MEETING NOTICE AND AGENDA

COMMITTEE ON BINATIONAL REGIONAL OPPORTUNITIES (COBRO)

The Committee on Binational Regional Opportunities (COBRO) may take action on any item appearing on this agenda.

Tuesday, March 1, 2005

3 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.

SANDAG, 7th Floor Conference Room
401 B Street, Suite 800
San Diego, CA 92101-4231

Staff Contact: Hector Vanegas
(619) 699-1972
hva@sandag.org

MISSION STATEMENT

The Committee on Binational Regional Opportunities (COBRO) will advise the Borders Committee of the San Diego Association of Governments (SANDAG) concerning both short and long-term binational related activities, issues, and actions; provide recommendations regarding binational border-related planning and development; and identify ways to assist and coordinate with existing efforts in the binational area. The COBRO will serve as a working group to the SANDAG Borders Committee to facilitate a better understanding of the binational border-related issues and needs of the California-Baja California region.
Welcome to SANDAG! Members of the public may speak to the COBRO on any item at the time that 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 COBRO may take action on any item appearing on the agenda.

This agenda and related staff reports can be accessed at www.sandag.org under meetings on SANDAG’s Web site. Public comments regarding the agenda can be forwarded to SANDAG via the e-mail comment form also available on the Web site. E-mail comments should be received no later than noon, two days prior to the COBRO meeting.

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), SANDAG will accommodate persons who require assistance in order to participate in SANDAG meetings. If such assistance is required, please contact SANDAG at (619) 699-1900 in advance of the meeting. To request this document or related reports in an alternative format, please call (619) 699-1990, (619) 699-1904 (TTY) or fax (619) 699-1905.

SANDAG offices are accessible by public transit. Phone 1-800-COMMUTE or see www.sdcommute.com for route information.
# COMMITTEE ON BINATIONAL REGIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

## ITEM # \n
<table>
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<tr>
<th>ITEM #</th>
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<tbody>
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<td>1.</td>
<td>WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS</td>
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<td>+2.</td>
<td>MEETING SUMMARY OF FEBRUARY 1, 2005 MEETING</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.</td>
<td>PUBLIC COMMENTS AND COMMUNICATIONS</td>
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<td>(Each speaker limited to three minutes.)</td>
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<td>4.</td>
<td>PUBLIC COMMENTS/COMMUNICATIONS/MEMBER COMMENTS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Members of the public will have the opportunity to address COBRO on any issue within the jurisdiction of the Committee. Speakers are limited to three minutes each. This is also an opportunity for COBRO members to make comments or announcements.</td>
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## CONSENT AGENDA

| +5. | STAFF REPORT | INFORMATION |
| A. | Upcoming Events |
| B. | Otay River Watershed Management Plan |

The County of San Diego is developing a Watershed Management Plan for the Otay River Watershed in collaboration with the Cities of Chula Vista, Imperial Beach, and the Port of San Diego as well as a Working Group representing various stakeholders within the watershed.

Otay Mesa has been designated by COBRO as an area of opportunity for binational planning partnerships. As a result, COBRO has agreed to review planning activities affecting the Otay Mesa Area. Attached is a report that provides a summary of the Otay River Watershed Management Plan that will be presented at the next Borders Committee meeting on March 18, 2005.
REPORTS

6. PRESENTATION ON THE CITY OF CHULA VISTA’S GENERAL PLAN. (Planning Department, City of Chula Vista)

This city of Chula Vista is updating its General Plan to facilitate its projected population growth by almost 100,000 people between 2000 and 2020. Concepts under consideration for the eastern Chula Vista portion of the General Plan Update are: Creating a balanced community; Connecting activity centers; Promoting public transit; Promoting and supporting a future university; and preserving open space.

7. PREPARATION OF SANDAG’S 2005 BINATIONAL SUMMER CONFERENCE (Hector Vanegas, SANDAG)

The Task Force, formed in the last COBRO meeting, will report on its plans and recommendations for SANDAG’s 2005 Binational Conference.

