

**COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO  
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 09, 2025**

**MINUTE ORDER NO. 28**

**SUBJECT: ADOPT A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING STATE LEGISLATION TO ENHANCE REPRESENTATION FOR UNINCORPORATED COMMUNITIES ON THE SAN DIEGO ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS BOARD OF DIRECTORS (DISTRICTS: ALL)**

**OVERVIEW**

The San Diego Association of Governments (SANDAG) is the regional planning agency for the County of San Diego and is responsible for allocating money towards housing plans, transportation, planning and building infrastructure. The SANDAG Board of Directors is composed of 21 members (19 voting members) who are elected officials representing the County of San Diego and the 18 incorporated cities located in the County.

The County is represented on the SANDAG Board by two members of the County Board of Supervisors, one of whom is the primary voting member, and a secondary member. One of these County Supervisors is required to be a representative of a district that is substantially an incorporated area while the other must be a representative of a district that is substantially an unincorporated area. The County Board of Supervisors also appoints two alternate Board members to represent the County when the primary and secondary members are unavailable to attend SANDAG Board and committee meetings.

Although the SANDAG Board voted on December 8, 2023, to add an advisory member to the SANDAG Board to represent the unincorporated area's communities and residents, this representative is not authorized to vote during SANDAG meetings. As a result, there is no voting member of the SANDAG Board required to live in the County's unincorporated area or specifically represent the unique interests of the nearly 550,000 people living there.

State legislation was introduced in 2025 to provide San Diego County's rural communities a greater role in participating in the decisions made during SANDAG meetings. However, this legislation was not approved this year by the California State Legislature. It would be appropriate for the County to support similar State legislation in 2026 to enhance representation for unincorporated communities and their residents. The new process to select the County's second alternate representative should be similar to the process used to select special district representatives to the San Diego Local Agency Formation Commission. Under the new process, the County's second alternates to the SANDAG Board would be selected by a majority of voting members of the special districts and community planning groups located in the County's unincorporated area. This legislation would require the second alternate to be an elected official residing in an unincorporated community.

Once selected by the unincorporated area special districts and community planning groups, the second alternate would represent the County at SANDAG Board and committee meetings when the County's primary and secondary representatives, and primary alternate are unable to attend a SANDAG Board or committee meeting.

I am, therefore, recommending that the Board adopt a resolution supporting State legislation to update the process used to select the second alternate County representative to the SANDAG Board of Directors.

## **RECOMMENDATION(S)**

### **SUPERVISOR JOEL ANDERSON**

1. Adopt a Resolution entitled: A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO SUPPORTING STATE LEGISLATION TO ENHANCE REPRESENTATION FOR UNINCORPORATED COMMUNITIES ON THE SAN DIEGO ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS BOARD OF DIRECTORS.
2. Direct the Chief Administrative Officer to express the County's support for State legislation that would establish a process allowing the County's second alternate to the San Diego Association of Governments Board of Directors to be selected by a majority of voting members of the special districts and community planning groups located in the County's unincorporated area, consistent with Board Policy M-2.

## **EQUITY IMPACT STATEMENT**

Residents of the County's unincorporated area, totaling nearly 550,000 individuals, currently lack direct voting representation on the SANDAG Board of Directors, even though representatives from each of the region's 18 incorporated cities are authorized to vote on behalf of their constituents. Although State legislation was introduced this year to provide San Diego County's rural communities a greater role in participating in the decisions made during SANDAG meetings, it was not approved by the State Legislature. If similar legislation is introduced and enacted this year, it could provide unincorporated area residents, many of whom live in rural and lower income areas, a greater role in participating in the decisions made during SANDAG meetings. This action would enhance their ability to contribute to regional decisions regarding transportation, infrastructure, mobility, housing, and land use policy and funding.

## **SUSTAINABILITY IMPACT STATEMENT**

Decisions made by the SANDAG Board have long-term effects on the region's sustainability, transportation infrastructure, and overall quality of life. These decisions guide how regional resources are invested in mobility, housing, and climate initiatives that connect residents to jobs, schools, and essential services. Allowing an elected official who resides in the County's unincorporated area to serve as the second alternate to the SANDAG Board will help to ensure that the perspectives of all San Diego residents are considered and acted upon while shaping regional priorities. The region can better align transportation and land-use planning with sustainability goals, promote equitable access to infrastructure, and support a more resilient and inclusive future for San Diego County.

## **FISCAL IMPACT**

There is no fiscal impact associated with these recommendations. There will be no change in net General Fund cost and no additional staff years.

## **BUSINESS IMPACT STATEMENT**

At its May 9, 2025, meeting, the SANDAG Board of Directors adopted a \$1.3 billion Final Program Budget for Fiscal Year 2026. The budget includes \$104.6 million for the Overall Work Program, \$86.6 million for Regional Operations and Services, and \$682.9 million for the annual portion of the Capital

Program, with \$187.2 million allocated for work performed by outside agencies on SANDAG capital projects. SANDAG's budget funds a wide range of regional transportation, infrastructure, and economic development projects that generate significant business activity and job opportunities throughout the region. Enhancing the unincorporated area representation on the SANDAG Board will help to ensure SANDAG decisions will include consideration of these communities' unique perspectives.

**ACTION:**

ON MOTION of Supervisor Anderson, seconded by Supervisor Desmond, the Board of Supervisors directed the Chief Administrative Officer to take into consideration the Board's conversation about unincorporated representation on SANDAG, consult with Board Offices, and return to the Board in 90 days with options.

AYES: Aguirre, Anderson, Lawson-Remer, Montgomery Steppe, Desmond

State of California)  
County of San Diego) §

I hereby certify that the foregoing is a full, true and correct copy of the Original entered in the Minutes of the Board of Supervisors.

ANDREW POTTER  
Clerk of the Board of Supervisors



**Signed**  
by Andrew Potter