

May 12, 2026

To: San Diego Mayor Todd Gloria, City Council Members:

SUBJECT: Climate Advisory Board Support for Mobility Board's Response to Mayor's Proposed FY27 Budget

The Climate Advisory Board supports the letter submitted by the Mobility Board on May 6, 2026 titled: "FY 2027 Draft Budget – Mobility Board Response to Mayor's Proposed Budget and Priorities for Council Consideration"

This support is based on the negative impact the proposed budget will have to the following Climate Action Plan (CAP) actions:

- **MLU-3.1a:** Develop Safe Routes to Schools safety plans; start a San Diego Safe Routes to Schools program focusing on Communities of Concern and underperforming schools.
- **MLU-3.1-SA1:** Adopt City portions of SANDAG's forthcoming first mile/last mile initiative and incorporate Safe Routes to Transit strategies in Transit Priority Areas
- **MLU-3.1c:** Implement the City's Bicycle Master Plan and community plan bicycle networks with a Class IV First approach.
- **MLU-3.1-SA7:** Implement the Mobility Master Plan
- **MLU-3.1-SA8:** Create a quick build policy and design guidelines to facilitate repurposing of the right-of-way or installation of interim or pilot bicycle, ADA accessibility, or pedestrian projects
- **MLU-3.1-SA9:** Examine proposed bike and pedestrian projects and use "quick-build" pathways where appropriate to increase financial viability
- **MLU-3.1-SA10:** Identify and address gaps in the City's pedestrian network and opportunities for improved pedestrian crossing, using the City's Pedestrian Master Plan and the City's sidewalk assessment
- **MLU-3.1-SA13:** Update street planning and design process with a focus on community input from Communities of Concern to prioritize pedestrians, bicyclists, and transit
- **MLU-3.1-SA21:** Implement the City's San Diego River Park Master Plan to increase mobility
- **MLU-3.1-SA22:** Where roadway widenings are otherwise planned, identify opportunities to repurpose the use of the right-of-way for walking, rolling, biking, and transit modes of travel
- **MLU-3.1-SA23:** Ensure that Capital Improvement Projects comply with all applicable landscape requirements in the Land Development Code
- **MLU-3.1-SA24:** Engage communities during the community plan updates and other multimodal corridors and active transportation planning processes to better accommodate all users of the right-of-way with an emphasis on improving safety for vulnerable users
- **MLU-3.2b:** Create a quick build policy and design guidelines to facilitate repurposing of the right-of-way or installation of interim or pilot transit projects
- **MLU-3.2-SA3:** Identify transit stops where upgrades are needed, especially in Communities of Concern, and streamline implementation of upgrades to high priority transit stops

- **MLU-3.2-SA4:** Support MTS, SANDAG and Caltrans in the creation of transit right-of-way for regional transit connections
- **MLU-3.2e:** Develop dedicated bus lanes or shared bus and bike lanes to increase transit efficiency and on-time performance
- **MLU-3.4:** Reduce Traffic Congestion to Improve Air Quality
- **MLU-3.4a:** Install traffic circles and roundabouts
- **MLU-3.4-SA2:** Work with communities to implement comprehensive solutions for the curb space
- **MLU-3.5-SA2:** Implement temporary and permanent car-free zones/zero emission zones
- **MLU-3.6a:** Optimize use of curb space including management of on-street parking in TPAs

In light of these impacts to the CAP, the Climate Advisory Board supports the Mobility Board requests that the City Council **consider the following specific actions:**

- Preserve the Multimodal Team
- Preserve the Senior Traffic Engineer position in City Planning's Mobility Planning section.
- Restore the Climate Equity Fund CIP allocation to enable equity focused mobility investments in communities of concern.
- Fund implementation of AB 43 School Zone Speed Reductions.
- Report on the status of the daylighting/AB 413 program and ensure it is adequately resourced in FY27.

The Climate Advisory Board recognizes that the Mayor and Council face difficult choices in a challenging fiscal year. As noted in the Mobility Board's letter, **disinvestment in safety work saves money today and costs far more tomorrow**. The cuts and omissions identified in the Mobility Board's letter defer costs rather than eliminate them, and they put lives at risk in the process. In our role to advise City Council on issues of climate action, we believe these specific modifications represent important steps the City can take to protect its long-term investments in safety, connectivity, and equity.

Thank you, Mayor Gloria and honorable Council Members, for your continued leadership on behalf of all San Diegans.

Sincerely,

Tanisha-Jean Martin
Chair, Climate Advisory Board