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Ron Roberts  
Board of Supervisors  
**County of San Diego**

## Alternates

Judy Ritter  
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Councilmember, Vista

Patricia McCoy  
(Representing **South County**)  
Councilmember, Imperial Beach

Maggie Houlihan  
(Representing **North County Coastal**)  
Deputy Mayor, Encinitas

Jerry Jones  
(Representing **East County**)  
Councilmember, Lemon Grove

Vacant  
**City of San Diego**

Bill Horn  
Supervisor, **County of San Diego**

## Advisory Members

Pedro Orso Delgado, **Caltrans**

Susanah Aguilera, **Department of Defense**

Leon Williams, **MTDB**

David Druker, **NCTD**

Mike Madigan, **San Diego County Water Authority**

Jess VanDeventer, **San Diego Unified Port District**

Bob Leiter, **Regional Planning Technical Working Group (TWG)**

Carol Bonomo, **Regional Planning Stakeholders Working Group (SWG)**

Gary L. Gallegos  
Executive Director, **SANDAG**



# REGIONAL PLANNING COMMITTEE AGENDA

Friday, May 2, 2003

12 noon – 2:30 p.m.

**Scripps Institution of Oceanography (SIO)\*  
Martin House and SIO Visualization Center**  
Parking available at the Birch Aquarium at Scripps  
San Diego, CA

## AGENDA HIGHLIGHTS

*\*This is a special meeting to be held in conjunction with UCSD at the Scripps Institution of Oceanography to showcase several regional planning and technology efforts currently taking place in the San Diego region. Portions of the meeting will be filmed by UCSD-TV and included in a documentary on the Regional Workbench Consortium to air in late May. Please see attached maps for directions and parking.*

- **VISION AND URBAN FORM (Martin House)**
- **LINKING PLANNING AND POLICY-MAKING TO SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SIO Visualization Center)**

## MISSION STATEMENT

*The Regional Planning Committee provides oversight for the preparation and implementation of the Regional Comprehensive Plan that is based on the local general plans and regional plans and addresses interregional issues with surrounding counties and Mexico. The components of the plan could include: transportation, housing, environment (shoreline, open space, air, water quality, habitat), economy, regional infrastructure needs and financing as well as land use and design components of the regional growth management strategy. Recommendations of the Committee are forwarded to the SANDAG Board of Directors for action.*

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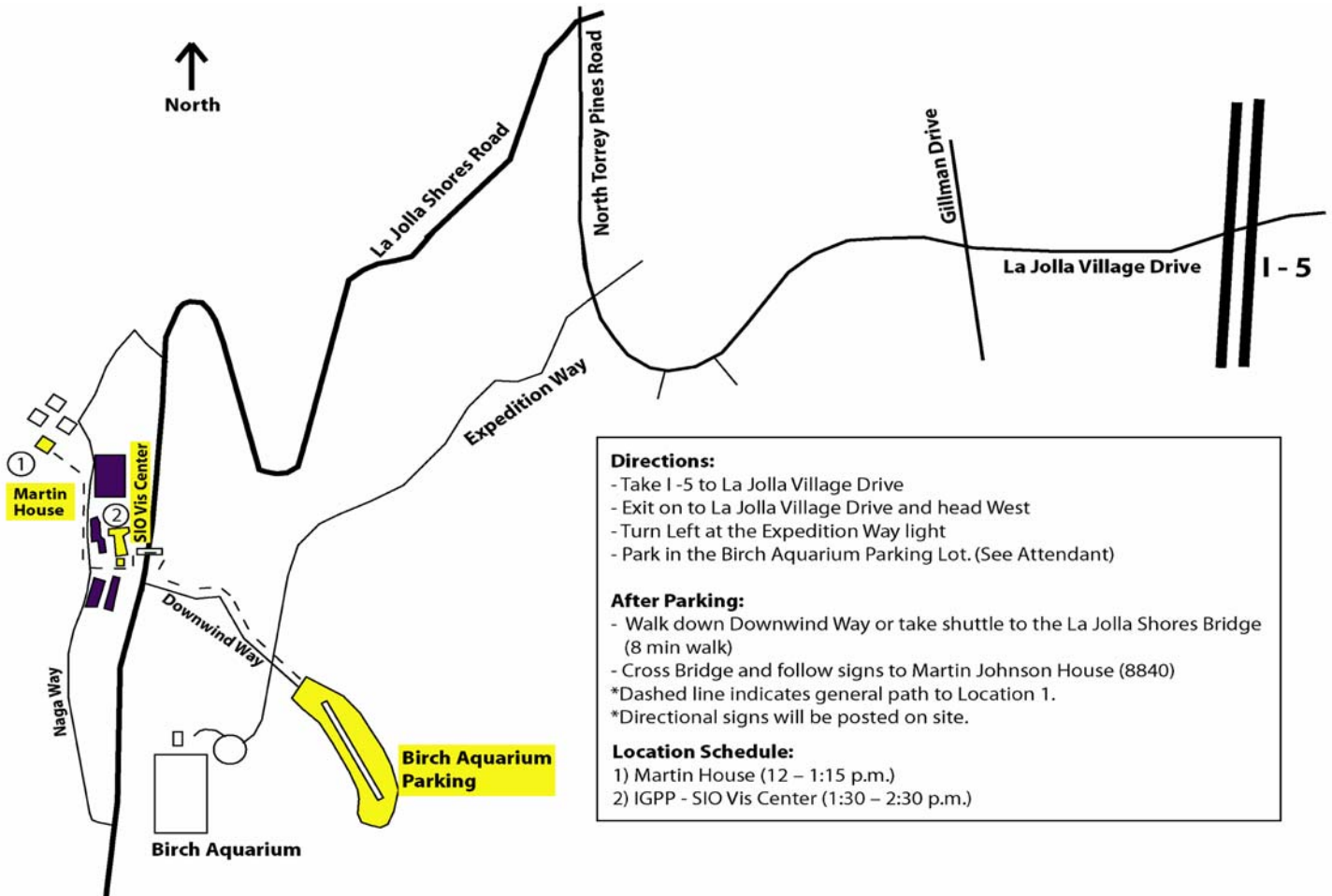
San Diego's Regional Planning Agency

