COMMITTEE ON BINATIONAL REGIONAL OPPORTUNITIES (COBRO)
The Committee on Binational Regional Opportunities (COBRO) may take action on any item appearing on this agenda.

Tuesday, September 3, 2002
3:00 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.
SANDAG, 7th Floor Conference Room
401 B Street, Suite 800
San Diego, CA  92101-4231

MISSION STATEMENT
The Committee on Binational Regional Opportunities (COBRO) will 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 recommendations regarding binational border-related planning and development; and identify ways to assist and coordinate with existing efforts in the binational area. The COBRO will serve as a working group to the SANDAG Borders Committee to facilitate a better understanding of the binational border-related issues and needs of the California-Baja California region.
Welcome to SANDAG! Members of the public may speak to the COBRO on any item at the time that the Committee is considering the item. Please complete a Speaker’s Slip which is located in the rear of the room and then present the slip to Committee staff. Also, members of the public are invited to address the Committee on any issue under the agenda item entitled Public Comments/Communications. Speakers are limited to three minutes. The COBRO may take action on any item appearing on the agenda.

This agenda and related staff reports can be accessed at www.sandag.org under meetings on SANDAG’s Web site. Public comments regarding the agenda can be forwarded to SANDAG via the e-mail comment form also available on the Web site. E-mail comments should be received no later than noon, two days prior to the COBRO meeting.

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 SANDAG at (619) 595-5300 in advance of the meeting. To request this document or related reports in an alternative format, please call (619) 595-5300 or fax (619) 595-5305.

SANDAG offices are accessible by public transit.
Phone 1-800-COMMUTE or see www.sdcommute.com for route information.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ITEM #</th>
<th>ACTION</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>+2.</td>
<td>MEETING SUMMARY OF AUGUST 6, 2002 (PP. 5-12 ) APPROVE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.</td>
<td>PUBLIC COMMENTS AND COMMUNICATIONS&lt;br&gt;(Speaker limited to three minutes.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.</td>
<td>CHAIR AND MEMBER’S REPORTS INFORMATION</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**INFORMATION AGENDA**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>5.</th>
<th>STAFF REPORT INFORMATION</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A.</td>
<td>Legislative Update.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B.</td>
<td>Border related news.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>+C.</td>
<td>Upcoming events (PP. 13-14 )</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**REPORTS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>6.</th>
<th>2002 ANNUAL SUMMER CONFERENCE RECOMMENDATIONS (Hector Vanegas, Staff) (PP. 15-16) DISCUSS/ APPROVE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Recommendations and next steps developed at the July 20, 2001, COBRO Conference are presented for the Committee’s discussion and approval.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>7.</th>
<th>VIRGINIA AVENUE - EL CHAPARRAL PORT OF ENTRY UPDATE (Paul Hamilton, General Services Administration) INFORMATION</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Mr. Hamilton, GSA Director, will update COBRO members on the progress of the Virginia Avenue - El Chaparral port of entry reuse project.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ITEM #</td>
<td>ACTION</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>--------</td>
<td>--------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8.</td>
<td>INTRODUCTION TO MULTINATIONAL SUSTAINABLE INDICATORS (Rick Van Schoik, SCERP) INFORMATION</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Mr. Van Schoik, Director of SCERP, will give a presentation on the multinational sustainable indicators being developed at the Southwest Center for Environmental Research and Policy (SCERP).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9.</td>
<td>AN INTRODUCTION TO TIJUANA TRABAJA A.C. INFORMATION</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(Enrique Mier y Teran, Tijuana Trabaja A.C.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Mr. Mier y Teran, Director, will brief COBRO members on Tijuana Trabaja’s mission, membership, and current projects.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10.</td>
<td>ADJOURNMENT AND NEXT MEETING TOPICS, DATE AND LOCATION INFORMATION</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>The Committee’s next meeting is Tuesday, October 1, 2002, at SANDAG in the 7th floor conference room. Suggested topics include a presentation from the Council of State Governments, Southern Border Program, and an update on the COBRO presentation for the U.S.-Mexico Binational Group on Bridges and Border Crossings meeting.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

An (+) next to an item indicates an attached report.

