



## Members

Crystal Crawford, Chair  
(Representing **North County Coastal**)  
Councilmember, Del Mar

Patricia McCoy, Vice Chair  
(Representing **South County**)  
Councilmember, Imperial Beach

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

Jill Greer  
(Representing **East County**)  
Councilmember, Lemon Grove

Ralph Inzunza  
Councilmember, City of San Diego

Dianne Jacob  
Supervisor, County of San Diego

Victor Carrillo  
(Representing **Imperial County**)  
Supervisor, Imperial County

## Alternates

David Powell  
(Representing **North County Coastal**)  
Councilmember, Solana Beach

Phil Monroe  
(Representing **South County**)  
Councilmember, Coronado

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

Hal Ryan  
(Representing **East County**)  
Councilmember, Santee

*Vacant*  
City of San Diego

Pam Slater  
Supervisor, County of San Diego

Larry Grogan  
(Representing **Imperial County**)  
Councilmember, City of El Centro

## Ex-Officio Members

Thomas Buckley  
Councilmember, County of Riverside

Vacant, County of Orange

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

James Bond  
**San Diego County Water Authority**

Pedro Orso-Delgado  
District Director, Caltrans

Gary L. Gallegos  
Executive Director, SANDAG

# BORDERS COMMITTEE AGENDA

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

## AGENDA HIGHLIGHTS

- **DRAFT GOALS, OBJECTIVES, AND POLICIES OF THE BORDERS CHAPTER OF THE REGIONAL COMPREHENSIVE PLAN**

### 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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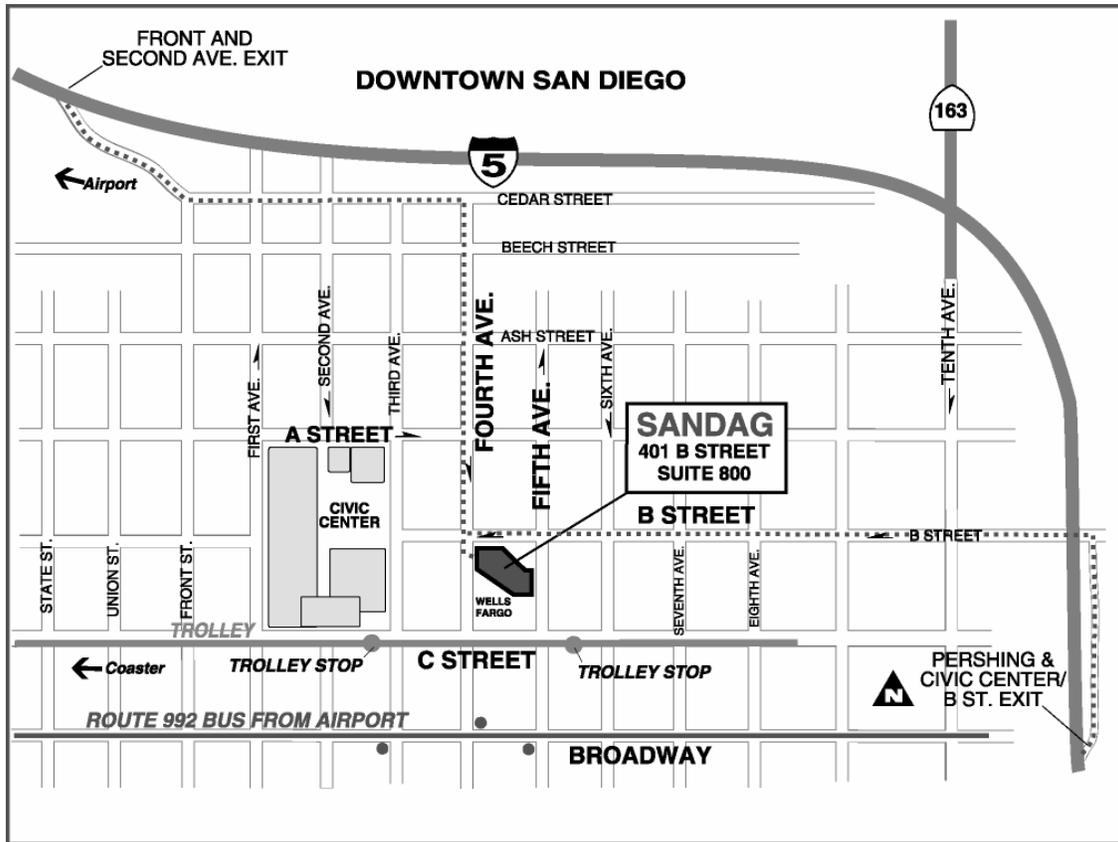
San Diego's Regional Planning Agency