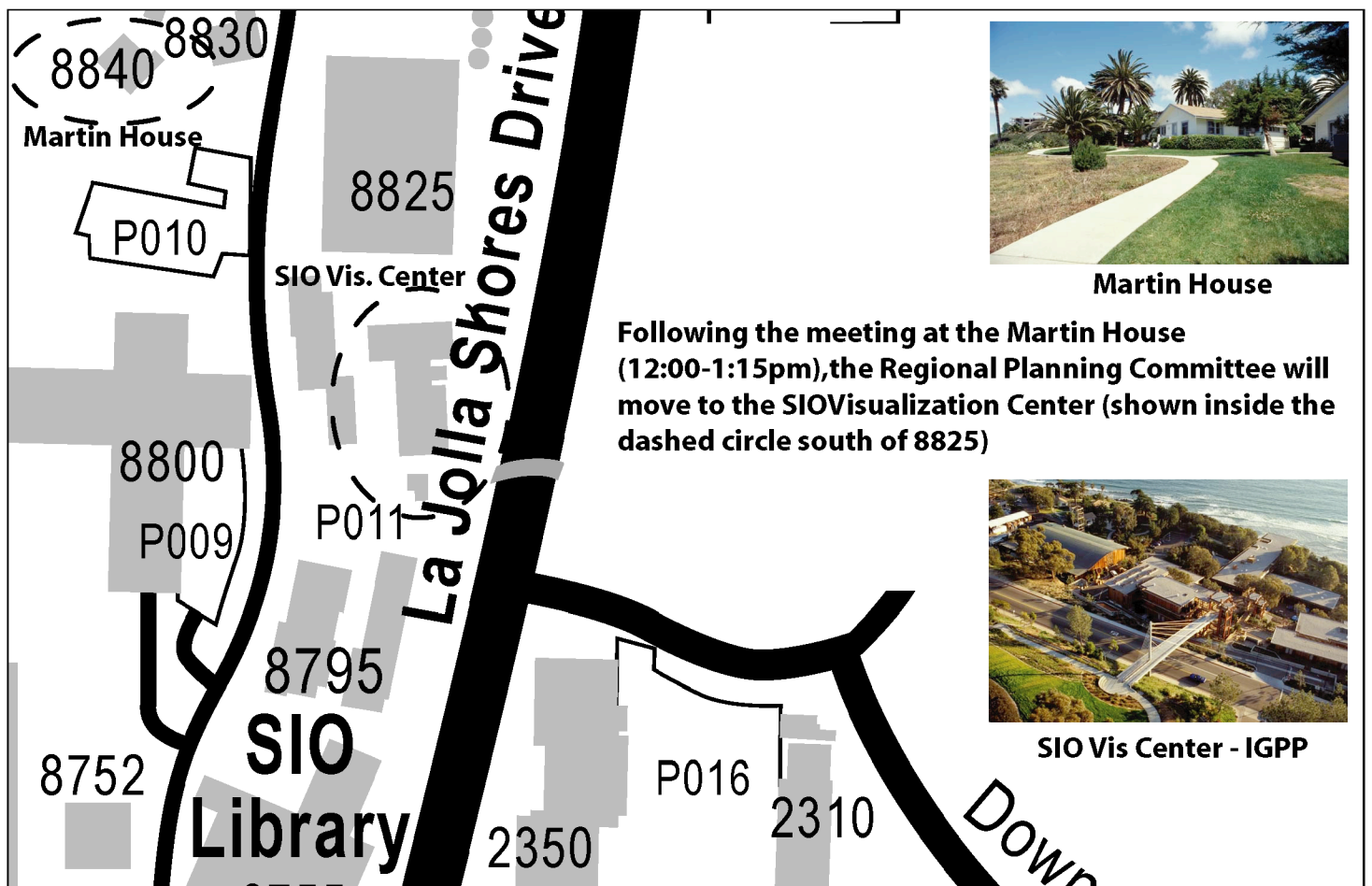
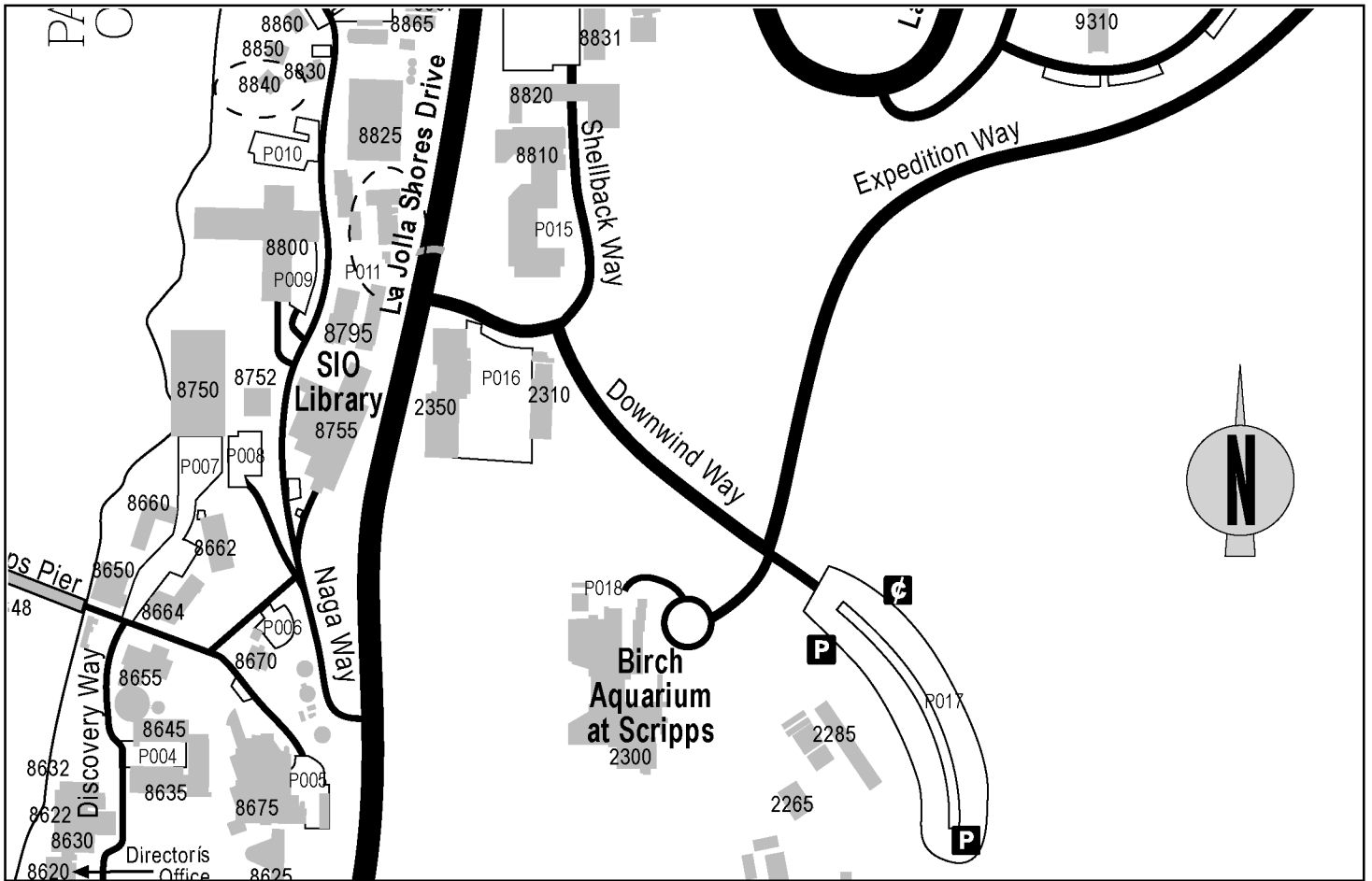
Welcome to this SANDAG meeting! Members of the public may speak to the Regional Planning Committee on any item at the time the Committee is considering the item. Please complete a Speaker's Slip and then present the slip to Committee staff. Also, members of the public are invited to address the Committee on any issue under the agenda item entitled Public Comments/Communications. Speakers are limited to three minutes. The Regional Planning Committee may take action on any item appearing on the agenda.

This agenda and related staff reports can be accessed at [www.sandag.org/rcp](http://www.sandag.org/rcp) under Regional Planning Committee on SANDAG's Web site. Public comments regarding the agenda can be forwarded to SANDAG via the e-mail comment form also available on the Web site. E-mail comments should be received no later than noon, two days prior to the Regional Planning Committee meeting.

