REGIONAL PLANNING TECHNICAL WORKING GROUP

The Regional Planning Technical Working Group may take action on any item appearing on this agenda.

Thursday, September 10, 2009
1:15 to 3:15 p.m.

SANDAG, 7th Floor Conference Room
401 B Street, Suite 800
San Diego, CA 92101-4231

Staff Contact: Carolina Gregor
(619) 699-1989
cgr@sandag.org

AGENDA HIGHLIGHTS

- **PRELIMINARY DRAFT REGIONAL ENERGY STRATEGY UPDATE**
- **TransNet ENVIRONMENTAL MITIGATION PROGRAM: STATUS REPORT**
- **SENATE BILL 575 (STEINBERG) UPDATE**

SANDAG offices are accessible by public transit. Phone 1-800-COMMUTE or see www.sdcommute.com for route information.

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) 699-1900 at least 72 hours in advance of the meeting.

To request this document or related reports in an alternative format, please call (619) 699-1900, (619) 699-1904 (TTY), or fax (619) 699-1905.
ITEM # | RECOMMENDATION
--- | ---
1. | WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS
2. | PUBLIC COMMENTS AND COMMUNICATIONS

Members of the public will have the opportunity to address the Technical Working Group on any issue within the jurisdiction of the Working Group that is not on this agenda. Speakers are limited to three minutes each.

CONSENT

3. | MEETING SUMMARY FROM JULY 9, 2009
The Working Group should review and approve the July 9, 2009, Regional Planning Technical Working Group meeting summary.

4. | REGIONAL PLANNING STAKEHOLDERS WORKING GROUP RECOMMENDATION (Jane Clough-Riquelme)
The Board of Directors approved the establishment of the new Regional Planning Stakeholders Working Group at its May 2009 meeting. A call for applications was released in June, and 70 applications were received. The attached report provides the recommended slate approved by the Transportation and Regional Planning Committees in July. Board action is expected on September 11, 2009.

REPORTS

5. | APPOINTMENT OF TWG MEMBERS TO THE TRANSPORTATION PROJECT EVALUATION CRITERIA AD HOC WORKING GROUP FOR THE 2050 REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION PLAN (Rachel Kennedy)
As part of the development of the 2050 Regional Transportation Plan (RTP), a Transportation Project Evaluation Criteria Ad Hoc Technical Working Group (TPEC) has been established. The TPEC will provide input on transportation project evaluation criteria and plan performance measures, which will support the goals and objectives for the 2050 RTP to be established by the Board of Directors. The TPEC will be made up of technical staff from existing SANDAG working groups as well as staff from partner agencies. The group will begin meeting in fall 2009 and is expected to conclude its activities by summer 2010. The TWG is requested to appoint two members to this group.

6. | 2050 REGIONAL GROWTH FORECAST (Beth Jarosz)
Staff will provide an update on the status of meetings with local jurisdictions on the 2050 Regional Growth Forecast and will highlight the project schedule.
ITEM # | RECOMMENDATION
--- | ---
7. | PRELIMINARY DRAFT REGIONAL ENERGY STRATEGY UPDATE (Susan Freedman)

SANDAG has received comments from the public and input from the California Energy Commission State Advisory Task Force (SATF) on the Draft Regional Energy Strategy (RES) Update. Staff will provide an overview of comments and updates to the draft plan. The TWG is asked to discuss and provide input. A final draft RES Update will be presented to the Regional Planning Committee for recommendation to the Board of Directors in October 2009.

8. | TransNet ENVIRONMENTAL MITIGATION PROGRAM: STATUS REPORT (Keith Greer)

The TransNet Environmental Mitigation Program (EMP) Status Report outlines the status, successes, and challenges of implementing the TransNet Environmental Mitigation program under the Memorandum of Agreement signed last March by the Board of Directors. This report has been presented to the Independent Taxpayer Oversight Committee and is being presented to the Regional Planning Committee, Transportation Committee, and Board of Directors for information.

9. | SENATE BILL 575 (STEINBERG) UPDATE (Susan Baldwin)

Staff will update the TWG regarding the most recent version of Senate Bill (SB) 575 (Steinberg). This bill proposes requirements for the upcoming housing element cycle for the jurisdictions in the San Diego region. If passed, the next Regional Housing Needs Assessment (RHNA) will be completed by July 2011, and the next housing elements will be due by December 31, 2012.

10. | ADJOURNMENT AND NEXT MEETING

The next TWG meeting will be held on Thursday, October 8, 2009, from 1:15 to 3:15 p.m.

+ next to an item indicates an attachment
SAN DIEGO ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS

REGIONAL PLANNING TECHNICAL WORKING GROUP

September 10, 2009

AGENDA ITEM NO.: 3

Action Requested: APPROVE

MEETING SUMMARY FROM JULY 9, 2009, REGIONAL PLANNING TECHNICAL WORKING GROUP (TWG) MEETING

File Number 3000200

SPECIAL WORKSHOP: GENERAL PLAN UPDATES ITEMS (#1 through #4)

Agenda Item #1: Welcome and Introductions

Chair Bill Anderson (City of San Diego) called the special workshop of the Regional Planning Technical Working Group (TWG) to order at 12:15 p.m. Self-introductions were conducted.

