Friday, March 6, 2009
12 noon to 2 p.m.
SANDAG Board Room
401 B Street, 7th Floor
San Diego

AGENDA HIGHLIGHTS

- DRAFT SMART GROWTH DESIGN GUIDELINES
- PRESENTATION ON THE COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO GENERAL PLAN UPDATE

PLEASE TURN OFF CELL PHONES DURING THE MEETING

YOU CAN LISTEN TO THE REGIONAL PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING BY VISITING OUR WEB SITE AT WWW.SANDAG.ORG

MISSION STATEMENT
The Regional Planning Committee provides oversight for the preparation and implementation of the Regional Comprehensive Plan that is based on the local general plans and regional plans and addresses interregional issues with surrounding counties and Mexico. The components of the plan include: transportation, housing, environment (shoreline, air quality, water quality, habitat), economy, borders, regional infrastructure needs and financing, and land use and design.
Welcome to SANDAG. Members of the public may speak to the Regional Planning Committee on any item at the time 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/Member Comments. Speakers are limited to three minutes. The Regional Planning Committee 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 the SANDAG 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 working days prior to the Regional Planning Committee meeting.

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## REGIONAL PLANNING COMMITTEE

**Friday, March 6, 2009**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ITEM #</th>
<th>RECOMMENDATION</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>APPROVE</td>
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<td>INFORMATION</td>
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<td>4.</td>
<td>APPROVE</td>
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<td>5.</td>
<td>INFORMATION</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

### 1. APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

**APPROVE**

### 2. PUBLIC COMMENTS/COMMUNICATIONS/MEMBER COMMENTS

Members of the public will have the opportunity to address the Regional Planning Committee (RPC) on any issue within the jurisdiction of the Committee. Speakers are limited to three minutes each and shall reserve time by completing a “Request to Speak” form and giving it to the Clerk prior to speaking. Committee members also may provide information and announcements under this agenda item.

### 3. INTRODUCTION OF NEW COMMITTEE MEMBERS

There are several new appointments to the RPC. The chair will ask the new members to introduce themselves.

### CONSENT ITEM

**APPROVE**

### 4. REGIONAL HOUSING WORKING GROUP CO-CHAIR APPOINTMENT (Susan Baldwin)

The purpose of this item is to appoint a new co-chair of the Regional Housing Working Group to replace former Councilmember Toni Atkins. Per the Regional Housing Working Group Charter, replacement of the co-chairs is the responsibility of the RPC. Councilmember Jerry Selby has agreed to serve as co-chair of the Working Group. Staff requests approval of this appointment.

### REPORT ITEMS (#5 thru #8)

**INFORMATION**

### 5. OVERVIEW OF WORKING GROUPS THAT REPORT TO THE RPC (Coleen Clementson)

The RPC is responsible for providing policy recommendations to the SANDAG Board on Regional Comprehensive Plan (RCP) development and implementation. There are seven working groups made up of interested individuals and organizations that report to the RPC and provide their suggestions or offer advice and work products for RPC consideration. The attached report provides an overview of the roles, responsibilities, and work efforts underway with each of the working groups that report to the RPC.
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| 6.    | OVERVIEW OF THE RCP AND KEY IMPLEMENTATION EFFORTS  
       (Carolina Gregor) | INFORMATION |
|       | In 2004, the SANDAG Board of Directors adopted the RCP for the San Diego region. The RCP serves as the strategic planning framework for our region. It creates a regional vision and provides a broad context in which local and regional decisions can be made that foster a healthy environment, a vibrant economy, and a high quality of life for all residents. This report provides an overview of the RCP and describes key implementation completed, efforts underway, and plans for a future update. | |
| 7.    | DRAFT SMART GROWTH DESIGN GUIDELINES (Stephan Vance) | ACCEPT |
|       | The development design guidelines for smart growth areas are one of the strategic initiatives of the RCP. Working in collaboration with local agency staff, SANDAG and its consultants have developed draft guidelines covering a broad array of topics pertaining to good design and great place-making. The RPC is asked to accept the guidelines for distribution and public comment prior to SANDAG publishing final guidelines. | |
| 8.    | STATUS REPORT ON COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO GENERAL PLAN UPDATE  
       (Eric Gibson) | INFORMATION |
|       | Eric Gibson, County of San Diego, will make a presentation on the County’s General Plan Update, which was released for public review in December and is available online at [www.sdcounty.ca.gov/dplu/gpupdate/draftgp.html](http://www.sdcounty.ca.gov/dplu/gpupdate/draftgp.html). Public comments were due January 16, 2009. | |
| 9.    | UPCOMING MEETINGS | INFORMATION |
|       | The next meeting of the RPC is scheduled for Friday, April 3, 2009, at 12 noon. | |
| 10.   | ADJOURNMENT |