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), SANDAG will accommodate persons who require assistance in order to participate in SANDAG meetings. If such assistance is required, please contact SANDAG at (619) 595-5300 at least 72 hours in advance of the meeting. To request this document or related reports in an alternative format, please call (619) 595-5300, (619) 595-5393 (TTY), or fax (619) 595-5305.

### SCRIPPS INSTITUTION OF OCEANOGRAPHY MARTIN HOUSE & SIO VIS-CENTER





**Martin House**

**Following the meeting at the Martin House (12:00-1:15pm), the Regional Planning Committee will move to the SIO Visualization Center (shown inside the dashed circle south of 8825)**



**SIO Vis Center - IGPP**

# REGIONAL PLANNING COMMITTEE

Friday, May 2, 2003

*The Regional Planning Committee may take action on any item appearing on this agenda.*

Staff Contact: Carolina Gregor, (619) 595-5399; cgr@sandag.org

## ITEM #

## ACTION

### CONSENT ITEMS (1-3)

#### LOCATION: MARTIN HOUSE

*The Regional Planning Committee will take action on the consent agenda without further discussion and with one vote unless an item is pulled by a Committee member or by a member of the public for comment.*

+ 1. **ACTIONS FROM APRIL 4, 2003 REGIONAL PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING (pp. 6-9)** **INFORMATION**

+ 2. **REPORT ON REGIONAL COMPREHENSIVE PLAN (RCP) FROM APRIL 25, 2003 SANDAG BOARD MEETING (Chair Lori Holt Pfeiler) (pp. 10-16)** **INFORMATION**

Attached is a status report on the RCP that was presented to the SANDAG Board of Directors on April 25, 2003.

+ 3. **WATER QUALITY COMPONENT OF RCP (Joanna Salazar) (p. 17)** **INFORMATION**

Water quality is an important aspect of regional planning and is directly impacted by land uses. A preliminary set of concepts that should be considered in the development of the Water Quality Component of the RCP is attached. The water quality component will be included in the Healthy Ecosystems Chapter of the RCP. A draft outline of the water quality component will be brought to the Committee this spring.

#### 4. **PUBLIC COMMENTS AND COMMUNICATIONS**

Members of the public will have the opportunity to address the Regional Planning Committee on any issue within the jurisdiction of the Committee. Speakers are limited to three minutes each.

### REPORTS

#### LOCATION: MARTIN HOUSE

#### 5. **VISION AND URBAN FORM ITEMS**

a. **"100 Year Sustainable Vision for the San Diego-Tijuana Region" Prepared by Gas Technology Institute, the San Diego Regional Energy Office (REO), and PDC Planning (John Ruggieri, PDC Planning)** **INFORMATION/ DISCUSSION**

The San Diego/Tijuana Metropolitan Region has been selected to compete in an international competition for sustainable urban design. The San Diego Regional Energy Office is coordinating the proposal. An overview of the International Competition on Sustainable Urban Systems Design will be provided. The RCP could build upon some of the concepts contained in the "100 Year Sustainable Vision."

(continued)

**ITEM #****ACTION****+ b. Urban Form Options for the RCP (Carolina Gregor) (pp. 18-21)****RECOMMEND**

At its last meeting, the Regional Planning Committee accepted a revised version of the regional vision and core values. The RCP will need to translate that vision and core values into a preferred regional urban form. Preliminary ideas and concepts discussed by the Technical and Stakeholders Working Groups will be presented. Additionally, UCSD will have the Solid Terrain Model on display, showing the topography of the greater Southern California / Northern Baja California region as a planning and decision support tool.

The second round of workshops will be focused on urban form. The Regional Planning Committee is asked to discuss guiding principles for urban form and urban form scenarios, and to make a recommendation to the Board of Directors.

**LOCATION: SIO VIS-CENTER****+ 6. LINKING PLANNING AND POLICY-MAKING TO SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (Keith Pezzoli, UCSD, and Others) (p. 22)****INFORMATION/  
DISCUSSION**

The Regional Workbench Consortium (RWBC), a network of university and community-based partnerships, is pursuing several regional research efforts. The Consortium's mission is to inspire and support research, education, and outreach aimed at integrating the 3 E's of sustainable development (environment, economy, equity) through technological innovations and research projects. Members of the RWBC will provide an overview of the following projects, as an opportunity for an interactive discussion on how they relate to the preparation of the Regional Comprehensive Plan and other planning efforts.

- 3-D Regional Canvass for the Californias
- Online Interactive Mapping and Quality of Life Indicators
- Innovative Watershed Partnership

**7. ADJOURNMENT AND NEXT MEETING****INFORMATION**

The next Regional Planning Committee meeting is scheduled for Friday, June 6, 2003, from 12 noon to 2 p.m. at SANDAG.

+ next to an agenda item indicates an attachment



**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**  
**APRIL 25, 2003**

**AGENDA ITEM NO. 03-04- 3-C**  
**ACTION REQUESTED - APPROVE**

## **REGIONAL PLANNING COMMITTEE DISCUSSION AND ACTIONS**

Meeting of April 4, 2003

The Regional Planning Committee meeting was called to order by Committee Chair Lori Holt Pfeiler (North County Inland). Committee members and alternates in attendance were Patty Davis (South County), Jill Greer (East County), Judy Ritter (North County Inland), Maggie Houlihan (North County Coastal), and Jerry Jones (East County). Ex-Officio members in attendance were Pedro Orso Delgado (Caltrans), Leon Williams (Metropolitan Transit Development Board), Mike Madigan (San Diego County Water Authority), Bill Chopyk (San Diego Unified Port District), Bob Leiter (Regional Planning Technical Working Group), and Carol Bonomo (Regional Planning Stakeholders Working Group). Also in attendance were Ron Morrison, SANDAG Chair, and Crystal Crawford, Chair of SANDAG's Borders Committee.

### **CONSENT ITEMS**

1. **ACTIONS FROM MARCH 7, 2003 REGIONAL PLANNING MEETING (INFORMATION)**
2. **REPORT ON REGIONAL COMPREHENSIVE PLAN (RCP) FROM MARCH 28, 2003 BOARD MEETING (INFORMATION)**

Action: The consent agenda was approved.

3. **PUBLIC COMMENTS AND COMMUNICATIONS**

There were no public comments or communications.

4. **REGIONAL VISION AND CORE VALUES - FEEDBACK RECEIVED AND PROPOSED REVISIONS (ACCEPT)**

Staff presented a brief overview of the comments received on the draft regional vision and core values at the seven RCP Workshops. The workshops were conducted throughout the region between January and March 2003. Based on public input received from the workshops, as well as from input by the Stakeholders Working Group, the Technical Working Group, and via correspondence, the Committee was presented with the following revised regional vision and core values for discussion.

