BORDERS COMMITTEE AGENDA

Friday, December 20, 2002
2 – 3:30 p.m.*
SANDAG, 7th Floor Conference Room
401 B. Street, Suite 800
San Diego, CA 92101

*Please note time change due to earlier SANDAG Board activities

AGENDA HIGHLIGHTS

• BORDERS VISIONING

• CROSS BORDER ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT

MISSION STATEMENT
The Borders Committee provides oversight for planning activities that impact the borders of the San Diego region (Orange, Riverside, and Imperial counties and the Republic of Mexico). The preparation and implementation of SANDAG’s Binational Planning and Interregional Planning Programs are included under its purview. It advises the SANDAG Board of Directors on major interregional planning policy-level matters. Recommendations of the Committee are forwarded to the Board of Directors for action.

San Diego Association of Governments
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Welcome to SANDAG! Members of the public may speak to the Borders 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. Speakers are limited to three minutes. The Borders 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 SANDAG’s Web site. Public comments regarding the agenda can be forwarded to SANDAG via the e-mail comment form also available on the Web site. E-mail comments should be received no later than noon, two days prior to the Borders Committee meeting.

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ITEM # | ACTION
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1. **WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS**

+2. **MEETING SUMMARY OF NOVEMBER 15, 2002 (PP. 5-7)** | **APPROVE**

3. **PUBLIC COMMENTS AND COMMUNICATIONS**

(Each speaker limited to three minutes.)

**CONSENT**

The Borders Committee will take action on the consent agenda without further discussion and with one vote unless an item is pulled by a Committee member or a member of the public for comment.

+4. **COMMITTEE ON BINATIONAL REGIONAL OPPORTUNITIES (PP. 8-10 )** | **INFORMATION**

Attached is a summary of the November 5, 2002 COBRO meeting.

+5. **STAFF REPORT (P. 11)** | **APPROVE**

The Borders Calendar for 2003 is attached

**REPORTS**

6. **CHAIR AND MEMBERS REPORTS** | **INFORMATION**

+7. **BORDERS VISIONING PROCESS (Crystal Crawford) (PP. 12-13)** | **DISCUSSION/ APPROVE**

The Committee will finalize its discussion regarding the core values that are important to a cross-border or interregional perspective and approve what core value statements should be recommended for inclusion in the Regional Comprehensive Plan.

8. **CROSS BORDER ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT (Ricardo Martinez)** | **INFORMATION**

Mr. Martinez, CalEPA, will provide the Committee with an overview of the pressing environmental concerns in the region and highlight issues of a cross border nature.
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<td>9. NEXT MEETING TOPICS, DATE, AND LOCATION</td>
<td>INFORMATION/ APPROVE</td>
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The next meeting of the Borders Committee will be held on Friday, January 17, 2002 at noon in SANDAG’s Board Room. This will be a joint meeting with the Regional Planning Committee.

+ Next to an agenda item indicates an attachment

Visit us on the Web at: www.sandag.org (under binational)
MEETING SUMMARY OF NOVEMBER 15, 2002

The regularly scheduled meeting of the San Diego Association of Governments Borders Committee was called to order by Vice Chair Patricia McCoy (South County). Other members in attendance were, Crystal Crawford (North County Coastal), Hal Martin (North County Inland) and Ralph Inzunza (City of San Diego); and alternates Judy Ritter (North County Inland), Phil Monroe (South County), and Dick Ramos (East County). The Chair, Crystal Crawford, joined the meeting shortly after it started. Ex-Officio members in attendance were Gene Pound (Caltrans), Jim Turner (SDCWA), Francisco Anza (Mexico), Kevin Viera (Riverside County), and COBRO Chair Elsa Saxod.

1. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

Vice Chair Patricia McCoy welcomed the Committee members and guests to the meeting, and asked for self introductions.

2. MEETING SUMMARY OF OCTOBER 18, 2002

The Borders Committee approved the October 18, 2002 Borders Committee summary with one change regarding attendance.

3. PUBLIC COMMENTS AND COMMUNICATIONS

Vice Chair McCoy announced an upcoming meeting that she plans to attend of the Comision Estatal de Servicios Publicos de Tijuana, the water and wastewater operating agency in Tijuana, on November 21st at San Ysidro Middle School, and invited others to attend.

CONSENT ITEMS (4 and 5)

4. COMMITTEE ON BINATIONAL REGIONAL OPPORTUNITIES (INFORMATION)

COBRO Chair Elsa Saxod was available to report and answer questions.

5. STAFF REPORT (INFORMATION)

The Borders Committee approved the consent agenda items 4 and 5.
6. **CHAIR AND MEMBERS REPORTS (INFORMATION)**

Vice Chair McCoy reported on the Border Tour that the Committee Members participated in.

