



**BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
FEBRUARY 28, 2003**

**AGENDA ITEM NO. 03-02- 3  
ACTION REQUESTED - APPROVE**

**SUMMARY OF THE POLICY DEVELOPMENT BOARD MEETING**

Meeting of February 14, 2003

The meeting of the SANDAG Policy Development Board was called to order at 10:37 a.m. by Chair Ron Morrison. Attendance was as follows:

**SANDAG Board Voting Members**

- City of Carlsbad .....Ramona Finnila, Mayor Pro Tem
- City of Chula Vista ..... Steve Padilla, Mayor
- City of Coronado ..... Phil Monroe, Mayor Pro Tem
- City of Del Mar ..... Crystal Crawford, Councilmember
- City of El Cajon .....Mark Lewis, Mayor
- City of Encinitas ..... Christy Guerin, Councilmember
- City of Escondido ..... Lori Holt Pfeiler, Mayor
- City of Imperial Beach ..... Patricia McCoy, Councilmember
- City of La Mesa ..... Art Madrid, Mayor
- City of Lemon Grove ..... Jill Greer, Councilmember
- City of National City ..... Ron Morrison, Councilmember
- City of Oceanside ..... Jack Feller, Deputy Mayor
- City of Poway ..... Mickey Cafagna, Mayor
- City of San Diego ..... Dick Murphy, Mayor
- City of San Marcos ..... Corky Smith, Mayor
- City of Santee ..... Hal Ryan, Vice Mayor
- City of Solana Beach ..... Joe Kellejian, Councilmember
- City of Vista ..... Morris Vance, Mayor
- County of San Diego ..... Greg Cox, Supervisor

**Advisory Members**

- California Department of Transportation ..... Pedro Orso-Delgado, District Director
- Metropolitan Transit Development Board ..... Leon Williams, Chairman
- North San Diego County Transit Development Board ..... Hon. Judy Ritter, Chair
- U.S. Department of Defense ..... Absent
- San Diego Unified Port District ..... Jess Van Deventer, Commissioner
- San Diego County Water Authority ..... Absent
- Mexico ..... Absent

## **INTEGRATED REGIONAL INFRASTRUCTURE STRATEGY (IRIS)**

Chairman Morrison pointed out that today's Policy Development Board meeting discussion will focus on the Integrated Regional Infrastructure Strategy (IRIS), a subcomponent of the Regional Comprehensive Plan (RCP), and will begin with public comment.

### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Clive Richard, a San Diego resident, congratulated the Board on becoming the new consolidated planning agency and supported keeping the SANDAG name.

Donna Tisdale, President of Backcountry Against Dumps, commented on the last sentence of the Policy Development Board agenda, which states, "there are efforts underway to augment the region's landfill capacity by opening a new site in East county in the community of Campo." She noted that the site is located on the Campo Indian Reservation, and is a project that she has been fighting since 1989. She does not believe that the Campo landfill has completed all of the necessary requirements to become operational.

Chair Morrison commented that the staff report indicates that these are on-going issues and does not take a position for or against any of the projects mentioned.

## **OVERVIEW OF THE INTEGRATED REGIONAL INFRASTRUCTURE STRATEGY (IRIS)**

Mayor Lori Holt Pfeiler, Chair of SANDAG's Regional Planning Committee, stated that the Regional Comprehensive Plan (RCP) is progressing and discussion of the Integrated Regional Infrastructure Strategy (IRIS) is a key part of the process. In recognizing that the SANDAG Board is composed of 18 individual cities, there is a need for an integrated framework for the region. The IRIS and RCP are ongoing processes and as the region moves forward, enhancements and expansions to the work programs will be considered.

Staff provided the Board with a presentation of the four-step IRIS process summarized in the board report. First, staff will create an inventory of the existing infrastructure provision in the region. This information will be organized into documents similar to SANDAG's Regional Transportation Plan (long-range planning document) and Regional Transportation Improvement Plan (short-term programming document) so comparisons can be made across infrastructure areas. The second step is to determine if there are any infrastructure deficiencies using level of service standards and estimates of future service demands. The third step will be to develop a set of solution options that address each infrastructure deficiency from the perspective of supporting the urban form called for in the RCP. The options will be incentive based and come from three main areas, reprogramming existing funds, public policy changes and, if necessary, raising new revenue. The final step will be to develop an integrated regional infrastructure strategy from the set of public policy and financing options, and a procedure to monitor the region's progress and performance in meeting the quality of life goals and objectives identified in the RCP.

Staff noted that progress to date has been primarily in the first of the four steps. As the work progresses, one of the principles of the RCP is to plan for growth differently in the future than we have in the past. To do things differently, the RCP is proposing an incentive based process to channel growth into the incorporated cities and protect the rural unincorporated areas from sprawling development. In order to maintain or improve the region's quality of life, we will have to make sure that the infrastructure expenditures necessary to accommodate that growth are available in advance of its occurrence.

### ***Regional Integration***

The Board asked about the relationship between the RCP and other agencies representing the ten infrastructure areas included in the IRIS. The Board asked how do we get those organizations to coordinate their investments regionally and support the vision proposed in the RCP? Furthermore, how involved should the board be in facilitating this interaction?

