FUNDING RECOMMENDATION FOR FY 2009 JOB ACCESS AND REVERSE COMMUTE (JARC) PROJECTS: Directors approved allocating $153,843 in FY 2009 JARC funding for the Metropolitan Transit System Route 905 project, and $120,101 of the remaining $127,625 in funding available to fully fund the two highest ranking projects as determined by a competitive process and chosen by a selection committee. Directors also approved a contingency allocation of all remaining FY 2009 JARC funds to the remaining unfunded projects based on rankings should additional funding become available. The JARC program provides funding for operations, capital, and mobility management projects aimed at serving reverse commuters and low-income individuals traveling to jobs and employment-related activities. SANDAG is the designated recipient of federal JARC funding for the San Diego urbanized area. (Item #11: Staff contact: Danielle Kochman, (619) 699-1921 or dko@sandag.org)

SANDAG ENDORSES DESTINATION LINDBERGH PLAN: Directors made a determination that the San Diego County Regional Airport Authority final Draft Concept Plan (Destination Lindbergh) adequately addresses concerns raised by SANDAG on the Phase I Airport Master Plan. This action is based on results from a year-long planning study to 1) determine the ultimate build-out of Lindbergh Field; 2) review the potential of an Intermodal Transportation Center; and 3) Identify actions that would reduce traffic on arterials around Lindbergh Field, particularly Harbor, Laurel, Grape, and Hawthorn. The Destination Lindbergh study emanated from a Memorandum of Agreement the Board approved early last year to establish the effort for the City of San Diego, SANDAG, and San Diego County Airport Authority to coordinate the study with support from the County of San Diego, MTS, NCTD, the Port District, the Department of Defense, and Caltrans. The study outlines a schedule and milestones for the Airport Authority to improve access in and around Lindbergh field for travelers and commuters. Next steps for the Airport Authority include: implementing a ground access transportation management plan and implementing short range transit actions; locating a Consolidated Rental Car Facility on the north side of Lindbergh Field to open in 2015; planning and development for the North Side Intermodal Transportation Center with the initial phase to open in 2015 and the final phase to open in 2030, along with a Passenger Terminal on the north side of Lindbergh Field. SANDAG will continue to be involved in the collaborative planning efforts and the Board will be updated regularly about progress and milestones achieved. (Item #13: Staff contact: Dave Schumacher, (619) 699-6906 or dsc@sandag.org)

APPOINTMENT OF POLICY ADVISORY COMMITTEE CHAIRS AND VICE CHAIRS: In accordance with SANDAG Bylaws, Board Chair Lori Holt Pfeiler appointed Chairs and Vice Chairs to SANDAG Policy Advisory Committees as follows, Chair and Vice Chair respectively: Transportation Committee, City of Santee Councilmember and SANDAG Second Vice Chair Jack Dale and City of Carlsbad Councilmember Matt Hall; Regional Planning Committee, City of Imperial Beach Mayor Jim Janney and City of Lemon Grove Councilmember Jerry Jones; Borders Committee, City of Imperial Beach Mayor Pro Tem Patricia McCoy and County of San Diego Supervisor Greg Cox; and Public Safety Committee, City of El Cajon Mayor Mark Lewis and City of Carlsbad Police Chief Tom Zoll. (Item #8: Staff contact: Kim Kawada, (619) 699-6994 or kka@sandag.org)
TRANSIT REVENUE APPORTIONMENTS AND PROJECTIONS: Directors adopted the FY 2010 apportionments for various federal and local programs and approved the use of the revenue projections for FY 2011 to FY 2014 for these programs. The transit operators within the SANDAG region receive various federal, state, and local revenues to support both ongoing operations and capital projects. SANDAG is responsible for the apportionment of these various funds to the transit operators and to the local agencies for the non-motorized program. At the Board meeting, SANDAG staff provided its annual estimate for the upcoming fiscal year as well as a projection for the next four fiscal years to allow the transit and local agencies to plan for capital projects and determine operating subsidies. (Item #10: Staff contact: Sookyung Kim, (619) 699-6909 or ski@sandag.org)