+ next to an agenda item indicates an attachment
The meeting of the Regional Planning Committee held directly following the Joint Meeting of the SANDAG Board of Directors and Transportation and Regional Planning Committees at Caltrans was called to order by Chair Jerry Jones (East County) at 12:01 p.m. See the attached attendance sheet for Regional Committee member attendance.

1. APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

Action: Upon a motion by County Chair Pro Tem Pam Slater-Price (County of San Diego) and a second by Vice Chair Jim Janney (South County), the Regional Planning Committee approved the minutes from November 7, 2008 meeting.

2. PUBLIC COMMENTS/COMMUNICATIONS/MEMBER COMMENTS

Action: There were no public comments/communications/member comments.

3. SAN DIEGO REGIONAL BICYCLE PLAN PROGRESS REPORT (INFORMATION)

Action: This item was presented for information only.

REPORT ITEM

4. 2008 REGIONAL COMPREHENSIVE PLAN (RCP) MONITORING REPORT (RECOMMEND)

Christine Eary, Associate Planner and Project Manager (SANDAG) informed the Committee that the draft version of this report was presented and authorized for release for a 30-day public review and comment period in October 2008. At the October meeting, the Committee also provided comments and one public comment was received. A response was prepared and revisions were incorporated into the report based on these comments. Updated data for Share of New Housing Units by Income Category and the Air Quality Index have been incorporated into the report text as new data was released. Monitoring will continue and the report will be produced on an annual basis. Upon recommendation, the report will be presented to the Board of Directors for acceptance on December 19.
Action: Upon a motion by County Chair Pro Tem Pam Slater-Price and a second by Vice Chair Janney, the Regional Planning Committee unanimously recommended the 2008 RCP Monitoring Report for acceptance by the Board of Directors.

5. UPCOMING MEETINGS

The next meeting of the Regional Planning Committee is scheduled for February 6, 2009, at 12 noon.

Coleen Clementson, Committee Coordinator (SANDAG) thanked the Committee for their hard work and informed the Board supported the Smart Growth Incentive Program criteria and the call for projects will take place soon.

6. ADJOURNMENT

Chair Jerry Jones adjourned the meeting at 12:19 p.m.

