

# Central Mobility Hub at Navy Old Town Campus (OTC)

**SANDAG**

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SANDAG is collaborating with the Navy to explore options for redeveloping the 70.5-acre Naval Base Point Loma Old Town Campus (OTC). SANDAG will analyze the possible development of a multimodal transportation hub—or Central Mobility Hub—at the site while continuing to support the Navy in their pursuit of new, modernized facilities. The Central Mobility Hub could connect all current and anticipated future modes of regional public transportation and provide a direct transit connection to San Diego International Airport. The development of a Central Mobility Hub with direct connectivity to the airport is a fundamental objective of San Diego Forward: The 2021 Regional Plan, which is anticipated to be completed in late 2021. Additional uses for the site could include mixed-use retail spaces, residential property, office space, and affordable housing.

## THE NEED

For decades, the San Diego region has explored ways to provide better connectivity to San Diego International Airport, the busiest single-runway airport in the nation. The airport anticipates an increase of 16 million annual passengers by 2050, which would result in a total of 40 million passengers annually. The projected increase in airport passengers is expected to exceed the capacity of current airport roadway connections. Due to the anticipated future growth combined with limited ground transit access to

the airport, SANDAG, in partnership with the City of San Diego, the Port of San Diego, and the San Diego County Regional Airport Authority, has made it a chief priority to identify a solution for a direct transit connection to the airport. Optimally positioned near the airport, the OTC presents great potential to provide an enduring solution to the region's longstanding challenge of airport connectivity and is one of several sites being considered for development of a Central Mobility Hub.

The Navy seeks to revitalize the OTC site to construct state-of-the-art facilities for Naval Information Warfare Systems Command (NAVWAR). Redevelopment of the facilities is critical to fulfilling the Navy's cybersecurity mission and maintaining the Navy's longstanding and economically significant presence in the San Diego region for years to come. NAVWAR contributes approximately \$3.2 billion annually to the San Diego regional economy and employs over 5,000 workers.

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## PROJECT STATUS

On September 19, 2019, SANDAG and the Navy signed an initial agreement to suggest exploring options for redevelopment of the OTC. On January 23, 2020, SANDAG joined the Navy at the Pentagon in Washington, D.C. to sign the Navy OTC Revitalization Agreement. This agreement builds on the agencies' cooperating efforts and gives SANDAG and the Navy clear, defined milestones to ensure the urgent needs of the Navy are met in a timely manner.

On January 24, 2020, the Navy began an environmental analysis of the intended revitalization project in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act. The analysis will enable the Navy to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement outlining potential environmental impacts associated

with the project. SANDAG will cooperate with the Navy in conducting supporting environmental analysis.

A Central Mobility Hub at the OTC site with a direct connection to San Diego International Airport is among several public transit concepts currently under consideration by SANDAG. These concepts include an intermodal transportation center housed at an alternative location near the airport and a San Diego Trolley extension with direct airport connection. SANDAG, the City of San Diego, the Port of San Diego, and the San Diego County Regional Airport Authority are in the process of finalizing a memorandum of understanding to collaborate on the study of these concepts.

## FUNDING STATUS

On September 27, 2019, the SANDAG Board of Directors approved \$50 million in funding for continued Central Mobility Hub analysis. The approved components

of the study include environmental analysis, preliminary engineering, and complete corridor planning.

## NEXT STEPS

SANDAG and the Navy will continue to collaborate on environmental studies to consider possible options for the OTC site including its potential to serve as a location

for a Central Mobility Hub. Opportunities for public input will be provided by both agencies.