

SANDAG

Borders Committee Agenda

Friday, October 22, 2021
12:30 p.m.
****Teleconference Meeting****

MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT AMIDST COVID-19 PANDEMIC:

The Borders Committee meeting scheduled for Friday, October 22, 2021, will be conducted virtually in accordance with Governor Newsom's State of Emergency declaration regarding the COVID-19 outbreak, Government Code Section 54953(e), and Assembly Bill 361 (Rivas 2021).

To participate via Zoom webinar, click the link to join the meeting: <https://zoom.us/j/95128697021>

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Public Comments: Persons who wish to address the members on an item to be considered at this meeting, or on non-agendized issues, may email comments to the Clerk at clerkoftheboard@sandag.org (please reference "October 22, 2021, Borders Committee Meeting," in your subject line and identify the item number(s) to which your comments pertain). Comments received by 4 p.m. on October 21, 2021, will be provided to members prior to the meeting. If you desire to provide live verbal comment during the meeting, please join the Zoom meeting by computer or phone and use the "Raise Hand" function to request to provide public comment. On a computer, the "Raise Hand" feature is on the Zoom toolbar. By phone, enter *9 to "Raise Hand" and *6 to unmute. Requests to provide live public comment must be made at the beginning of the relevant item, and no later than the end of any staff presentation on the item. The Clerk will call on members of the public who have timely requested to provide comment by name for those joining via a computer and by the last three digits of for those joining via telephone. All comments received prior to the close of the meeting will be made part of the meeting record. Please note that any available chat feature on the Zoom meeting platform should be used by panelists and attendees solely for procedural or other "housekeeping" matters as comments provided via the chat feature will not be retained as part of the meeting record. All comments to be provided for the record must be made via email or orally per the instructions above.



Welcome to SANDAG. Members of the public may speak to the Borders Committee on any item at the time the Committee is considering the item. Public speakers are limited to three minutes or less per person. The Committee may only take action on any item appearing on the agenda.

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Vision Statement

Pursuing a brighter future for all.

Mission Statement

We are the regional agency that connects people, places, and innovative ideas by implementing solutions with our unique and diverse communities.

Our Commitment to Equity

We hold ourselves accountable to the communities we serve. We acknowledge we have much to learn and much to change; and we firmly uphold equity and inclusion for every person in the San Diego region. This includes historically underserved, systemically marginalized groups impacted by actions and inactions at all levels of our government and society.

We have an obligation to eliminate disparities and ensure that safe, healthy, accessible, and inclusive opportunities are available to everyone. In 2021, SANDAG will develop an equity action plan that will inform how we plan, prioritize, fund, and build projects and programs; frame how we work with our communities; define how we recruit and develop our employees; guide our efforts to conduct unbiased research and interpret data; and set expectations for companies and stakeholders that work with us.

We are committed to creating a San Diego region where every person who visits, works, and lives can thrive.

Borders Committee

Friday, October 22, 2021

Item No.		Action
1.	Public Comments/Communications/Member Comments Members of the public shall have the opportunity to address the Borders Committee on any issue within the jurisdiction of the Committee that is not on this agenda. Public speakers are limited to three minutes or less per person. Committee members also may provide information and announcements under this agenda item. If the number of public comments under this agenda item exceeds five, additional public comments will be taken at the end of the agenda. Subjects of previous agenda items may not again be addressed under public comment.	
2.	Chief Executive Officer's Report <i>Hasan Ikhata, SANDAG</i> An update on key programs, projects, and agency initiatives will be presented.	Discussion
Consent		
+3.	Approval of Meeting Minutes <i>Francesca Webb, SANDAG</i> +3A. July 23, 2021, Meeting Minutes +3B. September 17, 2021, Joint Transportation, Regional Planning, and Borders Committees Meeting Minutes	Approve
Reports		
+4.	2020 State of the Commute Report <i>Grace Miño, SANDAG</i> An overview on the regional transportation system performance data shown in the 2020 State of the Commute report based on the review and acceptance of the <i>TransNet</i> Independent Taxpayer Oversight Committee, will be presented.	Information
5.	Report from the Consul General of Mexico <i>Hon. Carlos González Gutiérrez, Consulate General of Mexico</i> The Consul General of Mexico in San Diego reports on binational activities within the purview of the Borders Committee. This report will focus on Mexico's border effort to address the COVID-19 pandemic, and to advance the Mesa de Otay II Port of Entry project.	Information

- | | | |
|----|---|-------------|
| 6. | Mission Resource Conservation District Wildfire Prevention and Mitigation
<i>Darcy Cook, Mission Resource Conservation District</i>
The Mission Resource Conservation District (MRCD) promotes the conservation of soil, water and other natural resources in the Santa Margarita and San Luis Rey watershed region. Executive Director Cook will introduce MRCD and their collaborative efforts to help prevent and mitigate wildfires in the region. | Information |
| 7. | State Route 94 Multi-use Pathway Feasibility Study
<i>Madai Parra, SANDAG</i>
An overview on an effort to assess the viability of a multi-use pathway along seven miles of State Route 94 between Jamacha Road/Campo Road to the southeastern boundary of the Jamul-Dulzura community, at the California Department of Fish and Wildlife Reservation, will be presented. | Information |
| 8. | Upcoming Meetings
The next Borders Committee meeting is scheduled for Friday, November 19, 2021, at 12:30 p.m. | Information |
| 9. | Adjournment | |

+ next to an item indicates an attachment

October 22, 2021

July 23, 2021, Meeting Minutes

Chair Serge Dedina (South County) called the Borders Committee meeting to order at 12:30 p.m.

Action: Approve

The Borders Committee is asked to approve the minutes from its July 23, 2021, meeting.

1. Public Comments/Communications/Member Comments

Chair Dedina welcomed meeting participants to the Borders Committee meeting.

Chair Dedina announced the important milestone of the Otay Mesa East – Mesa de Otay II Border Crossing project signage of the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between Mexico and the United States.

Chairman Raymond Welch, Southern California Tribal Chairmen's Association (SCTCA), provided an update to the Borders Committee members on various issues including the MOU to regional planning strategies of mutual concern signed by SANDAG and the SCTCA Tribes. Chairman Welch encouraged meeting attendees to attend the Borders Committee meeting on September 24, which lands on California Native American Day.

Consul of Mexico Carlos González Gutiérrez spoke about the collective effort by both governments, massive and successful transborder vaccination campaign in Baja California, Mexico.

Executive Director Carlos Cristiani, World Design Capital, spoke about the 2024 World Design Capital organization being selected to host in the San Diego/Tijuana region. The World Design Capital organization announced a site visit between the end of September and the beginning of October.