*Proposed Revised Vision: "Preserve and enhance the San Diego region's unique features – its beaches, deserts, mountains, lagoons, bluffs, and canyons, its vibrant and culturally-diverse communities, and its international setting – and promote sustainability and an outstanding quality of life for everyone."*

*Proposed Revised Core Values: Cultural Diversity and Resources; Livable Neighborhoods; More Housing Choices; More Transportation Choices; Healthy Environment; Jobs and Educated Workforce; Infrastructure Systems that Work; Intergovernmental Coordination; Water Availability; Citizen Participation in the Planning Process; and Schools as Community Assets.*

The Committee had a lengthy discussion on whether the original core value of "Reduce Sprawl" should be converted into "Livable Neighborhoods," as proposed in the staff report, or whether it should be re-inserted as a stand-alone value. Comments on this topic included:

- If we take out "Reduce Sprawl" as a core value, is it going to be clear that we want to avoid development in the back country?
- Smart growth sells the idea that we will preserve our rural areas.
- Smart growth attempts to address the housing shortage – when you promote livable neighborhoods and more housing, you provide people with more housing and transportation choices.
- The "Healthy Environment" core value promotes the preservation of open space. That core value should be moved up and placed adjacent to the livable neighborhoods value to emphasize the interrelationship between the two.
- The County of San Diego's General Plan update process reduces large parcels to low, rural-level densities east of the County Water Authority line. There is a lot of power in the concept of reducing sprawl.
- If you make the determination that you want to proceed with livable neighborhoods and higher densities, you have to provide opportunities for the market to perform. The region has to come to grips with what density means – more housing choices, more open space preservation, more transit. It becomes a matter of location, location, location.
- Cities have to come together to densify enough around public transportation corridors, for example, the East-West rail line from Oceanside to Escondido, and provide the necessary amenities in those areas for a good quality of life.
- The core values need to emphasize the exceptional opportunity that we have to improve our transit corridors through redevelopment and reuse around our transit stations, like we have done in our downtown area, where there was real emphasis, energy, and investment to improve the quality of the community and significantly diminish the impacts on the highways.
- If that is what the local jurisdictions want to do, it will require cities to become the master developers of those areas and assume the development and financial risks, somewhat like CCDC (San Diego's City Centre Development Corporation). That is the only way to achieve that desired outcome. Jurisdictions need to think proactively instead of reactively with respect to planning and zoning.
- In order for the RCP to work, each individual jurisdiction needs to be able to own and embrace the Plan, especially in their day-to-day decision-making process.
- When jurisdictions start applying for incentives to implement smart growth, that will show that they embrace the Plan.

Action: The Committee directed staff to insert the following language into the Livable Neighborhoods core value *"emphasizing redevelopment and infill in urban areas along transit corridors,"* instead of adding "Reduce Sprawl" back into the core values.

Additionally, the League of Women Voters suggested adding the following core value: "*Fiscal Responsibility: A fiscal structure that provides an equitable distribution of burdens and benefits, promotes efficiency of resource use, and provides clear incentives for achieving plan goals.*" It was also suggested that "schools" be added to the Intergovernmental Coordination core value.

Action: The Committee accepted these additions.

Regarding the proposed Vision, comments were made indicating that the vision should reflect a strong economy, and that "communities" should come before the region's "unique features." Also, it was felt that the "Jobs and Educated Workforce" value should focus on a robust economy with secure, balanced jobs, and that generally, the core values should place a greater emphasis on jobs/ housing balance, the notion being that although providing proximity between jobs and housing does not guarantee that people will work at those jobs, the opportunity to enhance the likelihood of reducing trips is provided.

Action: The Committee directed staff to incorporate these concepts into the regional vision, or the core values, as appropriate.

## **5. DRAFT OUTLINE OF BORDERS CHAPTER OF THE RCP (COMMENT)**

Councilmember Judy Ritter, who serves on both the Borders and Regional Planning Committees, provided an overview of border issues with Baja California and Riverside and Imperial counties, and reviewed an outline of the content to be included in the Borders Chapter of the RCP, including goals related to the following areas: jobs/housing balance; transportation; energy; environment; water; economic development; and national security.

The Committee responded with the following comments and questions:

- The outline seems to be in sync with the chapters of the RCP.
- The Stakeholders Working Group is interested in discussing the Borders component.
- Why are energy and air quality issues addressed primarily with our Imperial County and Mexico borders and not the other borders? *Because we share an air basin with those two neighbors, and we have started to work with the Border Energy Forum to propose a proactive approach to addressing these issues.*
- It is great to include habitat corridor planning across the borders.
- The international border presents us with more institutional challenges, such as our different cultures and political systems, and our growing Homeland Security issues. However, there is a lot of enthusiasm from Mexico to work with us.
- The RCP can be truly visionary by incorporating and proactively addressing border issues.

## **6. DRAFT SHORELINE COMPONENT OF THE RCP (ACCEPT)**

The draft Shoreline Component, which will be included in the Healthy Ecosystems chapter of the RCP, was presented for the Committee's review and acceptance. The region's shoreline focuses on the edge between our coastline's land and saltwater. It varies in size from 100 – 200 feet in the summer to 50 feet in the winter. The shoreline is one of the San Diego

region's unique qualities. SANDAG is very involved with near-shore habitat and wetlands and their interactions, and is currently expanding the work program to reflect that. In 1994, SANDAG's Shoreline Preservation Committee adopted the Shoreline Preservation Strategy. A significant regional achievement has been the regional beach sand project. The draft Shoreline component is a summary of, and builds upon, the original Shoreline Preservation Strategy.

Action: The Committee accepted the Draft Shoreline Component for inclusion into the Healthy Ecosystems Chapter of the RCP.

## **7. DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE AND SOCIAL EQUITY STRATEGY (INFORMATION)**

At its last meeting, the Committee discussed a proposed approach for addressing environmental justice and social equity issues within the RCP. Staff reported that since then, several modifications have been made to the approach. The outreach component remains the same, but the steps in the analysis program have been changed as follows:

### **Analysis Program**

- 1. Existing and Future Conditions**
  - a. Identify minority and very low-income communities
  - b. Analyze 2000 Census data to determine economic, social, and environmental equity levels
  - c. Analyze Final 2030 Forecast to analyze potential impacts of plans and policies on minority and very-low income communities
- 2. Goals** – Use Existing and Future Conditions analysis to set Environmental Justice and Social Equity goals for the RCP
- 3. RCP Programs and Policies** – Analyze how implementation of the RCP will help meet the Environmental Justice and Social Equity goals
- 4. Performance Monitoring** – Identify performance measures to determine if Environmental Justice and Social Equity goals are being met

Staff will work with the Regional Planning Technical Working Group and the Stakeholders Working Group to develop a draft Environmental Justice and Social Equity Chapter of the RCP. Additionally, a subgroup of the SWG is being formed to assist with these items, particularly the performance monitoring measures.