8. inSite ART PRACTICES IN THE PUBLIC DOMAIN SAN DIEGO – Tijuana (CARMEN CUENCA, ARTISTIC DIRECTOR, CURATOR/INTERVENTIONS, inSite 05)

InSite is dedicated to the realization of binational collaborative arts partnerships among nonprofit and public institutions in the San Diego-Tijuana region. Operating through a unique collaborative structure that is based on the active participation of cultural and educational institutions in the US and Mexico; InSite is focused on promoting artistic investigation and activation of urban space. Please see the InSite Fact Sheet attached.

9. ADJOURNMENT AND NEXT MEETING DATE AND LOCATION

The Committee’s next meeting is on April 5, 2005, from 3 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. Topics in the agenda will be the cross-border Passenger Terminal from Otay Mesa across to Tijuana’s International Airport and updates on SANDAG-Caltrans’ study Estimating Economic Impacts of Border Wait Times on the San Diego-Baja California Border Region. Location for this meeting will be announced.

+ next to an item indicates attached report/material.

Visit us on the Web at:
www.sandag.org (under Borders/Binational)
www.borderbase.org
COMMITTEE ON BINATIONAL REGIONAL OPPORTUNITIES (COBRO) SUMMARY OF FEBRUARY 1, 2005

1. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

The February 1, 2005, Committee on Binational Regional Opportunities (COBRO) meeting was called to order by Member Elsa Saxod, City of San Diego. The meeting was held at SANDAG.

Members present were: Elsa Saxod, City of San Diego; Alex Hidalgo, Office of International Programs, San Diego State University; Javier Diaz and Lydia Antonio, Consulate General in San Diego; Sergio Pallares, Caltrans; Jaime González-Luna, Maquiladora Industry Association; Gustavo Pérez, City of Chula Vista; Silvia Flores, El Colegio de La Frontera Norte; Yolanda Walther-Meade, Fundación Internacional de la Comunidad/International Community Foundation; Alejandra Mier y Teran, Otay Mesa Chamber of Commerce; Nathan Owens, San Diego Dialogue; Angelika Villagrana and Viviana Ibañez, San Diego Regional Chamber of Commerce; Cindy Gomper-Graves, South County Economic Development Council; David Perez-Tejada, City of Mexicali; Julieta Sanchez, Office of International Relations, State of Baja California; Luis Duarte and Haydee Martínez, ImPlan/Municipal Planning Institute for the City of Tijuana; Dave Fege, U.S. EPA Border Liaison Office; Hector Vindiola, Consulate General of the United States in Tijuana; Bob Leiter, Hector Vanegas, and Ron Saenz from SANDAG.

2. MEETING SUMMARY OF DECEMBER 8, 2004

The meeting summary for December 8, 2004, was approved.

3. PUBLIC COMMENTS/COMMUNICATIONS/MEMBER COMMENTS

Elsa Saxod, City of San Diego, welcomed new member, David Perez-Tejada, from the City of Mexicali, to his first COBRO meeting and thanked him for his attendance.

Yolanda Walther-Meade, Fundación Internacional de la Comunidad/International Community Foundation, invited the Committee to attend the opening of the first Boys and Girls club in Mexico to be held at 5 p.m. on February 9, 2005, in Tijuana. She also reminded the Committee of the upcoming, “Dos Aguilas Binacional Fiesta/Two Eagles Binational Party”, to be held at the San Diego Natural History Museum on March 12, 2005.

Angelika Villagrana, San Diego Regional Chamber of Commerce, announced that Viviana Ibañez, with the San Diego Regional Chamber of Commerce - Mexico Business Center, recently became a U.S. citizen.

Alex Hidalgo, San Diego State University, broached the subject of a recent statement made by the U.S. State Department regarding an advisory for American tourists traveling to Mexico. The
statement contained harsh comments that will have a negative affect on the region. He asked the Committee if there was any action they could take regarding this statement.