Director of Binational Affairs Laura Araujo, Tijuana Innovadora, Committee on Binational Regional Opportunities Member and Co-Chair of World Design Capital Committee, spoke in support of the 2024 World Design Capital selection and compared this designation with winning the Olympics in design and creative industries in our binational region.

Miguel Aguirre, a member of the public, spoke in support of an above-grade Trolley Station and expanding the San Ysidro Trolley terminal.

Director Keith Pezzoli, UC San Diego, spoke in support of the 2024 World Design Capital initiative and announced that the University of California System and other universities are eager to play a role on advancing green infrastructure and equity.

Executive Director Gustavo de la Fuente, Smart Border Coalition, spoke about the Baja Rail (desert rail line) not being in service. The Smart Border Coalition expressed interest in meeting with San Diego Metropolitan Transit Station and receive a full overview/understanding of the Baja Rail amended lease and operating agreement.

Action: Discussion only.

2. Chief Executive Officer's Report (Discussion)

Chair Dedina recognized Chief Executive Officer Hasan Ikhata for his first three years leading SANDAG and thanked him for all the work in implementing a new vision.

Chief Executive Officer Ikhata presented an update on key programs, projects, and agency initiatives; and also provided a brief update on the five priorities of the agency:

- 5 Big Moves
- Mid-Coast Trolley Milestone
- Otay Mesa East – Mesa de Otay II Port of Entry

- Resolution Digital Divide – Social Issue
- Youth Opportunity Passes Pilot Transportation Program

Director Gustavo Dallarda, Caltrans D11, provided a brief update on fatalities in the San Diego region and allocated funding from the Governors' budget toward active transportation. Caltrans is updating the active transportation plan.

Action: Discussion only.

Consent

3. Approval of Meeting Minutes (Approval)

The Borders Committee was asked to approve the minutes from its June 25, 2021, meeting.

Action: Upon a motion by Vice Chair Vivian Moreno (City of San Diego) and a second by Councilmember David Druker (North County Coastal), the Borders Committee approved consent Item No. 3.

The motion passed.

Yes: Chair Dedina, Vice Chair Moreno, Supervisor Joel Anderson (County of San Diego), Councilmember Laura Koval (East County), Councilmember Druker, and Mayor Paul McNamara (North County Inland).

No: None.

Abstain: None.

Absent: Imperial County.

Reports

4. 2020 State of the Commute Report (Information)

This item was moved to a future meeting.

5. Otay Mesa East – Mesa de Otay II Port of Entry Project Updates: Signage of the Memorandum of Understanding Between the State of California, SANDAG, and Mexican Agencies (Information)

Borders Program Manager Hector Vanegas, presented an update on the MOU between the State of California, SANDAG, and Mexican agencies signed on July 28, 2021.

Director Dallarda thanked the Caltrans and SANDAG team for their work and recognized the elected officials from both countries that participated in the signing of the MOU.

Action: Information only.

6. Update on 2021 Bike Anywhere and Tijuaneando en Bici Crossborder Celebration, and Mexico's General Law on Mobility and Road Safety (Information)

Elizabeth Hensley-Chaney and Director Daniel Gómez, Alianza por una Movilidad Activa, provided an overview of activities organized by the crossborder bike community for the SANDAG Bike Anywhere Week, which encouraged anyone to bike anywhere and was held from May 16 to May 22, 2021.

Borders Program Manager Vanegas spoke about continuing to work on the Bayshore Bikeway project to implement cycling across the border and allocation of funding with our federal partners.

Action: Information only.

7. Tijuana-Tecate Interurban Train Project (Information)

Jorge Alvarez Hoth and Project Manager Abel Guzmán, Baja California Expressway, provided an overview of the Tijuana-Tecate Interurban Train project, which proposes to implement a passenger rail line serving an approximately 17-mile corridor through Tijuana in its first phase.

Vice Chair Moreno spoke in support of the project and looks forward to seeing the Tijuana-Tecate Interurban Train Project come to fruition.

Director Gómez, Alianza por una Movilidad Activa, asked if the Tijuana-Tecate Interurban Train will provide accessibility, economical fares and allow passengers to board train with bikes when riding public transportation.

Action: Information only.

8. Upcoming Meetings (Information)

The next Borders Committee meeting is scheduled for Friday, September 24, 2021, at 12:30 p.m.

9. Adjournment

Chair Dedina adjourned the meeting at 2:19 p.m.

Attendance at SANDAG Borders Committee Meeting

July 23, 2021

Jurisdiction	Name	Member/ Alternate	Attended
South County	Serge Dedina, Chair	Member	Yes
	Bill Sandke	Alternate	Yes
East County	Laura Koval	Member	Yes
	Jack Shu	Alternate	No
City of San Diego	Vivian Moreno, Vice Chair	Member	Yes
	Sean Elo-Rivera	Alternate	No
County of San Diego	Joel Anderson	Member	Yes
	Nora Vargas	Alternate	No
Imperial County	Jesus Eduardo Escobar	Member	Yes
	Luis Plancarte	Alternate	No
North County Coastal	Dave Druker	Member	Yes
	Ryan Keim	Alternate	No
North County Inland	Paul McNamara	Member	Yes
	John Mullin	Alternate	No
Advisory Members			
Riverside County	Crystal Ruiz	Member	No
	Yxstian Gutierrez	Alternate	No
Republic of Mexico	Carlos González Gutiérrez	Member	Yes
	Mario Figueroa/Natalia Figueroa	Alternate	Yes
Southern California Tribal Chairmen's Association	Raymond Welch	Member	Yes
	Cody Martinez	Alternate	No
Caltrans	Gustavo Dallarda	Member	Yes
	Ann Fox	Alternate	No
	Mario Orso	Alternate	Yes
San Diego County Water Authority	Elsa Saxod	Member	Yes
	Jose Preciado	Alternate	No
Southern California Association of Governments	Naresh Amatya	Member	No
	David C. Salgado	Alternate	No
Orange County	Jim Ferryman	Member	No
	Jim Dahl	Alternate	No

October 22, 2021

September 17, 2021, Joint Meeting of the Transportation, Regional Planning, and Borders Committees Meeting Minutes

Chair Nora Vargas (County of San Diego) called the joint meeting of the Transportation, Regional Planning, and Borders Committees to order at 9 a.m.

Action: Approve

The Borders Committee is asked to approve the minutes from its September 17, 2021, meeting.

1. Public Comments/Communications/ Member Comments

Dr. Tim Bilash, member of the public, inquired about SANDAG Committees related to infrastructure and water quality.

Ann Fox, Caltrans, provided an update on Caltrans programs and projects.