7. **BORDERS VISIONING PROCESS (Crystal Crawford) (DISCUSSION)**

The Committee began its Visioning process by hearing from Scott Anders, San Diego Regional Energy Office (REO), who presented the Committee with an overview of the Sustain San Diego visioning project. Mr. Anders noted that the REO entered an International Energy Competition whose purpose is to stimulate new ideas, approaches, concepts, and design in urban planning. Key issues to be dealt with include energy, water and wastewater, transportation, land use, housing and urban design, by-product management, and governance.

After Mr. Anders concluded his presentation, the Committee members discussed their ideas for the future of San Diego’s borders. Chair Crawford pointed out that this committee’s views and feedback on the Regional Planning Committee’s vision and core values will be discussed at a joint meeting of both Committees in January. Committee members identified many important issues and concepts to be considered. Issues of importance included:

- Communication
- Economic parity
- International trade
- Economic development
- Jobs/housing balance
- Seamless transportation systems
- Binational or shared infrastructure projects

Important concepts that surfaced include:

- The notion that the San Diego region has more in common with Baja California than it does with the state and federal government. The idea of the “borderlander” as a regional phenomenon.
- The consideration of actions of people and non-governmental organizations on either side of the border since they are the segments of society that are on the cutting edge and will determine the way the region grows.
- The region’s notion of itself changing as the population changes
- The importance of understanding cultural differences and developing respect for them.
- The need for defining sustainability, and encouraging sustainable development.
- The notion that common interests guiding economic progress.
- The potential for a new type of border agency beyond SANDAG, to include both Mexico and the United States.
- Better cross border cooperation to improve the economy in Mexico as well as Imperial County.
Committee members echoed the concern that Orange County thus far has not been involved in the Borders Committee and, therefore, there is a gap in perspective from that border.

**Action:** Staff will take the Border Committee’s comments, and develop a list of core values to bring back to the next meeting for review.

8. **THE SAN DIEGO TRANSPORTATION ALLIANCE (Elsa Saxod) (INFORMATION)**

COBRO Chair, Elsa Saxod, gave a presentation on the San Diego Transportation Alliance. Her presentation included statistics on the number of border crossings, ports of entry hours of operation, and the number of trucks traveling to and from Mexico. The San Diego Transportation Alliance has made recommendations regarding border crossing procedures and the dynamics and infrastructure needs of the region’s ports of entry.

9. **CROSS BORDER TRANSPORTATION FORECASTING MODEL (Elisa Arias) (INFORMATION)**

Staff provided a brief overview of the cross border transportation forecasting model. The model is being used as a tool to evaluate proposed ports of entry or expansion of existing ones, to forecast traffic volumes on the main highways that connect ports of entry, and to provide input to border-wide planning studies. Staff mentioned that SANDAG recently received two awards for this model. SANDAG also would like to update the model to include enhanced 2030 cross border projections and plans from Tijuana.

10. **NEXT MEETING TOPICS, DATE, AND LOCATION (INFORMATION/APPROVE)**

The full Board has moved its December meeting to December 20. It was suggested that the time of the December meeting be changed to 2:00 p.m. Staff will present the Borders Committee with a meeting schedule for 2003 at that meeting.

**Action:** The Borders Committee approved changing the December meeting time to 2:00 p.m.

**ADDITIONAL COMMENTS**

Committee members expressed interest regarding the passage of the sales tax extension measure in Riverside County, and asked to hear from the Riverside representative on this issue. The Committee also expressed concern about a disconnect in I-15 corridor planning.

Garry Bonelli, SANDAG, reported that the sales tax extension is to be discussed at the retreat in January when the Board will receive a presentation from the Executive Director of the Riverside County Transportation Commission.
COMMITTEE ON BINATIONAL REGIONAL OPPORTUNITIES
MEETING SUMMARY OF NOVEMBER 5, 2002

The November 5, 2002, COBRO meeting was called to order by the COBRO Chair, Elsa Saxod.

1. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

The Chair welcomed the COBRO members and guests to the meeting and asked for self introductions. The Chair was pleased to introduce Lisa Davis from the U.S. Consular General in Tijuana and new member, Doug Perkins, from the South San Diego Economic Development Council.

2. MEETING SUMMARY OF OCTOBER 9, 2002

The meeting summary for October 9, 2002, was approved.

3. PUBLIC COMMENTS AND COMMUNICATION

Steve Elliot, USD Transborder Institute, invited the Committee members to join the Association for Borderland Studies.

