

# SAN DIEGO REGIONAL PROVING GROUND FACT SHEET

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## Overview

In 2017, the U.S. Department of Transportation (USDOT) selected the San Diego region as one of ten proving grounds nationwide for testing highly automated and self-driving vehicles. The proving ground locations were selected based on broad criteria, including an ability to demonstrate safety planning, willingness to share and disseminate information, and an ability to show that all applicable laws, regulations, and policies will be met.

SANDAG leads the San Diego Regional Proving Ground project in partnership with the California Department of Transportation District 11 (Caltrans) and the City of Chula Vista.

The San Diego region remains an ideal proving ground location; it provides direct access to global leaders in the cybersecurity and wireless industries. The region is home to world-class academic institutions in machine learning, robotics, and high-performance computing. SANDAG and its partners will leverage their unique position as the only designation site to provide real-world validation and as one of the most sophisticated transportation system management operations environments in the nation.

## The Need

According to the USDOT and the National Highway Safety Administration, there were 37,133 fatalities on U.S. roadways in 2017, and 94 percent of crashes can be linked to human error. Thus, connected and autonomous vehicles have immense potential to save lives.

## Benefits

The proving grounds will foster innovation aimed at improving safety as well as personal and commercial mobility across all modes. Understanding these future benefits, SANDAG has demonstrated a commitment to advancing autonomous vehicle deployment. SANDAG is the first planning agency in California to incorporate autonomous vehicle assumptions and resources into the region's long range transportation plan, San Diego Forward: The Regional Plan.

## Project Status

In February 2017, the ten national proving ground locations formed a community of practice that is responsible for the safety evaluation process, information capture, and data sharing. Industry outreach conducted in summer 2017 informed the vision for the San Diego Regional Proving Ground: to provide real-world facilities for validating innovative technologies that advance mobility, safety, sustainability, and economic prosperity for the San Diego region.

In fall 2017, the San Diego Regional Proving Ground partners formed a consortium of industry affiliates and academia partners to provide a platform for research and development, to engage and educate the public, and to inform public policy.

## For More Information

Please contact Peter Thompson, Regional Proving Ground Project Manager, at (619) 699-4813 or [peter.thompson@sandag.org](mailto:peter.thompson@sandag.org) or visit [sandag.org/provingground](http://sandag.org/provingground).

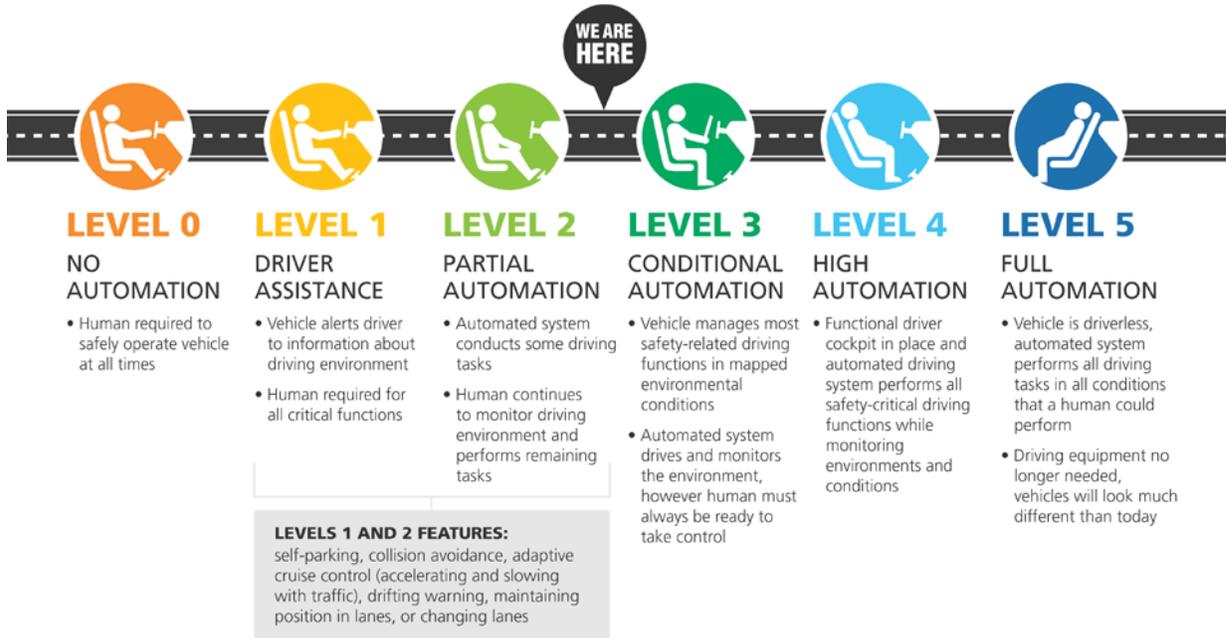
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# Levels of Vehicle Automation



Source: Levels of automation defined by Society of Automotive Engineers (SAE) International and used by U.S. Department of Transportation