

**COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS - LAND USE
WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 27, 2025**

MINUTE ORDER NO. 2

SUBJECT: ADOPT A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE DIRECTOR, PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT SERVICES, TO EXECUTE AGREEMENTS WITH THE CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION FOR THE COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO PROJECT: PLANNING FOR FIRST AND LAST MILE TRANSPORTATION SOLUTIONS IN UNINCORPORATED SAN DIEGO COUNTY VILLAGES AND CEQA EXEMPTION (DISTRICTS: ALL)

OVERVIEW

On September 11, 2024 (6), the County of San Diego (County) Board of Supervisors (Board) adopted the 2024 Climate Action Plan (CAP), which establishes actions the County will take to meet greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions reduction targets for 2030 and 2045 and achieve a goal of net zero emissions by 2045. The CAP directs the County to increase access to first and last mile transportation services and connections (e.g., neighborhood electric vehicles, microtransit, bike/scooter-share) to reduce vehicle miles traveled (VMT) within the unincorporated area. These services help residents connect to public transit where it exists and support short, local trips to community destinations, particularly in areas without transit service.

On July 1, 2025, the County received notification of a successful application for the Fiscal Year 2025-26 Sustainable Transportation Planning Grant Program through the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans). The \$300,000 grant will support implementing the CAP through a planning effort titled *Planning for First and Last Mile Transportation Solutions in Unincorporated San Diego County Villages*. The project will begin in November 2025 and continue for the duration of the grant program, which concludes in June 2028. It will assess mobility needs and travel barriers across the unincorporated Villages and develop locally tailored strategies to plan, scale, and prioritize first and last mile transportation services. The project will serve as a foundation for future implementation by informing capital improvement planning, guiding future County budget funding requests and external grant applications, and supporting coordination with internal and regional partners. In addition to advancing transportation goals, the project supports housing feasibility in unincorporated Villages by improving mobility options, reducing transportation costs, and enabling housing near key destinations, particularly in areas without fixed-route transit. A requirement for the grant award acceptance is a current Local Board Resolution.

This is a request for the Board to adopt a Resolution authorizing the Director of Planning & Development Services (PDS), or a designee, to enter into a grant agreement with Caltrans and to waive Board Policy B-29 because the grant will not cover all administrative costs.

RECOMMENDATION(S)

CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

1. Find that the proposed project is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to Section 15061(b)(3) of CEQA Guidelines.

2. Adopt the Resolution entitled: A Resolution of the Board of Supervisors of the County of San Diego Authorizing the Director, Planning & Development Services, To Execute Agreements with the California Department of Transportation for the County of San Diego Project: Planning for First and Last Mile Transportation Solutions in Unincorporated San Diego County Villages (Attachment A).
3. Authorize the Director, Planning & Development Services, or their designee, to execute all required grant documents pertaining to the Fiscal Year 2025-26 California Department of Transportation Sustainable Transportation Planning Grants, including any annual extensions, amendments, and/or revisions that do not materially impact or alter the services or funding levels.
4. Waive Board Policy B-29: Fees, Grants, Revenue Contracts - Department Responsibility for Cost Recovery, which requires full cost recovery for grants.
5. Establish appropriations of \$300,000 in Planning & Development Services, Services & Supplies to support implementation of Action T-6.3 through a planning effort titled Planning for First and Last Mile Transportation Solutions in Unincorporated San Diego County Villages, based on grant funding from the California Department of Transportation. **(4 VOTES)**

EQUITY IMPACT STATEMENT

This grant-funded planning effort will allow the County to create a First and Last Mile Transportation Services Evaluation and Implementation Plan that seeks to reduce transportation barriers and increase equitable access to essential services for residents in unincorporated areas, many of whom face high transportation costs, limited mobility options, and limited access to reliable transit. The project was developed in response to community feedback gathered during the County's Climate Action Plan (CAP) process, including input from underserved communities and rural residents, where community members identified the lack of affordable and accessible transportation as a major obstacle to opportunity, particularly for low-income and geographically isolated populations.

The project will use data sources such as Assembly Bill 1550 criteria and the Healthy Places Index to prioritize communities most in need in the evaluation and implementation strategy. Equity-centered engagement will be led in partnership with community-based organizations with environmental justice expertise to design and lead multilingual, culturally responsive public outreach throughout the planning process. The project will follow the County's Equity Implementation Framework, a CAP resource developed with community-based organizations and County equity-focused offices, providing step-by-step guidance to prioritize climate action, investments, and equitable outcomes and avoid unintended consequences in frontline communities across the unincorporated area.

The plan is expected to advance equity by reducing mobility challenges, improving access to employment, education, healthcare, and other critical services, decreasing vehicle miles traveled, and lowering transportation-related greenhouse gas emissions.

SUSTAINABILITY IMPACT STATEMENT

The proposed actions advance the County's Sustainability Goals by supporting community-driven planning efforts that reduce greenhouse gas emissions, improve air quality, and increase access to essential services through equitable, multimodal transportation solutions. The project aligns with the goals to engage the community in meaningful ways and provide just and equitable access by prioritizing

outreach to underserved and rural communities, using culturally and linguistically appropriate engagement strategies, and focusing investment in areas with the highest need. It also supports the goal to transition to a green, carbon-free economy by reducing reliance on personal vehicles and encouraging sustainable mobility options, while protecting the health and wellbeing of residents through improved air quality and access to opportunity.

FISCAL IMPACT

Funds for this request are partially included in the Fiscal Year (FY) 2025-26 Operational Plan in Planning & Development Services (PDS). Total costs for the First and Last Mile Transportation Services Evaluation and Implementation Plan are estimated at \$338,868. The funding sources will be a grant from the California Department of Transportation (\$300,000) and matching funds (\$38,868) in the form of County staff time supported by existing General Purpose Revenue (GPR) in PDS. A waiver of Board Policy B-29: Fees, Grants, Revenue Contracts - Department Responsibility for Cost Recovery is requested in the amount of \$38,868 in FY 2025-26 for program costs not covered by the grant and would be funded by existing GPR in PDS. There will be no change in net General Fund cost and no additional staff years.

BUSINESS IMPACT STATEMENT

N/A

ACTION:

ON MOTION of Supervisor Desmond, seconded by Supervisor Montgomery Steppe, the Board of Supervisors took action as recommended, on Consent, and adopted Resolution No. 25-091 entitled: A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO AUTHORIZING THE DIRECTOR, PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT SERVICES, TO EXECUTE AGREEMENTS WITH THE CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION FOR THE COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO PROJECT: PLANNING FOR FIRST AND LAST MILE TRANSPORTATION SOLUTIONS IN UNINCORPORATED SAN DIEGO COUNTY VILLAGES.

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



AUGUST 27, 2025