the California-Baja California region.

Line of Reporting
The COBRO reports to the Borders Committee, and the Borders Committee reports to the Board of Directors. COBRO approves its own Charter and periodically presents information to the Borders Committee.

Responsibilities
Its mission is to “advise the Borders Committee of the San Diego Association of Governments (SANDAG) concerning both short- and long-term binational-related activities, issues, and actions; provide input regarding binational border-related planning and development; and identify ways to assist and coordinate with existing efforts in the binational area.” Every year since 1997, the COBRO has been tasked to support the organization of SANDAG’s annual binational event, which is held in coordination with the Office of the Consul General of Mexico in San Diego and the Office of the Consul General of the United States in Tijuana. Input provided by COBRO will be reported to the Borders Committee for consideration at its regular scheduled meetings.

Membership
Since 2002, COBRO brings together representatives from cities, government agencies, businesses, academia, and other organizations located on both sides of the U.S.-Mexico border. The Committee has regular members, as well as advisory members. COBRO follows policies regarding vacancies, attendance and quorum, approved by SANDAG’s Board on January 10, 2003. Members that fail to attend three consecutive meetings will be considered as advisory members, and the Committee should keep a minimum membership of 15 voting members. COBRO informs the Borders Committee regarding its membership every two years or as needed.

Meeting Time and Location
COBRO meets at 3 p.m. on the first Tuesday of every month. At least two meetings a year are held in Baja California.

Selection of the Chair
COBRO informs the Borders Committee regarding its leadership every two years or as needed. Appointments are for a two-year term but would have no limit on consecutive terms. The criteria for selecting Chair and Vice Chair of COBRO are the following:

- Experience with COBRO;
- Significant experience with and understanding of a broad range of binational border issues;
- Understanding of systems and “rules of the game” of both sides of the border; and
- Bilingual preferred.

The Consul General of Mexico is Co-Chair of COBRO.

Duration of Existence
Ongoing.
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Advisory Members:

- International Community Foundation  
  Current Member
- Universidad Autónoma de Baja California  
  Reinstated
- Border Trade Alliance  
  New Member
- U.S. Federal Highway Administration  
  New Member
- U.S. General Services Administration  
  New Member