2. Chief Executive Officer's Report (Discussion)

Chief Executive Officer Hasan Ikhata provided an update on key programs, projects, and agency initiatives.

Reports

3. Overview of the Draft Environmental Impact Report for San Diego Forward: The Regional Plan and its Sustainable Communities Strategy (Information)

Senior Regional Planner Keith Greer presented an overview on the draft Environmental Impact Report for San Diego Forward: The 2021 Regional Plan.

Action: Information only.

4. *TransNet* Environmental Mitigation Program: Land Management Grant Program Call for Projects for Tenth Cycle of Grant Funding (Recommend)

Senior Regional Planner Kim Smith and Regional Planner Courtney Pesce presented the item.

Action: Upon a motion by Vice Chair Campillo, and a second by Commissioner Bonelli, the Regional Planning and Transportation Committees recommended that the Board of Directors approve the eligibility, submittal, and evaluation criteria for the next call for projects of the *TransNet* Environmental Mitigation Program Land Management Grants Program.

Yes: Chair Vargas, Vice Chair Campillo, Councilmember Mendoza, Councilmember Montgomery Steppe, Councilmember Zito, Mayor McNamara, Councilmember Edson, Commissioner Bonelli, and Councilmember Sandke.

No: None.

Abstain: None.

Absent: San Diego Regional Airport Authority.

5. Regional Bikeway Program: Program Status, Program Future, and Potential Budget Amendments (Recommend)

Senior Regional Planner Chris Kluth presented the item.

Andy Hanshaw, San Diego Bike Coalition, spoke in support of a funding for a complete bike network.

Randy Torres Van-Vleck, City Heights CDC, spoke in support of the staff recommendation.

Nevo Magnezi, member of the public, spoke in support of the staff recommendation.

Jesse O'Sullivan, member of the public, spoke in support of the staff recommendation.

Noah Harris, Climate Action Campaign, spoke in support of the staff recommendation.

Nicole Burgess, member of the public, spoke in support of the staff recommendation.

Action: Upon a motion by Vice Chair Campillo, and a second by Councilmember Edson, The Transportation Committee recommended the Board of Directors:

- 1) accept \$12.057 million of Active Transportation Program Cycle 5 (ATP) grant funds for Inland Rail Trail Phase 4 (CIP No. 1223095), and authorize the Chief Executive Officer to execute a baseline agreement with the state.
- 2) accept \$4.317 million for Orange Avenue Bikeway (CIP No. 1223087) of Active Transportation Program Cycle 5 (ATP) grant funds.
- 3) approve an amendment to the FY 2022 Program Budget, adding \$18.6 million to Regional Bikeway projects in substantially the same form as show in Attachment 4.

Yes: Chair Vargas, Vice Chair Campillo, Councilmember Mendoza, Councilmember Montgomery Steppe, Councilmember Zito, Mayor McNamara, Councilmember Edson, Commissioner Bonelli, and Councilmember Sandke.

No: None.

Abstain: None.

Absent: San Diego Regional Airport Authority.

6. SANDAG Clean Transportation Program Update (Information)

Senior Regional Planner Susan Freedman and Associate Regional Planner Jeff Hoyos presented a status report on clean transportation programs that support the Regional Plan and state directives to transition to zero emission transportation.

Nicole Burgess, member of the public, spoke in support of active transportation.

Carolina, Environmental Health Coalition, spoke in support of transit improvements and in opposition to hydrogen fuel use.

Dr. Bilash spoke regarding commuter congestion in the North and East parts of the county and encouraged the Committee to consider electric vehicle infrastructure in those areas.

Nevo Magnezi encouraged the Committee to support electric bicycle use in addition to electric cars.

Action: Information only.

7. Upcoming Meetings (Information)

The next meeting of the Transportation Committee is scheduled for Friday, October 1, 2021, at 9 a.m.

The next meeting of the Regional Planning Committee is scheduled for Friday, October 1, 2021, at 12:30 p.m.

The next meeting of the Borders Committee is scheduled for Friday, October 22, 2021, at 12:30 p.m.

8. Adjournment

Chair Vargas adjourned the meeting at 11:50 a.m.

Confirmed Attendance at SANDAG Borders Committee Meeting

September 17, 2021

Jurisdiction	Name	Member/ Alternate	Attended
South County	Serge Dedina, Chair	Member	Yes
	Bill Sandke	Alternate	Yes
East County	Laura Koval	Member	?
	Jack Shu	Alternate	?
City of San Diego	Vivian Moreno, Vice Chair	Member	Yes
	Sean Elo-Rivera	Alternate	Yes
County of San Diego	Joel Anderson	Member	Yes
	Nora Vargas	Alternate	Yes
Imperial County	Jesus Eduardo Escobar	Member	?
	Luis Plancarte	Alternate	?
North County Coastal	Dave Druker	Member	?
	Ryan Keim	Alternate	?
North County Inland	Paul McNamara	Member	Yes
	John Mullin	Alternate	?
Advisory Members			
Riverside County	Crystal Ruiz	Member	Yes
	Yxstian Gutierrez	Alternate	No
Republic of Mexico	Carlos González Gutiérrez	Member	No
	Mario Figueroa/Natalia Figueroa	Alternate	No
Southern California Tribal Chairmen's Association	Raymond Welch	Member	Yes
	Cody Martinez	Alternate	No
Caltrans	Gustavo Dallarda	Member	No
	Ann Fox	Alternate	Yes
	Mario Orso	Alternate	No
San Diego County Water Authority	Elsa Saxod	Member	Yes
	Jose Preciado	Alternate	No
Southern California Association of Governments	Naresh Amatya	Member	No
	David C. Salgado	Alternate	No
Orange County	Jim Ferryman	Member	No
	Jim Dahl	Alternate	No

October 22, 2021

2020 State of the Commute Report

Overview

The Borders Committee is asked to review information about the regional transportation system performance data shown in the 2020 State of the Commute report based on the review and acceptance of the *TransNet* Independent Taxpayer Oversight Committee (ITOC). Paragraph 7 of the "Statement of Understanding Regarding the Implementation of the ITOC for the *TransNet* program" of the *TransNet* Extension Ordinance establishes this responsibility as follows:

On an annual basis, review ongoing SANDAG system performance evaluations, including SANDAG's "State of the Commute" report, and provide an independent analysis of information included in that report. This evaluation process is expected to include such factors as level of service measurements by roadway segment and by time of day, throughput in major travel corridors, and travel time comparisons by mode between major trip origins and destinations. Such information will be used as a tool in the RTP development process.