Viviana Ibañez, San Diego Regional Chamber of Commerce, told the Committee that there is a meeting scheduled on Friday, February 4, 2005, at 9 a.m., to discuss this statement and where different representatives from the City of San Diego, the U.S. Consulate, and the Department of Tourism of the City of Tijuana were expected to attend.

Elsa Saxod, City of San Diego, said that recommendations from the meeting should be brought to the next COBRO meeting, or a special meeting should be called for the COBRO to further discuss the subject.

Javier Diaz, Consulate General in San Diego, commented that the United States and Mexico share common concerns with security on the border, and it is important to continue to stress cooperation and not differences. Those living in the border region understand the types of cooperation that occur daily in the binational region.

Elsa Saxod, City of San Diego, agreed that the statement hurts the binational relationship and has a negative impact on businesses. She asked if there was an appropriate action to take as a committee.

Jaime González-Luna, Maquiladora Industry Association, stated that as a whole the region should take a stronger position on the topic. On both sides of the border, people understand how the region behaves and works together as a team. There is room for improvement but a strong position is needed to defend our region. The maquiladoras/twin plants are concerned with security. Currently, the Maquiladora Industry Association is trying to coordinate a strategy with the authorities in Tijuana.

Elsa Saxod, City of San Diego, recommended that the Committee wait to hear back from meetings taking place in the region concerning the safety warning and then take the appropriate action.

David Perez-Tejada, City of Mexicali, commented that yesterday the President of the Republic of Mexico, Vicente Fox, visited the community of Los Algodones to stress the safety of the border region and to support the fact that there are a number of Americans and Canadians living there, as well as a significant number of people who visit the city to buy goods such as medicine, and receive services, such as dental and doctors.

Viviana Ibañez, San Diego Regional Chamber of Commerce, reminded the COBRO of the upcoming, “Mexican Economic Review and Outlook 2005 Exposition”, scheduled for March 18, 2005, in which various speakers will address both state and local economic issues. The Mayor of Tijuana, Hon. Jorge Hank Ron, is the featured luncheon speaker.

Alejandra Mier y Teran, Otay Mesa Chamber of Commerce, reminded the Committee of the, “Border Transportation Crisis Forum”, to be held on March 24, 2005, and hoped that there would be a good turnout from the Committee.

4. STAFF REPORT (Hector Vanegas, SANDAG)

Hector Vanegas, SANDAG, reminded the COBRO that a list of additional upcoming events not listed in the original agenda was handed out to the members.
5. **PROGRAMA PARCIAL DE LA MESA DE OTAY ESTE, CIUDAD DE Tijuana - City of Tijuana's Specific Plan for the Area of East Mesa de Otay (Luis Duarte, City of Tijuana, Municipal Planning Institute, ImPlan)**

Elsa Saxod, City of San Diego, told the COBRO and attendees that Tijuana’s Planning Department leadership remains unchanged although changes were made to the City government in the last elections. Today the Committee will hear about the plans the City of Tijuana has for east Mesa de Otay. It is an important area for both sides, with so much activity happening in the area. The City of San Diego is currently updating its community plan for Otay Mesa. It is important to have planners from both sides engage in a dialogue together and foster cooperation. Working together is a huge implication for both sides of the border.

Luis Duarte, ImPlan, reiterated the fact that although there had been some changes made in the administration of the City of Tijuana, they remained committed to working together in the area of binational politics and were attending the COBRO meeting not only to present their information, but also to receive input from the Committee. Two agency objectives are related to binational planning. In the West, is the specific plan for downtown Tijuana, neighboring San Ysidro, and in the East, is the plan for East Mesa Otay. The development of the plans requires binational workshops that should include SANDAG, the cities of San Diego region, as well as other agencies and institutions related to border affairs. The process of plan approval began this month with public feedback.

