



Senior Regional Climate Planner

Annual Salary Ranges: \$79,537 to \$123,282

First Review of Applications: January 7, 2022 – Open until filled

Expected Start Date: February 2022

Role

The Senior Regional Planner will supervise the Climate Planning team, and will develop collaborative relationships with federal, state, and local agencies, public and private stakeholders, and other project partners for the development/implementation of climate resilience, adaptation, and mitigation strategies and for identifying and obtaining resources to support the program overall.

Overview of the Regional Climate Resilience Planning Program

SANDAG recognizes a strong link between climate, energy, land use, and transportation planning, as well as the greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions associated with various planning choices. The region’s policymakers have adopted a proactive and industry-leading approach to integrate these linked planning areas to reduce GHG for the region as reflected in the 2021 Regional Plan and Sustainable Communities Strategy. The Climate Resilience Planning team works in close collaboration with member agencies to support climate change mitigation and adaptation activities to ensure a resilient San Diego. The team also works to implement the Regional Energy Strategy and Climate Action Strategy through collaborative initiatives within SANDAG and across the region that save energy, reduce GHG emissions, and address climate adaptation and mitigation.

Job Responsibilities

- Coordinate programs, projects, and studies related to regional energy and climate resilience, adaptation, and mitigation planning.
- Review, analyze, and interpret new and proposed climate and energy-related laws, regulations, and policies; participate in development of strategies to respond to legislative or regulatory initiatives; prepare reports and position papers working with SANDAG’s Government Relations team.
- Prepare and/or update various regional resources and plans; ensure that regional climate planning activities align with the objectives of San Diego Forward: The Regional Plan (2021 Regional Plan); coordinate with local jurisdictions to incorporate energy/climate related components of the Regional Plan into General Plan updates and Climate Action Plans.
- Provide staff support for the Energy Working Group; responsibilities include preparing agendas, reports, and meeting summaries; participate in the development of staff recommendations to committees/working groups.
- Develop project plans, Requests for Proposals, scopes of work, project deliverables, budgets, and schedules; administer contracts and ensure projects progress on schedule, within the approved budget; ensure projects are completed in adherence to funding agency requirements.
- Supervise, mentor, train, and provide career development opportunities for professional and technical staff; coordinate projects assigned to the team; review and evaluate work products, methods, and procedures.
- Research grant opportunities for climate resilience, adaptation, and mitigation planning projects/programs; develop and coordinate submission of grant proposals and funding applications.
- Act as staff lead and collaborate on inter-departmental and inter-agency project teams assembled for regional climate resilience, adaptation, and mitigation planning activities.
- Foster collaborative and cooperative working relationships with local jurisdictions, regulatory agencies, legislative officials, and other public and private stakeholder organizations.
- Prepare and present written, oral, and visual reports and recommendations to technical and policy committees, the SANDAG Board of Directors, member agencies, committees, community groups, private organizations, and members of the public.
- Participate in public outreach and community involvement activities related to SANDAG’s climate or energy planning efforts and related legislative and regulatory issues; present agency policies and strategies to a variety of SANDAG working groups and/or policy advisory committees.



Experience and Qualifications

- A bachelor's degree with major course work in regional/urban planning, climate change and/or energy policy/planning, environmental sustainability, environmental economics, public/business administration, or a related field. A Masters' degree is desirable. A combination of relevant education and recent work experience may be considered in lieu of the bachelor's degree requirement.
- Minimum of five years of increasingly responsible, professional regional planning experience including some lead or supervisory experience
- Demonstrated experience applying the principles and practices of comprehensive regional planning, particularly in the areas of climate resilience, adaptation, and mitigation planning, public facilities, and related fields.
- Knowledge of federal and state laws, regulations, and requirements pertaining to energy and climate change; ability to interpret legislative and regulatory mandates impacting regional climate planning initiatives; familiarity with current trends related to energy issues and climate action planning.
- Demonstrated experience conducting technical research and planning studies; experience preparing and presenting project reports, evaluating alternatives, and developing policy recommendations for decision makers.
- Experience staffing committees and/or working groups, including the preparation of agendas, reports, and meeting summaries.
- Successful project management experience including preparing budgets and schedules, RFPs, scopes of work, and contracts; experience evaluating proposals and selecting and managing consultants.
- Demonstrated ability to establish and maintain effective working relationships with those contacted in the course of work including representatives from local, state, and federal agencies, other government officials, community and business leaders, and the public; ability to gain cooperation and consensus through discussion and persuasion.
- Experience or the ability to supervise and evaluate the work of professional and technical personnel; experience providing administrative and professional leadership and direction for assigned programs.
- Experience developing effective public outreach efforts to inform, educate, and involve the public in the regional planning process.
- Strong writing skills and the ability to communicate effectively, both orally and in writing; ability to prepare and deliver public presentations and recommendations regarding various program elements to Boards, Policy Advisory Committees, technical working groups, community groups, members of the public, and other audiences.
- Excellent organizational skills and the ability to manage several concurrent projects at various stages of completion; ability to establish and maintain priorities and work independently.

Benefits

Our benefits include health, dental, and vision insurance as well as employee assistance, wellness, and work/life balance programs. Retirement and financial security benefits are provided through a pension plan and deferred compensation program. SANDAG offers flexible work schedules and employees are provided with paid time off and paid holidays.

How to Apply

Interested candidates may apply for this position by completing a SANDAG Employment Application.

The Employment Application can be downloaded from the SANDAG website or by contacting hr@sandag.org or calling (619) 699-1900. See our Careers / How to Apply webpage for additional information.

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), SANDAG will accommodate persons who require assistance in order to apply for a position at SANDAG. Applicants requiring an accommodation due to a disability during any stage of the recruitment and selection process, including requesting this document and related application materials in an alternative format, should make their needs known by contacting Human Resources at hr@sandag.org, (619) 699-1900, (619) 699-1904 (TTY), or fax (619) 699-6905.

Further Information

In compliance with the Immigration Reform and Control Act of 1986, applicants hired by SANDAG must show acceptable proof of identity and evidence of authorization to work in the United States.

The selected candidate can anticipate a driving record check upon hire, and approximately annually thereafter. The results of the check may determine whether the selected candidate will be permitted to drive for SANDAG business.

SANDAG requires all new employees to be fully vaccinated for COVID 19 within 45 days of hire; reasonable accommodation requests will be considered.

SANDAG employees are expected to work in-person in our San Diego office.

Contact Us



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