4. CHAIR AND COBRO MEMBERS REPORT

The Chair briefly described the recent border tour that was organized for members of the Borders Committee. Many of the members of the Borders Committee participated in the tour and many of COBRO’s members presented information and facilitated discussions at the various stops. The Chair thanked the COBRO members and staff for their hard work and mentioned that staff will plan a second tour along the Mexican side of the border after the new year.

Chair Saxod asked Angelika Villagrana, San Diego Regional Chamber of Commerce, to update the Committee on the San Diego Alliance for Border Efficiency. Ms. Villagrana informed the Committee that the Alliance was formed to create a seamless regional presentation for the U.S.–Mexico Binational Group on Bridges and Border Crossings meeting on October 2, 2002. The group has prepared a 15 minute presentation to encourage the reduction of border wait times and promote the secure and efficient inspection and movement of people, goods and services across the San Diego-Baja California border.

Chair Saxod suggested that the Alliance presentation should be made to the Borders Committee at the November 15th meeting and subsequently to the full SANDAG Board of Directors.
Directors (staff note: Chair Saxod made the Alliance presentation at the November Borders meeting).

The Chair asked Hayde Martinez, IMPlan, to brief the Committee on southbound trucking issues in Tijuana. Ms. Martinez discussed several short- and long-term solutions for expediting the flow of commercial vehicle traffic in the Otay Mesa area of Tijuana. She also informed the Committee that the State of Baja California is organizing a regional presentation regarding the ports of entry to be presented at the next U.S.–Mexico Binational Group on Bridges and Border Crossings meeting. Chair Saxod mentioned that it would be beneficial for both sides of the border to collaborate on their presentations, as occurred with the Alliance.

Alejandra Mier y Teran, Otay Mesa Chamber of Commerce, also gave an update on southbound trucking issues on the U.S. side of the border.

5. **STAFF REPORT**

SANDAG staff briefed the Committee on SB 2588 (Feinstein), the Southern Border Air Quality Protection Act, and on HR 5038 (Filner), the Air Basin Clean Act of 2002. Both of these bills focus on energy production in the U.S.-Mexico border region and place environmental requirements on the import and export of energy and related fuels used to produce energy.

Angelika Villagrana, San Diego Regional Chamber of Commerce, suggested that the COBRO review and comment on bills that effect the binational region. Chair Saxod asked that staff provide the Committee with analysis of current legislation affecting the border region with the agenda so that the Committee can take a position.

6. **ASOCIACIÓN DE LA INDUSTRIA MAQUILADORA (AIM)**

Mr. Jaime Gonzales-Luna provided the COBRO with an overview of the Maquiladora Industry Association. He discussed the objectives of the maquiladora industry, international investment patterns in the industry, and declining competitive advantage due to competition from China and other Asian nations. Mr. Gonzales-Luna indicated that where Mexico maintains an advantage is in the free trade agreements that it holds with many countries.

By number, the state of Baja California has the most maquiladoras, followed by Chihuahua, Tamaulipas, Nuevo Leon and Jalisco. Over 60% of maquiladora investment comes from the U.S. and over 25% from Japan.

The Asociación de la Industria Maquiladora (AIM) is working with federal authorities to improve regulations and infrastructure and with the state governments to promote the continued development of the maquiladora industry.

7. **ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY (EPA) DRAFT BORDER 2012 PLAN**

Mr. Thomas Torres, EPA San Diego Border Liaison Office, presented an overview of the draft Border 2012 plan published by EPA, SEMARNAT and the ten U.S. and Mexico border states. The proposed border 2012 program is the latest multi-year, binational planning effort to be
implemented under the La Paz Agreement and succeeds Border XXI, a 5 year program that ended in 2000.

Border 2012 proposes some key changes from the previous Border XXI program including: a new mission statement; the integration of natural resource issues, pollution prevention and environmental information into the activities of all coordinating bodies; a longer, 10-year planning period; and a new organizational structure that facilitates regional and local level planning and priority setting.

**Key Border 2012 objectives include:**

- By 2005, increase by 1.5 million, the number of people connected to potable water and wastewater collection and treatment systems;
- By 2004, define specific emission reduction strategies for reducing air quality along the border;
- By 2006, increase by 50% the number of industries implementing Environmental Management Systems (EMS);
- By 2010, cleanup three of the largest tire piles on the border;
- By 2004, develop a cleanup and reuse policy to address abandoned waste sites; and
- By 2008, have all 14 sister cities joint contingency plans in place and operating (including exercises).

Mr. Torres encouraged the COBRO members to involve their agencies in environmental priority setting and planning through the regional workgroups and ended his presentation by inviting the Committee members to the public meetings on November 7th and November 8th in Tijuana and in National City respectively.

