

Taking Action for Transportation Equity in San Diego County

To Submit your comments on SANDAG's 2021 Regional Transportation Plan:

1. Read over the 10 Talking Points below and decide which you want to submit to SANDAG. You might submit all 10 or just one or several. You may add some of your own language. You might even want to make up your own comment. But no matter which of these options you choose, you must limit yourself to 4000 characters.
2. Copy the talking points to paste into SANDAG's comment field on their Comment Form which can be found here in [English](#) or [Español](#).
3. Fill in the rest of the information requested. Note: just leave "General Comment" in the "Select a Chapter" and "Select an Appendix" fields. Now click "Submit."
4. Thanks for making public comment on this essential issue. Let us know that you have finished by putting a comment in the Zoom Chat.

Comment Template:

Environmental justice must be embedded in our mobility in San Diego. Therefore, I ask that the 10 Big Moves to Transportation Justice be included in the 2021 Regional Transportation Plan.

I call for an **environmental justice centered RTP** to ensure the projects included in the RTP will prioritize environmental justice (EJ) communities identified by CalEnviroScreen (CES) by listing projects that will directly benefit EJ communities, outlining immediate benefits via projects that will be implemented by 2025 in EJ communities, and making all public communication easy to understand by the public in order to promote meaningful engagement. Therefore, in the RTP, I ask that an equity specific project list be included in Appendix A: Transportation Projects, Programs, and Phasing document.

I call for an improvement in the **bus system now that is fast, frequent, reliable, and accessible** through increasing frequency on popular lines, especially overcrowded ones. Therefore, I call for more clarity in Appendix A: Transportation Projects, Programs, and Phasing that provides a list of specific improvements to the bus system.

I call for increased funding for the planning, environmental review, engineering, and capital for the additional **Blue Line track** that allows express, 24-hour service, and additional frequency enhancements. The information for the Blue Line needs to be clarified; it is unclear if the double/third tracking included in Appendix A refers to an additional track that will provide express connectivity from the border to downtown San Diego.

I call for a **24-hour service by 2025** on popular transit routes to connect late night and early morning workers to their job. Therefore, the information in the RTP needs to be clarified; the language in both Appendix A and Chapter 2 should specifically call for 24 hr service on popular transit routes and present a clear implementation schedule.

I call for the funding of the planning, environmental review, engineering, and capital for the **Purple Line** as a rail line that connects EJ communities in Central City Heights and South Bay to Sorrento Valley. According to SANDAG staff, the alignment includes City Heights in the 2050 RTP with a 2035 implementation. However, it should be listed in the document to demonstrate that project phasing prioritizes central City Heights and the South Bay region, and a 2035 completion

I call for **no-cost transit passes for all youth 24 years old** and under in order to ensure generations of lifelong transit riders and encourage significant mode shift. Further, I ask that it be accelerated for a 2023 implementation rather than the current delayed plan to implement in 2027.

I call for an **electrified bus fleet by 2030**. Fund the implementation of California's Innovative Clean Transit rule to accelerate the electrification of the bus fleet ten years before mandated by the California Air Resources Board. We cannot afford to wait 20 years to reduce GHGs. Therefore, I ask that the transition to zero-emission buses be accelerated for a 2030 completion with the support of recently approved state and federal funding sources.

I call for the funding of to protect vulnerable communities living near transit corridors by **anti-displacement efforts** developing an anti-displacement strategy that includes affordable/low-income housing and preservation of naturally occurring existing affordable housing, community ownership, and tenant protections. Therefore, I request an update on the status of the anti-displacement study.

I call for the development of a **bathroom access plan** and providing MTS with funding for a clear and accessible bathroom network open at all major transit stations. It is unclear if a bathroom network is included in the capital operations budgets.

I call for the funding of the planning and implementation of a **transit emergency response strategy** to provide safety particularly to EJ communities during community-wide emergencies. Currently, this is not included in the RTP.

Resources:

- [SANDAG Draft 2021 Regional Plan](#) is available for public review and comments can be made up through July 30, 2021.
- [SANDAG Calendar of Events:](#)
 - **Informational Open Houses:** During the virtual open houses, hear from SANDAG Board Members and staff about policy choices and issues considered in the draft 2021 Regional Plan. Plus, discuss your questions with the SANDAG team.
 - North County Coastal: [Tuesday, June 15, 2021, 6-8 p.m.](#)
 - County Unincorporated: [Wednesday, June 16, 2021, 6-8 p.m.](#)
 - South County: [Tuesday, June 22, 2021, 6-8 p.m.](#)
 - East County: [Thursday, June 24, 2021, 6-8 p.m.](#)
 - North County Inland: [Tuesday, June 28, 2021, 6-8 p.m.](#)
 - Central San Diego: [Wednesday, June 30, 2021, 6-8 p.m.](#)
 - **Public Hearings:** Virtual public hearings on the draft 2021 Regional Plan are planned for meetings of the SANDAG Transportation Committee and Board of Directors in July, 2021. Attend virtually to share your comments!
 - SANDAG Transportation Committee: [Friday, July 16, 2021, 9 a.m.](#)
 - SANDAG Board of Directors: [Friday, July 23, 2021, 9 a.m.](#)
 - **Submit your comments:**
 - Online: ([English](#) | [Español](#))
 - Email: SDForward@sandag.org
 - Voicemail: 619.699.1934, toll free 877.277.5736 and TTY 619.699.1904
 - Fax: 619.699.1995
 - Mail: Attn: 2021 Regional Plan, SANDAG, 401 B Street, Suite 800, San Diego CA, 92101