The area studied by ImPlan is comprised of 7 zones: Zone 1 is an equipment and industrial area; Zone 2 is a popular housing area; Zone 3 is a medium income housing area; Zone 4 is strictly industrial; Zones 5 and 6 are low income housing in high risk areas with the substandard conditions and services; Zone 7 has been designated as a conservation and preservation area. This area generates approximately 52,000 manufacturing jobs and represents 6.83% of the total population of Tijuana (78,556 habitants in the year 2000). ImPlan’s main objectives in the area include: housing; improved; access to goods and services; increased mobility; and improvements in public areas. We are also trying to discourage housing in high risk areas particularly in the canyons located in the eastern section of the area. Economic development is an important issue to take into account. It is imperative to rehabilitate popular areas as well as to encourage the sustainable development of areas under construction. This area is perceived as a center of exchange in terms of people, goods, and service, and therefore it is of utmost priority to ensure accessibility.

Access roads and exits for the Port of Entry are being considered. We must analyze infrastructure and accessibility when looking at the border crossing. Two areas have been identified as potential border access areas, east Otay Mesa and Valle Redondo. One main topic of discussion in our public meetings has been what types of vehicles should be using the Mesa de Otay II Port of Entry – heavy commercial traffic and/or private vehicles. The different levels of the Mexican government will be taking the feedback into consideration when making their decision. Further analysis is necessary to make a determination to see if it will be used for heavy commercial traffic.

Cindy Gomper-Graves, SCEDC, brought up the project, “Gateway of Las Americas”, and its current status.

Luis Duarte, ImPlan, acknowledged that there is a proposal for the, “Gateway of Las Americas”, but ImPlan needs to do more studies to determine if it is a feasible project. There are several proposals that are up for public feedback. The official document will give us an official stance on the projects from which we will present to federal officials. At the moment we are in the discussion phase. Each proposal needs to be discussed specifically.
Alejandra Mier y Teran, Otay Mesa Chamber of Commerce, mentioned that she has always heard that Mesa de Otay II was going to be constructed for heavy commercial traffic.

Luis Duarte, ImPlan, mentioned that there is no document with an official stance regarding Mesa de Otay II although it has been determined that it is efficient for commercial vehicles. The designation for usage has yet to be decided.

Sergio Pallares, Caltrans, asked about the process for the implementation of the plan.

Luis Duarte, ImPlan, explained the implementation process. The months of February and March will be used for consultation and in May recommendations will be forwarded to the Mayor and in April to the Governor of Baja California. Tentative publication of the document is set for June, which after final approval would become law.

Jaime González-Luna, Maquiladora Industry Association, told Mr. Duarte that he did an excellent job on the presentation and thanked him for providing the COBRO with the information on an early date to encourage public feedback. He asked if ImPlan was currently working on existing areas, specifically in the Mesa de Otay area, and asked in which ways the COBRO could assist.

Luis Duarte, ImPlan, told him that although ImPlan is not directly in charge, they are working in that area, and that at this point what ImPlan needs most is participation in the public feedback process to really get an idea of how the public feels about ideas and proposals.

Bob Leiter, SANDAG, asked who owns the property in the eastern area designated for conservation.

Luis Duarte, ImPlan, said that they are private owners who will have to be influenced to conserve the areas though public policy.

Sergio Pallares, Caltrans, mentioned that at the moment there are not many resources to improve the border and asked if ImPlan had a strategy and what the agency was going to do first.

Luis Duarte, ImPlan, told the Committee that they do have an action plan in which improvement of the existing Mesa de Otay Port of Entry is their priority in the short term, followed by Mesa de Otay II as a medium to long term project.

Elsa Saxod, City of San Diego, inquired about the Clean Water Act and the recommendation to build a sewage treatment plant in Tijuana. She had heard that there was a recommendation to build a sewage treatment plant in Mesa de Otay, and if ImPlan had taken that into consideration.

Luis Duarte, ImPlan, responded that this project was not included in this plan, and it would in fact fall into a much larger plan.

Silvia Flores, El Colegio de La Frontera Norte, asked how the public sessions will be organized and what the process is to participate in the consultations.

Luis Duarte, ImPlan, responded that the sessions are going to be open to everyone and that there is no official process for participation.