Agenda Item #2: Group Discussion Session: Facilitated Questions Directed at Jurisdictions That Have Recently Been Completed or are Currently Undertaking General Plan Updates

Devon Muto (County of San Diego), Jon Brindle (Escondido), and Patrick Murphy (Encinitas) led the special workshop in the format of a group discussion. The purpose of the workshop was to share information that may be helpful for jurisdictions currently undertaking or planning to undertake a General Plan update. Topics included the following:

- General Plan update process
  - Lessons learned / biggest challenges
  - Consultation selection and degree of use
  - Budget issues and cost containment
  - The use of sketch planning tools

- General Plan update content
  - Balancing the vision and the details
  - Housing Elements
  - Climate change

Agenda Item #3: Break-Out Sessions

Due to limited time and the progression of the group discussion, no break-out sessions were held.

Agenda Item #4: Conclusions

The special workshop adjourned at 2:15 p.m.
REGIONAL PLANNING TWG REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING ITEMS (#6 THROUGH #13)

Agenda Item #5: Public Comment and Communications (COMMENT)

No public comments were conducted.

CONSENT ITEMS (#6 through #9)

Agenda Item #6: New SANDAG Parking Policy (INFORMATION)

Effective July 1, 2009, parking validation shall only be provided for the period of time during which business is being conducted at SANDAG and shall be limited to a maximum of two hours. The receptionist has a list of lesser-priced on-street parking facilities and information regarding public transportation to the SANDAG office.

Action: This item was presented for information only.

Agenda Item #7: June 11, 2009, Meeting Summary (APPROVE)

The Working Group reviewed and approved the June 11, 2009, Regional Planning Technical Working Group meeting summary.

Action: A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes of the June 11, 2009, Regional Planning Technical Working Group. The minutes were unanimously approved.

Agenda Item #8: Smart Growth Design Guidelines (INFORMATION)

Stephan Vance, SANDAG, informed the TWG about the development of the smart growth design guidelines, one of the strategic initiatives of the Regional Comprehensive Plan. Working in collaboration with local agency staff, SANDAG and its consultants developed guidelines covering a broad array of topics pertaining to good design and great place-making. The Board of Directors, at its June 2009 meeting, accepted “Designing for Smart Growth, Creating Great Places in the San Diego Region” for distribution and for use as a resource in the SANDAG smart growth toolkit. Copies of the publication will be distributed to city managers and planning directors over the next few weeks. CD format will also be available.

Action: This item was presented for information only.

Agenda Item #9: FY 2010 TDA/TransNet Bicycle, Pedestrian, and Neighborhood Safety/ Traffic Calming Funding Recommendations (INFORMATION)

SANDAG is responsible for the allocation of Transportation Development Act (TDA) and TransNet funds to local agencies for bicycle, pedestrian, and neighborhood safety projects. The Board of Directors, at its June 2009 meeting, approved: (1) the list of projects for funding as shown in Attachment 6; and (2) Resolution No. 2009-30 approving the FY 2010 TDA Article 3 allocation as shown in Attachment 7.

Action: This item was presented for information only.
REPORT ITEMS (#10 through #13)

Agenda Item #10: 2050 Regional Growth Forecast: Status Update (INFORMATION)

Beth Jarosz, SANDAG, provided the TWG with an update on the status of the 2050 Regional Growth Forecast, including feedback from the Board of Directors and options for moving forward with the 2050 forecast. The report for the July 10, 2009, Board meeting was distributed at the TWG meeting. Ms. Jarosz reported that a draft forecast is scheduled for completion by December 2009 and a final forecast by February 2010.

Action: This item was presented for information only. Ed Batchelder (Chula Vista) suggested that providing quantification or “order of magnitude” gaps for the optional approaches for jurisdictions would be useful for staff discussion and presentation to city councils. Chair Bill Anderson (City of San Diego) requested more information on the response from the Board of Directors to the 2050 Regional Growth Forecast when it was presented in June. Patrick Murphy (Encinitas) recommended that staff, in their next presentation to the Board of Directors, clarify that jurisdictions have flexibility with adapting scenario options to their individual needs.

Agenda Item #11: 2050 Regional Transportation Plan: Work Program and Schedule (INFORMATION)

Heather Werdick, SANDAG, provided an overview of the 2050 Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) work program and schedule. The 2050 RTP will be based on the 2050 Regional Growth Forecast, will incorporate the results of the many regional and corridor studies currently underway, and will include new components as required by Senate Bill 375. Additionally, responsibilities and roles of various working groups and the Policy Committees were outlined. This report was presented on June 26, 2009, to the Board of Directors for information.

Action: This item was presented for information only. Chair Bill Anderson (City of San Diego) advocated a cost/benefit analysis of the alternatives for the RTP that will include job development and financial feasibility. Chair Anderson also recommended evaluating the efficiency of alternatives based on metrics such as cost per rider or rider mile.