Key Considerations

On May 12, 2021, ITOC reviewed and accepted the completed performance data included in the 2020 State of the Commute InfoBits report. SANDAG staff worked with the ITOC Subcommittee, including ITOC members Chair Michael Kenney, Les Hopper, and Stewart Halpern, who met with SANDAG staff twice to review the draft performance data included in the 2020 State of the Commute report to support ITOC independent analysis as required by the *TransNet* Ordinance. Key data and performance statistics for 2020 were reviewed and initial input was received from the Subcommittee. Staff received ITOC Subcommittee comments, including adding data for *TransNet*-funded projects in the region such as services for seniors, bike counts, and bikeway mileage. SANDAG staff met with the ITOC Subcommittee on April 6, 2021, to review the draft 2020 State of the Commute report and provided updates to feedback that was received. SANDAG staff will continue to work with the Subcommittee to incorporate revisions into future State of the Commute reports.

Next Steps

Staff will begin developing the 2021 State of the Commute Report in fall 2021 and will return to the ITOC for review in spring 2022.

Cynthia Burke, Director of Research and Program Management

Key Staff Contact: Grace Miño, (619) 699-6913, grace.mino@sandag.org

Attachment: 1. 2020 State of the Commute Report

Action: **Information**

An overview on the regional transportation system performance data shown in the 2020 State of the Commute report based on the review and acceptance of the *TransNet* Independent Taxpayer Oversight Committee, will be presented.

Fiscal Impact:

Development of the annual State of the Commute report is approximately \$90,000, funded through Overall Work Program Project No. 3311700.

Schedule/Scope Impact:

The State of the Commute report provides transportation performance monitoring and reporting to be used as a tool in the development of Regional Transportation Plans. The Independent Analysis Subcommittee is anticipated to begin working with staff on the next annual State of the Commute beginning in summer 2021.

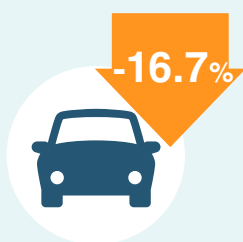
May 2021

TransNet is the half-cent sales tax for local transportation projects that was first approved by voters in 1988, and extended in 2004 for another 40 years. The funding collected through *TransNet* have been distributed to local agency grants; environmental projects; and highway, transit, and bikeway projects. The *TransNet* Ordinance states that one of the responsibilities of the Independent TransNet Oversight Committee (ITOC) is: "On an annual basis, review ongoing SANDAG system performance evaluations, including SANDAG's 'State of the Commute' report, and provide an independent analysis of information included in that report. This evaluation process is expected to include such factors as level of service measurements by roadway segment and by time of day, throughput in major travel corridors, and travel time comparisons by mode between major trip origins and destinations. Such information will be used as a tool in the Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) development process."

This 13th annual 2020 State of the Commute report fulfills this mandate in the *TransNet* ordinance. The pandemic and stay home order issued on March 19, 2020, had a significant impact on society, including how people traveled across the region. As described in this InfoBits report, the number of vehicle miles traveled on our highways, highway and transit commute times, and transit ridership were all down significantly in 2020, similar to other large cities across the nation, but bicycle ridership was up. As the pandemic continues in 2021, SANDAG will continue to monitor these data trends in partnership with the *TransNet* Independent Taxpayer Oversight Committee.

Summary

Overall 2020 Commute Trends



Peak period highway travel was **down -16.7%**



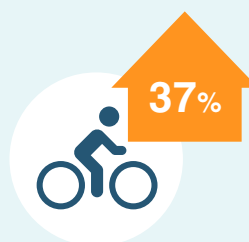
Highway travel times on all **25 major commute corridors** were down



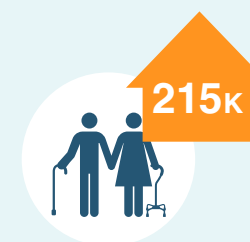
Transit travel times were **down on 14 of the 16 routes**



Ridership on transit in 2020 **dropped considerably (-59%)**, from 2019



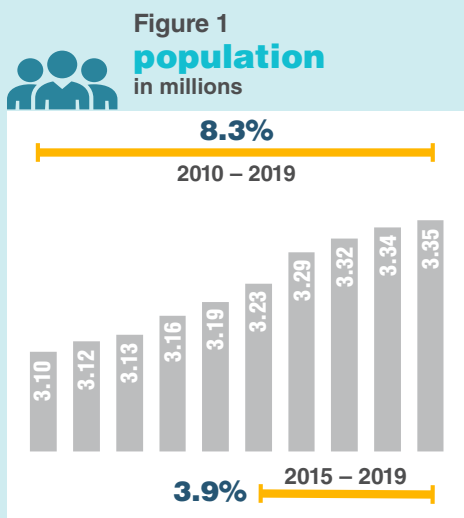
Bike activity across eight bike routes **increased 37%**



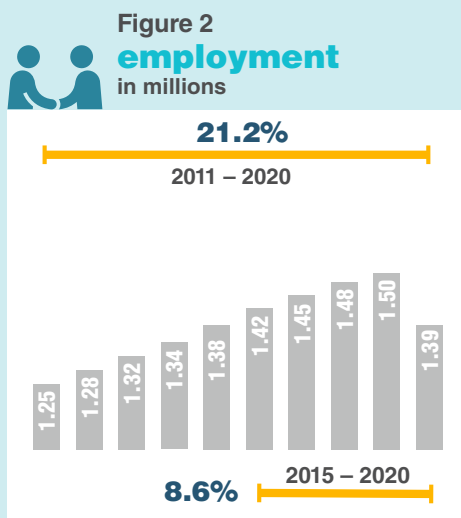
215,000 one way passenger trips through the Senior Mini Grant program

Regional Transportation Performance

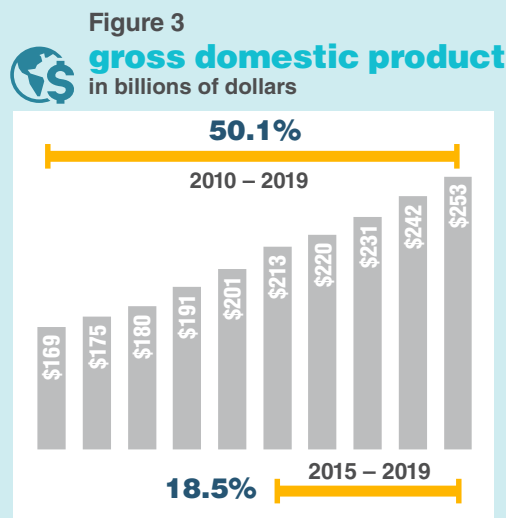
This report provides a high-level summary of performance trends for the regional transportation system in 2020, including highway and transit use and travel times, as well as transit performance. Before the transportation performance data are presented, it is helpful to consider how the region has changed during the past ten years in terms of population, employment, and gross domestic product. As Figures 1 through 3 show, since 2010, the region's population has grown 8.3% (through 2019, the most recent SANDAG estimate available) and the gross domestic product has grown 50.1%. Employment numbers have grown 21.2%, between 2011 and 2020, but dropped by 7.8% from 2019 to 2020, as has been described in other recent SANDAG reports.