## **8. ADJOURNMENT AND UPCOMING MEETING (APPROVE)**

Action: The Committee approved the next Regional Planning Committee meeting, which will be held at the **University of California San Diego (UCSD) on Friday, May 2, 2003 from 12 noon to 2:30 p.m. (extended length of time).**

GARY L. GALLEGOS  
Executive Director



**BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
APRIL 25, 2003**

**AGENDA ITEM NO. 03-04-10  
ACTION REQUESTED – INFORMATION**

**PROGRESS REPORT ON THE  
REGIONAL COMPREHENSIVE PLAN  
AND REVISED REGIONAL VISION  
AND CORE VALUES**

**What Happens When We Add Up Our  
Existing Local Plans and Policies?**

- ❖ **More urban sprawl, less open space.**  
Current plans would consume far more land than a smart growth development pattern would. Smart growth would emphasize additional redevelopment and infill rather than consumption of vacant land.
- ❖ **Fewer types of housing choices.** In general, most new development consists of single-family homes. On average, existing densities in the cities are relatively low, and planned densities on currently-vacant land are even lower. This pattern contributes to sprawl and limits our ability to develop an effective transit system.
- ❖ **Imbalance between housing and jobs.**  
Current plans allow for more growth in jobs than housing. This pushes up housing costs, leads to more (and longer) interregional and international commute trips, and can mean more persons per household. Additionally, residential areas are largely separated from job centers, contributing to more traffic and longer commutes.
- ❖ **Ineffective infrastructure financing.** Local governments compete against each other for sales tax revenues, generally resulting in a process that isolates and encourages commercial development, too few homes, and sprawl development patterns. Additionally, our infrastructure systems compete against each other for investment, without a regional framework to identify and implement our priorities.

**Introduction**

SANDAG currently is preparing a Regional Comprehensive Plan (RCP) which will serve as a smart growth blueprint for land use, transportation, environment, and public investment decisions for the San Diego region. The work program calls for a Draft RCP by December 2003, and a final RCP by June 2004.

**Why We Need an RCP**

Collectively, our current local plans result in a number of impacts to our region's quality of life, such as consuming large amounts of undeveloped land and creating an imbalance between homes and jobs (See Box). The RCP will reach beyond our local policies and be more than just a compilation of existing plans — it will help us plan and prepare in advance, comprehensively, for our future growth and infrastructure needs.

Currently, various jurisdictions are updating their general plans. Many of them are pursuing smart growth in urban areas, and limiting development in rural areas. The RCP could assist these local efforts by rewarding jurisdictions that make or continue to make smart land use decisions. The RCP could provide the structure for linking local land use plans and infrastructure funding decisions in order to maximize infrastructure investments and implement smart growth.

Additionally, the RCP could address emerging issues along our county boundaries and our international border. Attached is the RCP Fact Sheet, which shows the draft components and structure of the RCP (Attachment 1).

## Decision-Making Context

SANDAG's Regional Planning Committee provides oversight for the preparation of the RCP. The Regional Planning Committee receives recommendations from two Working Groups: the *Regional Planning Technical Working Group* (the region's planning and community development directors), and the *Regional Planning Stakeholders Working Group* (stakeholders appointed by the Committee last December). The Regional Planning Committee makes recommendations to the SANDAG Board. The Board has the final responsibility for the adoption of the RCP and the certification of related environmental documentation.

## RCP Workshops

The RCP Work Program calls for an extensive public involvement program, including several rounds of subregional workshops on the RCP. The first round of workshops was held from January through March. Seven workshops were held throughout the region.

Attendance at the workshops by local elected officials and the public was strong, with almost 500 participants. The purpose of the workshops was to initiate discussion with a wide variety of people throughout the region on the RCP, and to receive input on the draft regional vision and core values identified by the Regional Planning Committee. The vision and core values will serve as the foundation of the RCP.

Workshop participants provided a range of comments on the draft vision, varying from "just right" to "not bold enough," or "not reflective enough of the unique features of the San Diego region." Participants also commented on the regional core values, adding water availability, education, public health, citizen participation, natural topography, safe neighborhoods and schools, and cultural resources. Generally, across the workshops, participants were very well-informed, understood the interrelationships

between the RCP components, and expressed general support for smart growth concepts.

The Technical and Stakeholders Working Groups also provided input on the vision and core values. Input by the Working Groups and the workshop participants were integrated into a revised version of the vision and core values, and presented to the Regional Planning Committee at their April meeting. Attachment 2 provides the revised regional vision and core values accepted by the Regional Planning Committee.

Summaries of each workshop and other related workshop items are posted on the Web site at [www.sandag.org/rcp](http://www.sandag.org/rcp).

## Regional Planning Stakeholders Working Group (SWG)

As shown in Attachment 3, the SWG consists of a wide variety of interests. The SWG was formed in December 2002 by the Regional Planning Committee and held its first meeting in January 2003. Councilmember Patty Davis of Chula Vista, who serves as Vice-Chair of the Regional Planning Committee, serves as the Chair of the SWG, and Carol Bonomo of Cal State San Marcos serves as the Vice-Chair of the SWG. To date, the SWG has focused most of its time discussing the regional vision and core values, emphasizing the need for fiscal responsibility, energy self-sufficiency, better neighborhoods, and public health as core values. The SWG meets monthly, and is anticipated to provide valuable input on concepts and chapters in the Plan.

In order to maintain active communication between the Regional Planning Committee and the Stakeholders Working Group, both Patty Davis and Carol Bonomo participate actively at both the Regional Planning Committee meetings and the SWG meetings and serve as liaisons between both groups.

## Work Accomplished to Date

The Regional Planning Committee has been meeting for one year now. In that time, it has provided direction on the framework and

organization of the Plan, as well as on policy actions that could be included in the various components. It has reviewed material and provided direction on the following topics:

- Vision, Core Values, & Regional Priorities
- Urban Form
- Housing
- Local Plans and Policies, Regional Growth Forecast
- Integrated Regional Infrastructure Strategy (IRIS)
- Energy
- Borders
- Transportation
- Water Supply
- Shoreline Preservation
- Environmental Justice/Social Equity
- Public Involvement

### **Expected Milestones**

The Board has called for a draft Regional Comprehensive Plan by December 2003 and a final RCP by June 2004 in order to coordinate the *TransNet* Extension efforts within the broader context of a regional plan.

Additionally, the Board and other elected officials are calling for a strong tie between the RCP and our regional housing programs and state-mandated housing requirements. In order to meet these deadlines, the Regional Planning Committee and the Board will need to be prepared to meet the following key milestones during 2003:

- **Spring:** Draft Vision and Urban Form Components
- **Summer:** Draft Housing Chapter and Regional Share Goals; Draft Policies for Ecosystems, Borders, Economic Prosperity, Transportation, and Public Facilities Chapters
- **Fall:** Integrated Regional Infrastructure Strategy (IRIS); Draft Self-Certification Goals
- **Winter:** Draft RCP; Final Regional Share and Self-Certification Goals

GARY L. GALLEGOS  
Executive Director

### Attachments

Key Staff Contact: Carolina Gregor,  
(619) 595-5399; cgr@sandag.org

Funds are budgeted in Work Element #5.02



## REGIONAL COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

- The RCP will help us define a regional vision and priorities, and then implement them.
- Public input is critical to the success of the Plan.
- An infrastructure needs assessment and a financing strategy will be important components of the plan.
- A draft is scheduled for release in December 2003, followed by a final RCP in June 2004.

## Our Vision. Our Future.

The San Diego region is a great place to live, work, and play. But we face a number of challenges... a serious housing crisis, congested roadways, and continuing sprawl into our rural areas.

SANDAG is dealing with these issues through the preparation of a Regional Comprehensive Plan (RCP). The RCP will help us define a regional vision and priorities, and then implement them.

As shown in the diagram on the back of this page, the RCP will focus on the interconnected issues of urban form, transportation, healthy ecosystems, our international and county borders, the economy, public facilities, and housing... and on improving these areas using smart growth strategies, an infrastructure needs assessment, and financing strategies.