POTENTIAL AMENDMENT TO TRANSNET EXISTING INTEREST RATE SWAPS: Current economic conditions have created an unusual market environment resulting in a potential opportunity for SANDAG to lower its borrowing costs by amending two of the three existing TransNet interest rate swaps. After a presentation from staff on the state of the market, the current swaps, and the potential financial benefit to SANDAG, Directors approved entering into the swap transaction and executing all necessary documents if a targeted rate of 100% of LIBOR can be achieved. Staff calculated that if the target rate becomes available and the Executive Director amends the swaps, SANDAG could save approximately $4.8 million a year in borrowing costs starting in the year 2018. (Item #12: Staff contact: Renee Wasmund, (619) 699-1940 or rwa@sandag.org)

QUARTERLY TRANSPORTATION PROGRESS REPORT: Highway Projects: A ribbon-cutting ceremony was held in January 2009 for the completion of the I-5/Lomas Santa Fe Drive interchange improvements project in Solana Beach. This project, which also included the HOV lanes between the San Dieguito River and the San Elijo Lagoon that opened to traffic in spring 2008, reconstructed the interchange by re-aligning the ramps and providing more capacity to make it more operationally efficient. This is the first Proposition 1B Corridor Mobility Improvement Account-funded project to break ground and be completed in the state. Caltrans completed the final environmental document for the SR 76 (Middle) widening project. Significant progress in the design phase of this TransNet Early Action Program project will allow it to be ready to list for advertisement in June 2009. SANDAG is working with Caltrans to position this project to receive federal economic stimulus funds for the construction phase. Completion of this segment, from Melrose Drive in Oceanside to Mission Road in Bonsall, will widen the roadway from two to four lanes and is expected to be completed by 2010.

Transit and Bikeway Projects: The Sabre Springs/Rancho Peñasquitos transit station, which opened in late September 2008, will be modified over the next few months to provide for an additional 50 to 80 parking spaces.

Traffic and Demand Management: The Freeway Service Patrol assisted approximately 13,300 motorists, about 19 percent fewer than last quarter. The vanpool participation rate increased from 641 vanpools to 642 vanpools. Average ridership per vanpool was approximately 8.3 passengers, with 5,322 daily passengers participating in the program. The 511 call system received 185,200 calls, raising the cumulative call volume to just under 1.4 million calls. (Item #5: Staff Contact: Jose Nuncio, (619) 699-1908 or jnu@sandag.org)
2009 SANDAG BOARD RETREAT: Directors heard a summary of the Board Retreat and next steps for advancing policy issues that came out of retreat discussions. The retreat began with an opening session featuring Michael Coleman, Fiscal Policy Advisor for the League of California Cities and Marney Cox, Chief Economist at SANDAG, with an interactive discussion on how the current downturn is affecting the economy at the local, state, and national levels. Caltrans Director Will Kempton and SANDAG Executive Director Gary Gallegos then discussed their experiences executing big public works projects that can help improve the economy and public infrastructure at the same time. Three breakout sessions focused on: Targeting greenhouse gas reduction and addressing SB 375 mandates; the future Federal Transportation bill; and fiscal implications for local governments during these challenging economic times. The Board will address policy issues related to greenhouse gas reduction in the coming months through the development of the 2050 Regional Transportation Plan, Sustainable Communities Strategy, the Regional Climate Action Plan and Urban Core Transit Strategy, and as SANDAG implements other strategies to comply with SB 375 provisions. Other policy and legislative issues considered at the retreat will be advanced as part of the SANDAG legislative program. The closing session featured two California Transportation Commissioners. John Chalker and James Earp discussed the status of the state budget and how it will affect infrastructure projects throughout California. (Item #9: Staff contact: Colleen Windsor, (619) 699-1960 or cw@sandag.org)

SORRENTO VALLEY COASTER CONNECTION (SVCC) SERVICES: Directors approved a revised SVCC service plan, finding it consistent with regional policies, goals, and objectives. The SVCC is an MTS-operated service that provides short-distance shuttle connections between the Sorrento Valley COASTER station and businesses in the surrounding employment areas. Prior to July 1, 2008, nearly 70 percent of the annual costs to operate SVCC services were subsidized by the San Diego County Air Pollution Control District and I-805/I-5 construction mitigation funds from Caltrans. As a result of the approved revised service plan, service costs will be shared equally between the NCTD and MTS, with the least productive routes restructured or eliminated. (Item #14: Staff contact: Dave Schumacher, (619) 699-6906 or dsc@sandag.org)