Agenda Item #12: Update on Senate Bill 575 (Steinberg) (INFORMATION)

Genevieve Morelos, SANDAG, updated the TWG regarding Senate Bill (SB) 575 (Steinberg), clean-up legislation for SB 375 as it relates to housing element and Regional Housing Needs Assessment (RHNA) issues. The report for the July 10, 2009, Executive Committee was distributed at the TWG meeting.

Action: This item was presented for information only. Devon Muto (County of San Diego) expressed concern about the March 31 deadline for the completion of current housing elements.

Agenda Item #13: Adjournment and Next Meeting

Chair Anderson adjourned the meeting at 3:15 p.m. The next TWG meeting will be held on Thursday, September 10, 2009, from 1:15 to 3:15 p.m. Please note: The August meeting is canceled.
Introduction

The Board of Directors approved the establishment of the Regional Planning Stakeholders Working Group (SWG) in May 2009. The SWG will act in an advisory capacity to both the Regional Planning and Transportation Committees on the development of the 2050 Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) and its components; development and implementation of the SANDAG Public Participation Plan; and preparation for a future Regional Comprehensive Plan update.

The call for SWG membership applications for at-large citizen representatives was issued on June 1, 2009, with a deadline of June 30. More than 70 applications were received and reviewed by a selection committee consisting of members of the Transportation and Regional Planning Committees, the Cities/County Technical Advisory Committee (CTAC), and the Regional Planning Technical Working Group (TWG). The selection committee was chaired by Board of Directors First Vice Chair Jerome Stocks (Encinitas).

The selection committee recommended approval of a slate of 19 members and 9 alternates, shown in Tables 1 and 2. (The alternates would replace regular members if those members needed to resign over the course of the planning period.) The recommended at-large citizen membership and alternates are shown in Tables 1 and 2.

Discussion

The following outlines the selection process for members of the SWG:

**Membership Categories** - The SWG provides a unique opportunity for SANDAG to involve citizens with expertise in subject matter areas of regional interest as well as individuals who reflect the demographics of the region, with particular emphasis on communities that are not traditionally involved in regional planning processes. The SWG charter (Attachment 1) includes two categories of membership: At-Large Citizen Representatives and Community-based Outreach Grant Recipients from Environmental Justice Communities. The recommendation in this report concerns the At-Large membership category only. The Board of Directors delegated authority to SANDAG staff to coordinate the membership selection and grant-making process for the second category.

**Selection Committee** - A committee was assembled to select the at-large citizen representatives to the SWG. At their meetings of May 1, 2009, the Transportation Committee appointed Councilmembers Matt Hall (City of Carlsbad) and Tony Young (City of San Diego) and the Regional Planning Committee appointed Councilmember Lesa Heebner (Solana Beach) and Supervisor Pam Slater-Price (County of San Diego) to serve on the selection committee. The CTAC appointed Paul Vo (City of San Marcos) and Maryam Babaki (City of National City) at its meeting of June 4,
2009, and on May 14, 2009, the TWG appointed Gary Halbert (City of Chula Vista) and Bill Chopyk (City of La Mesa). The selection committee was chaired by Board of Directors First Vice Chair Stocks (Encinitas).

**Recruitment Announcements** - Advertisements and articles announcing the call for SWG membership applications were placed in The San Diego Union-Tribune, North County Times, La Prensa, and Asian Journal. A full-page article was published in Spanish in El Latino. A press release was distributed to all regional and local media; e-mail notification was distributed to SANDAG e-mail lists; notices and a featured project were posted on the SANDAG Web site; and an item was featured in rEgion, the monthly SANDAG electronic newsletter.

**Selection Criteria** - The selection committee reviewed the membership applications and selected candidates based upon balancing the group by geography and interests, maximizing the number of groups the candidate is associated with, skills and abilities, experience with regional planning issues, and a demonstrated commitment to serve on the working group for approximately two years.

**Replacement Process** - Should at-large members resign, or miss three meetings in a row or four meetings over the course of one year, the selection committee also selected alternates by subregion. Alternates will be appointed by subregion alphabetically. Should the alternate list be exhausted, the selection committee will reconvene to review the remaining pool of applicants.

**Recommended Membership**

The selection committee recommended the following individuals to serve as at-large members on the SWG.

**RECOMMENDED REGIONAL PLANNING STAKEHOLDERS WORKING GROUP AT-LARGE CITIZEN MEMBERSHIP SLATE**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>City of San Diego</th>
<th>County of San Diego</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cary D. Lowe</td>
<td>Michael D. Fitts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Barry J. Schultz</td>
<td>Barbara Warner</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elyse Lowe</td>
<td>Oliver J. Smith</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sandor Shapery</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eddie Price *</td>
<td>Holly S. McGoldrick</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Andrea Skorepa *</td>
<td>Ervin Poka, Jr.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stephen Russell</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>North County Coastal</th>
<th>South County</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Gary Knight</td>
<td>David Krogh</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Margarete Morgan</td>
<td>Ditas Yamane *</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Ken D. Mitchell</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Affiliated with a minority organization with countywide constituent base
The selection committee recommended the following individuals as alternates to replace at-large members as needed.

