SANDAG

Competitive Grant Programs

SANDAG allocates millions of dollars each year in local, state, and federal funds through several competitive grant programs. Grants awarded range from infrastructure projects to habitat management and monitoring efforts to specialized transportation services for older adults and disabled populations. While each individual grant program maintains a particular focus, all work together to enhance our region's quality of life. Learn more about our programs at https://www.sandag.org/funding/grant-programs.









Smart Growth Incentive Program (SGIP)

The SGIP supports transportation investments that create more compact, walkable, bikeable, and transit-oriented communities. Specifically, the SGIP provides funding to local governments (the 18 cities and the County of San Diego) to support transportation-related infrastructure improvements and planning efforts that promote smart growth development. Example planning projects include area specific or corridor master plans, community plan updates, and planning studies for future transportation infrastructure improvements. Example capital projects include streetscape enhancements, complete streets implementation, and pedestrian and bicycle infrastructure improvements.

EMP Land Management Grant Program (EMP LMG)

The EMP LMG provides land managers with funding to help maintain and enhance native habitats within regional habitat preserves as well as protect endangered species. Eligible applicants include land managers from private nonprofit organizations, local jurisdictions, and other government agencies. Example land management projects include habitat restoration, fencing and signage to protect native species, and non-native plant species eradication.

Active Transportation Grant Program (ATGP)

The goal of the ATGP is to encourage local jurisdictions to plan and build facilities that promote multiple travel choices and increase connectivity to transit, schools, retail centers, parks, work, and other community gathering places. The program also encourages local jurisdictions to provide bike parking and education, encouragement, and awareness programs that support pedestrian and bike infrastructure. Example projects include construction of bike lanes and other active transportation improvements, bike lockers and bike parking; public outreach and other encouragement programs; and the development of active transportation plans.

Senior Mini-Grant Program (SMG)

The SMG provides funding to local governments, non-profits, and health care providers to support specialized transportation services for older adults whose special needs cannot be met by conventional transit or paratransit services. These services may include coordinated volunteer driver programs, shopping shuttle services, non-emergency medical trips, and transit travel training classes.

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Housing Acceleration Program (HAP)

The HAP provides state funding to local jurisdictions to fund capital projects related to the acceleration of housing production within infill areas. Grants can be used to fund a variety of projects that facilitate housing, supply, choice, and affordability; affirmatively further fair housing; and reduce vehicle miles traveled. The program offers resources to assist local jurisdictions in meeting their housing goals, achieve housing element compliance, pursue the California Department of Housing and Community Development's prohousing designation, and support the SANDAG Regional Plan and Sustainable Communities Strategies goals.



FTA Enhanced Mobility of Seniors & People with Disabilities Program (Section 5310)

The Section 5310 program provides federal funding to local governments, transit operators, non-profits, and health care providers to support transportation projects that enhance the mobility of older adults and individuals with disabilities by removing barriers to transportation services and expanding the transportation mobility options available. Eligible projects include purchase of accessible vehicles, mobility management services, volunteer driver programs, shopping shuttle services, and non-emergency medical trips.



Access for All (AFA)

The AFA Grant Program provides state funding to expand options for individuals with disabilities to utilize on-demand transportation services, including wheelchair users who need a Wheelchair-Accessible Vehicle (WAV). Applicants directly provide, or contract with a separate organization or entity to provide, on-demand WAV transportation in the region, and conduct outreach to publicize and promote the services in disability communities.



California Active Transportation Program – Regional Competition (Regional ATP)

The Regional ATP provides a combination of state and federal funds on a biennial basis to support projects that encourage increased use of active modes of transportation, such as biking and walking. Projects may include infrastructure improvements, such as the construction of bike lanes or sidewalks; plans, such as comprehensive active transportation plans or feasibility studies; and education and outreach.

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