Elsa Saxod, City of San Diego, thanked ImPlan for coming to the meeting and for making the presentation. She reiterated the importance of cooperation on both sides of the border and the development of a strong dialogue. She told ImPlan that she hopes they can return to the COBRO to
provide the Committee with an update perhaps in June after the official decision has been made by the different levels of government.

6. PREPARATION OF SANDAG’S 2005 BINATIONAL SUMMER CONFERENCE (Hector Vanegas, SANDAG)

Hector Vanegas, SANDAG, began by saying that, after the last Summer Conference the Committee’s recommendations were presented to the Borders Committee and approved, and then presented to the Board of Directors. These recommendations support the establishment of a formal planning partnership which would lead to move effective and more result-oriented planning activities. Otay Mesa was determined to be the primary planning area of opportunity. Now the process has begun for designing the next conference, and the Committee needs to begin by deciding on a title.

Elsa Saxod, City of San Diego, asked if the COBRO was going to focus on a tangible goal and see an outcome of the recommendation for the establishment of a formal relationship. She mentioned that although it is important to share information regarding the border, it is important to take the leap into the next step of action.

Hector Vanegas, SANDAG, commented that a formal relationship was established with Riverside County and the goal is to follow that model. In this instance it also is important to take binational protocols into consideration.

Bob Leiter, SANDAG, mentioned that in the Riverside partnership SANDAG received a grant to study a specific area. SANDAG was able to develop information on existing transportation and land use. SANDAG developed policy recommendations to allow the two regions to work better together. The agency went from getting a better idea of the region to problem solving which set the stage for specific actions. We also performed an economic opportunity analysis and devised strategies to alleviate the access to jobs and housing issue. SANDAG can foresee moving in that same direction with the Otay Mesa corridor.

Cindy Gomper-Graves, SCEDC, asked if it was necessary to have COBRO handle that or if SANDAG would take it over anyway.

Bob Leiter, SANDAG, responded that his understanding was that the COBRO, as a stakeholder group, would be able to use the conference to reach a broader audience and get more feedback for ideas in the region, and to educate the binational community. It would let everyone prioritize and focus on what needs to be done in the next year or so in terms of binational planning.

Elsa Saxod, City of San Diego, mentioned that she felt she was hearing a disconnect within the Committee. She said that she felt that everyone knew what they want to do, but that she wasn’t sure if it was necessary to have an actual conference. She proposed that the COBRO have a workshop format rather than a conference in which attendees would just listen to speakers. She said that the COBRO was running parallel but wasn’t actually connecting.

Hector Vanegas, SANDAG, said that what he understood what that the COBRO wanted to have a more effective planning relationship with Baja California and that was the intention of the binational conference.

Alejandra Mier y Teran, Otay Mesa Chamber of Commerce, suggested that they focus on specific areas and examples for the conference/workshop. She mentioned that in Nogales there is a private/public partnership to create a fast lane, and it would be beneficial to bring speakers from the area to learn from their experiences.
Bob Leiter, SANDAG, agreed with the idea to hold the conference as more of a workshop. The focus is not on the entire border, and perhaps the conference should really try to focus on a very specific area and subsequent transportation and land use issues. That is a good idea to better understand the growth in the Otay Mesa corridor to later update the Regional Comprehensive Plan (RCP).

Elsa Saxod, City of San Diego, supported that the conference be organized like a workshop – we are focusing on one region and not the entire border, and maybe we can focus on specific connections between transportation and land use, so that we can better understand the future growth in the Otay Mesa corridor to update our RCP.

Javier Diaz, Consulate General in San Diego, suggested that the topic be narrowed down to the Otay Mesa region and border crossing so that the Committee could have the opportunity to identify real problems and try to solve them.

Bob Leiter, SANDAG, said that he felt that was a good focus.

Sergio Pallares, Caltrans, asked if they wanted to limit their focus on the Otay Mesa area or also include San Ysidro.

