2007 ANNUAL PERFORMANCE MONITORING REPORT: Directors approved the second annual performance monitoring report for the Regional Comprehensive Plan (RCP) following a 60-day public review and comment period. The report identifies areas in which the region appears to be moving in the right direction, as well as areas for improvement. Areas identified as moving in the right direction are the following:

- Ninety-nine percent of new housing units built in the region in 2005 and 2006 were located within the San Diego County Water Authority water service boundary.
- Transit ridership is increasing.
- The region’s reliance on imported water continues to decrease as our water supply diversifies.
- The share of energy produced from renewable resources continues to increase.

Areas identified for improvement are the following:

- The share of new housing units in Smart Growth Opportunity Areas declined in 2006.
- The region continues to experience a serious housing affordability problem.
- Many waterbodies in the region are impaired.
- Energy usage in the region continues to increase, moving further away from the target established in the Regional Energy Strategy.
- Wait times continue to lengthen at the U.S.-Mexico border, particularly for commercial vehicles.

The 2007 Monitoring Report and future monitoring reports can help determine if progress is being made or if further action is required to achieve the goals of the RCP. (Item #11: Staff contact: Christine Eary; (619) 699-1960, cwi@sandag.org)

SANDAG APPROVES $6 MILLION FOR JARC AND NEW FREEDOM PROJECTS: Directors approved thirteen Jobs Access and Reverse Commute (JARC) and New Freedom projects to be forwarded to the Federal Transit Administration for funding following its inclusion in the Regional Transportation Improvement Program. SANDAG was selected by the Governor of California to be the designated recipient of JARC and New Freedom federal funding programs for the San Diego urbanized area. The JARC program is eligible to fund operating, capital, and mobility management projects providing transportation services to jobs and employment-related activities for persons with limited means. The New Freedom program is eligible to fund operating, capital, and mobility management projects providing new or expanded transportation services and facilities for persons with disabilities. The grants will provide funding for seven JARC projects totaling $3,929,484 and six New Freedom projects totaling $1,239,492 over a three-year period starting in FY 2009. SANDAG will hold another competitive bid process for New Freedom grant funding in spring 2008. (Item #8: Staff contact, Dan Levy, (619) 699-6942 or dle@sandag.org)
REGIONAL HABITAT MANAGEMENT AND FIRE SAFETY: Following the October wildfires, the Board had a lengthy discussion as to what, if anything, it should do on a regional basis concerning habitat management, fire safety, and working with resource agencies. The Board unanimously approved sending the issue to the Regional Planning Committee to facilitate discussions among key stakeholders. Directors requested the Committee return with recommendations that would impact the SANDAG budget or Overall Work Program. (Item 12: Staff contact: Rob Rundle; (619) 699-6949, rru@sandag.org)

SANDAG ELECTS 2008 BOARD OFFICERS: SANDAG elected Lemon Grove Mayor Mary Teresa Sessom as Chair, Escondido Mayor Lori Holt Pfeiler as First Vice Chair, and Encinitas Mayor Jerome Stocks as Second Vice Chair, for one-year terms, beginning January 1, 2008. (Item #7: Staff contact: Kim Kawada; (619) 699-6994, kka@sandag.org)

SANDAG BOARD ACTIONS AVAILABLE ELECTRONICALLY: Please note that as of January 2008, the SANDAG Board Actions will no longer be mailed to its subscriber list in an effort to save both paper and postage. To receive the SANDAG Board Actions electronically, please sign up for the SANDAG rEgion monthly electronic newsletter by visiting the bottom left corner of the SANDAG home page at www.sandag.org and entering your e-mail address. The Board Actions also are posted to the SANDAG Web site within one week of the Board meeting. If you already receive the SANDAG Board agenda electronically, you also will be notified when the Actions are posted. If you would like to be added to this electronic distribution list please e-mail pio@sandag.org with ‘Subscribe to Board Actions’ in the subject line.

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