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, July 18, 2003

Staff Contact: Hector Vanegas  
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ITEM #		ACTION
1.	<b>WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS</b>	
+2.	<b>MEETING SUMMARY OF MAY 16, 2003 (PP. 4-7)</b>	<b>INFORMATION</b>
3.	<b>PUBLIC COMMENTS AND COMMUNICATIONS</b> (Each speaker limited to three minutes.)	
<b>CONSENT</b>		
<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.	<b>COMMITTEE ON BINATIONAL REGIONAL OPPORTUNITIES MEETING SUMMARY OF JUNE 3, 2003 (PP. 8-10)</b>	<b>INFORMATION</b>
+5.	<b>I-15 INTERREGIONAL PARTNERSHIP MEETING SUMMARY OF JUNE 20, 2003 (PP. 11-16)</b>	<b>INFORMATION</b>
<b>REPORTS</b>		
6.	<b>CHAIR AND MEMBERS REPORTS</b> A preliminary report will be given on SANDAG's 7 <sup>th</sup> Annual Binational Conference, <i>Homeland Security: Challenges and Opportunities in the San Diego-Northern Baja California Region.</i>	<b>INFORMATION</b>
7.	<b>DRAFT GOALS, OBJECTIVES, AND POLICIES OF THE BORDERS CHAPTER OF THE REGIONAL COMPREHENSIVE PLAN (RCP)</b> The Committee is requested to review and comment on the draft goals, objectives, and policies of the Borders Chapter. The material will be passed out at the meeting for introduction and initial comments.	<b>DISCUSS</b>
8.	<b>NEXT MEETING DATE AND LOCATION</b> The Committee will decide if the August 15 <sup>th</sup> meeting should take place, or if the next meeting should be held September 19 <sup>th</sup> from 12:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. at SANDAG's 7 <sup>th</sup> floor conference room.	<b>INFORMATION</b>

+ Next to an agenda item indicates an attachment

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**BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
MAY 23, 2003**

**AGENDA ITEM NO. 03-05-4-D  
ACTION REQUESTED - APPROVE**

**BORDERS COMMITTEE DISCUSSION AND ACTIONS**

Meeting of May 16, 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), and 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 Thomas Buckley (Riverside County), Javier Diaz (Mexico), Gene Pound (Caltrans), and Angelika Villagrana representing the COBRO.

**1. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS**

The Chair welcomed the Committee members and guests to the meeting and asked for self introductions from those who do not regularly attend the Borders meetings.

**2. MEETING SUMMARY OF APRIL 18, 2003**

Action: The Borders Committee approved the April 18, 2003 Borders Committee summary.

**3. PUBLIC COMMENTS AND COMMUNICATIONS**

No public comments were made.

**CONSENT ITEM (4)**

**4. COMMITTEE ON BINATIONAL REGIONAL OPPORTUNITIES (INFORMATION)**

The Committee accepted the COBRO meeting summary of May 6, 2003.

**REPORTS**

**5. CHAIR AND MEMBERS REPORTS (INFORMATION)**

Chair Crystal Crawford asked the members to report on any recent meetings or other information of interest to the committee. Members reported the following:

