

SAN DIEGO FORWARD: THE 2019 FEDERAL RTP FACT SHEET



Overview

Every four years, SANDAG prepares a long-range regional transportation plan with the 18 cities and County of San Diego, along with regional, state, and federal partners. The 2019 Federal Regional Transportation Plan (2019 Federal RTP) is the San Diego region's current plan. It provides a roadmap for our region to grow and evolve. Additionally, it prioritizes \$208 billion in regional transportation projects over 30 years to create a framework for much of the region's transportation infrastructure.

The 2019 Federal RTP 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 our transportation investments addressing pressing needs on tribal lands, and supporting a vibrant international border.

In February 2019, the SANDAG Board of Directors approved an *action plan* that extended development of the next regional plan to late 2021. This future plan, *San Diego Forward: The 2021 Regional Plan* (2021 Regional Plan) will create a bold new vision for transportation in the San Diego region – one that will lead to a world-class transportation system and more sustainable future. SANDAG is developing the 2021 Regional Plan to reflect this vision and to provide people with more travel choices, protect the environment, create healthy communities, and stimulate economic growth for the benefit of all San Diegans.

While work progresses to develop this new vision, SANDAG prepared the 2019 Federal RTP. The 2019 Federal RTP complies with federal requirements, including air quality conformity, and preserves state and federal funding eligibility for SANDAG and its member agencies. The SANDAG Board of Directors adopted the 2019 Federal RTP on October 25, 2019. The Federal Highway Administration and Federal Transit Administration, in consultation with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, provided their approval of the 2019 Federal RTP on November 15, 2019.

Many aspects of the 2019 Federal RTP build upon the previous plan, the *2015 Regional Plan*, and address new federal planning requirements. The 2019 Federal RTP is consistent with the *Final EIR* for the 2015 Regional Plan.

Actions to Implement the Plan

The 2019 Federal RTP will be implemented with a combination of both near-term actions and continuing actions. Transportation projects and programs will be phased in over the life of the 30-year plan. Eleven near-term actions are intended to be completed before adoption of the 2021 Regional Plan, while continuing actions support longer-term implementation of projects and programs.

The most important transportation related near-term action is to implement the Regional Transportation Improvement Program (RTIP). The RTIP includes transportation projects and improvements scheduled to receive funding in the region

(Continued on reverse)



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Topic areas covered by the 2019 Federal RTP 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
- » Mobility and transportation
- » Open space and agriculture
- » Public facilities
- » Public safety
- » Shoreline preservation
- » Water quality

over the next five years. Some examples include adding carpool lanes to Interstate 5, completing the extension of the Mid-Coast Trolley, and continuing to double track the region's coastal rail corridor. The RTIP also provides a foundation for the additional, longer-term transportation projects included in the 2019 Federal RTP.

Community Involvement

Community input was critical to creating a federal RTP that reflects the varied needs, values, and interests of the San Diego region's residents and businesses. Input gathered through a series of subregional open houses and workshops, community-based outreach events, and via an online comment tool provided a solid foundation for development of this plan.

Outreach for the 2019 Federal RTP used key engagement techniques from the **Public Involvement Plan** for the 2021 Regional Plan. SANDAG partners 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 implemented with the support of the Southern California Tribal Chairmen's Association to ensure the region's 17 tribal nations are included. SANDAG also collaborates with Mexico, the military, neighboring counties, colleges and universities, and local communities to ensure our regional transportation system connects to the megaregion and national network.

For More Information

To learn more about the 2019 Federal RTP, visit SDForward.com/2019FederalRTP.



To provide innovative mobility choices and planning to support a sustainable and healthy region, a vibrant economy, and an outstanding quality of life for all.