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

The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, December 3, 2002 in a location to be announced in Tijuana, Mexico.

**9. ATTENDANCE**

Available upon request.
PROPOSED REGULAR MEETING DATES

Throughout 2002, the Borders Committee met the third Friday of each month, starting its meetings at 11 a.m. It is proposed that for the 2003 calendar year, the Committee continue to meet on the third Friday of each month. However, in the interest of facilitating continuity among SANDAG’s Policy Advisory Committees, the Borders Committee is being asked TO MEET FROM NOON – 2:30 PM IN THE SANDAG BOARDROOM after the new-year.

2003 CALENDAR*

January 17, 2003 (**)
February 21, 2003 (***)
March 21, 2003
April 18, 2003
May 16, 2003
June 20, 2003
July 18, 2003
August 15, 2003
September 19, 2003
October 17, 2003
November 21, 2003
December 19, 2003

(*) The Committee may choose a date to hold a meeting in Imperial County.
(**) This meeting is the joint meeting between the Borders and Regional Planning Committees.
(*** ) This meeting includes the Interregional Planning Policy Committee (IRP) and will be held in Temecula, County of Riverside.
BORDERS VISIONING

Introduction

The Borders Committee has been tasked with developing core values from a borders perspective that could be included in the Regional Comprehensive Plan (RCP). To this end, at its last meeting, the Borders Committee discussed issues relevant to interregional planning in the San Diego region, and directed staff to provide a recommendation to the Committee, based upon their discussion, regarding potential core values. The core values that are approved today will be presented to the Regional Planning Committee at a joint meeting with the Borders Committee on January 17, 2003, and will be recommended for inclusion with the existing core values (Attachment). The overall vision and core values will be refined through the public involvement program of the RCP.

Discussion

At the November meeting of the Borders Committee, many important cross-border issues and concepts were raised and discussed among Committee members. However, for the purposes of the Regional Comprehensive Plan, these ideas must be condensed into a few overarching statements that portray the most important aspects of Borders work, that will guide how the region develops in the future. Based upon the Committee’s discussion, the following salient points were made clear in regards to our relationship with our neighboring counties and the Republic of Mexico.

First, the Committee placed a great deal of emphasis on improving communication and information sharing. This point was raised many times and enjoyed consensus among Committee members. Second, the Committee was concerned with the coordination of many types of infrastructure planning and the importance of the movement of people and goods throughout the region. Related to this is the ability of people to live and work in the region, and prosperous economic development both in the San Diego region as well as in all of our neighboring counties and the Republic of Mexico. Finally, the Committee made many points regarding the unique nature of this region, and the many opportunities that it affords, given the geography and history of the San Diego region and its people.

Based upon these points made during the Committee’s discussion, the following core values seem appropriate for the Committee's consideration.

- Our region will pursue integrated planning and maintain active and positive communication with our neighboring counties and the Republic of Mexico;
• Our region will promote shared infrastructure, a seamless transportation system, integrated environmental management and economic development with our neighboring counties and the Republic of Mexico; and

• Our region is a unique and dynamic place to live, which embraces cultural diversity, promotes interregional understanding, and benefits from our varied history and experience.
RCP Vision and Core Values*
December 2002

Overarching Vision Statement

In 2030, 2040, 2050 and beyond, the San Diego region will be an exciting and equitable place to live with a healthy environment, a vibrant and sustainable economy, an excellent transportation system, and strong interregional and international connections.

Core Values

- Our region will understand and respect the delineations between our urban and rural lands.
- Our communities will be healthy places. They will have more mixed uses and better urban design. They will be walkable, have a distinct sense of place, and strive for greater equity.
- The people that live in the San Diego region will have the ability to choose from a wider spectrum of housing types and will be able to afford their homes more comfortably.
- The region will have a coordinated transportation system that will supply a variety of options for getting about, better link our jobs and homes, provide more transit, walking, and biking opportunities, and efficiently transport cargo and goods.
- Our ecosystems will be healthy. Our water and air will be clean. Our open space and habitat conservation systems will be fully funded, and their maintenance will be secure.
- We will have a great variety of jobs, with the educational opportunities and the workforce to meet the demand for these jobs. Our wages will sustain our families' standard of living.
- Our infrastructure systems will be in place and will function appropriately, so that our quality of life will be measurably better.
- Our local governments will be good neighbors to each other, to our Native American Tribal governments, to our surrounding counties and Mexico, and to our military.

*Note: The vision and core values will be a primary subject of discussion at the upcoming Subregional Roundtables. Committee members are encouraged to provide comments and recommendations on these items so that staff can integrate those comments into the vision and core values before the Roundtables.