Attachment: Attendance Sheet
CONFIRMED ATTENDANCE
SANDAG REGIONAL PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING
DECEMBER 5, 2008
12 noon to 2 p.m.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SUBREGIONAL AREA</th>
<th>JURISDICTION</th>
<th>NAME</th>
<th>MEMBER / ALTERNATE</th>
<th>ATTENDING</th>
</tr>
</thead>
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<tr>
<td>North County Inland</td>
<td>City of Escondido</td>
<td>Lori Holt Pfeiler</td>
<td>Member</td>
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<td></td>
<td>City of Vista</td>
<td>Steve Gronke</td>
<td>Alternate</td>
<td>✓</td>
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<tr>
<td>South County</td>
<td>City of Imperial Beach</td>
<td>Jim Janney, Vice Chair</td>
<td>Member</td>
<td>✓</td>
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<td></td>
<td>City of Coronado</td>
<td>Al Ovrom, Jr.</td>
<td>Alternate</td>
<td>✓</td>
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<td>City of Oceanside</td>
<td>Jerry Kern</td>
<td>Member</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>City of Solana Beach</td>
<td>Lesa Heebner</td>
<td>Alternate</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>East County</td>
<td>City of Lemon Grove</td>
<td>Jerry Jones, Chair</td>
<td>Member</td>
<td>✓</td>
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<td></td>
<td>City of Lemon Grove</td>
<td>Jerry Selby</td>
<td>Alternate</td>
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<tr>
<td>City of San Diego</td>
<td>----</td>
<td>Toni Atkins</td>
<td>Member</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>Jerry Sanders</td>
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<tr>
<td>County of San Diego</td>
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<td>Pam Slater-Price</td>
<td>Member</td>
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<td>Bill Horn</td>
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<td>Caltrans, District 11</td>
<td>Pedro Orso-Delgado</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>Bill Figge</td>
<td>Alternate</td>
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<tr>
<td>Advisory Member</td>
<td>San Diego County Water Authority</td>
<td>Howard Williams</td>
<td>Member</td>
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<td>Vacant</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Department of Defense</td>
<td>Susanah Aguilera</td>
<td>Member</td>
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<td>San Diego Unified Port District</td>
<td>Laurie Black</td>
<td>Member</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>Michael Najera</td>
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<td>MTS</td>
<td>Harry Mathis</td>
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<td>Bob Emery</td>
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<tr>
<td>Advisory Member</td>
<td>NCTD</td>
<td>Dave Roberts</td>
<td>Member</td>
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<tr>
<td>Advisory Member</td>
<td>Regional Planning Technical Working Group (TWG)</td>
<td>Bill Anderson</td>
<td>Member</td>
<td>✓</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>Jonathan Brindle</td>
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<tr>
<td>Advisory Member</td>
<td>Southern California Tribal Chairmen's Association</td>
<td>Johnny Hernandez (Iipay Nation of Santa Ysabel)</td>
<td>Member</td>
<td>✓</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Allen Lawson (San Pasqual)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Environmental Mitigation Program Advisory Member</td>
<td>Wildlife Conservation Board</td>
<td>John Donnelly</td>
<td>Member</td>
<td>✓</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Debbie Townsend</td>
<td>Alternate</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Environmental Mitigation Program Advisory Member</td>
<td>California Department of Fish and Game</td>
<td>Stephen M. Juarez</td>
<td>Member</td>
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<td>David Mayer</td>
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<td>US Fish and Wildlife Service</td>
<td>Vacant</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Susan Wynn</td>
<td>Alternate</td>
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OVERVIEW OF WORKING GROUPS THAT REPORT TO THE REGIONAL
PLANNING COMMITTEE

Introduction

The purpose of this item is to provide an overview of the working groups that report to the Regional Planning Committee (RPC), and briefly update the Committee on the recent activities of each of the groups. Attached is a matrix summarizing the main purpose, membership, year established, and recent activities of each of the eight working groups that report to the RPC.

Discussion

SANDAG supports eight different working groups that report directly to the RPC. Five are standing working groups responsible for policy direction and review, while two others were established on an ad hoc basis to assist with specific projects. Below is a list of the current working groups:

Standing Working Groups

1. Regional Planning Technical Working Group (TWG)
2. Regional Energy Working Group (EWG)
3. Regional Housing Working Group (RHWG)
4. Shoreline Preservation Working Group (SPWG)
5. Environmental Mitigation Working Group (EMP)

Ad Hoc Working Groups

1. Smart Growth Urban Design Guidelines Ad Hoc Working Group
2. SPRINTER Smart Growth Ad Hoc Working Group

Staff will continue to provide periodic updates on the activities of the working groups as a whole and invite working group chairs to provide periodic reports on specific activities.

BOB LEITER
Director of Land Use and Transportation Planning

Attachment: List of Working Groups that Report to the Regional Planning Committee