Smart growth means limiting urban sprawl and improving our existing neighborhoods. It focuses future development away from our rural areas, and closer to existing and planned job centers, education and health institutions, and transportation corridors.

To date, more than 70 organizations, including all 18 cities and the county government, and hundreds of individuals in the region have signed on in support of smart growth.

With extensive input from the region's stakeholders, we believe that the RCP can result in:

- More transportation choices and less dependence on our cars;
- More walkable, mixed-use communities;
- Greater housing supply and housing affordability;
- A more protected environment; and
- Better preparation for the future.

### Getting involved

We need your involvement as we make critical decisions that affect our region's land use, transportation, the environment, housing, jobs, and the economy.

The first step is to visit our Web site at [www.sandag.org](http://www.sandag.org) for more information on the RCP, including meeting dates and times. Our Regional Planning Committee is currently meeting on a monthly basis. These public meetings allow for an exchange of ideas among elected officials, residents, and interest groups. We encourage your attendance.



The next step is to contact us to be put on our newsletter list. This will keep you updated on the Plan's progress, and let you know about future activities and workshops. If you would like to be added to our newsletter list, contact SANDAG at 619-595-5347, or send an e-mail to [pio@sandag.org](mailto:pio@sandag.org).

### SANDAG

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## REGIONAL COMPREHENSIVE PLAN for the San Diego Region



Public involvement is critical throughout the planning process. You are invited to participate! Visit our Web site at [www.sandag.org](http://www.sandag.org) or contact us at (619) 595-5637 for more information on how you can get involved.

## REVISED REGIONAL VISION AND CORE VALUES

In December, the Regional Planning Committee provided direction on a draft regional vision and core values to use as a starting point at the RCP Workshops. The following tables show the most recently revised version of the vision and core values based on general comments received from the RCP Workshops, the Regional Planning Stakeholders and Technical Working Groups, e-mail correspondence, and recommendations from the Regional Planning Committee at their April 4, 2003 meeting.

The regional vision and core values will serve as the foundation of the RCP, and will be included in the Vision component of the RCP.

<b>PROPOSED REVISED VISION</b>
<i>"Preserve and enhance the San Diego region's unique features – its vibrant and culturally-diverse communities, its beaches, deserts, mountains, lagoons, bluffs, and canyons, and its international setting – and promote sustainability, economic prosperity, and an outstanding quality of life for everyone."</i>

<b>PROPOSED REVISED CORE VALUES (Not in Priority Order)</b>
<b>Cultural Diversity and Resources:</b> Maintain the uniqueness of the region as an international border community, embracing ethnic and cultural diversity and promoting a wide variety of cultural resources.
<b>Livable Neighborhoods:</b> Create livable, walkable, safe, and healthy neighborhoods that include a mix of housing, parks, schools, jobs, health care facilities, and shopping opportunities, emphasizing redevelopment and infill in urban areas along transit corridors. Provide a variety of housing and transportation choices at various price ranges. Preserve and maintain our open spaces and agricultural areas.
<b>Healthy Environment:</b> Strive for a sustainable region. Promote healthy ecosystems and a healthy built environment. Ensure clean water, air, soils, water bodies, and coastlines. Protect our open space and habitat conservation systems, and preserve our natural topography.
<b>More Housing Choices:</b> Provide more opportunities for apartments, condominiums, and single-family homes in all price ranges and closer to jobs and transit.
<b>More Transportation Choices:</b> Provide a transportation system that better links our jobs, homes, and other major activity centers; ensures more transit, walking, and biking opportunities; efficiently transports people and goods; and provides effective transportation options for people of all ages and abilities.
<b>Jobs and Educated Work Force:</b> Attract and retain a variety of jobs with competitive wages that contribute to a robust economy with secure, balanced jobs, and educate the local workforce to meet the demand for these jobs. Locate new jobs in housing-rich areas and locate new housing in job-rich areas to secure a better balance between jobs, housing, and our transportation systems.
<b>Water Availability:</b> Ensure a diverse water supply that meets the region's present and future water needs, respects the environment, and emphasizes water conservation and re-use.
<b>Schools as Community Assets:</b> Provide good, safe schools for our children that provide a quality education and can serve as focal points for our neighborhoods.
<b>Infrastructure Systems that Work:</b> Provide infrastructure systems in both existing and new communities that work for all residents in the region. Strive for energy self-sufficiency.
<b>Fiscal Responsibility:</b> Institute a fiscal structure that provides an equitable distribution of burdens and benefits, promotes efficiency of resource use, and provides clear incentives for achieving plan goals.
<b>Citizen Participation in the Planning Process:</b> Promote broader participation in the planning process and the allocation of resources.
<b>Intergovernmental Coordination:</b> Enhance planning and coordination among local jurisdictions within the region, and with our local school districts, our Native American Tribal governments, our neighboring counties, Mexico, and our military communities.



**MEMBERSHIP OF REGIONAL PLANNING STAKEHOLDERS WORKING GROUP  
APPROVED BY REGIONAL PLANNING COMMITTEE IN DECEMBER 2002**

<p><b><u>Advocacy</u></b> <i>Ramona Salisbury</i>, League of Women Voters, San Dieguito River Park Citizens Advisory Committee</p> <p><i>Deanna Spehn</i>, San Diego County Taxpayers Association, Quality of Life Coalition, San Diego Dialogue, The Nature Conservancy</p>	<p><b><u>Equity</u></b> <i>Susan Carter-Robert</i>, All Congregations Together</p> <p><i>Rose Davis</i>, Indian Voices, Native American Advisory Board, Council of American Indian Organizations</p> <p><i>Paula Forbis</i>, Environmental Health Coalition</p>
<p><b><u>Agriculture</u></b> <i>David Stepp</i>, San Diego County Farm Bureau</p>	<p><b><u>Housing</u></b> <i>Tom Scott</i>, San Diego Housing Federation, San Diego Housing Coalition</p>
<p><b><u>Borders</u></b> <i>Jaime Gonzalez-Luna</i>, Maquiladora Association, Tijuana Economic Development Council</p>	<p><b><u>Professional</u></b> <i>Michael Stepner</i>, SD Economic Development Corporation, American Institute of Architects, C-3, San Diego Council of Design Professionals</p>
<p><b><u>Building</u></b> <i>Brad Barnum</i>, Associated General Contractors, SD Regional Chamber of Commerce</p> <p><i>David Gatzke</i>, – Alliance for Habitat Conservation</p>	<p><b><u>Redevelopment/Infill</u></b> <i>Claire Carpenter</i>, The El Cajon Collaborative, Cajon Valley Education Foundation, East County Chamber of Commerce</p> <p><i>Marco LiMandri</i>, New City America, Little Italy</p>
<p><b><u>Business/Economy</u></b> <i>Dan Hom</i>, Asian Business Council, Chula Vista Planning Commission</p> <p><i>Harriet Stockwell</i>, East County Economic Development Council, El Cajon Women's Club</p>	<p><b><u>Transportation</u></b> <i>Julianne Nygaard</i>, Citizen, Former City of Carlsbad Councilmember, Former Chair of NCTD</p> <p><i>Carolyn Chase</i>, SD Coalition for Transportation Choices, SD Earthworks</p>
<p><b><u>Environment</u></b> <i>Janet Anderson</i>, Sierra Club, Desert Protective Council</p> <p><i>Lynne Baker</i>, Endangered Habitats League, Housing Action Network</p> <p><i>Wallace Tucker</i>, Fallbrook Land Conservancy, San Diego Land Conservancy Coalition, San Luis Rey Watershed Council</p>	<p><b><u>Other</u></b> <i>Jim Bell</i>, Ecological Life Systems Institute, Mayor Murphy's Environmental Task Force, Regional Energy Advisory Committee</p> <p><i>Carol Bonomo</i>, Cal State San Marcos, SANDAG's I-15 Technical Working Group</p> <p><i>Marla Hollander</i>, Leadership for Active Living, San Diego State University</p> <p><i>Keith Pezzoli</i>, University of California San Diego (UCSD), Regional Workbench Consortium</p> <p><i>Dutch Van Dierendonck</i>, Ramona Community Planning Group, Past Participation in San Diego County's General Plan 2020 Steering Committee</p>

