June 7, 2011

TO: Interested Agencies, Organizations, and Individuals

FROM: San Diego Association of Governments

SUBJECT: Public Notice of Availability and Notice of Completion of a Draft Environmental Impact Report for The 2050 Regional Transportation Plan/Sustainable Communities Strategy (2050 RTP/SCS) and Notice of Public Hearing on Draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR) and Draft 2050 RTP/SCS

The San Diego Association of Governments (SANDAG), as lead agency under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), has prepared a Draft Programmatic Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for the Draft 2050 RTP/SCS.

Project Title: Draft Environmental Impact Report for the 2050 Regional Transportation Plan/Sustainable Communities Strategy

Project Location: The 2050 RTP/SCS covers the entire San Diego region which includes the cities of Carlsbad, Chula Vista, Coronado, Del Mar, El Cajon, Encinitas, Escondido, Imperial Beach, La Mesa, Lemon Grove, National City, Oceanside, Poway, San Diego, San Marcos, Santee, Solana Beach, Vista, and the unincorporated areas within the County of San Diego.

Project Description: 2050 RTP/SCS is the blueprint for a regional transportation system, serving existing and projected residents and workers within the San Diego region over the next 40 years, which further enhances quality of life and offers more mobility options for people and goods. The 2050 RTP/SCS looks 40 years ahead, accommodating another 1.2 million residents, half a million new jobs, and nearly 400,000 new homes. The 2050 RTP/SCS envisions most of these new jobs and homes situated in sustainable communities, conducive to transit, walking, and bicycling. To achieve this, future growth will be more compact in nature, focused in the western portion of the region and along major transit and transportation corridors. This more compact development pattern will create more active mixed-use communities, while allowing for the protection of more open space land in the eastern portion of the region. As part of the regional transportation planning process, SANDAG also prepared an SCS. Passed in 2008, Senate Bill (SB) 375 encourages planning practices that create sustainable communities. SB 375 charged the California Air Resources Board (CARB) with setting regional targets for greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions from passenger cars and light-duty trucks for 2020 and 2035. Pursuant to SB 375,
each Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) is required to adopt an SCS as part of its RTP, and using the most recent planning assumptions, demonstrate achievement of the targets for reduction of GHGs. The purpose of an SCS is to align regional transportation, housing, and land use plans, to reduce the amount of vehicle miles traveled to attain the regional GHG reduction target. If the SCS is unable to achieve the GHG reduction targets, the MPO is required to prepare an alternative planning strategy.

Building on the current (2010) transportation system with funding anticipated over the next 40 years, the 2050 RTP/SCS outlines projects for rail and bus services, highways, local streets, bicycling, and walking, systems and demand management. The result will be an integrated, multimodal transportation system by mid-century. The 2050 RTP/SCS shows how the region will meet the GHG targets for passenger cars and light-duty trucks, established by CARB for 2020 and 2035, by using land in a way that makes development more compact, conserving open space, and investing in a transportation network that reduces vehicle miles travelled and gives residents alternative transportation options.

**Probable Environmental Effects:** The Draft EIR addresses issues at a program-level and does not identify impacts associated with specific projects. Subsequent individual projects would be evaluated on a project-by-project basis. The Draft EIR found that the proposed 2050 RTP/SCS would result in significant, unavoidable impacts, both direct and cumulative, to: Aesthetics and Visual Resources; Agriculture and Forest Resources; Air Quality; Biological Resources; Geology, Soils, and Mineral Resources; Global Climate Change and Greenhouse Gas Emissions; Hazards and Hazardous Materials; Land Use; Noise; Population and Housing; Public Services, Utilities, and Energy; Recreation; Transportation and Traffic; and Water Supply. The proposed 2050 RTP/SCS would result in significant but mitigable impacts to Cultural Resources and Paleontology; Environmental Justice; Hydrology and Water.