Key Staff Contact: Coleen Clementson, (619) 699-1944; cd@sandag.org
## LIST OF WORKING GROUPS THAT REPORT TO THE REGIONAL PLANNING COMMITTEE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>WORKING GROUP NAME</th>
<th>MEMBERSHIP</th>
<th>PURPOSE</th>
<th>YEAR ESTABL.</th>
<th>CURRENT ACTIVITIES</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| 1 Regional Planning Technical Working Group (TWG) | Planning directors from local jurisdictions and staff from other agencies, including Port of San Diego, Metropolitan Transit System (MTS), North County Transit District (NCTD), San Diego County Water Authority (SDCWA), and Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCO) | Review and make recommendations on key Regional Comprehensive Plan (RCP) implementation activities | 1990          | Standing Working Group  
Bill Anderson, Planning and Community Investment Director for the City of San Diego, is the Chair and represents the TWG on the RPC. Most recent work has focused on the update to the Smart Growth Concept Map and the Smart Growth Incentive Program. Current work is focused on the next regional growth forecast. |
| 2 Regional Energy Working Group (EWG)      | Maximum of 25 voting members, including a diverse group of regional stakeholders. Elected officials serving on the EWG have been appointed by the subregions they represent (North County Coastal, North County Inland, East County, South Bay), the City of San Diego, and the County of San Diego | Advise on implementation of the Regional Energy Strategy adopted by SANDAG in 2003            | 2004          | Standing Working Group  
This group is currently updating the Regional Energy Strategy, preparing a Regional Climate Action Plan and developing a Sustainable Region Program to work with local jurisdictions in maximizing energy efficiency.                                                                                                                                                                                                 |


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<tr>
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<th>YEAR ESTABL.</th>
<th>CURRENT ACTIVITIES</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3 Regional Housing Working Group (RHWG)</td>
<td>Diverse membership, including representation from UCSD Connect; housing staff representatives from the City and County of San Diego, North County Coastal, North County Inland, East County, and South County; housing authority staff; housing industry representatives; and housing advocates</td>
<td>Serve as a forum for discussion of regional housing issues</td>
<td>2000</td>
<td>Standing Working Group This group will be involved in the next Regional Housing Needs Assessment (RHNA) and the I-15 Interregional Partnership Workforce Housing Program.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 Environmental Mitigation Program (EMP) Working Group</td>
<td>Elected official appointed by the RPC serves as chair. Members include staff representatives from the City and County of San Diego, four SANDAG subregions (North County Coastal, North County Inland, East County, and South County), and staff from federal and state environmental agencies</td>
<td>Advises on issues related to the coordination and implementation of the TransNet Environmental Mitigation Program</td>
<td>2005</td>
<td>Standing Working Group This group is implementing the five-year EMP Funding Strategy.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 Shoreline Preservation Working Group (SPWG)</td>
<td>Eleven voting members are elected officials from coastal cities and a representative from the San Diego Unified Port District and the U.S. Navy. Advisory members are representatives from community groups, organizations, environmental groups, state and federal agencies, and other interested stakeholders</td>
<td>Advise on implementation of the Shoreline Preservation Strategy adopted by SANDAG in 1993</td>
<td>1980s</td>
<td>Standing Working Group This group is completing work on the Coastal Regional Sediment Management Plan and is beginning work on another beach sand project, similar to the one that was constructed in 2001.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 Smart Growth Urban Design Guidelines Ad Hoc Working Group</td>
<td>Two members each from the CTAC, SWG, and TWG</td>
<td>Provide input on the development of the Smart Growth Urban Design Guidelines as a tool for local agencies to address walkability and other design features</td>
<td>2006</td>
<td>Ad Hoc Working Group This group has met since 2006 to guide development of the Draft Smart Growth Design Guidelines.</td>
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### REGIONAL PLANNING COMMITTEE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<th>PURPOSE</th>
<th>YEAR ESTABL.</th>
<th>CURRENT ACTIVITIES</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7 SPRINT Smart Growth Ad Hoc Working Group</td>
<td>Twelve voting members, including two staff representatives from CTAC and from the TWG, and representatives from each jurisdiction along the SPRINT Smart Growth Ad Hoc Working Group</td>
<td>Help local jurisdictions and other stakeholders implement smart growth around the 15 SPRINT Smart Growth Ad Hoc Working Group stations</td>
<td>2006</td>
<td>Ad Hoc Working Group This group meets periodically to share information on development activities at transit stations and serves as forum for discussions on workforce housing development in north San Diego County.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
OVERVIEW OF THE REGIONAL COMPREHENSIVE PLAN (RCP) AND KEY IMPLEMENTATION EFFORTS

Introduction

In 2004, the SANDAG Board of Directors unanimously adopted the Regional Comprehensive Plan (RCP) for the San Diego region. The RCP serves as the strategic framework for the region between now and the year 2030. It provides a broad context in which local and regional decisions can be made that move the region toward a sustainable future.