# REGIONAL PLANNING COMMITTEE

May 2, 2003

AGENDA REPORT NO.: **3**

**Action Requested: INFORMATION**

## WATER QUALITY COMPONENT OF THE REGIONAL COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

### **Introduction**

The Healthy Ecosystems Chapter of the RCP will contain information regarding four overarching issues: (1) Open Space; (2) Shoreline; (3) Air Quality; and (4) Water Quality. Each issue will be developed in its own sub-chapter but will relate back to the overarching subject of creating or maintaining a healthy ecosystem. Staff currently is working on developing each of these areas of the chapter and will bring each component to the Regional Planning Committee for its review in the coming months.

In regards to water quality, staff is working with a small task force drawn from water quality experts from throughout the region, to identify the major issues (or themes) and strategies which will be explored as part of the RCP. While staff is not presenting an outline for review today, this report provides some potential themes for consideration for the water quality component of the RCP.

### **Discussion**

Perhaps the best way to characterize what this component will be is to discuss what it will not be. Currently, there are many water quality related efforts being undertaken in the region. The RCP will in no way supersede these efforts and will avoid duplication of work that has already been done in this area. Instead, this chapter will likely contain a discussion of the major issues related to water quality. It will assert regional goals for water quality over the next 30 years as well as potential ways to evaluate whether the region is meeting those goals, and could include a discussion regarding the existing mechanisms established for meeting water quality objectives. The most important aspect of this work could be to identify where the current mechanisms are lacking, or where jurisdictions might better plan across jurisdictional boundaries to achieve common water quality goals.

Local jurisdictions have been working together for some time under the regulatory framework of the existing NPDES (National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System) stormwater permit for the region. Additionally, each jurisdiction takes part in their respective watershed groups, also mandated as part of the Regional Water Quality Control Board's NPDES permit. However, many challenges remain regarding collective planning efforts to meet water quality goals in every watershed. The Water Quality component of the RCP will address this issue and discuss the overall watershed perspective within which many efforts are being undertaken.

Staff will work to develop these and other ideas over the coming months. An outline for the water quality component is scheduled to come before the Regional Planning Committee in early summer.

San Diego Association of Governments  
**REGIONAL PLANNING COMMITTEE**

May 2, 2003

AGENDA ITEM NO.: **5B**

**Action Requested: RECOMMEND**

URBAN FORM OPTIONS FOR THE RCP

**Introduction**

At its last meeting, the Regional Planning Committee accepted a revised version of the regional vision and core values (attached). The RCP will need to translate that vision and core values into a preferred regional urban form.

The Urban Form chapter will be an important component of the RCP. It will focus on how the region uses its land, from both a *spatial* aspect (where our existing and future major residential areas, employment centers, habitat preserves, educational facilities, etc. are located, and at what intensities), as well as an *urban design* aspect (how development projects are designed – friendly toward pedestrians and bikes, supportive of public transit opportunities, preventing crime, energy efficiency, etc.).

The Urban Form chapter will identify where future housing and employment growth should and should not be focused in the region from a sustainability perspective, in the context of habitat preserves, transportation networks, and other infrastructure systems. This will assist with the process of determining and allocating the region's housing needs. The chapter also will serve as the basis for prioritizing infrastructure investments that will be included in the Integrated Regional Infrastructure Strategy (IRIS), and could include the criteria to allocate transportation incentive funding to jurisdictions that implement smart growth.

It is anticipated that the second round of RCP Workshops will focus on urban form, and that the workshops will be held this June and July in order to allow for sufficient time to perform modeling runs and simulations to evaluate the alternative urban form scenarios. An outline for the Urban Form chapter was presented to the Regional Planning Committee last year; this work will be added to that chapter.

At their most recent meetings, the Regional Planning Technical and Stakeholders Working Groups were asked to discuss guiding principles and conceptual urban form options to share with the Regional Planning Committee. Their ideas are described further below.

**Requested Action**

The Regional Planning Committee is requested to discuss the proposed guiding principles for urban form and potential alternative urban form scenarios, and make a preliminary recommendation on these items, as well as on the second round of RCP workshops, to the SANDAG Board of Directors. This is the starting point for urban form discussions, and will be revisited on several occasions.

## **Background**

Urban form has been a topic of significant discussion in this region for many years. In the early 1970s, SANDAG's original regional comprehensive plan examined three urban form alternatives: Existing Trends, Radial Corridors, and Controlled Trends. Later efforts included the Land Use Distribution Element (LUDE) of the Regional Growth Management Strategy (1993). The LUDE recommended that each jurisdiction should place its highest densities within walking distance of transit stations and corridors; encourage mixed use development and mixed housing types; and incorporate residential uses within large employment areas. The 2020 Cities/County Forecast, released in 1999, simulated smart growth development based on these recommendations around approximately 150 "transit focus areas" originally identified in SANDAG's 1996 Regional Transportation Plan.

The next major effort where urban form was considered was in the Preliminary 2030 Cities/County Forecast (October 2002), which focused on increasing mixed uses and job and housing intensities in potential smart growth focus areas that were identified primarily by the jurisdictions, rather than by SANDAG. The Preliminary 2030 Cities/County Forecast was accepted by the SANDAG Board for planning purposes, and specifically for the preparation of MOBILITY 2030, the current Regional Transportation Plan.

SANDAG is now working on the preparation of the new Regional Comprehensive Plan, which will use the Final 2030 Cities/County Forecast as a starting point. That forecast will be produced by late summer, and will include refinements to local jurisdictions' land use inputs. Specifically, many of the smart growth assumptions from the preliminary forecast—other than those already included in the current local plans and policies—are being scaled back. As a result, the Final 2030 Cities/County Forecast will more closely reflect the continuation of existing plans and policies, and will likely result in an outcome somewhat different from that of the preliminary forecast.

## **Proposed Guiding Principles for Urban Form**

SANDAG's analyses have consistently shown that smart growth policies benefit the region – they help provide the homes that we need, conserve open space, allow for a greater return on the region's investments in public transit and highways, and provide for greater mobility.

Based loosely on the Proposed Vision and Core Values, the following guiding principles for urban form are proposed. Comments from the Technical and Stakeholders Working Groups have been incorporated into the proposed principles. The proposed guiding principles could serve to help formulate alternative conceptual urban form scenarios showing where future development should be located, and to evaluate the impacts of the resulting scenarios.