Visit us on the Web at:
www.sandag.org (under binational)
www.borderbase.org
COMMITTEE ON BINATIONAL REGIONAL OPPORTUNITIES SUMMARY OF AUGUST 6, 2002.

Introduction
The August 6, 2002, COBRO meeting was called to order by Chair Elsa Saxod.

1. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS
The Chair, Elsa Saxod, welcomed the COBRO members and guests to the meeting and asked for self introductions. The Chair was pleased to have such a large Mexican representation at the meeting.

2. MEETING SUMMARY OF JULY 2, 2002
After Gustavo Perez was added to the attendance list, the meeting summary for July 2, 2002, was approved.

3. PUBLIC COMMENTS AND COMMUNICATION
No public announcements were made.

4. CHAIR AND COBRO MEMBERS REPORT
The Chair thanked Ms. Angelika Villagrana for chairing the 2002 COBRO Conference Task Force, and thanked task force participants. She also thanked Dr. Paul Ganster for his wonderful overview, Mr. Enrique Mier y Teran and Ms. Julia Rauner Guerrero for facilitating the panels, and the Chair of Borders, Hon. Crystal Crawford, for moderating the Conference. She also thanked the rest of the members who assisted and who helped promote the event. The Chair also noted SANDAG’s staff performance and the hard work that went into making the Conference a success.

The Chair mentioned that she has received letters from different organizations to become members of COBRO and, therefore, recommends that the membership task force, composed by Ms. Kristen Allioti, Dr. Paul Ganster, and Consul Figueroa, go back and look at the by-laws before adding any further members.

The Chair congratulated San Diego Dialogue’s Forum Fronterizo and the San Diego Regional Chamber of Commerce for their events.
The Chair encouraged members to participate in the discussion and bring forward agenda items, especially the members from Baja California. Perhaps COLEF or any other member organization may help to organize a future meeting in the City of Tijuana. The Chair also announced and encouraged members to attend the Borders Committee meeting on August 7, 2002.

Ms. Kristen Allioti, Governor Davis’ office, brought letters from four U.S. Governors signed at the Border Governors’ Conference. One is regarding the Data Management Improvement Act of 2000 (DMIA), requesting the INS to explain how it will be prepared to enact the DMIA, and the other letter concerns the B-1 and B-2 non immigrant visa holders and the relation to the southwest regional border authority. These letters include support from the Mexican border Governors. Ms. Allioti also announced that on Monday, August 12, 2002, the San Diego Zoo and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service will reintroduce two California Condors to the Sierra de San Pedro Martir. Condors have been extinct in Baja California since the 1930s.

Mr. Rafael Elorduy, from the International Affairs Office of the Governor of Baja California, announced that the U.S.-Mexico Binational Group on Bridges and Border Crossings meeting will be held in San Diego in early October, and proposed that COBRO members, along with SANDAG, send a letter to encourage the two Governor’s participation, and that of local elected officials. These meetings are organized every six months along border cities by the U.S. State Department and Mexico’s Secretary of Foreign Affairs.

Mr. Sergio Pallares, Caltrans, offered to send a letter to the State Department asking what the appropriate protocol is to invite the Governors. Mr. Julio Lampell, San Diego Dialogue, asked Ms. Allioti if she could check Governor Davis’ agenda and see if he could attend. Mr. Pallares suggested that COBRO do a presentation to the U.S.-Mexico Binational Group on Bridges and Border Crossings. The Chair suggested that the Committee discuss the items to be presented at the September meeting.

Mr. Jaime Gonzalez–Luna, Asociación de la Industria Maquiladora, also supports having local elected officials attend the meeting. He also expressed his concern regarding the southbound trucking issue (mentioned by the Chair during the July 2, 2002, COBRO meeting). Mr. Cruz Gonzalez, City of San Diego Transportation Department, mentioned that he is on a Committee, together with the U.S. and Mexican Customs agencies and Caltrans, that is currently working on short- and long-term solutions to this problem. He will continue to report any progress in future COBRO meetings.

