CEREMONY COMMEMORATES TRIBAL REPRESENTATION: The Chairs of SANDAG and the Southern California Tribal Chairmen’s Association (SCTCA) signed an agreement adding the SCTCA to the SANDAG Board of Directors, and Transportation, Regional Planning, and Public Safety Policy Advisory Committees. A representative from the SCTCA has served as an advisory member on the Borders Committee since June 2005. Robert Smith, SCTCA Chair (Pala) will serve as the advisory member on the SANDAG Board of Directors. Other SCTCA representatives on the Policy Advisory Committees include: Tribal Councilmember Kevin Siva (Los Coyotes) on the Transportation Committee; Tribal Chair Johnny Hernandez (Santa Ysabel) on the Regional Planning Committee; Tribal Vice Chair Carlene Chamberlain (Jamul) on the Public Safety Committee; and Tribal Chair Chris Devers (Pauma) on the Borders Committee. The SCTCA is a well-established intertribal consortium of the federally-recognized tribal governments in the San Diego region. (Item #1: Staff contact: Jane Clough-Riquelme; (619) 699-1909, jcl@sandag.org)

TIJUANA MAYOR HIGHLIGHTS ACCOMPLISHMENTS: Tijuana Mayor Jorge Hank Rhon outlined the major accomplishments of his administration during his two years in office. One of the milestones highlighted was the cultivation of a strong binational partnership between SANDAG and the City of Tijuana, which aided in the development of the Otay Mesa-Mesa de Otay Binational Strategic Plan. Mayor Hank Rhon emphasized the need to continue to foster this important relationship for a more prosperous and successful future for the San Diego-Tijuana binational region. (Item #9: Staff contact: Hector Vanegas; (619) 699-1972, hva@sandag.org)

TRANSPORTATION PROGRESS REPORT: Highway Projects: A new and improved Pomerado Bridge over I-15 opened to traffic in the Rancho Bernardo area on January 20, 2007. The bridge was rebuilt as part of the I-15 Managed Lanes project. Completed in nine months, the bridge provides access to Pomerado Road and West Bernardo Drive. The I-15 Managed Lanes between SR 56 and Escondido are scheduled to open to traffic in 2008. Construction of the SR 125 Tollway in the South Bay continues. Several bridges for local interchanges in eastern Chula Vista have been completed or are nearly complete. The tollway is anticipated to open to traffic in summer 2007. Transit and Bikeway Projects: Trolleys began to traverse through the Smart Corner development in downtown San Diego as part of the City College Station Realignment project. This project also includes a complete makeover of Park Boulevard between C and G Streets by replacing old track, street, and sidewalks. Although the trolley trains have now shifted alignment, the current City College station will continue to operate on a temporary basis at its existing location on C Street until summer 2007. Arterial Projects: Construction of the SR 163/Clairemont Mesa Boulevard Interchange continues. This project will widen the bridge over SR 163, widen ramps, and improve circulation at this interchange. The City of San Diego anticipates completing this project in June 2007.
Traffic and Demand Management: The Freeway Service Patrol assisted approximately 12,500 motorists, about sixteen percent fewer than last quarter. Vanpool participation grew 3.8 percent from 532 to 552 vanpools. (Item #11: Staff contact: Jose Nuncio; (619) 699-1908, jnu@sandag.org)

DIRECTORS REFER ADVISORY MEMBERSHIP POLICY TO EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE: Directors voted to have their Executive Committee re-examine agency policy delineating the criteria and process for selection of advisory members on the SANDAG Board of Directors. (Item #10: Staff contact: Garry Bonelli; (619) 699-1960, gbo@sandag.org)

# # #