### *Proposed Guiding Principles*

- Reduce land consumption.
- Reduce growth in the rural and back country areas.
- Protect habitat.
- Preserve and restore open spaces in our cities and communities.
- Protect our best agricultural areas.
- Protect the health of our watersheds.
- Reduce interregional commuting / make interregional commuting more effective.

- Increase residential uses within or near large employment areas.
- Increase opportunities for mixed uses and walkability.
- Increase the supply and types of housing in the region.
- Increase mobility.
- Ensure that our investments in public transportation are matched with land uses that will ensure their success.
- Increase effective use of existing and future infrastructure investments.
- Ensure environmental justice and social equity.
- Protect public health (specifically, as related to air quality).
- Limit development in the historic 100 year floodplains.

**Alternative Conceptual Urban Form Scenarios**

The Working Groups were encouraged to use the following information as a starting point in discussing alternative urban form scenarios.

Scenario	Results
Existing Plans and Policies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ 41% of projected housing unit growth occurs in County unincorporated areas</li> <li>▪ 97,000 units exported to Riverside and Mexico</li> </ul>
Preliminary 2030 Forecast	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ 26% of projected housing unit growth occurs in County unincorporated areas</li> <li>▪ 47,000 units exported to Riverside and Mexico</li> </ul>

The general results of their discussions are summarized as follows.

*Regional Planning Stakeholders Working Group*

Group 1: The first group borrowed concepts from the 100 Year Sustainable Vision. They proposed major regional centers in downtown San Diego, Escondido, UTC, and the Otay Mesa border area, interlinked by high-speed rail along the I-15 and across the border. They suggested redevelopment and infill at a smaller scale in Spring Valley, Lakeside, and Carlsbad because of these areas' current industrial uses. This group felt that the tribal lands, resources lands, and entitled lands should all be identified on the working map.

Group 2: This group agreed with the general concepts of the first group, and suggested that downtown San Diego should remain as the region's major housing and business center. They looked for areas where employment could be intensified, and then added housing there. Based on this principle, they suggested additional intensification in the CSU San Marcos area, in Sorrento Valley (especially if linked with a light rail line), in Oceanside, in Carlsbad along Palomar Airport Road, along the I-15, in downtown El Cajon near the trolley, along the Bayfront in Chula Vista, in Otay Mesa, and in Otay Ranch. They commented that visualization tools would be very helpful with this kind of exercise.

Group 3: This group commented that it was difficult to make judgements on urban form without knowing what's already on the ground. They felt that SANDAG should provide a map of our natural resources before people inhabited the San Diego region showing our natural rivers, habitats, agricultural soils, and floodplains, and that we should then overlay that

information on top of existing development. The next step would be to overlay future jobs and housing over that, to make sure that we are not further negatively impacting our ecology. Additionally, this group noticed that currently, there is a lot of housing in South Bay, but not a lot of jobs, so we should add jobs there, as long as we're not violating the ecological well-being of that area. They added that future development should be focused in existing developed areas and should make use of our existing and future transit investments.

### *Regional Planning Technical Working Group*

Although the planning directors did not break out into groups at their meeting, they discussed concepts that might help strengthen the urban form scenario exercise, and indicated interest in undertaking the exercise at their next meeting. Generally, the planning directors felt that a greater level of baseline information was needed to adequately complete the exercise. They felt that for the upcoming workshops, SANDAG should provide base maps that show several layers of information, such as habitat preserves, sewer lines, water lines, existing development, capacities of general plans and where excess capacities are located, watersheds, and topography. Other suggestions included not marking jurisdictional boundaries on the maps, and breaking groups out subregionally for the discussions in order to generate additional dialogue on key subregional issues. They also commented that people generally are comfortable working within their own spheres of knowledge, and that the exercise would benefit by helping people understand the regional infrastructure and habitat systems, regional interrelationships, and general tradeoffs needed to achieve the guiding principles.

### **Proposed Next Steps**

1. The Chair of the Regional Planning Committee will report to the SANDAG Board at the May 23, 2003 Board meeting on proposed urban form guiding principles and urban form ideas for Round 2 of the RCP Workshops.
2. The Regional Planning Technical Working Group, the Regional Planning Stakeholders Working Group, and the Regional Housing Task Force will continue to refine the guiding principles and alternative urban form scenarios in preparation for the Workshops.
3. Round 2 of the RCP Workshops will be held in June and July 2003, focusing on obtaining public input on conceptual urban form scenarios.
4. Various Working Groups and Committees at SANDAG will work through the issues associated with urban form, including housing, transportation, habitat preservation areas, infrastructure systems, and the identification of incentives through the Integrated Regional Infrastructure Strategy (IRIS), among others.
5. The draft Urban Form chapter will be presented to the Regional Planning Committee for action by September 2003.

San Diego Association of Governments  
**REGIONAL PLANNING COMMITTEE**

May 2, 2003

AGENDA ITEM NO.: **6**

**Action Requested: INFORMATION / DISCUSSION**

**LINKING PLANNING AND POLICYMAKING  
TO SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY**

The May 2, 2003 meeting of the Regional Planning Committee is being hosted by UCSD and the Regional Workbench Consortium (RWBC). The RWBC is a collaborative network of university and community-based partners dedicated to linking science and technology to policy and planning for sustainable city-region development.

On May 29, 2003, the RWBC will hold its first annual Regional Expo on the UCSD campus. We cordially invite all members of the Regional Planning Committee to join us on May 29th. The Regional Expo 2003 will include an opening plenary, four "DEMOS," lunch, and a closing session followed by a reception. Space is limited to 160 participants. If you would like to attend, please register as soon as possible at: <http://www.regionalworkbench.org/html/expo2003.php>.

The May 2nd Regional Planning Committee meeting—taking place at the Scripps Institution of Oceanography—will introduce the following innovative information and visualization technologies currently being developed by the RWBC.

- **3-D Regional Canvass for the Californias**

This item will showcase state-of-the-art 3D visualization technologies currently being developed and tested in collaborative, partnership-driven research projects. This is part of a long-term effort to create a "City-Region Visualization Theatre" and to make cutting edge 3D-interactive tools directly available to academic, community, industry, and governmental organizations via the Web. For more information, please visit the Web site at: <http://www.regionalworkbench.org/html/3dmodels.htm>.

- **Online Interactive Mapping and Quality of Life Indicators**

This item will demonstrate online interactive Geographic Information Systems mapping technology. In its current state, the technology supports linking watershed-specific Superfund toxicants data from many sources with San Diego region quality of life indicators and cross-border demographic and health information. For more information, please visit: <http://www.regionalworkbench.org/html/gis.html>.

- **Innovative Watershed Partnership**

Earlier this month, Scripps Institution of Oceanography, UCSD's Urban Studies and Planning Program, and the San Diego Supercomputer Center submitted a proposal to the National Science Foundation to create a "Partnership for Innovation." The Partnership's overarching goal is to work together to build an integrated watershed-based information system and set of visualization tools. SANDAG is involved in this initiative, which could apply resources toward several components of the RCP, including water quality, urban form, and healthy ecosystems. The RWBC recently received a grant from the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences to get the process underway. The Web site for this project is: <http://www.regionalworkbench.org/html/projects/watermain.htm>.