Source: Population Estimates, SANDAG



Source: California Employment Development Department

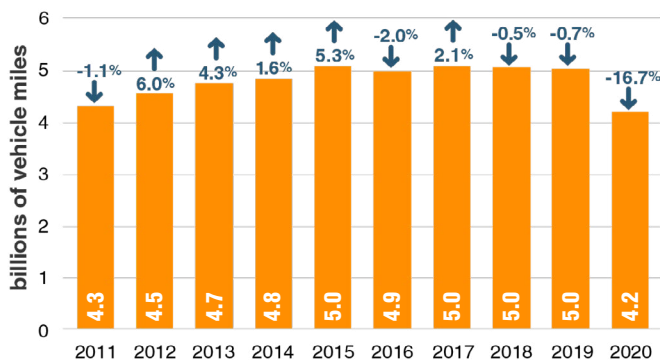


Source: U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis

NOTE: 2020 data for Figures 1 and 3 were not available at the time this InfoBits report was produced.

Travel on the regional highways during peak periods* fell for the third year in a row, with a dramatic decrease (-16.7%) in 2020, to just over 4.2 billion vehicle miles, as would be expected due to changes in travel patterns as a result of the pandemic (Figure 4).

Figure 4
Peak Period Highway Travel



*Peak periods are weekdays from 6–10 a.m. and from 3–7 p.m.
Source: Performance Measurement System (PeMS), Caltrans

NEW

TransNet funds specialized transportation services for seniors age 60 and older through the Senior Mini Grant program. In 2020, SANDAG provided approximately \$1.4 million to grantees who were able to use this funding to leverage other resources and as a result, provide around 215,000 one-way passenger trips. The demand for more funding has grown as measured by the increase in the senior population in our region, the number of grant applications from organizations to provide senior transportation services, and the increase in volume of rides provided.



2020 Highway and transit travel times on major commute corridors

As this map shows, all 25 highway corridors had a decrease in travel times from 2019 to 2020 (ranging from 2 to 30 minutes).

For the 16 transit routes with data for both 2019 and 2020, 2 had no change, and 14 decreased (ranging from 1 to 35 minutes).

Consistent with the decrease in highway commute times, bus commute times decreased to a greater degree than rail commute times, which is not surprising given the fewer number of vehicles on the road during 2020.

Highway travel
Average highway travel times departing at 8 a.m. and 5 p.m.
Travel times reflect weekday travel on all Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays throughout the calendar year.



Transit travel
Average transit travel times are based on peak period travel times from January to June 2020.

a.m. peak period is 6–9 a.m.
p.m. peak period is 3–6 p.m.

NOTE: The number in parentheses represents the change in minutes from 2019 to 2020. Not applicable (N/A) is shown if route had no data collected in 2020 due to the pandemic.

Source: Highway Travel Times - PeMS, Caltrans;
Transit Travel Times - SANDAG Passenger Counting Program, MTS, NCTD



After an increase from 2018 to 2019, regional transit ridership decreased 59%, from 2019 to 2020, with only 136,000 average weekday boardings in 2020 compared to 335,000 in 2019 (Figure 5). Transit travel also decreased to around 820,000 passenger miles (from 1.73 million in 2019) (Figure 6). The modest growth in ridership and relatively stable service levels (in revenue miles) in recent years, also came to a halt in 2020 (Figure 7) and transit productivity decreased from 3.38 to 1.82 passengers per revenue mile in 2020 (Figure 8). Ridership decreased on all four of the major rail routes from 2019 to 2020 (Table 1). Ridership on all ten major bus routes in the region also decreased in 2020 (Table 2).