RECOMMENDED ALTERNATES

Table 2

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>City of San Diego</th>
<th>County of San Diego</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>o Daniel Allen</td>
<td>o Dennis Martinek</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>o Michael F. Boyle</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>o Nico Calavita</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North County Coastal</td>
<td>North County Inland</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>o Dennis E. Ridz</td>
<td>o Robert K. Leonard</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>East County</td>
<td>South County</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>o Lynda Brophy</td>
<td>o Tracey Rivera</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Next Steps

The Regional Planning and Transportation Committees recommended the slate of SWG members at their July 31 meetings to be forwarded to the Board of Directors for approval at its meeting on September 11, 2009. Staff was delegated the authority to proceed with the grant program for the Community-based Outreach members from the environmental justice community. The results of that process will be included in the staff report for the September 11 Board of Directors meeting. Following Board approval, the first meeting of the SWG would be held on Wednesday, September 16, from 4 to 6 p.m. at the Caltrans offices on Taylor Street in Old Town.

Attachment: 1. Regional Planning Stakeholders Working Group Charter

Key Staff Contact: Jane Clough-Riquelme, (619) 699-1909, jcl@sandag.org
Charter for Regional Planning Stakeholders Working Group

PURPOSE
The purpose of the Regional Planning Stakeholders Working Group (SWG) is to provide ongoing public input into key activities associated with developing the 2050 Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) and its key components, including its goals and objectives; a Sustainable Communities Strategy (SCS) required by Senate Bill 375 (2008); and laying the foundation for the next Regional Comprehensive Plan (RCP) update.

LINE OF REPORTING
Depending on the activity or element being considered, the SWG will act in an advisory capacity to either or both the Regional Planning Committee and/or Transportation Committee on specific 2050 RTP, SCS, and RCP elements. The Regional Planning and Transportation Committees in turn report to the SANDAG Board of Directors, which will make final decisions on the 2050 RTP, SCS, and RCP.

RESPONSIBILITIES
The SWG will review and provide input that staff will use to develop and adopt the 2050 RTP, as well as lay the foundation for the next RCP update. These activities may include, but are not limited to, the development of the 2050 Regional Growth Forecast, Sustainable Communities Strategy (SCS), Regional Housing Needs Assessment (RHNA), Urban Core Transit Strategy, and the RTP/SCS Public Participation Plan. The SWG also will assist with associated public outreach and help inform and encourage diverse, inclusive and active, public participation in achieving the SWG’s Purpose.

MEMBERSHIP
The SWG will have up to 25 members. 16 to 18 SWG members will be “at-large” members selected based on their individual qualifications as a citizen representative or their role as a community leader, and not as an organization’s designated representative. Of the 16 to 18 individual “at-large” members, up to four members will have experience with various minority organizations with countywide constituent bases (e.g., Chicano Federation of San Diego County, Council of Native American Organizations of San Diego County, San Diego Alliance for Asian Pacific Islanders, etc.). Five to seven members will be “community-based network” members that represent community-based organizations that will have been awarded a SCS/RTP Community-Based Environmental Justice Outreach Mini-Grant and will have executed a Mini-Grant Agreement.

If an at-large SWG member misses three meetings in a row or four meetings over the course of one year, s/he will be replaced. Community-based SWG members may formally designate up to two alternates in writing. If a Community-Based SWG member misses three meetings in a row or four meetings over the course of one year without representation by one of his/her alternates, s/he will be replaced. Replacement at-large members will be selected from the approved waiting list created by the SWG Membership Selection Committee. Replacement “community-based network” members will be selected from the Community Based Outreach Mini-Grant finalists who were not previously awarded a grant.
MEETING TIME AND LOCATION
The SWG will meet on a monthly basis. Meetings will typically be held on the third Tuesday of the month from 4 to 6 p.m. at the Caltrans District 11 offices on Taylor Street in San Diego.

WORKING GROUP LEADERSHIP
The Chair of the SWG will be a member of, and will be appointed by, the SANDAG Board of Directors. The Chair will be a non-voting member who will manage meetings and facilitate discussions amongst the membership. The SWG will elect two vice-chairs by a majority vote. One vice-chair will serve as an advisory member to the Regional Planning Committee while the other will serve as an advisory member to the Transportation Committee when invited by the applicable committee chair due to an RTP-related item being placed on the agenda.

DURATION OF EXISTENCE
The SWG will complete its work with the adoption of the 2050 RTP (anticipated in summer 2011).

BROWN ACT AND CONFLICT OF INTEREST
Consistent with Government Code Section 54952(b), the SWG is subject to the Ralph M. Brown Act. Input from the SWG will undergo intervening analysis by staff, the Regional Planning Committee, the Transportation Committee, and other committees and working groups. Therefore members of the SWG will not be required to submit Statements of Economic Interest (Form 700).
APPOINTMENT OF TWG MEMBERS TO THE TRANSPORTATION
PROJECT EVALUATION CRITERIA AD HOC WORKING GROUP
FOR THE 2050 REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION PLAN

Introduction

Transportation project evaluation criteria have been utilized in past Regional Transportation Plans (RTPs) to evaluate and prioritize transportation projects for funding scenarios. SANDAG also utilizes plan performance measures to evaluate and compare regional networks of transportation projects.

