

City of San Diego

Weekly Immigrant Affairs Update

On Nov. 15, President Biden signed the [Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act](#) into law. Here's an [overview](#) of what's included, and how it impacts [California](#).

On Nov. 19, the House of Representatives passed the Build Back Better bill, now with the Senate. Here's an [overview](#), and how it impacts [immigration](#).

The [Occupational Safety and Health Administration's new Emergency Temporary Standard](#) requires covered businesses with 100 or more employees to ensure every worker is fully vaccinated – with paid time to get the vaccine – unless they require unvaccinated employees to undergo weekly testing and wear masks.

CITY PROGRAMS, SERVICES, & UPDATES

- The World Design Organization (WDO) [announced](#) that San Diego and Tijuana have been selected as the 2024 World Design Capital. The selection of [San Diego and Tijuana's joint bid](#) makes it the first binational World Design Capital.
- Following a [citywide expansion of public Wi-Fi](#) and a successful shift to remote work amid a pandemic, the City of San Diego won the No. 2 ranking in the [2021 Digital Cities Survey](#) that recognizes cities utilizing technology to tackle social problems, enhance services, strengthen cybersecurity and more.
- The City of San Diego released its [updated Climate Action Plan \(CAP\) draft](#) seeking feedback from people who live and work in our region. This new draft CAP builds upon the [2015 Climate Action Plan](#) and sets an ambitious goal to achieve net zero greenhouse gas emissions by 2035.
- Mayor Gloria announced the formation of the new Military, Veteran and Families Advisory Council. Read more [here](#).

NEW DATA, REPORTS, & PODCASTS

- In examining how immigrant-dense metro areas fared during and after the Great Recession, [New American Economy found that](#) these areas were able to recover more quickly than areas with fewer immigrants, even if in many cases they experienced larger employment losses during the recession. These findings support the notion that immigrant-inclusive policy initiatives may soften the economic blow from recessions and help immigrants recover more quickly.
- A new Migration Policy Institute "Spotlight" provides detailed information on [new naturalized citizens in the United States](#), including historical trends, characteristics of naturalized citizens, and the population potentially eligible for naturalization. More than 613,700 immigrants naturalized during fiscal year 2020, fewer than at any other point in the last decade. This decline may be partly due to impacts of COVID-19, including delayed oath ceremonies.

FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

- The San Diego Workforce Partnership has announced two [RFPs to provide employment services in San Diego County](#) through their career centers. Proposals are due December 10.

ANNOUNCEMENTS & COMMUNITY OPPORTUNITIES

- [East County Housing Forum](#) (Dec. 2, 4 pm) for housing service providers to learn about the refugee resettlement process.
- County Afghan Task Force Meeting (Dec. 6, 1-3 pm) to convene organizations, cities, and other groups providing support to Afghan arrivals in San Diego. See flyer attached to email.
- [New Asylee Orientation](#) (Dec. 7, 10 am-12:30 pm).
- If you are a mental health provider in San Diego equipped to provide mental health services to the refugee/newcomer community, please fill out [this survey](#) to help the San Diego Refugee Forum's Mental Health Task Force create a comprehensive map of culturally qualified mental health providers.

If someone at your organization would like to receive this update, you have ideas for improvement, or you no longer wish to receive these updates, please email Farhat Popal, Immigrant Affairs Manager, at FPopal@sandiego.gov.