- Councilmember Monroe reported that the Transportation Committee is developing transit policies for the consolidated agency. One of the potential policies being discussed would encourage interregional cooperation and coordination regarding the use of transit facilities in the region. This relates directly to discussions by the Borders Committee as part of the I-15 Interregional Partnership (IRP) work and should be followed up at the next IRP meeting in Escondido next month.
- Vice Chair McCoy reported that a new flood warning system for the Tijuana River Valley was unveiled and a CD Rom, with a presentation of the program, was provided to SANDAG. Staff will review the presentation and assess whether the Committee should see it as well.
- Mr. Diaz reported that on April 23, 2003, the Secretary of Homeland Security, Tom Ridge, met in San Diego with the Secretary of Governance of Mexico, Santiago Creel. The two released a "Joint Statement on Progress Achieved" and pledged to work together to develop strategies for improving efficiency at the border.
- Mr. Diaz also reported that two new pieces of legislation regarding the use of consular identification cards have been introduced in the state legislature: AB 25 and AB 522. These bills are supported by the Office of the Consulate General of Mexico in San Diego. The Borders Committee members were interested in following progress on these bills and continuing to foster dialogue regarding the pros and cons of such legislation.
- Chair Crawford reported that she attended a joint SCAG/SANDAG meeting on May 8, 2003 in Temecula where interregional issues and projects (including the Borders Committee and the I-15 IRP project) were discussed. The representatives from the two agencies agreed to calendar two joint meetings per year (each April and October) to continue the dialogue.
- Vice-Chair McCoy also reported that SANDAG Board members participated in a South County/border tour on May 9, 2003. It was the first of the sub-regional tours planned for the Board. Part of the tour highlighted ports of entry infrastructure and the Tijuana River estuary. Committee members reminded staff of their interest in completing a Borders Committee tour on the south side of the border.
- Chair Crawford invited the Committee members to attend a binational energy meeting to be held Monday, May 19, 2003 at 4:00 p.m. at the University of California, San Diego with Dr. Armando Jimenez San Vicente, Director General for Energy Policy Formation, Secretariat of Energy of Mexico.

## 6. COBRO RECOMMENDATIONS (APPROVE)

Angelika Villagrana presented two recommendations for the Borders Committee's approval. The first item was regarding the *Secure and Fast Entry at the Border Act of 2003* (SAFE Border Act of 2003) and the second item was regarding the objectives of the San Diego Alliance for Border Efficiency (ABE).

The SAFE Border Act is an update to similar legislation introduced last year which was supported by the SANDAG Board. The SAFE Border Act of 2003 seeks to implement the Port Passenger Accelerated Service System (PortPASS) as a permanent pre-inspection technology program for land border inspection facilities which will speed the passage of low-risk travelers into the U.S. This program would:

- Utilize interoperable technology;
- Have dedicated staff with appropriate training and instruction, and greater resources to facilitate and expedite the processing of applications for the Secure Electronic Network for Travelers' Rapid Inspection (SENTRI) program;
- Create a pre-inspection low-risk traveler dedicated commuter lane for pedestrian land border crossers; and
- Approve a minimum two-year validity for the SENTRI Program for non-commercial vehicles.

The Committee discussed the need for increased use of technology at the border and made note that different types of technology are used at the southern and northern borders of the U.S. Supervisor Victor Carrillo suggested seeking support for this legislation from agencies and elected officials in Imperial County as well as from individual jurisdictions and agencies throughout San Diego.

Action: The Borders Committee took action to support the *Secure and Fast Entry at the Border Act of 2003* (SAFE Border Act of 2003) and to recommend that the SANDAG Board of Directors send a letter of support for this legislation.

In regards to the ABE, Ms. Villagrana provided the Committee with an overview of its formation, members and mission, and requested that the Committee support the objectives developed by the ABE for improving efficiency at our ports of entry.

The Committee suggested that in regards to "mitigating impacts of implementation of Entry-Exit controls," the wording of the first objective be revised to reflect the goal more accurately. The suggested wording is "Developing the infrastructure necessary to avoid increased border congestion due to the implementation of related programs."

Action: The Borders Committee took action to support the objectives (as revised) developed by the San Diego Alliance for Border Efficiency and to request that a presentation be made to the SANDAG Board of Directors.

## **7. BORDERS CHAPTER OF THE REGIONAL COMPREHENSIVE PLAN (REVIEW/COMMENT)**

Hector Vanegas, SANDAG staff, presented the "Actions and Implementation" component of the chapter outline for review and comment. The Committee made suggestions regarding the wording of a number of actions and requested that, in general, the items reflect a more action oriented perspective. It was determined that the actions presented would more appropriately be labeled as "strategies" for which more detailed actions or tasks still need to be identified.

