

REGIONAL COMPREHENSIVE PLAN (RCP) FACT SHEET

THE REGIONAL COMPREHENSIVE PLAN:

Connecting local and regional transportation and land use plans

Implementation through incentives and collaboration

Involving our neighboring counties and Baja California

Promoting public involvement and collaboration

Our Vision. Our Future.

Almost two years in the making, the SANDAG Board of Directors unanimously approved the Regional Comprehensive Plan for the San Diego region. The plan serves as the foundation for integrating land uses, transportation systems, infrastructure needs, and public investment strategies for the San Diego region.

The Regional Comprehensive Plan (RCP) is the long-term planning framework for the San Diego region. It defines a vision and provides a framework to connect local and regional policy decisions that support our shared vision of the future. It balances population, housing, and employment growth with habitat preservation, agriculture, open space, and infrastructure needs. It moves us toward a more sustainable future—one with more choices and opportunities for all residents.

Today, each city and community in the region makes its own decisions regarding land use. The RCP looks at these individual decisions as a whole; assesses their collective impacts; and examines cumulative development trends well into the future. The RCP builds upon the best elements of our existing local general plans and regional infrastructure plans and provides a blueprint for where and how we want to grow. Perhaps more importantly, the RCP identifies challenges that we face as a region and offers guidance to for making better choices, both individually and

collectively, thereby providing an alternative to where we could end up if we were to continue with business as usual.

During the past two years, citizens, elected officials, stakeholders from throughout the region, and regional infrastructure providers worked together with SANDAG to prepare the RCP and one of its key components, the Integrated Regional Infrastructure Strategy (IRIS). The IRIS is an investment strategy that will help the region meet its collective infrastructure needs.

The RCP emphasizes the critical link between transportation and land use planning and development, and demonstrates how these connections can be strengthened. It calls for focusing transportation and other infrastructure investments in smart growth opportunity areas, introducing an incentive-based approach to achieving our urban form goals and meeting our infrastructure needs.

The RCP looks beyond our borders taking into account the planning and growth underway on local Native American land as well as in Imperial, Orange, and Riverside counties and Baja California, Mexico. It looks at the equity in our planning processes: do all communities have access to the region's resources and do all residents have an equal opportunity to participate in the process.

(Continued on reverse)



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REGIONAL COMPREHENSIVE PLAN for the San Diego Region



Based on shared goals and objectives, the Regional Comprehensive Plan:

- » Identifies practical ways to connect transportation and land use plans using smart growth principles;
- » Uses transportation and land use plans to guide decisions regarding environmental and public facility investments;
- » Promotes collaboration and incentives to implement regional goals and objectives;
- » Establishes a context in which to address regional infrastructure financing needs; and
- » Actively engages our regional neighbors and tribal governments in the planning process.