Ms. Alejandra Mier y Teran, Otay Mesa Chamber of Commerce, announced that INS will host the SENTRI Focus Group meeting on Thursday, August 15, 2002. The meeting is from 8:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. at the Otay Mesa Comfort Suites Hotel. Chair Saxod mentioned that on August 2, 2002, Hon. Luis Enrique Díaz, Mayor of Playas de Rosarito, visited SANDAG’s Board of Directors meeting.

Consul General Figueroa, Mexican Consul General, mentioned that he presented the new Mexican Consular ID at the last Board of Directors meeting. He asked Committee members to support and encourage the acceptance of this document from the different cities within San Diego County.
San Diego Dialogue is preparing a letter addressed to Commissioner Ziglar requesting an extension of the SENTRI pass. The letter will be signed by the Chairman of the Forum Fronterizo council. Mr. Lampell asks that COBRO members do the same to support the SENTRI program.

5. **STAFF REPORT**

Mr. Hector Vanegas reported that, as a consequence of the tragic events of 9/11, the INS has begun to verify and track the identity and permanency of visa holders. This will affect commuter students - those Canadians and Mexicans in the northern and southern borders that cross the border to study in the U.S. The F-1 student visa requires the school to provide an I-20 form. The F-1 visa is only for full-time students who can prove financial support as if they are planning to reside in the U.S. during their studies. Part-time students do not qualify for this F-1 visa.

With the new safety inspections, all students, from kindergarten to universities, are required to have the proper visa. The Border Commuter Student Visa Act will allow Mexicans and Canadians who live right across the border and commute to a college class near the border - full or part-time. HR 4967 was introduced to the House of Representatives on June 19, 2002, by Congressman Jim Kolbe (Arizona), and is co-sponsored, among others, by Congressman Bob Filner (San Diego).

The Commuter Students from Border Nations Act of 2002 (HR 5288), introduced on July 26, 2002, by Congressman John J. LaFalce (Washington), allows students from Canada and Mexico to study less than full-time while maintaining their residence in their country of nationality.

Dr. Paul Ganster, SDSU, expressed his concern with this measure because of the potential effects this will have on students and professionals who live at the border. He suggested that SANDAG and COBRO members should send a letter of support of Bill HR 4967.

6. **2002 COBRO ANNUAL CONFERENCE**

Mr. Hector Vanegas mentioned that staff is currently working on the proceedings and final recommendations, and will be ready for discussion and approval by the next COBRO meeting. The title “Border Infrastructure Needs and Financing” was discussed and approved at the March 21, 2002, COBRO meeting, and was approved on April 16 and May 21, 2002, by the Board of Directors and the Borders Committee, respectively. From staff’s perspective, this year’s COBRO Annual Summer Conference was another success.

Estimated attendance at the Conference was over 200 guests. The Conference folder included a background document, a CA-BC border map, a public financial institutions directory, and the new booklet, “At the Crossroads, California-Baja California,” was prepared and presented at the conference. The Keynote speaker was Hon. Jeffrey Davidow, U.S. Ambassador to Mexico.

Staff also mentioned that, after discussing the Conference recommendations, they will be presented to the Borders Committee for consideration and support, and depending upon the recommendations, they may be presented to the BOD for final approval. The Chair congratulated staff on a job well done.
7. **CALTRANS’ UPDATE ON INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENTS**

Mr. Sergio Pallares, Caltrans, reported that the “Smart Border: 22 Point Agreement” was signed in March of 2002, by Presidents Bush and Fox. A month later, the State Department requested Caltrans’ position on this Agreement, and Caltrans requested to be directly involved in several points.

The US Department of State will be directly involved in the implementation of at least seven of the 22 points, through the Joint Working Committee (JWC) [which has U.S.-Mexican representation from the border state’s transportation planning agencies], and will coordinate transportation improvements and implementation. The JWC has appointed several agencies as project managers for each of the points in the agreement. Caltrans is directly involved in at least five points.

The first point, long-term planning, the Arizona Department of Transportation has the lead, and the implementation responsibility relies upon the U.S. Department of State, the White House, and the Mexican State Department.