The Committee agreed that the I-15 IRP Meeting in June will provide more details that can be used for further developing the Jobs/Housing Balance component as well as the Transportation component. The Committee also noted that the COBRO Summer Conference will likely be a source of more specific recommendations relating to the National Security

component. Because the Committee will not be reviewing the Borders Chapter again until July, members agreed to provide further suggestions directly to staff for inclusion. The Committee also discussed forming a small sub-group to work with staff on further developing specific action items for each component as well as the potential for calling a special meeting if needed, to meet the timelines for completion of the Borders Chapter. Committee members McCoy, Monroe, Ritter and Buckley volunteered to work on the sub-group and to meet immediately after the next Interregional Partnership (IRP) meeting on June 13, 2003 in Escondido to discuss this further.

Staff will prepare a draft of the Borders Chapter for Committee review in July.

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

Action: The Borders Committee approved the next meeting date of Friday, June 13, 2003. This will be a joint IRP meeting and will be held in Escondido. Representatives from the Riverside County Transportation Commission (RCTC) will be joining the next I-15 IRP meeting. The agenda will include a brief orientation session for the new RCTC members prior to the start of the regular meeting. All Committee members are welcome to attend.

GARY L. GALLEGOS  
Executive Director

San Diego Association of Governments

# COMMITTEE ON BINATIONAL REGIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

BORDERS COMMITTEE AGENDA ITEM NO.: **4**

**Action Requested: APPROVE**

COMMITTEE ON BINATIONAL REGIONAL OPPORTUNITIES  
MEETING SUMMARY OF JUNE 3, 2003

## **Introduction**

The June 3, 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 and thanked the City of Tijuana for hosting the meeting. The Chair introduced Raul Leggs, City Manager, City of Tijuana, who welcomed the guests on behalf of Mayor Jesus Gonzalez and the City of Tijuana. The Chair also welcomed Tijuana Councilmember Fabiola Piza. Participants conducted self introductions.

### **2. MEETING SUMMARY OF MAY 6, 2003**

The meeting summary for May 6, 2003, was accepted with no changes. Approval of these minutes will take place at the next COBRO meeting on August 5, 2003.

### **3. PUBLIC COMMENTS AND COMMUNICATION**

Marcela Merino, Fronteras Unidas Pro-Salud, announced that her organization is currently developing and implementing health programs for the city of Tijuana. These programs are aimed specifically at schools and the maquiladora industry work force. They include topics such as prevention of sexually transmitted diseases and detection of cervical and breast cancer. Ms. Merino urged the Committee to consider addressing health issues.

### **4. CHAIR AND COBRO MEMBERS REPORT**

Dave Fege, Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), commented on the EPA-Secretariat of Environment and Natural Resources (SEMARNAT) for Mexico, Border 2012 California-Baja California Regional Working Group meeting that took place Thursday, May 29, in Calexico, California. The Workgroup's main tasks are: (1) To promote dialogue between local governments and the communities to solve the region's specific environmental issues, such as air quality, water quality, and waste management matters; and (2) To create task forces to resolve these issues. He invited the members of the Committee to become involved in these task forces.

Angelika Villagrana, San Diego Regional Chamber of Commerce (SDRCC), informed the Committee about actions taken by the Borders Committee on May 16, 2003. The Borders Committee approved

the COBRO recommendation to support the San Diego Alliance for Border Efficiency (SDABE). The SDABE seeks to reduce border wait times, to implement new technology at ports of entry, and to mitigate impacts of implementation of entry-exit control systems. The Borders Committee also supported the SAFE Border Act (HR 1353), which seeks to implement a permanent pre-inspection technology program for land border inspections facilities which will speed up the passage of low-risk travelers into the U.S. It also advocates the expansion of the Secure Electronic Network for Travelers' Rapid Inspection (SENTRI) program already in use at the San Ysidro and Otay Mesa Ports of Entry.

Viviana Ibanez, SDRCC, announced that the Chamber is organizing their third international tribute dinner. This year's honored guest is Santiago Creel, Mexico's Secretary of Interior. The event is scheduled for Thursday, May 24, 2003, at the Marriot San Diego Hotel and Marina.