Cindy Gomper-Graves, SCEDC, said that in order to have an interactive conference the COBRO has to be forward thinking and it is a better idea to look at Otay Mesa, as San Ysidro is already developed.

Nathan Owens, San Diego Dialogue, mentioned that the idea of a workshop is great, but he wondered if the Committee had the wherewithal to take the information and come out with something complete and concrete.

Bob Leiter, SANDAG, mentioned that the cities are working together and the stage has been set.

Elsa Saxod, City of San Diego, said that although the goal of the COBRO meeting today was to come up with a title for the conference, it would be a better idea to think about it a little more. She suggested that the COBRO take the concepts from the meeting today to the Borders Committee Meeting on February 18, 2005. She asked for volunteers to create a taskforce to develop a concrete concept for the conference/workshop.

The following COBRO members volunteered to be part of this taskforce: Nathan Owens, San Diego Dialogue; Lydia Antonio, Consulate General of Mexico; Alejandra Mier y Teran, Otay Mesa Chamber of Commerce; Vice Chair Cindy Gomper-Graves; and it was recommended to also include Chair Paul Ganster.

Elsa Saxod, City of San Diego, thanked ImPlan for the presentation. She also thanked those who volunteered to be part of the taskforce.

7. ADJOURNMENT, AND NEXT MEETING DATE AND LOCATION

The next meeting of COBRO will be held on Tuesday, March 1, 2005, from 3 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. at SANDAG’s 7th Floor Conference Room.
San Diego Association of Governments

COMMITTEE ON BINATIONAL REGIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

March 1, 2005

AGENDA ITEM NO.: 5A

Action Requested: INFORMATION

UPCOMING EVENTS:

WHAT: Cultural Etiquette Class: Doing Business in Mexico
WHEN: Thursday, March 3, 2005. 9 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.
WHERE: South County Career Center
MORE INFO: www.sandiegosouth.com
SPONSOR: South County Economic Development Center

WHAT: Conference: What kind of Democracy has Mexico? The Evolution of Presidentialism and Federalism
WHEN: March 4-5, 2005
WHERE: Deutz Room, Copley Conference Center, Institute of the Americas Complex, UCSD Campus
MORE INFO: www.usmex.ucsd.edu
SPONSOR: Center for U.S.-Mexican Studies, UCSD

WHAT: Trans-Border Institute Social Issues Panel: Human Trafficking on the U.S.-Mexican Border
WHEN: Tuesday, March 8, 2005. 6 p.m. – 8 p.m.
WHERE: IPJ Theater, University of San Diego
MORE INFO: www.sandiego.edu
SPONSOR: University of San Diego

WHAT: Deciphering Mexican Immigrant Incorporation: Some New Pieces of the Puzzle
WHEN: Tuesday, March 8, 2005, 3 p.m. – 5 p.m.
WHERE: Eleanor Roosevelt College, Administration Building, Room 115, UCSD Campus
MORE INFO: www.usmex.ucsd.edu
SPONSOR: Center for U.S.-Mexican Studies, UCSD & the Center for Comparative Immigration Studies