Discussion

As part of the development of the 2050 RTP, the Executive Director and Board Chair have established the Transportation Project Evaluation Criteria Ad Hoc Working Group (TPEC). The TPEC will provide input on transportation project evaluation criteria and plan performance measures, which will support the goals and objectives for the 2050 RTP to be established by the Board of Directors.

The TPEC will be made up of technical staff from existing SANDAG working groups as well as staff from partner agencies such as the San Diego County Regional Airport Authority, Caltrans, Metropolitan Transit System, North County Transit District, and the Port of San Diego. The TPEC will begin meeting in fall 2009 and is expected to conclude its activities by summer 2010.

Staff requests that TWG recommend two members to participate in the TPEC. The initial kickoff meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, September 30, 2009, from 9 to 10:30 a.m. in the SANDAG 7th Floor Conference Room. Following meetings will occur on a monthly basis and the specific dates will be determined at the kickoff meeting.

Attachment: 1. 2050 RTP TPEC Ad Hoc Working Group Membership Roster

Key Staff Contact: Rachel Kennedy, (619) 699-1929, rke@sandag.org
2050 RTP Transportation Project Evaluation Criteria
Ad Hoc Working Group Membership Roster

Ad Hoc Working Group Members

- Bicycle-Pedestrian Working Group (1)
- Cities/County Transportation Advisory Committee (CTAC) (2)
- Independent Taxpayer Oversight Committee (ITOC) (1) (potential)
- Regional Planning Stakeholders Working Group (SWG) (2)
- Regional Planning Technical Working Group (TWG) (2)
- Interagency Technical Working Group on Tribal Transportation Issues (1)
- Caltrans (1)
- Metropolitan Transit System (MTS) (1)
- North County Transit District (NCTD) (1)
- Port of San Diego (1)
- San Diego County Regional Airport Authority (1)
PRELIMINARY DRAFT REGIONAL ENERGY STRATEGY UPDATE

Introduction

Last updated in 2003, the adopted Regional Energy Strategy (RES) serves as the energy policy blueprint for the San Diego region. With the emergence of climate change as an urgent global challenge and significant energy policy changes in California, an update to the RES was initiated last summer with partial funding through a partnership with the California Energy Commission. The Board of Directors and Regional Planning Committee (RPC) have provided direction and the Energy Working Group (EWG) has overseen development of the preliminary draft at its monthly meetings. Additional input also has been received from the Transportation Committee, Borders Committee, and members of the public at an August workshop. The Regional Planning Technical Working Group provided input at its March and May 2009 meetings. The RPC accepted the Preliminary Draft RES Update for public distribution and comment at its July 31, 2009, meeting.

The Preliminary Draft RES Update is available online at www.sandag.org/energy. Staff will present an overview of the preliminary draft and comments received thus far. The TWG is asked to provide comments during the meeting or via email (sfr@sandag.org) until noon on September 14, 2009.

Discussion

The Preliminary Draft RES Update is a policy document intended to support regional and local decision-making related to energy issues in the San Diego region. It does not make recommendations on specific energy projects (e.g., power plants or transmission lines). The Preliminary Draft RES Update lays out a path for the region on energy issues and provides direction and guidance to local energy planning, legislative priorities, and public outreach. As a starting point, the Preliminary Draft RES Update establishes guiding principles to form a regional vision for 2030.

It also identifies 12 regional energy goals with objectives, policies, and actions that can benefit the region. The topic areas are:

- energy efficiency
- renewable energy
- distributed generation
- energy and water
- peak demand
- smart grid
- natural gas
- transportation fuels
- land use and transportation planning
- energy and borders
- clean energy economy
- energy and climate change
Background

SANDAG-California Energy Commission (CEC) Partnership Products

1. Regional Energy Strategy (RES) Update

The 2003 RES is being updated to improve the integration of regional energy and transportation planning goals. The updated goals will be available for consideration in the 2050 Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) and future update of the Regional Comprehensive Plan.

   **Status:** A preliminary draft was presented July 31, 2009. The final draft is anticipated in November 2009.

   **Transferable Tool:** A How-To-Guide to Regional Energy Planning will be developed based on the RES Update.

2. Regional Climate Action Plan (RCAP)

The RCAP implements a mitigation measure called for in the 2007 RTP Environmental Impact Report. The purpose of the RCAP is to identify policy measures and other actions that could achieve Greenhouse Gas (GHG) emissions reduction targets called for in SB 375. The RCAP also will identify prospective performance measures that could be used to monitor progress toward achieving GHG reductions. The results will be available for consideration and use in the 2050 RTP.

   **Status:** The preliminary draft RCAP will be presented in October 2009. The final draft is anticipated by January 2010.

   **Transferable Tool:** A Regional How-To-Guide will be developed based on the RCAP. A methodology report on the regional GHG Inventory has been developed by EPIC.

