BOARD ACTIONS

May 23, 2003

REGIONAL COMPREHENSIVE PLAN PROGRESS: Escondido Mayor Lori Holt Pfeiler updated Directors on the preparation of the Regional Comprehensive Plan and outlined the schedule for a second round of interactive public workshops this summer. These workshops will focus on planning for the region’s development and redevelopment patterns, transportation, environment, housing, and the economy. SANDAG will coordinate with local jurisdictions as well as with interest groups to develop the content of the workshops and to assist with co-hosting the workshops to reach as many residents as possible. More information will be presented at the June Board meeting and will be featured on the RCP Web site at www.sandag.org/rcp. (Item #9: Staff contact, Carolina Gregor, (619) 595-5399 or cgr@sandag.org)

TransNet ORDINANCE CHANGE: At the request of the San Diego Metropolitan Transit Development Board (MTDB), SANDAG approved the introduction of an ordinance change to the transit portion of the TransNet program. The ordinance change will increase the maximum share of annual TransNet transit funds that can be used for operating purposes up to 40 percent from the current 20 percent during the program’s remaining five years. The ordinance change is intended to help fund MTDB’s projected multi-year operating budget. Sufficient capital funds would remain to allow MTDB to complete current project commitments such as the Mission Valley East trolley line through San Diego State University. It also would allow the transit agency to continue project development work on the Mid-Coast light rail extension, and on its Transit First Showcase and bus rapid transit (BRT) projects. The North San Diego County Transit Development Board (NCTD) would not be affected by the proposed change but would have the same flexibility to shift more of its share of TransNet funds from capital to operating purposes. SANDAG directed staff to develop a transit operating contingency plan in the event voters do not approve an extension of the existing TransNet program beyond its sunset of 2008. All changes to the TransNet ordinance require two readings. The second reading and final adoption of the ordinance is now scheduled for the June 27 SANDAG Board meeting. (Item #12: Staff contact, Craig Scott, 619/595-5326 or csc@sandag.org)

TRANSPORTATION PROGRESS: The SR 125/SR 94 Interchange and SR 125 Sweetwater six-lane freeway were opened to traffic in early May. This TransNet-funded project provides freeway access from Santee to National City...MTDB opened bids for the 12th and Market Trolley Station and the 12th Avenue improvements project component of the East Village Station, following completion of construction work at the Gaslamp Quarter Station. The overall East Village Station project is scheduled for completion by April 2004...The Federal Highway Administration approved...
the environmental document for the I-805/Olympic Parkway Interchange. Completion of this project is scheduled for 2005...Transportation Demand Management (TDM) programs reduced an estimated 15,700 pounds of smog forming pollution last month, bringing the fiscal total to 136,000 pounds reduced (an increase of 29% over this time last year). SANDAG’s Vanpool Program continues to grow from 203 vanpools this time last year to 269 vanpools. Vanpools from outside San Diego represent 47 percent of all vanpools...On April 25, 56 employer representatives attended “Spring into Action,” an employer event sponsored by SANDAG at the SONY Rancho Bernardo Facility...More than 4,000 riders participated in Bike to Work Day on May 16. (Item #5: Staff contact, Jose Nuncio, (619) 595-5619 or jnu@sandag.org)

ENERGY UPDATE: San Diego Gas & Electric Company (SDG&E) presented its 20-year Electric Resource Plan. The plan required by the State Public Utilities Commission calls for: reducing demand through cost-effective energy efficiency and demand response programs; adding additional renewable resources (such as wind and solar) to increase energy supply; adding electric transmission interconnection in 2008 to improve reliability, allowing additional imports and exports, and providing cost savings; and adding new generation to meet system reliability criteria...In a related item, SANDAG contracted with the San Diego Regional Energy Office (SDREO) to draft a Regional Energy Strategy (RES). This strategy is intended to become the energy element of the Regional Comprehensive Plan. The Board accepted the draft RES for distribution. The draft plan includes goals for public policy, electricity supply and infrastructure capacity, electricity demand, natural gas supply infrastructure capacity and costs, and transportation energy supply and demand. While SDREO and SDG&E worked cooperatively in preparing both the RES and the 20-year Electric Resource Plan, the RES recommends that the region be more proactive in balancing its energy supply through conservation, renewable resources, and in-region energy production. (Item # 13 a and b: Staff contact, Nan Valerio, (619) 595-5365 or nva@sandag.org)

FY 2004 PROGRAM BUDGET: Directors adopted a SANDAG Program Budget of $264.6 million for the period of July 1, 2003 through June 30, 2004. The projected funding level represents an approximately one percent increase from the amended FY 2003 SANDAG and TransNet Program Budgets. This increase is primarily due to projected increases in TransNet sales tax revenues for the coming year. Of the total budget, about 92 percent are funds that will be passed to the region’s 18 Cities, County government, transit operators, and Caltrans for transportation improvements. (Item #14: Staff contact, Leslie Campbell, (619) 595-5340 or lca@sandag.org)

IMPERIAL COUNTY: At the start of 2003, Imperial County joined the SANDAG Board of Directors as an advisory member. Imperial County Supervisor Victor Carrillo presented an informational overview of his region. The presentation encompassed the socio-demographics of Imperial County, and the transportation, economic, housing, and energy challenges facing the region. Directors discussed how best to work together on common challenges such water, air cargo, and solid waste disposal for the mutual benefit of both regions. (Item #10: Staff contact, Hector Vanegas, (619) 595-5372 or hva@sandag.org)

###

Upcoming Board Meetings

**Policy Meeting – June 13**
- Strategies for State Local Fiscal Reform

**Business Meeting – June 27**
- TransNet Ordinance Change
- Criminal Justice Update

RCP Public Workshops

Residents are invited to participate in these interactive public workshops to help build the foundation for the region’s future.

- Tuesday, July 15
  - 6 to 9 p.m.
  - North County Inland

- Saturday, July 19
  - 9 a.m. to 12 p.m.
  - Central San Diego

- Saturday, July 26
  - 9 a.m. to 12 p.m.
  - North County Coastal

- Monday, July 28
  - 6 to 9 p.m.
  - South County

- Wednesday, July 30
  - 6 to 9 p.m.
  - East County

Please visit www.sandag.org/rcp for more information.