**Availability and Comments:** In accordance with §§15105 and 15087 of the CEQA Guidelines, this public notice officially notifies the general public, public agencies, and interested individuals and organizations that a 55-day public review period will begin on **June 7, 2011**. Written comments regarding the adequacy of this Draft EIR must be received by **August 1, 2011**. Comments should be addressed or emailed to:

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San Diego, CA 92101  
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Copies of the Draft 2050 RTP/SCS, Draft EIR, and other supporting materials are available on the SANDAG Web site at www.sandag.org/2050rtp or at the SANDAG offices at the address provided above. Additionally, copies of the Draft EIR can be found at the following public libraries:

- Carlsbad City Library, 1775 Dove Lane, Carlsbad, CA 92011
- Chula Vista Public Library, 365 F Street, Chula Vista, CA 91910
- Coronado Public Library, 640 Orange Avenue, Coronado, CA 92118
- County of San Diego County Library, 5555 Overland Avenue, #1511, San Diego, CA 92123
- County of San Diego Library, Fallbrook Branch, 124 S. Mission Road, Fallbrook, CA 92028
- County of San Diego Library, Spring Valley Branch, 836 Kempton Street, Spring Valley, CA 91977
• County of San Diego Library, Ramona Branch, 1275 Main Street, Ramona, CA 92065
• Del Mar Library, 1309 Camino Del Mar, Del Mar, CA 92014
• El Cajon Library, 201 E. Douglas Avenue, El Cajon, CA 92020
• Encinitas Library, 540 Cornish Drive, Encinitas, CA 92024
• Escondido Public Library, 239 S. Kalmia Street, Escondido, CA 92025
• Imperial Beach Library, 810 Imperial Beach Boulevard, Imperial Beach, CA 91932
• La Mesa Public Library, 8074 Allison Avenue, La Mesa, CA 91942
• Lemon Grove Library, 8073 Broadway, Lemon Grove, CA 91945
• National City Public Library, 1401 National City Boulevard, National City, CA 91950
• Oceanside Public Library, 330 N. Coast Highway, Oceanside, CA 92054
• Poway Library, 13137 Poway Road, Poway, CA 92064
• San Diego Public Library, 820 E Street, San Diego, CA 92101
• San Marcos Library, 2 Civic Center Drive, San Marcos, CA 92069
• Santee Library, 9225 Carlton Hills Boulevard, Santee, CA 92071
• Solana Beach Library, 157 Stevens Avenue, Solana Beach, CA 92075
• Vista Public Library, 700 Eucalyptus Avenue, Vista, CA 92084

Workshops and Public Hearings: The SANDAG Board of Directors has scheduled a series of workshops and public hearings on the Draft 2050 RTP/SCS and the Draft 2050 RTP/SCS EIR to accept additional public comment on the documents. The workshops, which will include public hearings, are scheduled as follows.

Workshops/Public Hearings:

• Tuesday, June 7, 4-7 p.m. - Encinitas Community & Senior Center
  1140 Oakcrest Park Drive, Encinitas, CA 92024
• Wednesday, June 8, 4-7 p.m. - The Joe & Vi Jacobs Center
  404 Euclid Avenue, San Diego, CA 92114
• Thursday, June 9, 4-7 p.m. - Sonrise Community Church
  8805 North Magnolia Avenue, Santee, CA 92071
• Monday, June 13, 4-7 p.m. - Martin Luther King Jr. Center
  140 East 12th Street, National City, CA 91950
• Thursday, June 16, 4-7 p.m. - San Marcos City Council Chambers
  1 Civic Center Drive, San Marcos, CA 92069

Public hearings also will be held as part of the following regularly scheduled SANDAG meetings.

• Friday, June 10, 10 a.m. - SANDAG Board of Directors Meeting, 401 B Street, Suite 800, San Diego, CA 92101
• Tue, June 21, 4 to 6 p.m. - Regional Planning Stakeholders Working Group (SWG) Meeting ,
  401 B Street, Suite 800, San Diego, CA 92101

CEQA requires this notice to disclose whether any listed toxic sites are present at the project site. Since this is a program-level document, subsequent project level environmental review will be required to disclose the presence of toxic sites for those projects.

If you have questions, please contact Rob Rundle at (619) 699-6949.