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(Representing **North County Coastal**)
Councilmember, Del Mar

Patricia McCoy, Vice Chair
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Councilmember, Imperial Beach

Ed Gallo
(Representing **North County Inland**)
Councilmember, Escondido

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Ralph Inzunza
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Dianne Jacob
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Victor Carrillo
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Phil Monroe
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Councilmember, Coronado

Judy Ritter
(Representing **North County Inland**)
Councilmember, Vista

Hal Ryan
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Councilmember, Santee

Vacant
City of San Diego

Pam Slater
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Larry Grogan
(Representing **Imperial County**)
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Ex-Officio Members

Thomas Buckley
Councilmember, **County of Riverside**

Vacant, **County of Orange**

Rodolfo Figueroa
Consul General, **Consulate General of Mexico in San Diego**

Mike Madigan
San Diego County Water Authority

Pedro Orso-Delgado
District Director, **Caltrans**

Gary L. Gallegos
Executive Director, **SANDAG**

BORDERS COMMITTEE AGENDA

Friday, April 18, 2003
12:30 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.
SANDAG, 7th Floor Conference Room
401 B Street, Suite 800
San Diego, CA 92101

AGENDA HIGHLIGHTS

- **IMPERIAL COUNTY PLANNING EFFORTS**
- **THE REGIONAL COMPREHENSIVE PLAN (BORDERS CHAPTER)**

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.

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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.

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BORDERS COMMITTEE

Friday, April 18, 2003

Staff Contact: Hector Vanegas
(619) 595-5372; hva@sandag.org

| ITEM # | | ACTION |
|--|---|-------------|
| 1. | WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS | |
| +2. | MEETING SUMMARY OF MARCH 21, 2003 (pp. 4-6) | APPROVE |
| 3. | PUBLIC COMMENTS AND COMMUNICATIONS (Each speaker limited to three minutes.) | |
| CONSENT (ITEM #4) | | |
| <i>The Borders Committee will review the consent agenda without further discussion unless an item is pulled by a Committee member or a member of the public for comment.</i> | | |
| +4. | COMMITTEE ON BINATIONAL REGIONAL OPPORTUNITIES MEETING SUMMARY OF APRIL 1, 2003 (pp. 7-9) | INFORMATION |
| REPORTS | | |
| +5. | CHAIR AND MEMBERS REPORTS (pp. 10-12) Border Energy Issues Meeting Summary of April 2, 2003 | INFORMATION |
| +6. | BORDERS CHAPTER OF THE REGIONAL COMPREHENSIVE PLAN (Crystal Crawford) (pp. 13-17) The attached report includes an updated draft outline for the chapter. The Committee should review the draft issue statement and revised goals for the chapter. | ACCEPT |
| 7. | IMPERIAL COUNTY PLAN (Jurg Heuberger, County of Imperial) Mr. Heuberger will provide an overview of the key planning issues facing Imperial County. | INFORMATION |
| 8. | NEXT MEETING DATE AND LOCATION The next meeting of the Borders Committee will be held on Friday, May 16, 2003 at 12:30 in SANDAG's 7 th Floor Conference Room. | INFORMATION |

+ Next to an agenda item indicates an attachment

BOARD OF DIRECTORS
MARCH 28, 2003

AGENDA ITEM NO. 03-03- 3-D
ACTION REQUESTED - APPROVE

BORDERS COMMITTEE DISCUSSION AND ACTIONS

Meeting of March 21, 2003

An orientation session for new members of the Committee was held before the regular meeting. The Chair, Crystal Crawford, discussed the issues and projects that the Committee worked on during 2002 such as energy, homeland security, water supply and transportation. The Chair also outlined the goals for 2003: (1) to continue investigating pertinent issues and advising the SANDAG Board of Directors; (2) to prepare the Borders chapter of the Regional Comprehensive Plan (RCP); (3) to continue work on the I-15 Interregional Partnership (IRP); (4) to brief legislative staff, and (5) to participate in the COBRO annual binational summer conference. Staff made a brief presentation on the procedures for the Policy Advisory Committees approved by the Board of Directors on January 10, 2003.