3. Regional Alternative Fuels, Vehicles, and Infrastructure Report

The objective of this report is to provide useful information and tools that will enable SANDAG, its member agencies, and other regional stakeholders to take actions that could increase alternative fuel use and infrastructure availability in the San Diego region. This report serves as the background for addressing alternative fuels in the RES Update, RCAP, and Sustainable Region Program.

   **Status:** The draft report was presented in May 2009. The final draft will be considered by the Board of Directors at its September Business Meeting.

   **Transferable Tool:** The Energy Commission and SANDAG will determine if a toolkit should be developed or if existing toolkits should be utilized.

4. Sustainable Regional Program (SRP)

Funded through the CEC, SDG&E, and SANDAG, the SRP provides “energy roadmaps” to local governments, conducts energy audits, and provides recommendations on energy efficiency improvements. The SRP has assisted the cities of Carlsbad, Poway, Solana Beach, and Imperial Beach.
**Status**

SRP work with individual cities is complete under the CEC agreement. SANDAG anticipates new funding through a local government partnership with SDG&E in 2010. In the interim, partial assistance is underway with cities of Santee, San Marcos, Encinitas, and La Mesa that will be expanded once a grant award is final. Outreach to the remaining cities and County also will occur at that time.

**Transferable Tools**

A Sustainable Region Program Action Plan and SRP Toolkit were developed with CCSE and SDG&E and are available online.

**Next Steps**

Staff will incorporate feedback received on the preliminary draft RES Update and a new draft will be discussed at the September and October EWG meetings. A final draft RES Update will be presented to the Regional Planning Committee and Board of Directors for consideration in November 2009. As part of the Energy Commission partnership, SANDAG will produce a regional energy planning “How-To-Guide” that other councils of government may use if they choose to develop their own regional energy strategies.

Key Staff Contact: Susan Freedman, (619) 699-7387, sfr@sandag.org
TransNet ENVIRONMENTAL MITIGATION PROGRAM: STATUS REPORT  File Number 1200201

Introduction

The TransNet Extension Ordinance and Expenditure Plan established the Environmental Mitigation Program (EMP), which is a funding allocation category for the cost to “create a reliable approach for funding required mitigation for future transportation improvements thereby reducing costs and accelerating project delivery (TransNet Extension Ordinance Section D).”

The EMP established two funds: (1) the Transportation Mitigation Fund for direct mitigation, management, and monitoring for transportation related impacts; and (2) the Regional Habitat Conservation Fund for efforts related to regional land acquisition, management and monitoring for implementation of the regional habitat conservation plans.

Both of these funds will help to acquire, manage and monitor open space for mitigation of transportation projects and to assist with the implementation of the habitat conservation programs in the region.

Attached is a status report on the progress of the EMP to date. This report was made to the Regional Planning Committee on July 31, 2009, and will be made to the Board of Directors on September 25, 2009.

SANDAG staff will provide a short report and be available to answer questions.

Attachment: 1. Regional Planning Committee Report #4 from July 31, 2009

Key Staff Contact: Keith Greer, (619) 699-7390, kgr@sandag.org
TransNet ENVIRONMENTAL MITIGATION PROGRAM: STATUS REPORT

Introduction

The TransNet Extension Ordinance and Expenditure Plan, approved by voters in November 2004, includes an Environmental Mitigation Program (EMP), which is a funding allocation category for the cost to “create a reliable approach for funding required mitigation for future transportation improvements thereby reducing costs and accelerating project delivery (TransNet Extension Ordinance Section D).” The EMP established two funds: (1) the Transportation Mitigation Fund for direct mitigation, management, and monitoring for transportation-related impacts; and (2) the Regional Habitat Conservation Fund for efforts related to regional land acquisition, management, and monitoring for implementation of the regional habitat conservation plans.

On February 22, 2008, the Board of Directors authorized a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) with Caltrans, the California Department of Fish and Game, and the United States Fish and Wildlife Service to establish the process to implement the goals of the TransNet EMP. The MOA, executed on March 19, 2008, memorialized a Plan of Finance (POF) strategy of $440 million over the ten years for the Transportation Mitigation Fund and $40 million for the Regional Habitat Conservation Fund.

The MOA states, “Starting in 2010, and then once every two years thereafter, SANDAG will develop a report card to analyze the status and progress of the MOA implementing the goals of the TransNet EMP for presentation to the SANDAG Board as part of the update to the Regional Transportation Improvement Program (RTIP).” The intent of this report is to provide a brief update on the progress of the EMP since inception as an interim yardstick to measure progress until the 2010 report.