Hayde Martinez, Instituto Municipal de Planeacion (IMPLAN), commented on the Bridges and Borders conference held in Saltillo, Mexico on May 27-29. Ms Martinez commented on the limited representation from California authorities and stressed the need to formulate joint presentations from authorities in San Diego and Tijuana to expedite and facilitate the decision making process. Eduardo Aguirre, City of Tecate, mentioned that the conference lacked a much needed participation from representatives of the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) and Caltrans. The Chair made mention of the fact that the conference was initially slated to take place in California, but was changed at the last minute to Saltillo, providing little time for travel preparations.

Joaquin Luken, Otay Mesa Chamber of Commerce, announced their upcoming 14<sup>th</sup> Annual MEXPORT event. The event will take place June 26, 2003 at the San Diego Business Park, and seeks to promote maquiladora sourcing opportunities.

The Chair presented an award of recognition to Hon. Richard Gonzalez, Consul General of the United States in Tijuana, for his invaluable contribution to the region and his support for the COBRO. Liza Davis, Consulate General of the United States in Tijuana, accepted on behalf of the Consul General, who will soon be relocating to Hong Kong.

## **5. STAFF REPORT**

The Chair announced SANDAG's upcoming binational annual summer conference, Homeland Security, Challenges and Opportunities for the San Diego-Northern Baja California, scheduled for July 11, 2003.

## **6. TIJUANA'S URBAN PLAN 2002-2025 AND TRANSPORTATION OBJECTIVES**

Raul Leggs, City of Tijuana, discussed Tijuana's urban development plan for the next 22 years. Mr. Leggs identified the key issues that the City needs to address. These included water treatment and shortage, transportation, infrastructure, investment and financing, public safety, natural gas production and energy solutions. Mr. Leggs stated that the administration is seeking to bring private industry investors and the three levels of governments together to identify and support funding for specific projects that address these issues.

Mr. Leggs also discussed the primary objectives to resolve the City's transportation problems. The City will seek to restructure the public transit system. The current system is based primarily on the use of cabs, which can carry up to seven passengers, and which represents 70% of the total number

of public transit units in operation. The other 30% is divided among buses and vans. The current project would limit the use of cabs and instead concentrate on utilizing more buses. New routes would be established to cover a wide range of areas within the city. Exclusive bus lanes and a control center would be designated, and low emissions engines would be installed on the busses to decrease pollution.

## **7. LAS CALIFORNIAS BINATIONAL CONSERVATION INITIATIVE**

Richard Kiy, International Community Foundation, and Miguel Angel Vargas, Pronatura, discussed an initiative to promote the conservation and preservation of open space along the border between San Diego and Tijuana. Mr. Kiy mentioned that this region has been identified as one of the world's 25 biodiversity hotspots and that San Diego has developed a multiple species conservation plan. Mr. Vargas stated that 24 species of flora and 22 of fauna are currently under threat of extinction on the Mexican side of the border. The initiative seeks to promote private land conservation, public strategies at the local, state, and federal levels, and other binational conservation efforts. Mr. Kiy also stressed the need to address the binational region's environmental issues, and mentioned that areas to the east of Tijuana-Tecate should be preserved in order to maintain the current habitat, which remains 80 percent intact. Mr. Kiy asked the Committee to consider recommending this topic to the Borders Committee in the near future.

## **8. CONFERENCE 2003: HOMELAND SECURITY, CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES IN THE SAN DIEGO-NORTHERN BAJA CALIFORNIA REGION**

Vicente Sanchez, Colegio de la Frontera Norte (COLEF), gave the Committee an update on the surveys being developed in conjunction with the Institute of Regional Studies-SDSU, the University of San Diego (USD), the University of California, San Diego (UCSD), and COLEF. Mr. Sanchez stated that the purpose of the survey was to identify the key issue areas of homeland security in our region, so that these can be addressed at the summer conference. He also stressed the need to have the members of the Committee take an active approach in responding and commenting on the survey's development, to help further this goal.

## **9. ADJOURNMENT AND NEXT MEETING DATE AND LOCATION**

Due to the Summer Conference on July 11, the next regular meeting will be held on Tuesday, August 5, 2003 from 3:00 to 4:30 in SANDAG's 7<sup>th</sup> floor conference room.