For point two, relief of bottlenecks, Caltrans will take the lead, and together with the JWC is currently developing a border-wide methodology that will look at bottlenecks at the international ports of entry, approaching southbound and northbound traffic as a whole and trying to identify bottlenecks caused by lack of infrastructure (not inspection related). This project will be presented soon to the Departments of Transportation from the other U.S. Border States at a workshop. The goal is to have tentative findings by the October U.S.-Mexico Binational Group on Bridges and Border Crossings meeting.

Point four, harmonizing port of entry operations, is lead by the General Services Administration (GSA), with some involvement by Caltrans. Point five, demonstration projects, is lead by the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) but Caltrans is involved because of its Geographic Information Systems (GIS) and Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS) information that will be used in conjunction with FHWA data. Caltrans is not involved in points three or six, and from this point on, Federal Agencies become responsible for the implementation of the Agreements.

Mr. Pallares also mentioned that, in addition to the 22 Point Agreement, on December 3, 2001, a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) was signed by Governor Davis and Governor Elorduy establishing a sister state cooperation between California and Baja California. Among other elements, this agreement established that both states would work on developing a Joint Working Group on Ports of Border Entry Infrastructure.

On August 1, 2002, the Border Partnership of the Californias meetings took place in San Diego, California. The California – Baja California Border Partnership Group was proposed at that meeting. This new group will serve as a single point of contact for improvements to infrastructure, operations, and continued multi-agency coordination and private sector input; it will provide coordination and implementation of the 22 Point Agreement; it has the objective of improving the efficient movement of people and goods through California and Baja California international ports of entry; and it will provide the opportunity for stakeholders’ participation though the technical working groups.
Kristen Allioti would like to see how this proposed Group could interact with the BTTAC.

Please see attachment for diagram of the proposed Border Partnership Group

8. INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY FOUNDATION (ICF)

Mr. Richar Kiy began his presentation by revealing that ICF began in 1990 and grew out of the San Diego Foundation. ICF remains the only community foundation in the United States solely focused internationally. ICF provides individual and corporate donors with a tax deductible vehicle for international giving. Around 92 percent of ICF gifts are donor advised with the majority focused on Baja California through FINCOMUN, its sister foundation in Baja California. ICF provides leadership and strategically focused guidance to donors that want to contribute to worthwhile groups and organizations undertaking innovative programs that benefit under-represented people in countries throughout Asia and the Americas.

ICF’s mission is to promote sustainable communities by building partnerships, mobilizing resources, leveraging technology, engaging U.S. based immigrants in transnational philanthropic endeavors, and strengthening communication among community leaders across international borders. U.S. donors turn to ICF because individual donors cannot make tax deductible gifts to Mexican NGOs unless they have Mexican sourced income, and family foundations have more stringent reporting requirements for international gifts and few have staff equipped to undertake due diligence overseas. Donors look for a reliable U.S. intermediary that they can trust and that has unique market knowledge in geographic areas where they wish to give.

In spite of 9/11 and the economic recession, ICF’s grantmaking totaled $895,778, growing by 244 percent over FY 01. In fact, ICF’s FY -02 grantmaking accounts for 49 percent of total grantmaking since 1997, and 15 new donor advised funds were established, and a total of $1.48 million in total contributions were raised during FY 02.

In the case of giving, Tijuana is special because one of the challenges faced by ICF is that many Tijuana residents have split allegiances due to their ties in the San Diego region. ICF is working on a campaign to promote the culture of philanthropy through Baja California. Organized philanthropy in Mexico is really in its infancy. One of the reasons for this is that very few tax incentives exist. For example, Mexico has no death tax or gift tax.

ICF’s assets have grown from $200,000 in 1996 to $1, 200,000 in 2001. A total of $1.82 million has been granted by ICF since 1997. Around 75 percent of the grants went to Mexico in FY 02 and distributed as follows: 35 percent in community development projects, 41 percent in environmental projects, 18 percent in culture-related projects, and six percent in educational projects. The 15 new funds include organizations like the Asociación de Artes del Mar de Cortez Fund, the Fund for the Education and Social Development of Argentina, the Global Sustainability Fund, the La Paz Community Fund, the Las Californias Binational Conservation Fund, the Orchestra of the Californias Fund, and the San Diego-Tijuana Youth Scholarship Fund.
Mr. Kiy also mentioned that San Diego Cities have many sister cities from Latin America and Asia, and should increase their cooperation with them. ICF will begin to work with the sister Cities of Baja California to promote coordination efforts between them. ICF will look to shift funds toward education and health-related projects for FY 03.