Discussion

Attachment 1 summarizes the progress of the Transportation Mitigation Fund. Since January 2008, nine properties have been acquired focused on the mitigation for State Route 76, Interstate 5, and advanced mitigation for other Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) projects and local streets and roads. A total of 697 acres have been acquired and corresponding letters that these lands can be used as mitigation for project-related impacts have been obtained. Two of the properties acquired under the EMP already have received subsequent federal permits showing that the process of advance acquisition of mitigation is working as envisioned. The focus for acquisitions has been to satisfy the biological mitigation needs of the SANDAG Early Action Projects as identified by the Board of Directors in the Regional Transportation Plan. SANDAG, through its acquisition agent, Caltrans, is underway with over a dozen additional appraisals for future acquisitions of key parcels.
approved by the wildlife agencies across western San Diego County. It is expected that within one year staff will have identified all of the biological mitigation for the TransNet Early Action Projects, and will be in the process of securing the opportunities accordingly.

Attachment 2 summarizes the progress of the Regional Habitat Conservation Fund. Since FY 2006, 30 land management grants have been awarded throughout the western San Diego region to help implement the San Diego region land manager’s efforts under regional habitat conservation plans to preserve and enhance habitat and endangered species. The grants have been awarded through a competitive program, which has resulted in a wide range of applicants, from large agencies to small nonprofit organizations, across a large geographic area. In addition, 12 multi-year projects for regional biological monitoring and management have been funded to establish the existing conditions of species and habitat within the regional preserve system. These contracts includes the succession of plants and animals resulting from the 2003 and 2007 wildfires, the status and distribution of the California gnatcatcher, the conditions and monitoring of the habitat within the preserve, and the establishment of monitoring protocols and the status of rare plants.

A final effort under the Regional Habitat Conservation Fund is the development of a regional entity to coordinate among land managers and biological monitoring efforts to maximize efficiency and reduce the cost of maintaining and monitoring these preserve systems. This includes using a scientific framework to review the data on land management and biological monitoring, combined with an assessment of the cost and effectiveness of actions to produce a strategic approach on how to best utilize limited funding.

Challenges

The TransNet EMP is a unique approach that is being discussed as framework for other parts of California and the United States. While staff has overcome many hurdles in its implementation, several challenges still exist.

Securing opportunities for wetlands remains a challenge. As shown on Attachment 2, there remains a large need for securing opportunities for coastal and freshwater wetlands. Wetland mitigation is significantly more challenging to secure due to the federal and state regulations to create new wetlands to achieve a “no-net-loss” of wetland acreage. These stringent requirements, combined with the desire of the regulatory agencies to have the mitigation occur within the same watershed as the impact, limit opportunities. SANDAG and Caltrans staffs have employed a three-pronged approach to identifying and securing more lands for wetland mitigation. This includes focused efforts to target properties by staff, use of a consultant to model and validate opportunities unknown to staff, and a Request for Proposals to private and public land owners. These efforts are showing results and it is expected over the next year the amount of lands identified and secured for wetland mitigation will significantly increase towards the estimated need of the transportation projects.

Both the public and SANDAG leadership have requested a transparent, up-to-date system to depict the status of the EMP and to be able to track expenditures. Building off the existing TransNet Dashboard concept, staff has been working with a consultant to create an EMP Dashboard that will enable online access to the status of efforts under both the Transportation Mitigation Fund and the Regional Habitat Conservation Fund. The EMP Dashboard is expected to be completed in four to six months.
Finally, the question of how much saving has accrued under the EMP since the start of its implementation has been raised. Cost saving is measured by determining the ability for the early acquisition of mitigation land to be completed within the estimated budget. Land acquisition under the EMP has only occurred since January 2008. Many properties need to have restoration and management cost determined, as well as to obtain various permits. The TransNet EMP MOA provides for a 10-year evaluation period, with reporting every two years to establish opportunities for review. For the nine properties acquired to date, the total acquisition cost was $7.3 million (17.2% lower than the 2002 acquisition budget). This reflects the downturn in the real estate market. A complete picture of cost savings can not be determined with such limited data; however, SANDAG will continue to monitor the budgets.

**Next Steps**

This report is intended to be a status update of the program. In June 2010, a more detailed report will be provided to the Transportation Committee for its consideration. This report was presented to the Independent Taxpayer Oversight Committee and the EMP Working Group, and will be presented to the Transportation Committee on July 31, 2009, and the Board of Directors at its meeting this September.

**BOB LEITER**  
Director of Land Use and Transportation Planning

Attachments:  
1. CIP Project Number: 1200200 Biological Mitigation Fund  
2. CIP Project Number: 1200300 Regional Habitat Conservation Fund

Key Staff Contact: Keith Greer, (619) 699-7390, kgr@sandag.org
CIP Project Number: 1200200 Biological Mitigation Fund

Purpose: Environmental Mitigation Program (EMP), Biological Mitigation Fund. To secure mitigation for projects in the Regional Transportation Plan and local streets and roads pursuant to the TransNet Extension Ordinance and the subsequent TransNet Implementation Memorandum of Agreement.

An additional 83.8 acres of uplands acquired for local streets not included in chart.