# I-15 INTERREGIONAL PARTNERSHIP POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING

BORDERS COMMITTEE AGENDA ITEM NO.: **5**

**Action Requested: APPROVE**

I-15 INTERREGIONAL PARTNERSHIP POLICY COMMITTEE  
MEETING SUMMARY OF JUNE 20, 2003

## **Introduction**

The June 20, 2003 I-15 Interregional Partnership (I-15 IRP) Policy Committee Meeting was called to order by Co-Chair Crystal Crawford (City of Del Mar) and Co-Chair Jeff Comerchero (City of Temecula). The I-15 IRP Policy Committee is comprised of the San Diego Association of Governments (SANDAG) Borders Committee, as representatives of the San Diego region, and eight elected officials as representatives of the western Riverside County region.

Borders Committee members in attendance were Crystal Crawford (City of Del Mar), Ed Gallo (City of Escondido), and Patricia McCoy (City of Imperial Beach). Alternates in attendance were Judy Ritter (City of Vista), and Phil Monroe (City of Coronado). Ex-Officio members in attendance were Thomas Buckley (County of Riverside), James Bond (San Diego County Water Authority), and Maurice Eaton sitting in for Pedro Orso-Delgado (Caltrans District 11).

Western Riverside regional representatives in attendance were Jeff Comerchero (City of Temecula), Ron Roberts (City of Temecula), and Jack Van Haaster (City of Murrieta).

## **CONSENT ITEMS**

### **1. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS**

Co-Chair Crystal Crawford asked members to introduce themselves. She also noted that Eric Haley, representing the Riverside County Transportation Commission (RCTC), was also in attendance.

### **2. I-15 IRP PROJECT REVIEW AND WORK PROGRAM UPDATE (INFORMATION)**

Jeff Martin, SANDAG, stated that the I-15 IRP is addressing the imbalance between jobs and housing in the San Diego and southwestern Riverside County regions. Due to an abundance of housing opportunities and a lack of jobs in southwestern Riverside County, more and more people are living in that region and commuting into the San Diego region using Interstate 15. Among the negative impacts of this imbalance are longer commutes, increased congestion and air pollution, and less time at home. A three-year, \$500,000 grant was awarded by the California Department of Housing and Community Development to evaluate existing conditions in the two regions and to develop strategies to address the

jobs/housing imbalance. Accomplishments of the study to date include: development of an existing conditions report; implementation of short range transportation strategies that include (a) the coordination of vanpool/carpool services and interregional transit service coordination; and (b) the preparation of draft long range transportation, economic development, and jobs/housing balance strategies. The I-15 IRP Existing Conditions Report showed that southwest Riverside County is exporting workers primarily because the San Diego region is not meeting the demand for affordable housing. Many workers have chosen to seek more affordable housing opportunities that exist in Riverside County and commute to work in San Diego County. According to the report, there has been a 400 percent increase in commuters since 1990 and there are currently about 29,000 interregional commuters per day. There are many issues, including funding priorities and timing of transportation improvement plans that need to be addressed by both regions. The I-15 IRP is meant to be a forum for that interregional planning. Staff reviewed the next steps in the process which will culminate in the submission and approval of a final report in June 2004.

Co-Chair Crawford mentioned that a schedule for meetings of the Technical Working Group would be distributed and she invited Policy Committee Members to attend those meetings.

Phil Monroe commented that some elected officials in San Diego County will question why we should be improving the commute for people who work in San Diego to live in Temecula.

**3. I-15 IRP POLICY COMMITTEE DISCUSSION AND ACTIONS – FEBRUARY 12, 2003**

There was no discussion of this item.

**4. PUBLIC COMMENTS AND COMMUNICATIONS**

Maurice Eaton, Caltrans District 11, indicated that one adopted I-15 IRP short range strategy is to improve park-and-ride lots in the I-15 corridor. Caltrans will be expanding the park-and-ride lot at State Route (SR) 76 and I-15 from 70 to 110 spaces. The bid opening for this project will occur on June 24, 2003. A contract is expected in August with work to be completed in September.

Co-Chair Crawford encouraged Caltrans to distribute a public relations piece about this project.

**CHAIR'S REPORT (ITEMS 5-6)**

**5. REPORT FROM JOINT SANDAG/SCAG MEETING, MAY 8, 2003 (INFORMATION)**

Co-Chair Crawford stated that there was a commitment to have meetings between SANDAG and the Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG) twice a year, in October and April. The next meeting was set for Thursday, October 9, 2003, in Temecula, and a regular meeting schedule will be agreed upon at that meeting.