The regularly scheduled meeting of the San Diego Association of Governments Borders Committee was called to order by Chair Crystal Crawford (North County Coastal). Other members in attendance were Patricia McCoy (South County), Ed Gallo (North County Inland), Jill Greer (East County), Ralph Inzunza (City of San Diego), Dianne Jacob (County of San Diego), Victor Carrillo (Imperial County); and alternates David Powell (North County Coastal), Phil Monroe (South County) and Judy Ritter (North County Inland). Ex-Officio members in attendance were Tom Buckley (Riverside County), Rodulfo Figueroa (Mexico), Mike Madigan (San Diego County Water Authority), Pedro Orso-Delgado (Caltrans), and COBRO Chair, Elsa Saxod.

1. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

The Chair welcomed the Committee members and guests to the meeting, and asked for self introductions.

2. MEETING SUMMARY OF FEBRUARY 21, 2003

The Borders Committee approved the February 21, 2003 Borders Committee summary.

3. PUBLIC COMMENTS AND COMMUNICATIONS

Mario Lopez, South San Diego Economic Development Council, announced a workshop for Tuesday April 29; the topic is "Funding Sources for Regional Development with the North American Development Bank (NADB) and the Border Environmental Cooperation Commission (BECC)."

Kristen Aliotti, Governor's Office for California-Mexico Affairs commented on the formation of a binational cultural heritage group for San Diego-Tijuana, Imperial County-Mexicali. She also summarized the actions taken by the Governors of California and Baja California

regarding security issues and announced a meeting of representatives from both States to be held on March 26, 2003.

CONSENT ITEMS (4a, 4b, 4c)

4. COMMITTEE ON BINATIONAL REGIONAL OPPORTUNITIES (INFORMATION)

The Chair pulled item 4c and asked Elsa Saxod, COBRO' Chair to brief the committee on the next Binational Summer Conference. Elsa Saxod asked the members to "Save the Date" for July 11th and announced the topic of the Conference: "Homeland Security in the Binational Region: Consequences and Opportunities."

REPORTS

5. CHAIR AND MEMBERS REPORTS (INFORMATION)

A) The Chair informed the committee about a meeting held last month in which binational border energy issues were discussed. During that meeting, some Borders Committee members participated with Mexican officials and agreed on an initiative to create a binational group to deal with these issues. The Chair also announced that this group will meet again on April 2, 2003 and invited interested members of the Committee to attend.

B) The Chair commented on the SAFE Border Act of 2003 (Rep. Susan Davis, San Diego) that will make the SENTRI program permanent. SENTRI is a program that uses technology to pre-screen low risk commuters at the San Ysidro and Otay Mesa ports of entry.

C) The Vice Chair, Patricia McCoy, gave an overview of the Regional Conservation meeting held in San Diego last week, organized by the US Department of Agriculture. This meeting brought together government officials of the border region from the fields of economic development, tourism and the environment.

6. THE DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY (INFORMATION)

Adele Fasano, Interim Director of Field Operations of the Bureau of Customs and Border Protection (CBP) of the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) in San Diego, briefly discussed the department's structure and recent advancements, as well as future projects. The extension period from one year to two years for all SENTRI users was mentioned, as well as the addition of two more SENTRI lanes and a SENTRI site for pedestrians at the San Ysidro port of entry in the near future. The Otay Mesa port of entry is expected to operate 24 hours a day by the end of the fiscal year, and funding has been approved for the next SENTRI site in Calexico/Mexicali although no timeline has been established yet.

Ms. Fasano also addressed the issue of security inspections along the border and, due to misinformation concerning the level of alert (currently orange), clarified that there were no plans to close the port of entries at San Ysidro and Otay Mesa, as San Diego is not considered a primary target for terrorist attacks at this point. She also mentioned that the CBP is committed to minimize border waits and that the commercial port of entry at Otay is not likely to be affected by the current situation.