Figure 5
Average Weekday Transit Ridership

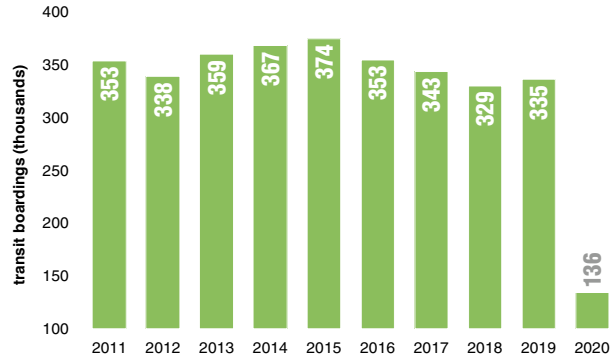


Figure 6
Average Weekday Transit Passenger Miles

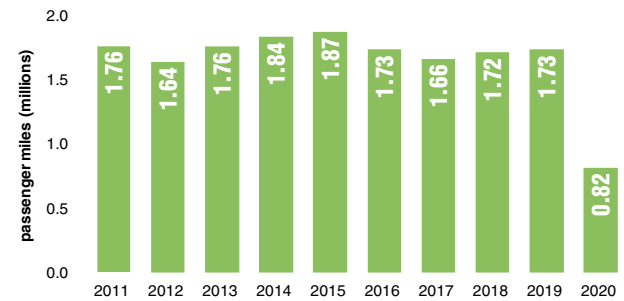


Figure 7
Average Weekday Transit Revenue Miles

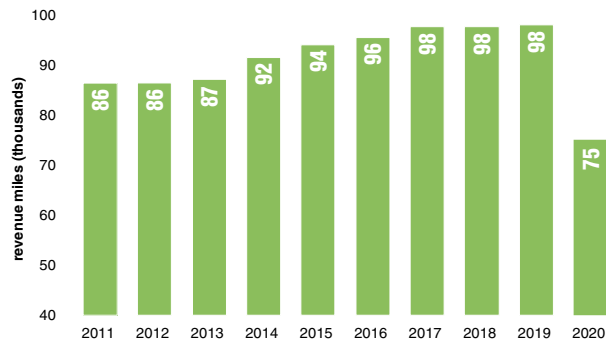


Figure 8
Average Weekday Transit Passengers per Revenue Mile

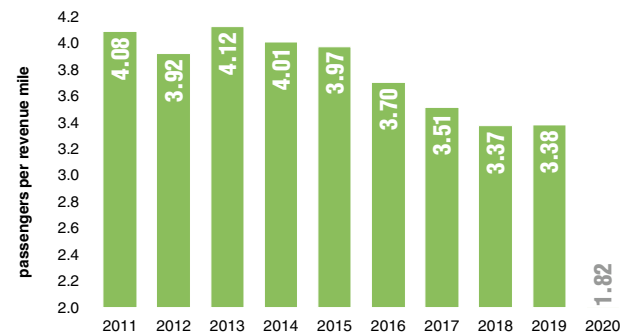


Table 1
Rail Routes by Ridership

2020 Rank	Route	Route Description	Transit Mode	2019 Avg. Daily Passengers	2020 Avg. Daily Passengers
1	UC San Diego Blue Line Trolley	America Plaza to San Ysidro	Light Rail	57,916	24,410
2	Sycuan Green Line Trolley	Santee to Downtown SD / 12th & Imperial via La Mesa / Mission Valley	Light Rail	31,042	11,704
3	Orange Line Trolley	El Cajon to Downtown SD / America Plaza via Southeastern Communities	Light Rail	25,802	11,322
4	SPRINTER	Oceanside to Escondido	Light Rail	8,555	4,844
5	COASTER	Oceanside to Downtown San Diego	Commuter Rail	5,092	N/A

Table 2
Top 10 Bus Routes by Ridership

2020 Rank	Route	Route Description	Transit Mode	2019 Avg. Daily Passengers	2020 Avg. Daily Passengers
1	7	La Mesa to Downtown	Local Bus	6,831	3,126
2	929	Downtown San Diego to Iris Avenue Trolley	Local Bus	7,524	2,957
3	Rapid 215	SDSU to Downtown	Rapid Bus	6,556	2,679
4	13	Kaiser Hospital / Grantville Trolley to 24th Street Trolley	Local Bus	6,852	2,598
5	3	UCSD Medical Center / Hillcrest to Euclid Trolley	Local Bus	5,924	2,080
6	1	Fashion Valley to La Mesa	Local Bus	4,140	1,795
7	955	SDSU Transit Center to 8th Street Trolley	Local Bus	5,028	1,794
8	10	University & College to Old Town Transit Center	Local Bus	4,131	1,582
9	932	8th Street Trolley to San Ysidro	Local Bus	4,217	1,386
10	30	UTC / VA Medical Center to Downtown	Local Bus	5,581	1,322

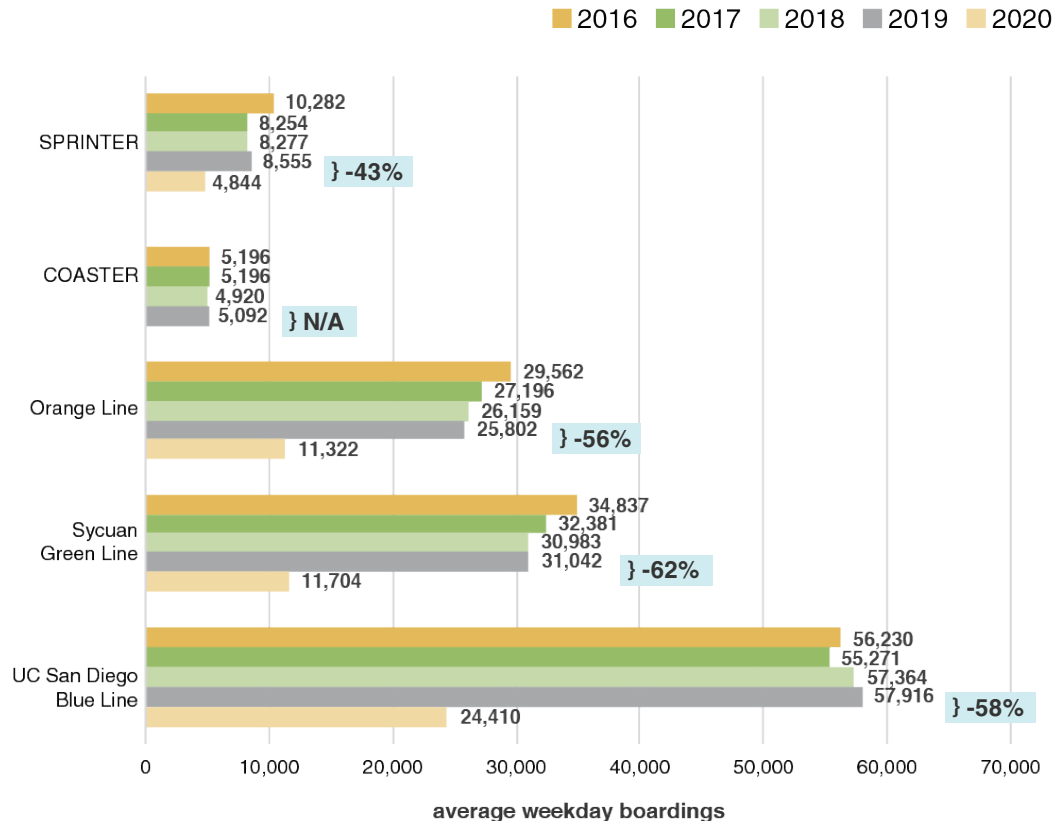
Source: SANDAG Passenger Counting Program, MTS, NCTD

NOTE: SPRINTER data represents average weekday ridership between Oct. 2019 - Oct. 2020, and does not provide true impact of COVID on SPRINTER.

NOTE: Average daily passenger data unavailable because no in-person data collection was conducted due to the pandemic.

Figure 9
Regional Rail Transit Ridership

Our region's rail transit experienced large decreases from 2019 to 2020 for the three most frequently used lines (Sycuan Green Line down 62%, UC San Diego Blue Line down 58%, and Orange Line down 56%). The SPRINTER also had a decrease of 43% (Figure 9).