## **6. REPORT FROM STATE IRP MEETING, MAY 6, 2003 (INFORMATION)**

Susan Baldwin, SANDAG, provided a report on this meeting. Information was provided about various state housing and economic development programs. There was also time allotted for discussion between IRP Staff. A major topic of discussion was continued funding of the interregional partnerships that have been established. There was a concern voiced by many IRP representatives that current programs will not be able to continue without renewed funding from the state.

The primary benefits of this meeting were the improved communication between IRP Staffs, the ability to discuss issues and concerns, and discussion on how to strengthen economic development strategies. There was also an overview of the jobs and housing balance problems occurring throughout the state.

Phil Monroe asked if the I-15 IRP will focus particularly on low and moderate income housing instead of housing in general. Staff responded that the housing crisis as it pertains to the I-15 IRP remains to be defined. However, the lack of housing for moderate income households is a major cause of the existing conditions in the I-15 study area. Therefore, this project provides an opportunity to focus on moderate cost housing.

Western Riverside Council of Governments (WRCOG) staff spoke about the SR-91 IRP, which is a partnership between WRCOG and the Orange County Council of Governments (OCCOG). Co-Chair Crawford asked if there would be any value to having a joint meeting with Orange County representatives. It was decided that the I-15 IRP Technical Working Group, along with SANDAG and WRCOG staff, should explore this possibility, and would advise the Policy Committee if a joint meeting with Orange County representatives appears to be warranted.

## **7. STRATEGY DISCUSSION (APPROVE FOR FURTHER EVALUATION) – SANDAG AND WRCOG STAFF**

Co-Chair Crawford indicated that the draft strategies would be presented for input and approval for future evaluation. Staff introduced each of the strategies, giving Policy Committee Members the opportunity to comment on each one. All of the strategies were approved by the Committee for further evaluation. Comments on the individual strategies are noted below.

### **A. LONG RANGE TRANSPORTATION STRATEGIES – GEORGE FRANCK, SANDAG**

#### **T1 – Support High Speed Rail Transit Service in the I-15 Corridor**

- Work to resolve differences between plans proposed by Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG) and California High Speed Rail Authority (CHSRA).
- Support the adoption of the CHSRA inland (I-15) route between Los Angeles and San Diego.

- SCAG proposes bringing service to March Air Force Base in its initial phase; CHSRA would connect central Los Angeles and the Bay Area in its initial phase.
- The IRP should not advocate either Maglev or conventional HSR at this time.

#### **T2 – Implement Transit Shuttle Services to Interregional Transit**

- There may be an additional need to provide shuttle transit services between public transit centers or other interregional transit stations.
- Shuttles at the work end of the commute should be financed by and possibly operated by employers.
- Condominium associations could provide shuttle services as part of their monthly fees.
- Coordination between local shuttle services and interregional operators is essential.
- Newer employment centers often have employment intensities, street layout and parking lots that make transit service difficult.

#### **T3 – Preserve Transportation Rights-of-Way and Implement Priority Measures through the Development Process**

- Caltrans should be added as a support agency.
- Transportation agencies should identify priority measures.
- Transportation agencies should determine right of way requirements.
- Local jurisdictions should incorporate interregional transportation facilities into their General Plans. Development of future rights of way is a major issue.
- Coordination should occur through an expanded project review process.
- Continuity of transportation projects across jurisdictional boundaries is important.

#### **T4 – Reduce Parking Requirements in Transit Nodes and Mixed-Use Centers**

- Downtown and redevelopment areas may need to be exempted from any parking reduction if redevelopment efforts are to succeed.
- A reduction in the parking requirement should be considered in areas where a high level of transit service is planned.
- There must be a way to reverse a parking reduction if the transit service does not reduce automobile commuting as anticipated.

In addition, the Committee discussed the need to subsidize transit and the potential of shifting more of the total cost of driving to the automobile commuter. Members concurred that there was a need to preserve mode-choice for commuters. This discussion did not lead to modifications for Strategy T4.

#### **T5 – Implement the I-15 High Occupancy Vehicle (HOV) System**

- Caltrans and the regional transportation agencies should continue to refine the “build-out” configuration of I-15, eliminating potential design incompatibilities.
- Caltrans should complete its identification of right-of-way needs for the preferred configuration.
- Transportation Agencies should continue to coordinate regional priorities for the construction of HOV lanes.

