

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE Thursday, January 7, 2021 CONTACT: Lisa Schmidt 619-210-9499 Imschmidt@sandiego.gov

SANDAG'S Regional Plan Working Group Prioritizes Equity for Transportation Planning

SAN DIEGO – Today, the newly named Social Equity Working Group, formerly known as the Community-Based Organization Working Group, discussed drafts of the first equity statement for the San Diego Association of Governments (SANDAG) and the first equity framework for inclusion in the new regional transportation plan.

"Transportation is a gateway to opportunity, education and jobs; and this new social equity statement and framework are excellent first steps in centering equity in transportation planning in our region," said Councilmember Vivian Moreno, Chair of SANDAG's Social Equity Working Group. "In the past, transportation planners ignored the needs and quality of life of low-income neighborhoods and people of color. With these actions, SANDAG has demonstrated its commitment to inclusion and accessibility for all our communities."

SANDAG will be the first regional planning agency to formally adopt an equity statement and include an equity framework as part of its regional transportation plan. The equity statement will be presented to the SANDAG Board on January 22, 2021. The 2021 Regional Plan continues to be developed and is expected to be released in the Spring with continuous outreach to the state and regional stakeholders.

The Working Group provides a collaborative open and public forum for the various communitybased organizations in the County and SANDAG to provide ongoing public input from disadvantaged or underrepresented communities in the region into key activities associated with developing San Diego Forward: the 2021 Regional Plan and related planning activities with a focus on the social equity perspective.

Additional information on the Working Group and today's actions can be found here.

Councilmember Vivian Moreno represents the Eighth Council District of the City of San Diego, which includes the communities of Barrio Logan, Egger Highlands, Grant Hill, Logan Heights, Memorial, Nestor, Ocean View Hills, Otay Mesa, San Ysidro, Shelltown, Sherman Heights, Stockton and the Tijuana River Valley.