



Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

Meeting Minutes

**May 8, 2026, 9 a.m.
SANDAG Boardroom
1011 Union Street, First Floor
San Diego, CA 92101**

Voting Members Present: Chair Lesa Heebner (Solana Beach)
Second Vice Chair John Minto (Santee)
Councilmember Kevin Shin (Carlsbad)
Councilmember Carolina Chavez (Chula Vista)
Mayor John Duncan (Coronado)
Councilmember Terry Gaasterland (Del Mar)
Mayor Bruce Ehlers (Encinitas)
Councilmember Judy Fitzgerald (Escondido)
Mayor Mitch McKay (Imperial Beach)
Vice Mayor Lauren Cazares (La Mesa)
Mayor Alysson Snow (Lemon Grove)
Mayor Ron Morrison (National City)
Mayor Esther Sanchez (Oceanside)
Councilmember Christopher Pikus (Poway)
Councilmember Vivian Moreno (City of San Diego - Seat B)
Mayor Rebecca Jones (San Marcos)
Councilmember Corinna Contreras (Vista)
Supervisor Joel Anderson (County of San Diego - Seat B)

Voting Members Absent: First Vice Chair Joe LaCava (City of San Diego - Seat A)
Mayor Bill Wells (El Cajon)
Supervisor Paloma Aguirre (County of San Diego - Seat A)

Others Present: Robin Joy Maxson (Association of Planning Groups)
Jose Marquez (Caltrans)
Barbara del Castillo (Mexico)
Councilmember Jewel Edson (North County Transit District)
James Sly (San Diego County Regional Airport Authority)
Anna Shepherd (U.S. Department of War)

[Meeting Video](#)

1. Call to Order

Chair Heebner called the meeting to order at 9:03 a.m.

2. Non-Agenda Public Comments/Member Comments

Truth, Purita Javier, Cesar Javier, Andrea Ebbing, The Original Dra, Blair Beekman, Paul the Bold, Dr. R. Lee Brown.

Member Comments: Councilmember Pikus, Mayor Sanchez.

Chief Executive Officer Mario Orso presented an update on agency activities.

3. Consent

Public Comments: Truth, Cesar Javier, The Original Dra, Paul the Bold, Consuelo.

Motioned by: Mayor Sanchez

Seconded by: Mayor Snow

to approve Consent Agenda Item Nos. 3.1, 3.2, and 3.4.

For (17): Chair Heebner, Second Vice Chair Minto, Councilmember Shin, Councilmember Chavez, Mayor Duncan, Councilmember Gaasterland, Mayor Wells, Councilmember Fitzgerald, Mayor McKay, Vice Mayor Cazares, Mayor Snow, Mayor Morrison, Mayor Sanchez, Councilmember Pikus, Mayor Jones, Councilmember Contreras, and Supervisor Anderson

Absent (2): Mayor Ehlers, and Councilmember Moreno

The motion passed. (17 to 0)

3.1 Approval of Meeting Minutes

Approved the minutes from its April 24, 2026, meeting.

3.2 Policy Advisory Committee Actions

Ratified the actions taken by the Policy Advisory Committees as noted in the report.

3.4 Review of Draft Board Agendas

Approved the draft agendas for the May 22, 2026, and June 12, 2026, Board of Directors meetings.

3.3 Proposed Waiver of Section 5.8 of Board Policy No. 029

Motioned by: Mayor Sanchez

Seconded by: Mayor Snow

to approve a waiver of Section 5.8 of Board Policy No. 029 to allow amendments to Section 10.2 of the SANDAG Comprehensive Fare Ordinance regarding temporary, promotional, and experimental fares.

Substitute Motion

Motioned by: Mayor Jones

Seconded by: Mayor Ehlers

to approve a waiver of Section 5.8 of Board Policy No. 029 to allow amendments to Section 10.2 of the SANDAG Comprehensive Fare Ordinance regarding temporary, promotional, and experimental fares, and to direct staff to return to the Board within 45 days to present an analysis of the internal controls in place.

For (17): Chair Heebner, Councilmember Shin, Councilmember Chavez, Mayor Duncan, Councilmember Gaasterland, Mayor Ehlers, Councilmember Fitzgerald, Mayor McKay, Vice Mayor Cazares, Mayor Snow, Mayor Morrison, Mayor Sanchez, Councilmember Pikus, Councilmember Moreno, Mayor Jones, Councilmember Contreras, and Supervisor Anderson

Against (1): Second Vice Chair Minto

Absent (1): Mayor Wells

The motion passed. (17 to 1)

5. Proposed FY 2026 Program Budget Amendment: Downtown to Imperial Avenue Bikeway Project*

Senior Director of Capital Delivery Clint Peace, Director of Engineering and Construction David Cortez, Principal Engineer Omar Atayee, and Director of Financial Planning, Budgets & Grants Susan Huntington presented the item.

Public Comments: Truth, Cesar Javier, Consuelo, Ian Hembry, Chris Roberts, Paul the Bold, Aria Grossman, Paul Jamason, Guthre Leonard, Jason B.

Motioned by: Councilmember Contreras

Seconded by: Councilmember Moreno

to approve an amendment to the FY 2026 Program Budget for the Downtown to Imperial Avenue Bikeway Project (Capital Improvement Program Project No. 1223058), increasing the total project budget by \$3,077,293.

For (18): Chair Heebner, Second Vice Chair Minto, Councilmember Shin, Councilmember Chavez, Mayor Duncan, Councilmember Gaasterland, Mayor Ehlers, Councilmember Fitzgerald, Mayor McKay, Vice Mayor Cazares, Mayor Snow, Mayor Morrison, Mayor Sanchez, Councilmember Pikus, Councilmember Moreno, Mayor Jones, Councilmember Contreras, and Supervisor Anderson

Absent (1): Mayor Wells

The motion passed. (18 to 0)

4. Proposed Final FY 2027 Program Budget*

Susan Huntington presented the item.

Public Comments: Truth, Raphael Lagoc, Maria Cortez, Guadalupe Rojas, Consuelo, Paul the Bold, Ian Hembry, Aanar Salayev, Denisse Lopez, Guthrie Leonard, Paul Jamason, Aria Grossman.

Motioned by: Mayor Ehlers

Seconded by: Second Vice Chair Minto

to adopt Regional Transportation Commission Resolution No. RTC-2026-05, adopting the final FY 2027 Program Budget.

For (15): Chair Heebner, Second Vice Chair Minto, Councilmember Shin, Councilmember Chavez, Councilmember Gaasterland, Mayor Ehlers, Councilmember Fitzgerald, Mayor McKay, Vice Mayor Cazares, Mayor Snow, Mayor Morrison, Mayor Sanchez, Councilmember Pikus, Mayor Jones, and Councilmember Contreras

Absent (4): Mayor Duncan, Mayor Wells, Councilmember Moreno, and Supervisor Anderson

The motion passed. (15 to 0)

6. Adjournment

The next Board of Directors meeting is scheduled for May 22, 2026, at 9 a.m.

Chair Heebner adjourned the meeting at 12:27 p.m.