Consul General Figueroa encouraged members to participate with ICF.

9. **ADJOURNMENT AND NEXT MEETING TOPICS, DATE, AND LOCATION**

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, September 3, 2002.

10. **ATTENDANCE**

   Elsa Saxod, Chair

   **Members**

   Hon. Rodulfo Figueroa, Consul General of Mexico in San Diego  
   Francisco Anza, Consulate General of Mexico in San Diego  
   Kristen Allioti, Governor’s Office of California –Mexico Affairs  
   Rodolfo Cruz, El Colegio de la Frontera Norte  
   Rafel Elorduy, Governor’s Office of Baja California  
   David Fege, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency  
   Paul Ganster, Institute for Regional Studies of the Californias  
   Jorge Gallegos, City of Mexicali  
   Cruz Gonzalez, BTTAC  
   Javier Gonzalez-Luna, Asociación de la Industria Maquiladora  
   Viviana Ibañez, San Diego Regional Chamber of Commerce  
   Richard Kiy, International Community Foundation  
   Julio Lampell, San Diego Dialogue  
   Alejandra Mier y Terán, Otay Mesa Chamber of Commerce  
   Paola Navarro, City of Tijuana  
   Almudena Soto, Governor’s Office of California –Mexico Affairs  
   Angélica Villagrana, San Diego Regional Chamber of Commerce  
   Hector Vindiola, US Consulate General in Tijuana  

   **Guests**

   Moises Aguirre, Commission of the Californias  
   Marielena Castellanos, Office of Mayor Dick Murphy  
   Fernando Cruz, City of Mexicali  
   Alejandra Gavaldón, San Diego Office of Binational Affairs  
   David Gomez, TJ CWD  
   David Gomez, Citizens Revolting Against Pollution  
   Nick Inzunza, TJ CWD  
   Mathew Kostrinsky, Office of U.S. Senator Dianne Feinstein  
   Irma Nava, Bajaintermex  
   Sergio Pallares, Caltrans  
   Gustavo Perez, City of Chula Vista.

   **SANDAG Staff**

   Elisa Arias  
   Mario C. Lopez  
   Hector Vanegas
Violeta Ramirez, City of Tijuana
Julia Rauner Guerrero, U.S. Department of Commerce
Clarisa Reyes, San Diego Regional EDC
Alejandra Ricardez, UCLA, ICF intern
Michael de la Rosa, Office of Supervisor Greg Cox
Caridad Sanchez, Office of Congresswoman Susan Davis
Rick Van Schoik, SCERP
Sara Stearns, San Diego Regional EDC
Arturo Vasquez, Governor’s Office of California –Mexico Affairs
Teresa Wilkinson, EDAW
UPCOMING EVENTS

WHAT: 2nd Annual Workshop on preparing accurate NAFTA Certificates of origin.
WHEN: Thursday, September 12, 2002, from 9:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
WHERE: Double Tree Hotel, Mission Valley, San Diego
MORE INFO: Joaquin Luken at 619-611-6111 or jluken@otaymesa.org
SPONSOR: Otay Mesa Chamber of Commerce

WHAT: South of the Border, Doing Business in Mexico
WHEN: Thursday, September 12, 2002, 7:30 a.m. - 9:30 a.m.
WHERE: Double Tree Hotel, Mission Valley
MORE INFO: Viviana Ibañez 619-544-1362 or vibanez@sdchamber.org
SPONSOR: The San Diego Regional Chamber of Commerce

WHAT: 5th Board of Economists U.S. Hispanic Economic Summit
WHEN: Thursday, September 19, 2002
WHERE: Inter-American Development Bank, Washington, D.C
MORE INFO: 805-964-4554 or events@hbinc.com
SPONSOR: Hispanic Business magazine