Staff responded that it is up to the board to decide if they want to move in the direction of creating an integrated framework for the region's infrastructure plans and that staff will assist the Board however the Board sees fit. Staff suggests a two step process to facilitate collaboration with regional infrastructure providers on the IRIS and RCP: 1) make sure that all staffs of pertinent agencies are on the same page. This will entail a staff-to-staff discussion to work out major issues and ensure data consistency across agencies; and 2) Peer-to-Peer discussion by the SANDAG Board members and Board members from the infrastructure providers to discuss how to proceed. The Peer discussion will focus on how we can integrate regional capital improvement plans with the smart growth vision outlined in the RCP.

In addition to these efforts, staff will work to include the infrastructure providers in the outreach efforts planned for the RCP, including Workshops and Committee meetings where appropriate.

The Board supported this approach, emphasizing the need for regional integration, and requested to be kept abreast of IRIS progress. The Board agreed with Mayor Holt Pfeiler and restated that the RCP should not be looked at as a static plan, it should be looked at as an ongoing and continuing effort. The Board also emphasized the need to make sure that the infrastructure Boards/Agencies in the region understand and are familiar with the RCP, preferably supporting the Plan's vision and core values. The Board stated that all jurisdictions' general plans are at the table and SANDAG should be proactive with those agencies that have an influence on what the region is proposing as far as infrastructure development and regional planning are concerned.

Staff clarified that SANDAG does not want to take over the planning functions from the individual infrastructure agencies. The objective is to organize the information so that it is more useful, to see what the long-term strategies and incremental expenditures are. Staff's role is to collect the data and put it in an informative format that can be used to help make decisions.

Staff suggested that we need to identify long-term goals for each issue and work toward them incrementally with the short term plans. Of the four infrastructure studied so far, only one has integrated their short-term expenditure plans into their long-term strategies. The Board agreed that short and long term plans should be integrated. Staff noted that each infrastructure area will be treated the same way and all viable information from long-term strategies will be considered as the IRIS moves forward.

### *Infrastructure Areas*

The Board suggested including healthcare as an additional infrastructure area to be included in the plan. Staff agrees that a more inclusive look at the region's infrastructure is useful for planning purposes, noting that what was presented to the Board were the 10 infrastructure areas that staff felt could be adequately addressed and incorporated into the first round of the RCP. Once the Board has adopted the first RCP and believes the process to be successful, additional infrastructure areas could be added to the list. To assist the Board, staff will develop and maintain a list of potential infrastructure areas that could be included in later versions of the RCP.

The Board also made a number of comments regarding the specifics of the infrastructure areas being studied. For example, the Board would like to emphasize the importance of recycling with respect to solid waste, to incorporate discussions on desalinization, trash to energy plants and other forms of renewable resources. The Board directed staff to describe the interaction of all the infrastructure areas and to mention trade offs where appropriate. In addition, a discussion of previous efforts that have been tried and failed should also be included. Staff will incorporate these discussions into the final report.

### *Fiscal Reform*

The Board asked if the issue of State/Local fiscal reform will also include lobbying efforts with Sacramento.

Staff responded yes, it will. SANDAG's State/Local fiscal reform approach is a five-prong strategy that not only provides incentives for housing development but also takes a look a fiscal stabilization, exchanging relatively unstable funds, such as Vehicle License Fees with more stable fees such as property taxes and constitutionally protecting revenue streams. There has been discussion to moving towards a regional solution to fiscal reform as opposed to a state solution.

The Board suggested discussing State/Local fiscal reform with the region's City Managers, using the SANDAG proposal as a starting point for discussion.

The Board also brought up the issue of a Regional Impact Fee. Perhaps the residents in the region should be polled to see if they're willing to pay for infrastructure. If not, maybe a sliding scale could be developed for residents to pay on an as used basis.

The Board concluded that the RCP is needed because the region is going to grow. However, the region can affect the form of that growth through good planning and regional collaboration. There are choices to be made and the better the choices that the region makes, the more likely we will be to maintain and improve our existing quality of life. The question remains, as this effort is coordinated, how can the Board help with that coordination?

Staff will continue to work towards the direction provided by the Board, identifying opportunities for the Board to coordinate with regional infrastructure providers and stakeholders and incorporating them into the process.

Public Comment

Robert Hoffman, a resident of San Diego, commented that the region's real transportation problem is that mass transit has no marketable features.

Clive Richard, a San Diego resident, stated that basic transportation service should be a social service, to be paid for by the public.

**ADDITIONAL COMMENTS**

Chairman Morrison noted that the next SANDAG Board meeting will be held at 9:00 a.m. on Friday, February 28, 2003 and added that there will be no Policy Development Board meeting to be held in March 2003. In addition, he encouraged all members and colleagues to attend the upcoming subregional RCP workshops.

The Board asked if there is a time frame when SDG&E's 20-year plan is to be completed.

Frank Urtasun stated that SDG&E is required to submit its 20-year Resource Plan by April 1, 2003.

Leon Williams pointed out that the MTDB Board voted to request that the SANDAG Board leave the question of changing the name of SANDAG open for discussion.

Mayor Madrid commented that those same MTD Board members mentioned at the SANDAG retreat that they wanted to keep the SANDAG name.

ADJOURNMENT – 12:08 p.m.

GARY L. GALLEGOS  
Secretary