In response to Consul General Rodulfo Figueroa's question about a similar program to SENTRI along the U.S./Canadian border that costs less and lasts longer, Ms. Fasano stated that these decisions were made at another level in the Department, but that most likely it was because more resources (financial/personnel) are needed along the U.S./Mexico border. Ms. Fasano also responded to a question on security in border areas outside the ports of entry and made mention that they are currently under control of the Border Patrol, who maintains a similar structure as before, and reports directly to DHS in Washington.

7. INTEGRATED REGIONAL INFRASTRUCTURE STRATEGY (IRIS) (DISCUSSION/ APPROVE)

Marney Cox, SANDAG staff, described the IRIS, a key part of the Regional Comprehensive Plan. The infrastructures to be considered in IRIS will include transportation, energy, waste water and solid waste as (first phase) and storm water, water supply, open space, parks, education, and ports of entry (second phase). Members raised the issue of tribal economic development impact on regional infrastructure, and a related report from the County of San Diego will be distributed to the Committee when it is finalized.

8. BORDERS CHAPTER OF THE REGIONAL COMPREHENSIVE PLAN (Crystal Crawford) (INFORMATION)

The Chair opened the discussion by reviewing the Borders chapter of the Regional Comprehensive Plan (RCP). The first issue raised concerned language found in the first Core Value statement. Staff suggested changing wording from "fair and equitable planning" to "planning with consideration for interregional impacts", because of the general and potentially ambiguous nature of the original wording. After some discussion, it was agreed by the Committee members to integrate both ideas.

Furthermore, it was suggested that an additional bullet in the binational section of the Chapter should include *Jobs/Housing Balance*, because more interregional commuting is also occurring in the binational context. It also was suggested to add an additional sub-bullet that included *riding and hiking trails* under the Environment heading.

Action: The Committee approved to amend the first Core Value and have it read, "fair and equitable planning with consideration for interregional impacts". The Committee also agreed to add a Jobs/Housing bullet under the Binational portion of the Interrelated Issues, as well as a sub-bullet to include riding and hiking trails under Interregional/Environment.

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

The next meeting of the Borders Committee will be held on Friday, April 18, 2003 at 12:30 PM in SANDAG's Board Room.

Action: The Borders Committee approved the next meeting date of Friday, April 18, 2003.

GARY L. GALLEGOS
Executive Director

SANDAG Board of Directors

March 28, 2003 – Agenda Item #3-D (Approve)

BORDERS COMMITTEE

April 18, 2003

AGENDA REPORT NO.: **4**

Action Requested: INFORMATION

COMMITTEE ON BINATIONAL REGIONAL OPPORTUNITIES MEETING SUMMARY OF APRIL 1, 2003

Introduction

The April 1, 2003, 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 thanked everyone for attending. Participants made self introductions.

2. MEETING SUMMARY OF MARCH 4, 2003

The meeting summary for March 4, 2002 was accepted with no changes.

3. PUBLIC COMMENTS AND COMMUNICATION

Ramon Riesgo, General Service Administration (GSA), announced that environmental studies are now under development for the San Ysidro Port of Entry Reconfiguration Project (Review of Virginia Avenue for Southbound Vehicles). Tentatively, these studies should be concluded by 2004 with construction to commence in 2006, and with operation to begin in 2010. Mr. Riesgo also announced that there will be a binational meeting in the City of Mexicali on April 10, 2003.

4. CHAIR AND COBRO MEMBERS REPORT

The Chair commented on the passing of Ambassador Paul Boeker, President of the Institute of the Americas, known to many members of the Committee.

The Chair gave a brief summary on the progress being made by the Summer Conference Task Force, and reported that the topic will be "Homeland Security in the Binational Region: Consequences and Opportunities". Members of the Task Force, along with staff support, will organize groups for each side of the border to prepare papers that address the concerns of homeland security for their region. Both groups will then meet and discuss their findings to be addressed at the Conference.