The RCP is based on three guiding principles: (1) better connect transportation and land use plans using smart growth principles; (2) use transportation and land use plans to guide environmental and infrastructure decisions; and (3) use collaboration and incentives to implement regional goals. The RCP identifies specific ways that the region can grow in a smarter, more sustainable manner.

The RCP includes chapters on the following interrelated and interdependent topics: urban form, transportation, housing, natural habitat, air quality, water quality, beaches, economic prosperity, energy, water supply, waste facilities, border issues, regional infrastructure, social equity and environmental justice, and performance monitoring. The Plan outlines goals and objectives in each of these areas, providing policy guidance for the update of related plans, such as the Regional Transportation Plan (RTP), the Regional Economic Prosperity Strategy (REPS), the Regional Energy Strategy (RES), and others, and for updates and amendments of local general plans and other public facility plans in San Diego.

This report provides an overview of the RCP and current implementation activities.

Discussion

Public Participation in the Development of the RCP

The RCP was developed between 2002 and 2004. SANDAG’s Regional Planning Committee (RPC) spearheaded the development of the plan, and provided a leadership role in the development of the Plan’s public participation program. Through an extensive public outreach program, thousands of residents, community leaders, academics, business leaders, elected officials, and representatives from San Diego, surrounding counties, and Mexico worked together to draft the Plan.
RCP Implementation

Since the adoption of the RCP in 2004, SANDAG and its member agencies have been working hard to implement key components of the Plan. The main implementation efforts are summarized below. Each of these efforts is described in more detail in the next section of the report.

- **Smart Growth Concept Map**: The identification of 200 existing, planned, and potential smart growth areas in the San Diego region.
- **Smart Growth Incentive Program (SGIP)**: Provision of funds to local jurisdictions for smart growth planning efforts and capital investments in smart growth areas.
- **Smart Growth Design Guidelines**: Guidelines to address the importance of design in maintaining and enhancing community character and in creating great public places.
- **Smart Growth Tool Box**: A tool box consisting of planning and financing tools to assist local jurisdictions to implement smart growth in the areas identified on the Smart Growth Concept Map.
- **TransNet Environmental Mitigation Program (EMP)**: Provision of funding for mitigation of local and regional transportation projects and additional funding for habitat acquisition, management, and monitoring activities that implement the region’s habitat conservation programs.
- **Regional Housing Needs Assessment (RHNA)**: Allocation of affordable housing units for jurisdictions within the region, balancing affordable housing throughout the region.
- **2030 Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) Update**: Integration of the RCP smart growth and sustainability principles into the updated transportation plan.
- **Border Planning and Tribal Coordination**: Strategic planning efforts along our international border, with our neighbors to the north, and with the tribal nations within San Diego County.
- **Integrated Regional Infrastructure Strategy (IRIS)**: A forward-looking investment and financing strategy that will help the region meet its collective infrastructure needs.
- **RCP Performance Monitoring Report**: A mechanism to track RCP implementation and establish a benchmark for future monitoring.

Smart Growth Concept Map

The Urban Form chapter of the RCP calls for the development of a smart growth map. In June 2006, the SANDAG Board accepted the first “Smart Growth Concept Map” in the San Diego region. The Concept Map is a key ingredient to successfully implementing the RCP, as it identifies locations within the region that can support smart growth and transportation investments. This collaboratively-developed map is serving as the foundation for managing the region’s growth and addressing projected housing needs. It also is being used to determine eligibility to participate in the region’s long-term $280 million SGIP funded through TransNet, and was used to help identify transportation and transit needs in the development of the 2030 RTP.

The Smart Growth Concept Map contains almost 200 existing, planned, or potential smart growth locations in seven categories of smart growth “place types” identified in the RCP. The place types
include: the Metropolitan Center, Urban Centers, Town Centers, Community Centers, Rural Villages, Mixed Use Transit Corridors, and Special Use Centers.

The RCP establishes land use and transportation targets for each of these place types. Depending upon whether the areas on the map meet the targets, they are identified either as “Existing/Planned” areas or “Potential” areas. About 40 percent of the areas on the map qualify as Existing/Planned smart growth areas, and the remaining 60 percent represent Potential smart growth areas. Every jurisdiction in the San Diego region identified at least one smart growth area on the map, demonstrating regionwide support for the smart growth principles in the RCP. Upon accepting the Concept Map for planning purposes, the SANDAG Board recognized that the map is dynamic and will be updated periodically to reflect changes in local land use plans or regional transportation plans that may influence the designations of the smart growth locations. To this end, the Board accepted a technical update to the map in 2008 in anticipation of the Smart Growth Incentive Program call for projects.