WHAT: Borders Committee meeting
WHEN: Friday, September 20, 2002, from 1 p.m. - 2 p.m.
WHERE: Escondido City Hall
The Mitchell Room
201 North Broadway
Escondido, CA 92025-2798
MORE INFO: Hector Vanegas at 619-595-5342 or hva@sandag.org
SPONSOR: San Diego Association of Governments (SANDAG)
Latino Summit 2002 on California Public Policy
Saturday, September 21, 2002.
Bonaventure Hotel, Los Angeles, CA
323-222-2011
William C. Velasquez Institute

North of the Border, Doing Business in the U.S. Hispanic Marketplace
Friday, October 11, 2002, 7:30 - 9:30 a.m.
Double Tree Hotel, Mission Valley
Viviana Ibañez 619- 544-1362 or vibanez@sdchamber.org
The San Diego Regional Chamber of Commerce

The 12th Annual South County EDC Economic Summit: Financing Border Infrastructure
Friday, October 18, 2002
At the San Diego Marriot
619-424-5143
South County EDC

Southwest Compact Conference
October 24-25, 2002
Barbara Worth Resort, Holtville, CA.
Arnold San Miguel 909-784-3526 or sanmigue@scag.ca.gov
Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG)

The Centro Cultural de la Raza Fall calendar
September - December
Balboa Park
call 619-235-6135 or centronr@pacbell.net
Centro Cultural de Tijuana and Mexican Cultural Institute
SUMMER CONFERENCE RECOMMENDATIONS AND NEXT STEPS

Introduction

On July 19, 2002, the Sixth Annual COBRO Summer Conference took place at the new San Ysidro Multicultural Complex of the San Ysidro Middle School. The title of the Conference was “Border Infrastructure Needs and Financing: Challenges and Opportunities.” SANDAG staff prepared a binational border infrastructure booklet titled “At the Crossroads - California-Baja California,” as well as a directory of public financial institutions, as part of the Conference hand-out materials.

Opening remarks were made by the Conference moderator, Hon. Crystal Crawford, Councilmember from the City of Del Mar and Chair of the Borders Committee. Guests were welcomed by COBRO Chair, Elsa Saxod, the Consul General of Mexico in San Diego, Hon. Rodulfo Figueroa, and in representation of the U.S. Consulate in Tijuana, Hon. Phillip Egger. After the morning’s speakers had finished, the conference participants discussed many ideas and recommendations for future action. These recommendations are presented for COBRO consideration.

The conference paper and proceedings in English and Spanish will be available online October 1, 2002, at www.sandag.org (under “binational”).

Recommendations

During the Conference, several possible actions were discussed. One of the first steps would be to determine what role could, or should, COBRO and SANDAG play? And what specific actions should be taken? Other suggestions made were to:

1. Prioritize a list of border infrastructure needs;
2. Update the region’s federal and local elected representatives and border agencies on local infrastructure needs for the border;
3. Study the feasibility of using federal and state financing mechanisms for border infrastructure;
4. Encourage the development of an association of elected officials in Baja California so that SANDAG’s Board of Directors could have a counterpart organization in Baja California with which to consult and lobby for infrastructure improvements;
5. Contact the Commission of the Californias and ask the two governors to propose a “Commission of the Mayors;”
6. Propose a “League of Baja California Cities” organization to partner with the League of California Cities for potential joint meetings;

7. In regard to energy, analyze and discuss Dr. Sweedler’s recommendation of creating a binational entity to deal with energy-related issues in the CA-BC binational region;

8. See how the COBRO can help government agencies harmonizing data and regulations, and having an integration of spatial data;

9. Promote binational cooperation and increased public participation; and

10. Identify transborder synergies and efficiencies.

SANDAG could:

1. Promote air quality border Commission and funding through EPA;

2. Organize local elected officials to lobby federal agencies for Border infrastructure projects;

3. Expand cross-border planning for infrastructure; and

4. Encourage use of federal and state financing mechanisms.

After discussing these initial recommendations, Committee members should come up with the next steps in relation to Border Infrastructure Financing.

“Nothing can happen unilaterally . . . the Border requires greater focus at all levels of government. You must yell and pound on the table to get the attention of the Federal governments. If you don’t, who will?”

-Ambassador Davidow