Dr. Paul Ganster gave a brief recap of the 7th Annual U.S.-Mexico Border Issues Conference held in Washington, D.C. on March 26th, 2003. Organized by the U.S.-Mexico Chamber of Commerce, major topics of discussion included homeland security, water, environment and energy. The highlight of the meeting was the presentation of the 4th Annual Achievement Award to San Diego/Tijuana. Mayor Jesus Gonzalez Reyes accepted on behalf of the City of Tijuana, and Chair Elsa Saxod represented Mayor Dick Murphy on behalf of the City of San Diego.

Julieta Sanchez, Governor's Office of Baja California, reported on a meeting held between Governor Gray Davis (CA) and Governor Elorduy (B.C.) on March 26, 2003 at the University of California San Diego. Topics included the expansion of the SENTRI lanes and security along the California-Baja California border. Minutes from this meeting will be made available by Ms. Sanchez as soon as they are ready.

Yolanda Walther-Meade, Fincomun, announced two upcoming events. The first event, which deals with community border issues is the 2nd Border Partnership Meeting to be held in Ciudad Juarez, Mexico from April 8 to 11. Fourteen community foundations from the U.S. and seven from Mexico will be participating. The second event, scheduled for May 2nd, is the International Community Foundation Gala "Promoting Sustainable Communities," being held in San Diego at the Natural History Museum.

The Chair introduced Ms. Adelle Fasano, Interim Director of Field Operations of the Bureau of Customs and Border Protection (CBP) of the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) in San Diego. Ms. Fasano discussed the Department's current internal organization, as well as future projects and current advancements. Ms. Fasano stated that there are currently 1,700 trained personnel covering the San Diego-Imperial ports of entry (POE) and that to make advancements in Commissioner Booner's objective of "moving the borders out," the CBP intends to further expand the SENTRI program. This includes adding SENTRI-like lanes for pedestrians and adding two additional lanes for automobiles at the San Ysidro port of entry, as well as extending the enrollment period, and adding additional resources (financial, personnel) for the region.

Ms. Fasano announced the addition of 100 new inspector positions most likely to be filled by the end of the fiscal year, as well as the potential for 24 hour operation of the Otay Mesa POE. Other future plans include an extension of the cargo facility at Otay Mesa and a SENTRI system for the Calexico-Mexicali POE. Ms. Fasano also mentioned that the SENTRI program has been assigned to the Bureau of Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE).

5. STAFF REPORT

The Committee received the Borders Committee Minutes and no comments were made.

Alex Hidalgo, SANDAG, briefly discussed a new bill introduced by California State Assemblymember Mark Ridley Thomas. The new bill (AB 1183) would establish the California and Mexico Border Economic Infrastructure Financing Authority for Imperial County. The new bill would require the authority to issue revenue bonds for the construction and improvement of infrastructure projects within Imperial County and within 100 kilometers of the border between Imperial County and Mexico.

6. CAL-MEX-NET

The Chair introduced Dr. Kenneth Fawson, San Diego Community College District (SDCCD), who gave a presentation on the California-Mexico Network for Education and Training (Cal-Mex-Net). The program's primary goals are: to help students build the necessary skills to succeed in today's work place; to facilitate the linkages between representatives from educational institutions and the business community in both California and Mexico; to provide information about government and

community organizations; and to provide information on professional skills certification associations.

Dr. Fawson also mentioned that the program provides information about current trade councils, trade fairs and international activities and that it coordinates an annual binational conference for project partners and other interested groups.

7. BORDERS CHAPTER OF THE REGIONAL COMPREHENSIVE PLAN (RCP)

Hector Vanegas, SANDAG, presented the draft outline for the Borders chapter of the RCP. To date, the Borders Committee has approved core values for the chapter, reviewed the issues to be developed, discussed potential organizational structures, and agreed upon the policies, principles and goals. Mr. Vanegas urged the COBRO members to make any suggestions they felt pertinent as the COBRO Committee reports directly to Borders. The Committee agreed to review the outline and final draft chapter and to make suggestions via e-mail.