Smart Growth Incentive Program

The Urban Form chapter also calls for SANDAG to develop and implement the smart growth incentive program established in MOBILITY2030, the previous RTP. Building upon the RCP’s principle of coordinating transportation investments with local land use decisions through incentives and collaboration, SANDAG established the Pilot Smart Growth Incentive Program (SGIP) in 2005. Through this program, nearly $23 million were awarded to fund capital investments for 16 smart growth projects within the region. The pilot program serves as precursor to the TransNet funded SGIP which will provide a total of $280 million over 40 years.

In late 2008, upon the RPC recommendation, the SANDAG Board of Directors approved the project selection criteria and issued a call for projects for the first two-year funding cycle. Areas must be on the Smart Growth Concept Map to be eligible to compete for funds. The program allows for planning grants up to $400,000 and capital grants up to $2 million. In spring 2009, the RPC will be asked to recommend projects for funding to the SANDAG Board of Directors.

Smart Growth Design Guidelines

The Urban Form chapter of the RCP also calls for development of design guidelines to better define the important elements of design in smart growth development. The smart growth guidelines are intended to be a resource for local agencies, designers, developers, and interested citizens who are engaged in the process of implementing smart growth development around the region. Working with a consulting team, SANDAG staff and an ad hoc working group have developed draft design guidelines, titled Designing for Smart Growth, Creating Great Places in the San Diego Region. The draft guidelines are being presented to the RPC on March 6, 2009 (Agenda Item #7). It is anticipated that the final guidelines will be considered by the RPC and SANDAG Board of Directors in May and June 2009.

Smart Growth Tool Kit

A key goal of RCP implementation is to provide incentives and assistance to local member agencies to encourage smart growth development in the areas identified on the Smart Growth Concept Map. SANDAG has initiated work on a “Smart Growth Tool Box” which includes the following planning
and financing tools: outreach program (staff is available to make presentations to interested groups and organizations); visualization tools (including 2-D and 3-D smart growth simulations in local communities in the San Diego region); Smart Growth Design Guidelines (referenced above); Smart Growth Trip Generation/Parking Study; San Diego Regional Bicycle Plan; research on connections between public health, land use, and transportation; sketch modeling tools; TransNet SGIP; TDA/TransNet Bicycle, Pedestrian, and Neighborhood Safety Program; and Regional Housing and Smart Growth Financing Strategy.

Habitat Planning and the TransNet Environmental Mitigation Program (EMP)

The TransNet ordinance extension also includes the Environmental Mitigation Program (EMP) that provides funding for mitigation of local and regional transportation projects and additional funding for habitat acquisition, management, and monitoring activities that will help implement the San Diego region’s nationally recognized habitat conservation programs. A key goal of the Healthy Environment chapter is to preserve and maintain natural biological communities and species native to the region.

The EMP goes beyond traditional mitigation for regional and local transportation projects. It includes $650 million dollars for the early acquisition of land to offset the direct impact of upland and wetland habitat from regional and local transportation projects. The early acquisition of mitigation for multiple projects, will allow large blocks of land to be acquired in advance of the traditional project-by-project mitigation. This will result in an economic benefit, by reducing project mitigation cost through economies of scale and increased purchasing power. It also will provide a higher level of certainty for local and regional transportation projects, by securing mitigation land well in advance of their need to obtain federal or state regulatory permits.

The economic benefit generated by the EMP, estimated at $200 million, allows for additional funding for habitat acquisition, management, and monitoring activities that will help implement the regional habitat conservation plans. In turn, the more land that is conserved and managed in the predefined habitat planning areas will result in more certainty for future development projects outside the habitat preserves, including regional and local road projects, by providing advanced protection for endangered and threatened species.