Phil Monroe, Coronado, explained a potential way to allow non-carpooling commuters to utilize nearly empty HOV lanes during times of heavy traffic congestion.

**B. ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT STRATEGIES – KEVIN VIERA, WRCOG**

**ED1 – Facilitate Greater Collaboration between Regional Economic Development Agencies**

- The IRP can serve as a facilitator; the economic development entities will be responsible for cooperation and collaboration.
- These entities can be caught up in parochialism. Why would regional EDC's work with each other or give potential jobs to another EDC?
- While these entities are competitive, there is the possibility for increased communication.
- Cities no longer compete only against each other for economic development. The entire region must compete against the rest of the world. It could be helpful to work together as a larger region.
- This strategy may be even more difficult during poor economic times.

**ED2 – Create a Web site to Link I-15 Commuters with Local Jobs and Promote Businesses in Housing-Rich Areas**

- The key to the success of a Web site will be marketing.
- The Web site should be marketed directly to the commuters and local businesses using information such as that in the Existing Conditions Report surveys.
- The Web site will have to be "seeded" or linked to major search engines.
- The potential costs and benefits of this strategy should be estimated.

**ED3 – Map the Broadband Service Coverage Area in Southwest Riverside County Region**

- The benefits of this strategy must be considered carefully. Have similar services been cost-effective and successful in attracting companies?
- The potential success revolves around the visibility and benefits of the service provided.

The Committee discussed the need to clarify why these strategies are focused solely on the development of jobs and improving the economic climate in the southwest Riverside region. It was noted that because the overarching goal of the IRP is the mitigation of the jobs/housing imbalance in the region, the target area for economic development is in Riverside County. The potential payoff for the San Diego region is decreased traffic congestion in the I-15 corridor. Both regions have specific conditions and needs that should be addressed through the interregional partnership.

**C. JOBS/HOUSING BALANCE STRATEGIES – Kevin Viera, WRCOG Staff**

**JH1 – Support/Sponsor Legislation that Provides Incentives for Jobs/Housing Balance Programs**

- The IRP should not support bills that propose funding sources that may compromise other transportation or development infrastructure funding.
- The strategy should be to “monitor” legislation, not “support or sponsor” legislation. The I-15 IRP should have the option of supporting specific bills if they are considered beneficial to jobs/housing balance.
- The specific bills identified in the strategy may not have specific relevance to the I-15 IRP. However, there will be many more bills with significance to jobs/housing balance programs, fiscal reform, etc. It will be important for the IRP to monitor and seek support for this type of legislation.

**JH2 – Actively Engage in Community Outreach**

- It is extremely important for the public to be informed about the jobs/housing imbalance.
- San Diego County has a low rate of homeownership. Educating residents and business persons about the need for affordable housing is critical.

**JH3 – Establish a “Coordinated Funding Group” to Support the Strategy Implementation Efforts of the Interregional Partnership**

- This strategy would be important if the I-15 IRP program does not receive continued funding from the California Department of Housing and Community Development.
- The Interregional Partnership has been valuable and should be continued in some form, with or without funding from the state.

Co-Chair Crawford stated that staff would use the comments made at this meeting to refine and evaluate the strategies.

**8. SAN DIEGO REGIONAL COMPREHENSIVE PLAN UPDATE/BORDERS CHAPTER (INFORMATION/DISCUSSION)**

Staff presented an update on the Regional Comprehensive Plan (RCP). The RCP will be a blueprint for smart growth in the San Diego region. Eric Haley advised that the RCP be approved prior to the *TransNet* reauthorization measure in November 2004. Staff agreed, indicating that a key goal is to complete the RCP in June 2004.

Staff provided an outline of the Borders Chapter of the RCP, including an issue statement; policies, principles, and goals; a description of interrelated issues; actions and implementation responsibilities; performance measures; infrastructure needs; and environmental justice and social equity.

**9. NEXT MEETING DATE AND LOCATION (INFORMATION)**

The meeting was adjourned at 3:39 p.m. The next meeting of the I-15 IRP Policy Committee will be held on Friday, September 19, 2003, at 1:30 p.m. in Escondido.