8. COBRO 2003 GOALS AND WORK PROGRAM (ELSA SAXOD)

The Chair opened the discussion by making mention of three issues that the Committee should address: a) Transportation Infrastructure; b) Water; and, c) Ports of entry. Other members also mentioned jobs/housing balance, education, and communication as important issues. Alejandra Mier y Teran, Otay Mesa Chamber of Commerce, suggested that the Committee choose one or two issues and prepare a presentation.

9. ADJOURNMENT AND NEXT MEETING DATE AND LOCATION

The Committee's next meeting is Tuesday, May 6, 2003 from 3:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. in Tijuana (location to be determined).

*Attendance list available upon request

BORDERS COMMITTEE

April 18, 2003

AGENDA REPORT NO.: **5**

Action Requested: INFORMATION

BORDER ENERGY ISSUES MEETING SUMMARY OF APRIL 2, 2003

Introduction

The April 2, 2003 meeting on Border Energy Issues was called to order by Councilmember Crystal Crawford, Chair of SANDAG's Borders Committee and Rodolfo Figueroa, Consul General of Mexico in San Diego. Also in attendance were Alan Sweedler, San Diego Regional Energy Office; Mike Smith, Office of Commissioner James Boyd, California Energy Commission; Jesse Knight, San Diego Regional Chamber of Commerce; Francisco Anza, Consulate General of Mexico; Hernando Duran and Agustín Rojas, Mexico's Presidential Commission for the Northern Border; Julian Torres, SEMARNAT; Manuel Garcia-Lepe, Secretary of Economic Development of Baja California; Kristen Aliotti, Governor's Office of California-Mexico Affairs; Victor Padilla, City of Tijuana; Miguel Velasco, Tijuana's Economic Development Council (CDT), and; Rick Van Schoik, Southwest Center for Environmental Research and Policy. Additional staff from these agencies also was in attendance.

1. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

Councilwoman Crawford welcomed the guests to the meeting, and guests made self introductions.

2. MEETING MINUTES AND ACTIONS FROM FEBRUARY 12, 2003

Minutes were reviewed by the group and no comments were added.

3. REPORT ON THE BORDER GOVERNOR'S ENERGY TABLE MEETING (MIKE SMITH, CALIFORNIA ENERGY COMMISSION)

Mike Smith reported on the first meeting of the Energy Table of the Border Governor's Conference. The meeting focused on identifying the most relevant energy issues along the U.S-Mexico border in order to formulate recommendations. The group will: 1) Identify the facilities, producers and consumers, and regulations; 2) Address the differences in policy and regulatory systems; 3) Identify environmental issues; 4) Develop "customized" programs to improve efficient use of energy resources; 5) Support a program to export energy and services to other countries; and 6) Explore financing opportunities with the North American Development Bank (NADB).

Kristen Aliotti explained that the Border Governor's Conference Energy Table consists of two co-chairs, one from the U.S. and one from Mexico. The purpose of the conference was to form recommendations and action plans and to present the results during the month of April in Monterrey, Mexico.

Consul General Figueroa expressed a concern about this group duplicating or competing with other similar groups and that this group must find its own niche. Jesse Knight, San Diego Regional Chamber of Commerce, pointed out that capital for energy projects is scarce and suggested that the group explore how the rules and policies can be shaped in a manner that eases and encourages financing energy projects.

4. REPORT ON THE BINATIONAL EMISSIONS TRADING MEETING (RICK VAN SCHOIK, SOUTHWEST CENTER FOR ENVIRONMENTAL RESEARCH AND POLICY – SCERP)

Dr. Rick Van Schoik, SCERP, spoke about the Air Emissions Trading and Binational Common Air Basin project being developed at the *Paso del Norte*, which includes the cities of Ciudad Juarez, Chihuahua, El Paso, Texas and Dona Ana County, New Mexico. The project allows for emissions trading across state lines and the international boundary and has many advantages in the environmental, economic development, and air quality fields. Dr. Van Schoik hopes that the results obtained, as well as the methodologies being used, will help to develop similar projects along the California-Baja California border region.