WHAT: José Cuervo Tequila Talk: Eugenio Elorduy Walther, Governor of Baja California Norte
WHEN: Thursday, March 10, 2005
WHERE: Weaver Center at the Institute of the Americas Complex, UCSD Campus
MORE INFO: www.iAmericas.org
SPONSOR: Institute of the Americas
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<th>WHAT:</th>
<th>Fiesta Binacional Dos Aguilas</th>
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<td>WHEN:</td>
<td>March 12, 2005. 6 p.m.</td>
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<th>WHAT:</th>
<th>Mexico Economic Review &amp; Outlook</th>
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<td>WHEN:</td>
<td>Friday, March 18, 2005. 8:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.</td>
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<td>MORE INFO:</td>
<td><a href="http://www.sdchamber.org">www.sdchamber.org</a>, <a href="mailto:vibanez@sdchamber.org">vibanez@sdchamber.org</a></td>
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<td>SPONSOR:</td>
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<th>Bi-national Affairs Briefing</th>
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<td>Friday-Saturday, March 18-19, 2005. 8 a.m. – 3 p.m.</td>
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<td>WHEN:</td>
<td>Thursday, March 24, 2005. 8:30 a.m. – 11 a.m.</td>
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<td>WHERE:</td>
<td>Double Tree Hotel – Mission Valley</td>
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<td>Otay Mesa Chamber of Commerce and the South County EDC</td>
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<th>WHAT:</th>
<th>TBI Luncheon – Marc Rosenblum “Evaluating Prospects for a Migrant Guest Worker Initiative”</th>
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<tr>
<td>WHEN:</td>
<td>Monday, April 4, 2005. 12 p.m. – 2 p.m.</td>
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<td>SPONSOR:</td>
<td>University of San Diego Trans-Border Institute</td>
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<th>WHAT:</th>
<th>Desarrollo Economico, Curso Basico / Mexico Economic Development Course</th>
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<tr>
<td>WHEN:</td>
<td>April 7 - 11, 2005</td>
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<td>WHERE:</td>
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<td>MORE INFO:</td>
<td><a href="mailto:mmartinez@cetys.mx">mmartinez@cetys.mx</a>, <a href="mailto:mcarrillo@cetys.mx">mcarrillo@cetys.mx</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>WHEN:</td>
<td>May 15-17, 2005</td>
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<td>MORE INFO:</td>
<td><a href="http://www.encuentrofonterizo.org">www.encuentrofonterizo.org</a></td>
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OTAY MESA RIVER WATERSHED MANAGEMENT PLAN

Introduction

SANDAG’s Committee on Binational Regional Opportunities (COBRO) has recognized that this is an area of opportunity for binational planning coordination, particularly since the cities of San Diego and Chula Vista are currently updating their plans for this sub region. In light of recent presentations of planning efforts currently underway in the Otay Mesa area, it was recommended that an overview of the Otay Mesa River Watershed Management Plan also be included.

The Otay River watershed encompasses approximately 160 square miles in southwest San Diego County and is one of the three hydrologic units that discharge to San Diego Bay. The watershed management plan areas encompasses several jurisdictions. The watershed consists largely of unincorporated area, but also includes portions of the cities of Chula Vista, Imperial Beach, Coronado, National City, and San Diego. The predominant land uses in the watershed are open space (67%) and urban/residential (20%). The major inland hydrologic features, Upper and Lower Otay Lakes, are two water supply reservoirs that also provide important habitat and recreational opportunities. Approximately 36 square miles of the watershed is part of the Multiple Species Conservation Plan (MSCP) effort that provides habitat for a wide range of endangered plant and animal species. Other important conservation areas within the watershed include the San Diego National Wildlife Refuge, the Rancho Jamul Ecological Reserve, and the vernal pool lands in the region.

Discussion

As with other coastal watersheds in Southern California, the landscape along the coastal plain in proximity to the watershed’s outlet has rapidly developed, with less development occurring within the mountainous inland areas. Urbanization and other landscape uses are anticipated to continue, as are efforts to protect, enhance, and restore the remaining upland and aquatic resources within this watershed.

The County of San Diego and Cities of Chula Vista, Imperial Beach and San Diego, and the Unified Port of San Diego entered into a Joint Exercise of Powers Agreement (JEPA) to develop and adopt the Otay River Watershed Management Plan (ORWMP).\(^1\) The ORWMP involves characterizing the Otay River watershed’s various resources and land uses; identifying goals and objectives; assessing and prioritizing threats to existing beneficial uses and natural resources; identifying implementation strategies for the protection, enhancement, and restoration of beneficial uses and

\(^1\) Multiple Species Conservation Program, Web Page address: http://dplu-mscp.sdcounty.ca.gov/pub_out/watershedinformation.htm
natural resources, including a water quality monitoring program to monitor, maintain, and enhance water quality. This Framework Management Plan is intended to be consistent with the applicable local General Plans, local resource plans and programs, the Otay River watershed Special Area Management Plan (SAMP), the Municipal Storm Water Permit (San Diego Region National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System [NPDES] General Permit Order No. 2001-01), and should provide an implementation strategy that assures high water quality standards and protects natural aquatic and upland resources in this watershed.