The EMP is a collaborative effort among SANDAG, the cities, the County, the wildlife agencies (California Department of Fish and Game and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service), and other regulatory agencies (Coastal Conservancy, U.S. Geological Survey, and U.S. Army Corps of Engineers), as well as representatives of various stakeholder groups, including the environmental community and the science/technical community. Several of these agencies and groups hold advisory positions on the RPC, including the California Department of Fish and Game, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, and the Wildlife Conservation Board.

Regional Housing Needs Assessment (RHNA)

The overarching goal of the Housing Chapter of the RCP is to provide a variety of affordable and quality housing choices for people of all income levels and abilities throughout the region. In February 2005, the SANDAG Board approved the Final Regional Housing Needs Assessment (RHNA) for the San Diego region for the 2005-2010 housing element cycle. In conjunction with the approval of the Final RHNA, the Board approved a memorandum that would tie decisions about the
allocation of SANDAG’s discretionary transportation funding to housing element compliance and housing production. The RHNA memorandum was intended to provide incentives to jurisdictions that produce housing for low- and very low-income households.

In April 2006, the SANDAG Board adopted Board Policy No. 033: Implementation Guidelines for the Regional Housing Needs Assessment Memorandum, formalizing the memo. This policy was applied to the allocation of the Pilot SGIP funds and currently is being implemented as part of the 2008 Transportation Development Act (TDA)/TransNet Bicycle and Pedestrian program.

2030 Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) Update

A key concept in the RCP is to better connect land use and transportation plans using smart growth principles. Along the same lines, the overarching goal of the Transportation chapter is to develop a flexible, sustainable, and well-integrated transportation system that focuses on moving people and goods, not just vehicles. The RCP recognizes the need to address the interrelationship between the RCP and the RTP.

The 2030 RTP incorporates smart growth principles from the RCP, placing an emphasis on public transit and other modes of transportation associated with smart growth. With its almost 200 locations, and with areas designated as either “Existing/Planned” or “Potential,” the Smart Growth Concept Map helped to guide the planning and development of the 2030 regional transit networks, providing higher priority for peak period transit services that link smart growth areas to one another and to other major activity centers. As a result, smart growth areas receive higher priority for transportation investments, lending additional support to the smart growth principles contained in the RCP.

Border Planning and Growing Collaboration with Tribal Nations

The Borders Chapter of the RCP recognizes that in order to preserve our quality of life, we must prepare not only for our own growth but for the impacts of the growth taking place beyond our borders in Riverside, Orange, and Imperial Counties, as well as in Tijuana and Tecate, Baja California. Over the last several years, SANDAG has been working on joint plans with Riverside County (Phase III of the I-15 Interregional Partnership) and on the Otay Mesa/Mesa de Otay Binational Corridor Strategic Plan. Both of these plans address issues related to housing, transportation, jobs, and the environment in their geographic areas, and propose actions in San Diego, Riverside County, and Tijuana to address related issues.

In addition, the Borders Chapter also calls for enhanced coordination in the planning process with the eighteen tribal nations located in the San Diego region. SANDAG has continued to build a government-to-government framework for engaging tribal nations at a regional level. The Intertribal Transportation Working Group, formed in 2006, serves as a forum for tribal governments to coordinate transportation issues of mutual concern with the various public planning agencies in the region. At a policy level, the Southern California Tribal Chairman’s Association (SCTCA) joined the SANDAG Board and Policy Committees, in an advisory capacity, creating a direct tribal voice in regional planning.
Integrated Regional Infrastructure Strategy (IRIS)

The RCP’s Integrated Regional Infrastructure Strategy (IRIS) outlines an investment and financing strategy that will help the San Diego region meet its collective infrastructure needs. The IRIS focuses on eight important infrastructure areas including: transportation; water supply and delivery system; wastewater; stormwater management; solid waste collection, recycling, and disposal; energy supply and delivery system; education; and parks and open space. The IRIS encourages regional infrastructure providers to develop and implement long-term comprehensive plans such as those currently developed for transportation and water supply.

RCP Performance Monitoring Report

The Performance Monitoring Chapter of the RCP describes using performance indicators as a tool to track our progress in implementing the Plan. Given that many of the strategies and actions recommended in the Plan will take years to develop and fund, it is important to maintain a consistent and valid set of indicators that can reflect the changes that occur over the long run.