The group discussed the need to have a binational air basin recognized in the Imperial County-Mexicali area. Also mentioned was the need to explore the future recognition of a common air basin in the greater San Diego and Tijuana region. Even though this notion has been discussed for some time, no new research studies have been conducted on the issue since around 1959, perhaps because the San Diego region is mostly in compliance with air quality standards except for ozone. As a possible action item for the group, Jesse Knight, San Diego Regional Chamber of Commerce, suggested the preparation of a "white paper" integrating and explaining the various issues. Julian Torres, SEMARNAT, pointed out that data from a 1998 study of the Tijuana/Rosarito area is available for reference and does support the concept of a common air basin in the region.

5. ENERGY REPORT PRESENTATION BY THE COMMISSION ON NORTHERN BORDER AFFAIRS (HERNANDO DURAN, COMMISSION ON NORTHERN BORDER AFFAIRS)

Hernando Duran, Commission on Northern Border Affairs of Mexico, presented an overview of the advances being made in the environmental sector along Mexico's northern border region. Mr. Duran explained that a special section called "Natural Gas and Power Interconnections" is being created within the *Regional Development Program for the Northern Border 2001-2006*. The program addresses issues concerning 16 different sectors, including the energy sector and its environmental framework. The northern border region's current and future energy needs also are discussed in the report, as well as related infrastructure and resources. Mr. Duran will present the final draft to this group at its next meeting. Mr. Duran also offered to explore possibilities for direct involvement of Mexico's Ministry of Energy in this group.

Jesse Knight, San Diego Regional Chamber of Commerce, suggested that the group consider ways to support the Commission's efforts.

Victor Padilla, City of Tijuana, mentioned Tijuana's efforts to address/reduce vehicle emissions as part of its 5-year plan, and offered to keep this group informed of such activities.

6. GOALS AND NEXT STEPS

The group discussed next steps including the need to continue regular meetings and for Councilmember Crawford to report back to the SANDAG Board of Directors on the group's activities.

Julian Torres, SEMARNAT, presented a written proposal to the group, where three potential goals were discussed: 1) to officially constitute the Binational Border Energy Issues Group or Border Energy Forum (BEF); 2) to invite the Tijuana-San Diego-Rosarito Binational Air Quality Alliance to participate with BEF; and 3) to Invite the Mexicali-Imperial Stakeholders Clean Air group to participate with BEF.

Other goals identified by the group included: 1) To Provide a regular forum for energy discussions; 2) To attain official legal status at the local, state and federal levels; 3) To create a mechanism for attaining "real" information on the issues; and 4) To define formal membership and participation for the group. Other concerns were that this group move forward on the issues, and not just convene meetings to discuss the issues, and that the group assures that all appropriate stakeholders are involved.

The Consul General suggested that the group draft a mission statement as a first step in defining the group's specific purpose. Other suggestions included presenting a letter of intent to authorities in Washington and Mexico City signed by participating members and seeking recognition of the group's efforts.

Action: Each member of the group is tasked with drafting their own ideas regarding the group's goals, mission and purpose. Ideas should be forwarded to Hector Vanegas at hva@sandag.org, who will then circulate the suggestions to group members for consideration prior to the next meeting.

7. ADJOURNMENT

The next meeting was tentatively scheduled for Wednesday May 14, 2003 from 12:00 to 2:00 p.m. in Tijuana, Baja California with the exact location to be determined.

