Overview
Every four years, SANDAG prepares a Regional Plan in collaboration with the 18 cities and County of San Diego, along with regional, state, and federal partners. This is a broad-based community effort that plans for how our region will grow and how we will get around. The Regional Plan addresses many important issues, including: using land more wisely, building an efficient and more accessible transportation system, protecting the environment, improving public health, promoting a strong regional economy, better managing our access to energy, incorporating equity into the planning process, addressing pressing needs on tribal lands, and supporting a vibrant international border.

In February 2019, the SANDAG Board of Directors approved an action plan to create a bold new transportation vision with the goal to transform the way people and goods move throughout the region. SANDAG is developing San Diego Forward: The 2021 Regional Plan (2021 Regional Plan) to reflect this vision and make investments in the regional transportation network to provide people with more travel choices, protect the environment, create healthy communities, and stimulate economic growth for the benefit of all San Diegans.

The 2021 Regional Plan will embody 5 Big Moves, transformative strategies that reimagine how we use our transportation system:

» **Complete Corridors**: Smart, connected routes that accommodate all modes of transportation
» **Transit Leap**: A complete network of high-capacity, high-speed, and high-frequency transit services
» **Mobility Hubs**: Places of connectivity where a variety of travel options come together for a seamless travel experience
» **Flexible Fleets**: On-demand, shared, electric vehicles that connect to transit and provide personalized transportation
» **Next Operating System (OS)**: The “brain” of the transportation network that manages systems in real time

(Continued on reverse)
In addition, SANDAG is applying data-driven strategies and exploring the use of innovative technologies to improve how people travel throughout the region. Together, these initiatives will create a fully integrated, world-class transportation network that offers efficient and equitable transportation choices, meets state climate targets, and supports local jurisdictions’ achievements of Climate Action Plan goals.

The 2019 Federal Regional Transportation Plan (2019 Federal RTP) is our region’s current long-range plan, adopted by the SANDAG Board of Directors on October 25, 2019. Many aspects of the 2019 Federal RTP build upon the 2015 Regional Plan and address new federal planning requirements. As development of the 2021 Regional Plan unfolds, SANDAG continues to make progress on implementing actions included in the 2019 Federal RTP.

The Need
It’s important to plan for our future – locally, regionally, and across all our borders. The foundation for the 2021 Regional Plan is the 2050 Regional Growth Forecast. Working with the 18 cities and County of San Diego, SANDAG forecasts the projected jobs, housing, and population expected by 2050. Using this information and other key data, we work with our stakeholders and the public to create a balanced, connected, and efficient transportation network that will meet our future needs as a region.

During the last decade, many local jurisdictions updated their land use plans and zoning ordinances, which collectively move the region’s vision of the future toward more compact development near transit and greater open space preservation. Focusing on housing and job centers in existing urbanized areas has replaced previous assumptions of more dispersed development patterns. By the year 2050, when our population is anticipated to reach four million people, approximately half of the region’s land will be dedicated to open space and habitat preservation.

The shift in development patterns is critical to creating a more sustainable way of life and helping the region reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions by 19% based on 2005 levels, by 2035 as mandated by the California Air Resources Board in 2018.

The 2021 Regional Plan will include a Sustainable Communities Strategy to guide efforts to meet or exceed the GHG targets, while maintaining quality of life in the San Diego region.

Action Plan
A preliminary outline of projects, programs, and policies that will serve as the basis for the 2021 Regional Plan is anticipated to be shared for SANDAG policymaker and public review and input in early 2020. Once this framework is defined, technical modeling and performance measure analysis will lead to identification of a preferred network. A year-long environmental review process will follow before the SANDAG Board is anticipated to adopt the plan in late 2021.

Community Involvement
SANDAG is engaging a broad and diverse cross-section of the San Diego region during development of the 2021 Regional Plan. We will build on the significant public input received to develop a bigger and bolder transportation vision for the San Diego region. The Public Involvement Plan for the 2021 Regional Plan includes a menu of public engagement techniques, such as workshops and open houses, use of social media, visualizations, surveys, videos, and presentations.

SANDAG is partnering with a regionwide network of 12 community-based organizations to engage low-income, minority, senior, and disabled populations in the planning process. A tribal consultation process is being implemented with the support of the Southern California Tribal Chairmen’s Association to ensure the region’s 17 tribal nations are included.

In addition, SANDAG is collaborating with Mexico, the military, neighboring counties, local communities, colleges and universities, transportation providers, and ports of entry in an inclusive planning process to ensure our regional transportation system connects to the megaregion and national network.

For More Information
To learn more about the 2021 Regional Plan and how to get involved, visit SDForward.com.

Topic areas that will be covered by San Diego Forward: The 2021 Regional Plan include:

- Air quality
- Borders, including Baja California, our tribal nations, and our neighboring counties
- Climate change mitigation and adaptation
- Economic prosperity
- Emerging technologies
- Energy and fuels
- Habitat preservation
- Healthy communities
- Open space and agriculture
- Public facilities
- Public safety
- Shoreline preservation
- Transportation and mobility
- Water quality