



San Diego's Regional Planning Agency

BOARD ACTIONS

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April 25, 2003

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REGIONAL COMPREHENSIVE PLAN UPDATE: Escondido Mayor Lori Holt Pfeiler, Chair of the Regional Planning Committee, updated the Board on the preparation of the Regional Comprehensive Plan (RCP). The Mayor discussed the results of the regional workshops held January through March. Nearly 500 participants attended the workshops which resulted in input on the RCP from a cross section of the region's diverse population. Mayor Holt Pfeiler explained how feedback from the workshops and other outreach activities will be integrated into the plan, and announced the second round of workshops scheduled in the summer. She encouraged Board members to continue to involve their councilmembers in the preparation of the RCP. Patty Davis, Chula Vista City Councilmember and Chair of the Regional Planning Stakeholders Working Group, updated the Board on the efforts of the working group which includes individuals who have interests in agriculture, education, business, the environment, housing, equity, transportation, and other regional issues. The stakeholders provided input on the draft regional vision and core values and will be involved in reviewing the draft plan and making recommendations and refinements to the final plan. Carol Bonomo, from CSU San Marcos and Vice-Chair of the stakeholders working group, emphasized the group's commitment to helping guide the future of the region and thanked SANDAG for the opportunity for the stakeholders to participate in the preparation of the RCP. *(Item #10: Staff contact, Carolina Gregor, (619) 595-5399 or cgr@sandag.org)*

TRANSPORTATION PROGRESS: Caltrans completed the environmental document for the I-5 widening from Del Mar Heights Road to Via de la Valle in late March. The design of the project will be completed by June 2004, and construction is scheduled to be completed by 2006...The environmental document for the I-15 Managed Lanes from SR 163 to SR 78 was approved by the Federal Highway Administration in late March. Construction will begin in late summer on the first segment of the Managed Lanes which will stretch from the I-15/SR 56 interchange to Camino del Norte...State Route 56 from Black Mountain Road to Camino del Sur opened to traffic in mid-April. This project, funded in part by *TransNet* sales tax dollars, will relieve traffic congestion in the Rancho Peñasquitos area of the City of San Diego. The SR 56 "middle" project is under construction and is scheduled to open in July 2004. Completion of this segment will link I-5 and I-15... Design is nearly complete on the Oceanside Transit Center parking structure which is scheduled to open in 2004 ... Design is nearly complete on the I-805/Olympic Parkway interchange in the City of Chula Vista and completion of the project is scheduled for 2005 ... Since July 1, 2002, the Freeway Service Patrol has assisted over 41,000 motorists (an increase of 13% over this time last year). Bike to Work Day is scheduled for May 16, 2003. SANDAG hosted an employer educational event in late April to introduce local companies to the types of transportation benefits that can be offered to employees. More than 50 participants attended the event and City of San Diego Councilmember Brian Maienschein provided opening remarks. *(Item #11: Staff Contact: Jose Nuncio, (619) 595-5619 or jnu@sandag.org)*

(more)

**Upcoming Board Meeting
May 23, 2003**

- Draft Regional Energy Strategy
- Round 2 - RCP Workshops
- Criminal Justice Research Update
- Imperial County Presentation
- FY 2004 Budget

**Bike to Work Day
May 16, 2003**

Take to the streets and join thousands of San Diego region residents on your bike to work!

For more information, visit KeepSanDiegoMoving.com.

NEARSHORE HABITAT INVENTORY: Directors were updated on SANDAG's collaborative efforts with the California Coastal Conservancy to develop an inventory of marine habitats along the San Diego region coastline. The information has been compiled into a comprehensive Geographic Information System (GIS)-based data set. The next step is to develop and host the Nearshore Habitat Inventory Web site on the SANDAG Web site. The Web site will contain information on the program, habitat classification system as well as functions for habitat mapping, a bibliography search, a photo gallery of ecotypes, and a data function for scientists to submit data on recent studies. A fall 2003 launch of the Web site is planned. *(Item #13: Staff contact Rob Rundle, (619) 595-5649 or rru@sandag.org)*

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE: California Assembly Bill 361 (Kehoe) – the San Diego Consolidated Transportation Agency: After discussion and debate, Directors voted to oppose the bill unless it is amended to be consistent with SANDAG principles and policy outlined in the Board report, and to continue to work with Assemblymember Kehoe on the amendments. As currently drafted, the bill would modify last year's Senate Bill 1703 (Peace) in a number of ways. A SANDAG ad hoc working group is working with Assemblymember Kehoe as the bill progresses through the state legislature. Amendments being requested relate to linkages between the Regional Transportation Plan and the Regional Comprehensive Plan (RCP) so that they effectively work together to accomplish land use and transportation objectives and provide incentives to implement the RCP; refining the public participation process to ensure input is considered during the development of the RCP; and assurance that the bill does not usurp local land use control. Directors also want updates to the RCP to be contingent on the availability of funding, and an adjustment to the timing of a state Legislative Analysis Office report on the effectiveness of the consolidation. Directors emphasized the requirement for a public vote to make changes to the current SANDAG regional governance structure. *(Item #9: Staff contact, Debra Greenfield, (619) 595-5366 or dgr@sandag.org)*

FY 2004 OVERALL WORK PROGRAM: Directors approved the Overall Work Program, which details the agency's proposed plans, programs, and projects, and associated budgets for the period July 1, 2003 through June 30, 2004. Top priorities for the coming year include the development of the Regional Comprehensive Plan, and implementation of the 2030 Regional Transportation Plan. The work program also reflects the transit work to be accomplished under the new consolidated agency. As of July 1, 2003, SANDAG will be responsible for transit planning and programming; and by January 2004, the agency also will be doing transit project development and construction. *(Item #12: Staff contact, Leslie Campbell, (619) 595-5340 or lca@sandag.org)*

OTHER ITEM: Directors recognized Colleen O'Harra, Chair of the Multiple Habitat Conservation Program (MHCP) Advisory Committee and former Oceanside Councilmember, for her commitment to leading North County City representatives, environmentalists, builders, agencies, and other stakeholders to build consensus, draft a plan, and launch a program to preserve more than 20,000 acres of undeveloped land. Directors approved the MHCP in March.

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