TransNet Environmental Mitigation Program Mitigation Costs as of July 2009

$35,008,633

$870,000

$770,000

Estimated Remaining Mitigation Needs: Regional Transportation Plan Projects as of July 2009

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Acres</th>
<th>Est. Remaining Mitigation</th>
<th>Regional Transportation Plan Projects</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>220.9</td>
<td>(1704 ac)</td>
<td>(614 ac)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>411.6</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>988.0</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Coastal Wetlands (4.1 ac)  Freshwater Wetlands (83.4 ac)  Uplands (526.2 ac)

Status: As of July 2009, 697.5 acres of land have been acquired for mitigation under the TransNet EMP for regional and local transportation projects. The focus has been on properties for the TransNet Early Action projects, including State Route 76 expansion and the Interstate 5 corridor. Several properties will require the future restoration of habitat. The identification and acquisition of wetland mitigation opportunities is a significant challenge which staff actively is working to resolve.
**Purpose:** Environmental Mitigation Program, Regional Habitat Conservation Fund. In December 2006 and again in March 2008, the SANDAG Board of Directors authorized funding pursuant to the TransNet Extension Ordinance to maintain and enhance the habitat values of the regional conservation preserve system pursuant to a five-year funding strategy.

**Status:** Currently SANDAG has granted 30 projects for land management activities, and has funded twelve other regional management and monitoring projects ranging from post wildfire recovery to status monitoring of endangered species. In 2009, an effort to coordinate all the land management and monitoring activities started to achieve better efficiency of and effectiveness of efforts across the region.
SANDBAG is seeking through Senate Bill 575, to eliminate the housing element that is due in June 30, 2010, per Senate Bill 375 (Steinberg, 2008). Elimination of this housing element would allow the region to focus its resources on developing the next Regional Housing Needs Assessment (RHNA), Sustainable Communities Strategy (SCS), and Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) in accordance with the goals of SB 375. If the 2010 housing element cycle is eliminated, the deadline for completion of the next housing element (fifth revision) would be December 31, 2012.

At its July 10, 2009, meeting, the Executive Committee took a support position on Senate Bill 575 (SB 575) based on the July version of the bill. On August 17, 2009, SB 575 was amended again (Attachment 1). The new August amendments are technical in nature and clarify the language that was agreed upon by Senator Steinberg, the California League of Conservation Voters, statewide and local affordable housing advocates, and SANDBAG. With the amendments, SB 575 would align the next RHNA and housing elements for all 19 jurisdictions in the San Diego region with our next RTP (eliminating the 2010 housing element due date).

Other provisions of the bill (August 17, 2009, version) include:

- Prior to or concurrent with the adoption of the fifth revision of the housing element, each local government within the regional jurisdiction of the San Diego Association of Governments shall identify adequate sites in its inventory pursuant to Section 65583.2 or rezone adequate sites to accommodate a prorated portion of its share of the regional housing need for the projection period representing the period from July 1, 2010, to the deadline for adoption of the next housing element (December 31, 2012).

- For the fifth revision, a local government within the jurisdiction of the San Diego Association of Governments that has not adopted a housing element for the fourth revision by January 1, 2009, shall revise its housing element every four years (instead of eight years), unless the local government does both of the following:
  - Adopts a housing element for the fourth revision no later than March 31, 2010, which is in substantial compliance with this article; and
  - Completes any rezoning contained in the housing element program for the fourth revision by June 30, 2010.

On Tuesday, September 1, 2009, SB 575 passed off the Assembly Floor by a vote of 51-25; next, the bill will move to the Senate for concurrence on amendments and then to the Governor for his signature. Staff will continue to update the Regional Planning Technical Working Group (TWG) as the bill makes its way through the legislative process.

Attachment: 1. Excerpt from Senate Bill 575

Key Staff Contact: Susan Baldwin, (619) 699-1943, sba@sandag.org
EXEMPLARY FROM SB 575 (STEINBERG) (AUGUST 17, 2009)
PERTAINING TO HOUSING ELEMENT DUE DATES FOR JURISDICTIONS
IN THE SAN DIEGO REGION:

SEC. 3. Section 65588 of the Government Code is amended to read:

B) (i) All local governments within the regional jurisdiction of the San Diego Association of Governments shall adopt the fifth revision of the housing element no later than 18 months after adoption of the first regional transportation plan update to be adopted after September 30, 2010.

   (ii) Prior to or concurrent with the adoption of the fifth revision of the housing element, each local government within the regional jurisdiction of the San Diego Association of Governments shall identify adequate sites in its inventory pursuant to Section 65583.2 or rezone adequate sites to accommodate a prorated portion of its share of the regional housing need for the projection period representing the period from July 1, 2010, to the deadline for housing element adoption described in clause (i).

   (I) For the fifth revision, a local government within the jurisdiction of the San Diego Association of Governments that has not adopted a housing element for the fourth revision by January 1, 2009, shall revise its housing element not less than every four years, beginning on the date described in clause (i), in accordance with paragraph (4), unless the local government does both of the following:

      (ia) Adopts a housing element for the fourth revision no later than March 31, 2010, which is in substantial compliance with this article.

      (ib) Completes any rezoning contained in the housing element program for the fourth revision by June 30, 2010.

   (II) For the sixth and subsequent revisions, a local government within the jurisdiction of the San Diego Association of Governments shall be subject to the dates described in clause (i), in accordance with paragraph (4).