In October 2006, the SANDAG Board accepted the RCP Baseline Report for Performance Monitoring (Baseline Report), which established a benchmark for future monitoring. The Baseline Report discusses the significance of each of the 39 indicators and identifies targets for certain indicators. The Baseline Report also includes initial analysis of the data collected and a discussion of SANDAG’s work efforts underway that may influence performance over time. Monitoring reports have been prepared and accepted by the SANDAG Board in 2007 and 2008.

The RCP performance monitoring reports and additional information relating to all of the topics discussed above can be found on the SANDAG Web site at www.sandag.org/rcp.

Next Steps

In light of Assembly Bill 32 and Senate Bill 375, several new considerations are underway in regional planning. SANDAG staff is currently working on the draft FY 10 Overall Work Program and Budget to address these new considerations. Staff will bring a report to the RPC at a future meeting to discuss the overall work plan and how it will implement new climate change legislation.

BOB LEITER
Director of Land Use and Transportation Planning

Attachments: 1. RCP Fact Sheet
               2. RCP Executive Summary (provided to RPC members only; available upon request)

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DRAFT SMART GROWTH DESIGN GUIDELINES File Number 3000200

Introduction

The Regional Comprehensive Plan (RCP) calls for development of design guidelines to better define the important elements of urban design in smart growth development. The smart growth guidelines are intended to be a resource for local agencies, designers, developers, and interested citizens who are engaged in the process of implementing smart growth development around the region. Working with a consulting team led by Design Community and Environment (DC&E), SANDAG staff and an ad hoc working group have developed draft design guidelines, titled Designing for Smart Growth, Creating Great Places in the San Diego Region.

Discussion

Development of the Guidelines

The smart growth design guidelines have been developed with the assistance of an ad hoc working group that included representatives from the Regional Planning Technical Working Group (TWG), the Cities/County Transportation Advisory Committee (CTAC), and the Stakeholders Working Group (SWG) that was established to help SANDAG with the last Regional Transportation Plan and the RCP, and SANDAG staff. The consulting team assisting DC&E included Kimley-Horn and Associates, KTU+A, and Solimar Research. The ad hoc working group met over the course of nine months to hear from and provide feedback to the consulting team and staff. In addition, two regional public workshops, one in Encinitas and one in the City of San Diego, were held to provide an opportunity for broad public input. Over 130 people attended the two workshops and provided a significant amount of feedback. The ad hoc working group has reviewed the draft guidelines and provided initial comments and supported distributing the document for public review. Additionally, the guidelines have been presented to the TWG and CTAC for information. To date, overall comments on the draft have been positive. Requests for changes have focused on relatively minor details that will help clarify some of the document’s recommendations or provide better examples of good design.

Recommendation

The Regional Planning Committee is asked to accept the draft “Designing for Smart Growth, Creating Great Places in the San Diego Region” for a 30-day public review period.
Content of the Guidelines

The guidelines include ten chapters that address a wide range of subjects pertinent to good design in smart growth areas. While specific recommendations are made in each topic area, the guidelines are not meant to dictate such things as development densities or building heights. Rather, the intent is to discuss the important elements of design across a range of scales and intensity of development. The object is to make the guidelines applicable to all of the place types identified in the RCP.

The chapters include:

- Introduction
- Transit Stations
- Designing for the Region
- Civic Buildings
- Site Design
- Parks and Civic Space
- Building Design
- Parking
- Multimodal Streets
- Smart Growth Scorecard

In addition, the guidelines address how sustainability and accessibility apply to each subject area, and include information on specific topics such as form-based codes and crime prevention through environmental design. The guidelines also include a “smart growth scorecard” that can serve as a tool for evaluating how well development proposals and streetscape projects meet smart growth design objectives. The scorecard is provided as a template that can be modified to meet local conditions and priorities. Finally, the document includes a reference section that lists resources on the topics covered in the document.

Next Steps

If accepted for public distribution, the guidelines will be made available through the SANDAG Web site and presented to interested groups and individuals for review and input. A final draft that responds to public comments will be produced in May and brought to the RPC for recommendation to the SANDAG Board of Directors.

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Director of Land Use and Transportation Planning

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Attachment: Draft Designing for Smart Growth, Creating Great Places in the San Diego Region
(Provided to RPC members only: available to others upon request.)