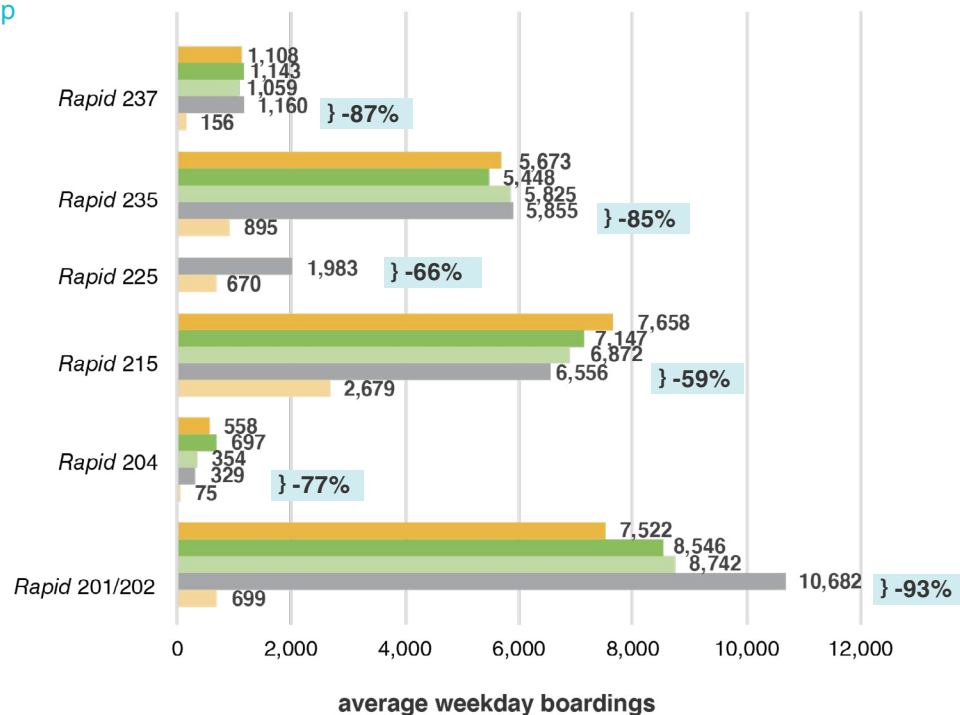


NOTE: Average daily passenger data unavailable for COASTER in 2020 due to COVID-19 pandemic.

NOTE: The UC San Diego Blue Line runs from San Ysidro to America Plaza Downtown, the Sycuan Green Line from Santee to 12th Street and Imperial, and the Orange Line from El Cajon to Courthouse Station Downtown.

Figure 10
Regional Bus Transit Ridership

All six bus routes monitored for this report had significant decreases, ranging from 59% to 93%, with the Rapid 201/202 (UTC to UC San Diego) having the most significant drop.



NOTE: The SuperLoop Rapid 201/202 connects the UTC Transit Center to UC San Diego, La Jolla Village Square, and other locations. The SuperLoop Rapid 204 connects the UTC Transit Center to the Nobel Athletic Area and employers east of Genessee. The Rapid 215 connects SDSU to Downtown. The Rapid 225 connects East Palomar Station to Downtown (Rapid 225 began on January 27, 2019, data prior to 2019 were not applicable). The Rapid 235 connects the Escondido Transit Center to Downtown. The Rapid 237 connects Miramar College to UC San Diego via Mira Mesa Boulevard.

In addition to average weekday boardings, two other performance measures for bus transit include the average number of passengers per hour on weekdays (Table 3) and the percent of seats occupied on these bus routes (also known as load factor) (Table 4). As Table 3 shows, the average number of weekday passengers per hours across the six lines varied from 5 (*Rapid 204* and *Rapid 237*) to 20 (*Rapid 215*), with a total of 63 in 2020, compared to 271 in 2019, a one-year decrease of 77%. Similar to the data presented in Figure 10, the *Rapid 201/202* saw the largest one-year decrease and the *Rapid 215* saw the smallest. In terms of percent of seats occupied on these bus routes (Table 4), there was a 62% decrease overall, to 9% occupied in 2020, compared to 24% in 2019. The *Rapid 201/202* and *Rapid 204* had the smallest transit load factor in 2020 (both 4%) and the *Rapid 235* had the highest (18%).

Table 3
Regional Bus Transit Productivity – *TransNet* Program

	2016	2019	2020	1 Year Change	5 Year Change
<i>Rapid 201/202</i>	129	147	15	-90%	-88%
<i>Rapid 204</i>	20	20	5	-75%	-74%
<i>Rapid 215</i>	41	35	20	-44%	-52%
<i>Rapid 225</i>	--	15	8	-46%	--
<i>Rapid 235</i>	31	28	10	-64%	-68%
<i>Rapid 237</i>	22	26	5	-81%	-77%
Total	242	271	63	-77%	-74%

Table 4
Regional Bus Transit Load Factor – *TransNet* Program (All Day)

	2016	2019	2020	1 Year Change	5 Year Change
<i>Rapid 201/202</i>	27%	28%	4%	-85%	-84%
<i>Rapid 204</i>	16%	15%	4%	-71%	-72%
<i>Rapid 215</i>	26%	22%	12%	-46%	-53%
<i>Rapid 225</i>	--	19%	10%	-45%	--
<i>Rapid 235</i>	38%	34%	18%	-47%	-53%
<i>Rapid 237</i>	20%	29%	7%	-75%	-64%
Average	25%	24%	9%	-62%	-63%

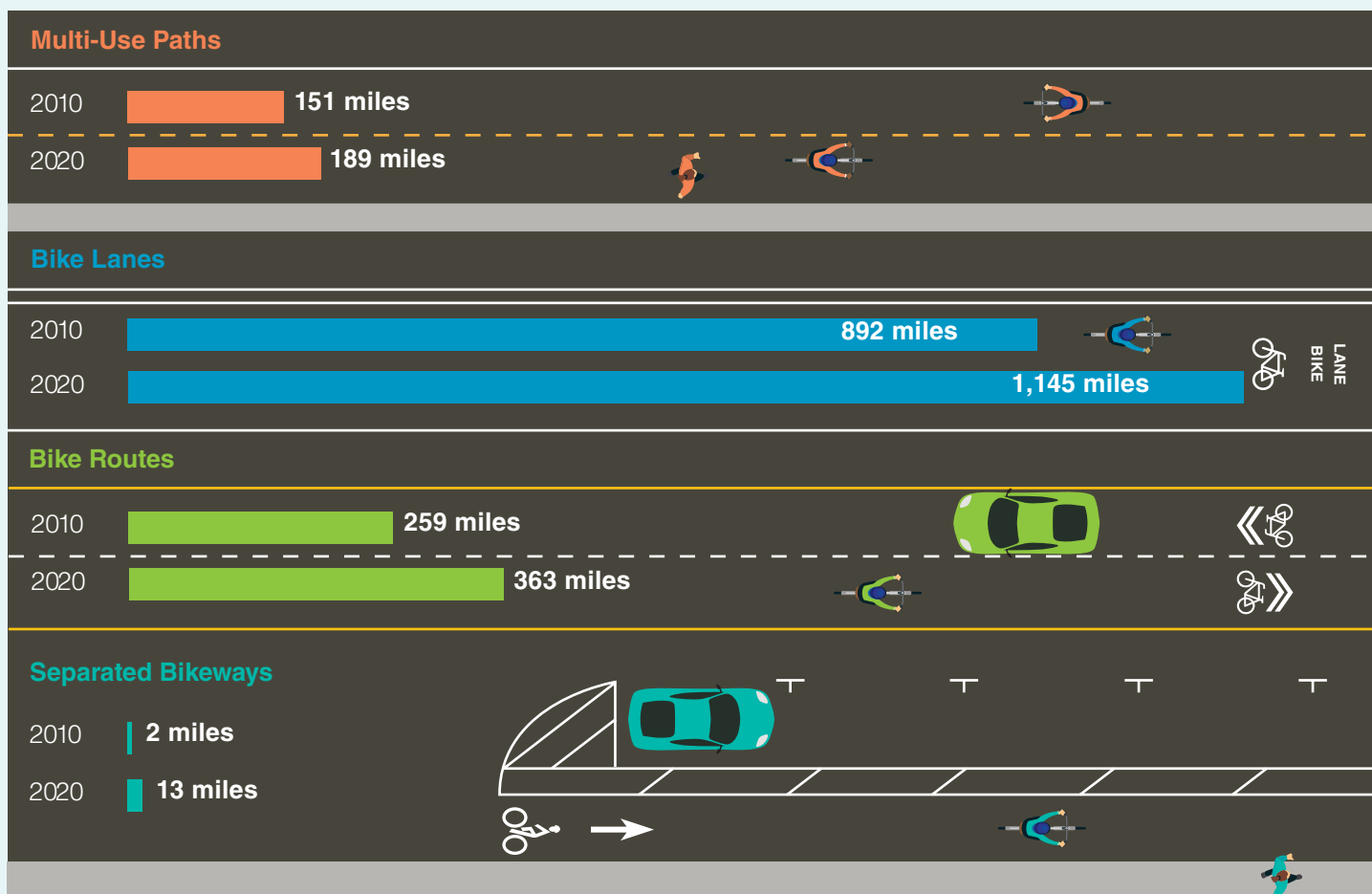
Source: SANDAG Passenger Counting Program, MTS, NCTD