Regional Considerations

The Otay Mesa River Watershed is an area that may be affected by future development in the Otay Mesa area. This is an area of opportunity to coordinate with the many planning entities involved in the Otay Mesa sub-regional planning area to avoid impacts to the Otay Mesa River Watershed.

The City of San Diego is considering rezoning areas of Otay Mesa for more residential development. Zoning between jurisdictions in and around the Otay Mesa area should promote continuity between land uses. As these land use changes are considered, it will also be important to consider the implications of these changes on the Otay Mesa River Watershed. This project is an example of regional coordination.

We will continue to keep the Borders Committee and COBRO informed regarding our planning efforts in this rapidly changing area of our region.

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FACT SHEET

WHAT

**insite** is a contemporary art project based in the bi-national region of San Diego-Tijuana. The distinctive character of **insite** stems from a commitment to facilitate new works of art developed through the long-term engagement of artists with the community. At the heart of the project is a process of two-year, periodic artist residencies that culminate in the realization of new projects in the public spaces throughout San Diego and Tijuana.

**inSite_05**

Public programming and residencies **inSite_05** began in the fall of 2003 and will extend through the end of 2005. From August 26 through November 13 2005, **inSite_05** will bring international attention to the region with an intense, three-month schedule of project openings, museum exhibitions, performance events, and outreach programs.

Participants in **inSite_05** include more than 100 artists, theoreticians, curators, architects, and promoters from around the world.

The plan for **inSite_05** is based in four programmatic components:

**Interventions**

**inSite_05** has commissioned 24 projects by artists from 15 countries that focus on creating experiences in the public domain. Working through sustained periods of residency, artists will negotiate the region’s complex urban, public, and border contexts, and stimulate new modes of critical engagement.

**Scenarios**

**inSite_05** will explore new forms of artistic practice in public space. **Scenarios** will support the production of new works in three arenas not traditionally associated with the visual arts.

- Online Project, Tijuana Calling will enlist an international roster of artists for an online exhibition of interactive, web-based projects.
- Archive project, Insight_Transborder Mobil will create interactive archives in San Diego and Tijuana based on specific social, cultural, and political issues. The archives will solicit materials from multiple communities in the region and will be accessible to the public from July through December 2005.
- Sound & Image Project, Ellipsis, will unfold as a performance/spectacle of multimedia work.
Conversations

*insite_05* will present an ongoing series of dialogues, workshops, lectures and publications with local and international artists, curators, writers, researchers, and practitioners from a variety of fields. The goal of *Conversations* is to foster interaction among diverse thinkers about issues relevant to the San Diego/ Tijuana region.

Museum Exhibition/ Farsites

*insite_05* will present the first exhibition organized jointly by the largest cultural institutions in the San Diego/Tijuana region – the San Diego Museum of Art and the Centro Cultural Tijuana. Farsites will weave together the work of contemporary artists and documentary material to create an exhibition that will incorporate distinct historical moments of crisis in five metropolitan centers in the Americas. The exhibition will seek to encourage new readings of the unique urban context of San Diego / Tijuana.

WHEN

Spread over 2 years with sustained residencies for artists and curators, series of public programs, publications, and the production of new art works, *insite_05* is envisioned as an ongoing process that will be open to the public in San Diego and Tijuana from August 26 through November 13, 2005.

FUNDING

The three-year budget for *insite_05* is approximately $ 3.5 million dollars. Support for the project is obtained through individual contributions, corporate support, foundation grants and government funding.

ORGANIZATION

*insite* is a non-profit governed by a Board of Directors.  
*Executive Directors:* Carmen Cuenca and Michael Krichman.  
*Artistic Director:* Osvaldo Sánchez

CONTACT

For more information, consult our web-page  
[www.insite05.org](http://www.insite05.org)

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