BORDERS COMMITTEE

April 18, 2003

AGENDA REPORT NO.: **6**

Action Requested: ACCEPT

DRAFT ISSUE STATEMENT AND REVISED GOALS OF THE BORDERS CHAPTER OF THE REGIONAL COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

Introduction

The Borders Committee is tasked with developing the Borders Chapter of the Regional Comprehensive Plan (RCP). To date, the Committee has approved core values for the chapter, reviewed the issues to be developed in the chapter, determined the organizational structure and drafted the policies, principles and goals portion of the chapter. At this time, the Committee should review the draft issue statement and revised goals. A timeline for completion of this chapter is also included (Attachment A).

Discussion

Draft Issue Statement

Unique Setting:

The San Diego region is very unique, not only in regards to the characteristics within its boundaries, but also in regards to the diverse characteristics of the entities that surround it. Bordered by the ocean to the west, a military installation and rapidly growing cities to the north, mountains, desert and a thriving agricultural economy to the east, the Republic of Mexico to the south, and including a number of sovereign tribal governments, the San Diego region is truly in a unique and interesting geographical position. The diversity of the landscape, politics, economics, language, and culture that surrounds us demands that we make every effort to understand and consider not just our own future but that of our neighbors, as we inevitably impact each other in countless ways. Our proximity to one another implies the need for cross-border coordination in a number of areas.

Geography, Transportation and Trade:

To the north, San Diego County borders Orange and Riverside counties, to the east we share a border with Imperial County, and to the south, we sit along the international boundary with the Republic of Mexico. Our regions are tied together socially and economically as demonstrated by the amount of goods and people that flow through the region on a regular basis. For instance, it is estimated that over 40,000 people commute daily from Tijuana to San Diego, while 29,000 commute daily from Western Riverside County to San Diego. Similarly, the amount of trade goods that flow through the region is staggering. It is estimated that over \$20 billion worth of trade goods entered San Diego through the Otay Mesa port of entry in 2002. In fact, Otay Mesa is the third busiest commercial crossing along the U.S.-Mexico border, while San Diego's port of entry in San Ysidro is the busiest land port in the entire western hemisphere. While some of the trade goods stay in San Diego, most pass along our regional trade corridors to the north or east, offering yet another example of the importance of our interregional connections.

Energy, Water and other important issues:

These transportation and trade connections are an illustration of the overall interconnectedness of the Southern California and Northern Baja California region. Other issues that demand cross-border collaboration include energy production and distribution, water delivery and supply, telecommunications, jobs/housing balance, education, health, environmental protection, air and water quality, migration, and public safety.

Communication:

Likewise, the ability to communicate with our neighbors is of utmost importance. The San Diego region is dedicated to building and maintaining strong relationships with the surrounding counties and the Republic of Mexico. In order to coordinate and cooperate on issues that cross political lines, we must be willing to work together, share information and experiences, and identify common goals and strategies to meet those goals. We must be cognizant of how our land use, transportation, economic and legislative policies affect those around us and encourage interregional infrastructure planning that takes into consideration potential interregional impacts.

National Security:

We now find ourselves pursuing this work within the context of national security. The unfortunate events of September 11, 2001, and the circumstances that have followed, have changed the nature of our international borders. We now must address cross-border issues with a heightened sensitivity to national security concerns. However, due to heightened security at our international border, new challenges and opportunities for cross-border collaboration have arisen.

Intergovernmental Coordination:

Indeed, San Diego's location on the U.S.-Mexico border makes this region truly unique and offers us many distinct opportunities. San Diego and the metropolitan area of Tijuana-Tecate-Rosarito are among the farthest urban areas from the capitals of both countries, and form the most dynamic and complex region along the U.S.-Mexico border. All issues of the binational agenda are reflected here, and their impacts are felt immediately. Positive and productive relationships with the federal government of Mexico, the Mexican state of Baja California and municipal governments, are of utmost importance if we are to successfully coordinate actions to address the myriad issues that affect the international border area. Many of the issue areas are similar to those that we must address on our northern and eastern borders, but require a distinct approach given the nature of the international relationship and overarching national security concerns.