NOTE: The SuperLoop *Rapid 201/202* connects the UTC Transit Center to UCSD, La Jolla Village Square, and other locations. The SuperLoop *Rapid 204* connects the UTC Transit Center to the Nobel Athletic Area and employers east of Genessee. The *Rapid 215* connects SDSU to Downtown. The *Rapid 225* connects East Palomar Station to Downtown (*Rapid 225* began on January 27, 2019, data prior to 2019 were not applicable). The *Rapid 235* connects the Escondido Transit Center to Downtown. The *Rapid 237* connects Miramar College to UC San Diego via Mira Mesa Boulevard.

TransNet has also funded key segments of the San Diego Regional Bike Network, with several projects that are in the planning, environmental, or construction phases, which will help improve connectivity throughout the region and create safer and more inviting environments for everyone. With the SANDAG Board of Directors approving the Regional Bike Plan in 2011, SANDAG has focused on providing a diverse system of interconnected bicycle corridors, support facilities, and programs to make biking more practical and desirable to a broader range of people in our region. SANDAG and local agency partners implemented more than 400 miles of bikeways since 2010, often with *TransNet* funds. This is a 31% increase in the total centerline regional bikeways mileage from a 2010 baseline as shown in Figure 11.

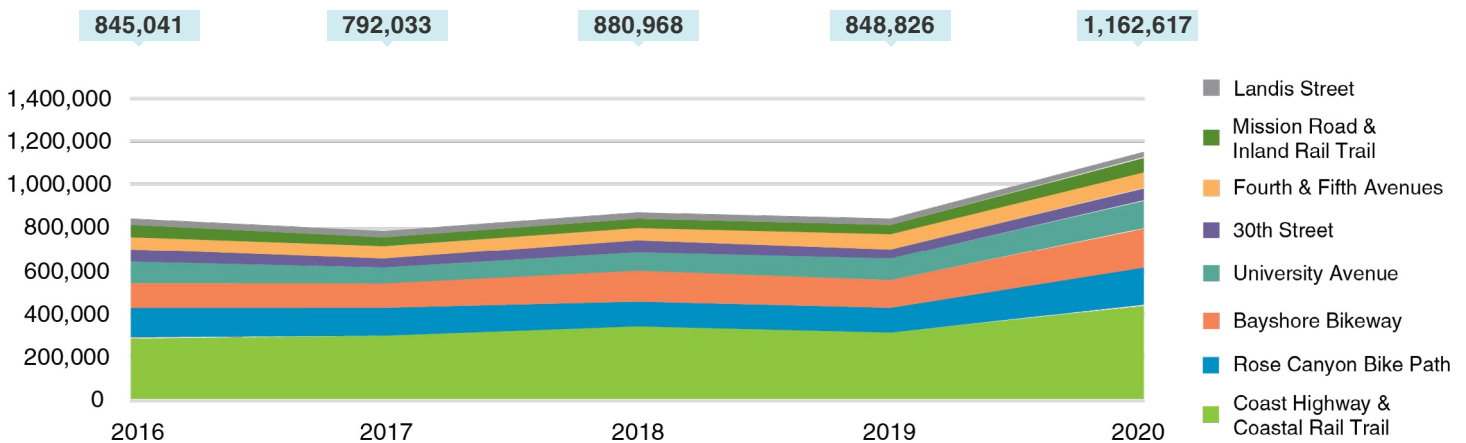
There are 4 main bikeway types or “classes” present in the San Diego region, they are codified in the [California Vehicle Code 890.4](#). A Class 1 **Multi-Use Path** provides completely separated right-of-way designated for the exclusive use of bicycles and pedestrians. Class 2 **Bike Lanes** provide a restricted right-of-way designated for the exclusive or semi-exclusive use of bicycles with travel by motor vehicles or pedestrians prohibited. A Class 3 **Bike Route** provides a right-of-way on-street designated by signs or permanent markings and is shared with pedestrians and motorists. The Class 4 **Separated Bikeway** is a hybrid type bicycle facility that combines the experience of a separated path with the on-street infrastructure of a conventional bike lane providing a right-of-way designated exclusively for bicycle travel adjacent to a roadway and separated from vehicular traffic.

NEW
Figure 11
Regional Bikeways Mileage



Data across bike routes tracked by SANDAG show an upward trend in the number of bike trips on the Regional Bike Network. In 2020, bike activity counted across the eight routes increased 37% from 2019, likely due in part to people's travel patterns as a result of the pandemic (Figure 12).

NEW
Figure 12
Regional Bike Counts



Source: SANDAG Eco-Counters
NOTE: For more information please see [Bike Riding in the San Diego Region Since COVID-19 InfoBits](#).

About infobits

SANDAG serves as the San Diego region's clearinghouse for information and data. Infobits publish timely, relevant information as well as provide context on complex issues facing the region.

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