Welcome to the December edition of the Mid-Coast Corridor Transit Project eNewsletter. This newsletter will provide you with up-to-date information about this important expansion of San Diego’s regional transit system.

Project Working Group update
The next meeting of the Mid-Coast Corridor Transit Project Working Group (PWG), scheduled for Wednesday, January 6, has been cancelled. The PWG will resume meeting in February. Please visit the Web site to view information about past PWG meetings.

Planning for 2050 Regional Transportation Plan underway
SANDAG has started the process of updating the Regional Transportation Plan (RTP). The RTP is the region’s blueprint for transportation and will forecast transportation needs through the year 2050. The 2050 RTP will include a new element — the Sustainable Communities Strategy — as required by Senate Bill 375. The Sustainable Communities Strategy will demonstrate how the San Diego region will achieve greenhouse gas reduction targets established by the California Air Resources Board. The public is encouraged to participate in this process. A Public Participation Plan for the 2050 RTP is being developed and is expected to be complete in early 2010. In addition, a Stakeholders Working Group has been established to provide input on the development of key work elements of the 2050 RTP.

Happenings in the Mid-Coast Corridor: Westfield UTC
Plans are in place for a future upgrade and expansion of the Westfield UTC shopping center. The approved plans include new retail, restaurants and entertainment; 250 multi-family housing units (including 10% affordable housing); major pedestrian, streetscape and urban form improvements; and a new state-of-the-art Transit Center. The project was designed with sustainability in mind, and was approved at the LEED-ND Gold level by the US Green Building Council. Designed to integrate with the Mid-Coast Corridor Transit Project, the Transit Center will help connect the more than 20,000 residents and 20,000 employees that live and work within a one mile radius of the center to the regional transit network.