Overarching Goals:

The Borders chapter will explore many of the issues that we face along our borders, both in an interregional context as well as a binational context. We will attempt to identify the issues that present themselves in regards to border planning and highlight a handful of specific issues that will be discussed in further detail. Our work in this area will seek to achieve three overarching goals in interregional and binational planning and coordination:

1. To strengthen the ongoing relationship between governments and stakeholders from the surrounding regions.
2. To develop formal mechanisms for interregional infrastructure development and financing.

- To consider the potential environmental, economic and social impacts that land use and transportation decisions may have upon our quality of life and that of our neighboring regions.

Issue-Specific Goals:

At its last meeting, the Borders Committee reviewed a number of potential goals for each issue area that will be discussed in the Borders Chapter. Those goals have been condensed and revised to reflect one overall goal for each issue. The Committee should review the following goals, make any suggestions for changes and accept the revised goals for inclusion in the draft Borders chapter of the RCP.

| Issue Area | Proposed Goal |
|-----------------------------|--|
| Jobs/Housing Balance | <i>Implement land use strategies to increase the San Diego region's housing capacity and which would be consistent with smart growth principles.</i> |
| Transportation | <i>Complete major capital improvements along key trade corridors, interregional commuting corridors and the land Ports of Entry.</i> |
| Energy | <i>Develop formal mechanisms ("rules of the game") for energy development in the Southern California/Northern Baja California region.</i> |
| Environment | <i>Pursue interregional habitat corridor planning to link existing corridors across borders.</i> |
| Water | <i>Pursue diversification of overall water supply to reduce dependency on imported water.</i> |
| Economic Development | <i>Support economic development efforts along the border regions.</i> |
| National Security | <i>Implement national security measures while protecting the quality of life of the Baja California/San Diego region.</i> |

April 4, 2003 Regional Planning Committee Discussion:

On April 4, 2003, Councilmember Judy Ritter, who serves on both the Borders and Regional Planning Committees, provided an overview of border issues with Baja California and Riverside and Imperial counties, and reviewed an outline of the content to be included in the Borders Chapter of the RCP, including the goals listed above.

The Regional Planning Committee responded with the following comments and questions:

- The Outline seems to be in sync with the chapters of the RCP.
- The Regional Planning Stakeholders Working Group (SWG) is interested in discussing the Borders component.
- Why are energy and air quality issues addressed primarily with our Imperial County and Mexico borders and not the other borders? *Because we share an air basin with those two*

neighbors, and we have started to work with the Border Energy Forum to propose a proactive approach to addressing these issues.

- It is great to include habitat corridor planning across the borders.
- The international border presents us with more institutional challenges, such as our different cultures and political systems, and our growing Homeland Security issues. However, there is a lot of enthusiasm from Mexico to work with us.
- The RCP can be truly visionary by incorporating and proactively addressing border issues.

**Item #6
Attachment A**

RCP Borders Chapter Timeline

| Meeting Date | Meeting Type | Committee Tasks | To be Presented |
|---------------------|---------------------|----------------------------------|------------------------|
| April 18, 2003 | Borders Committee | Review Issue Statement and Goals | |
| May 16, 2003 | Borders Committee | Review draft portions of chapter | |
| May 27, 2003 | Stakeholders Wkgp | | Outline/Draft chapter |
| June 20, 2003 | Borders Committee | Review draft portions of chapter | |
| July 11, 2003 | COBRO Conference | Conclusions to be incorporated | |
| July 18, 2003 | Borders Committee | Review draft chapter | |
| July 22, 2003 | Stakeholders Wkgp | | Draft chapter |
| July 24, 2003 | Technical Wkgp | | Draft chapter |
| August 1, 2003 | RPC | | Draft chapter |
| August 5, 2003 | COBRO | | Draft chapter |
| Aug/Sept 2003 | BOD | | Draft chapter |
| December 2003 | BOD | Accept for distribution | Draft RCP |
| June 2004 | BOD | Final adoption of RCP | Final RCP |