



Independent Taxpayer Oversight Committee Overview

Responsibilities

The Independent Taxpayer Oversight Committee (ITOC) responsibilities will include the following:

- Conduct an annual fiscal and compliance audit of all TransNet-funded activities using the services of an independent fiscal auditor to ensure compliance with the voter-approved Ordinance and Expenditure Plan.
- Prepare an annual report to the Board of Directors presenting the results of the annual audit process.
- Conduct triennial performance audits of SANDAG and other agencies involved in the implementation of TransNet-funded projects and programs to review project delivery, cost control, schedule adherence, and related activities.
- Provide recommendations to the Board regarding any proposed amendments to the TransNet Ordinance and Expenditure Plan.
- Provide recommendations as part of the required ten-year review process. This process provides an opportunity to undertake a comprehensive review of the TransNet Program every ten years and to make recommendations for improving the program over the subsequent ten years.
- Participate in the ongoing refinement of the SANDAG transportation system performance measurement process and the project evaluation criteria used in development of the Regional Transportation Plan and in prioritizing projects for funding in the Regional Transportation Improvement Program.
- On an annual basis, review ongoing SANDAG system performance evaluations, including the "State of the Commute" report, and provide an independent analysis of information included in that report.
- Review and comment on the programming of TransNet revenues in the Regional Transportation Improvement Program.
- Review proposed debt financings to ensure that the benefits of the proposed financing for accelerating project delivery, avoiding future cost escalation, and related factors exceed issuance and interest costs.
- Review the major Congestion Relief projects identified in the Ordinance for performance in terms of cost control and schedule adherence on a quarterly basis.

In carrying out its responsibilities, ITOC shall conduct its reviews in such a manner that does not cause unnecessary project delays, while providing sufficient time to ensure that adequate analysis can be completed to allow the ITOC to make objective recommendations and to provide the public with information about the implementation of the TransNet Program.

Membership

There will be seven ITOC voting members, consisting of:

- A professional in the field of municipal/public finance and/or budgeting with a minimum of ten years in a relevant and senior decision-making position in the public or private sector.
- A licensed architect, civil engineer, or traffic engineer with demonstrated experience of ten years or more in the field of transportation and/or urban design in government or the private sector.
- A professional with demonstrated experience of ten years or more in real estate, land economics, and/or right-of-way acquisition.
- A professional with demonstrated experience of ten years or more in the management of large-scale construction projects.
- A licensed engineer with appropriate credentials in the field of transportation project design or construction and a minimum of ten years' experience in a relevant and senior decision-making position in the government or private sector.
- A chief executive officer or person in a similar senior-level decision-making position of a major private sector employer with demonstrated experience in leading a large organization.
- A professional in biology or environmental science with demonstrated experience of ten years or more with environmental regulations and major project mitigation requirements and/or habitat acquisition and management.

Committee members serve terms of four years without compensation. No member shall serve more than eight years on ITOC.

Selection Process

A technical screening committee will be established to review applications received from interested individuals. This committee will consist of three members selected by the SANDAG Executive Director from high-level professional staff of local, regional, state, or federal transportation agencies outside of the San Diego region, or from one of the region's colleges or universities in a transportation related field, or a combination thereof. The committee will develop a list of candidates determined to be qualified to serve on ITOC based on the criteria established for the open ITOC position(s). The technical screening committee will recommend two candidates for each open position from the list of qualified candidates for consideration by the Selection Committee.

A selection committee shall be established to select an ITOC member from the list of qualified candidates recommended by the technical screening committee. The selection committee shall consist of the following: two members of the County of San Diego Board of Supervisors; the mayor of the City of San Diego; a mayor from the cities of Chula Vista, Coronado, Imperial Beach, or National City of San Diego; a mayor from the cities of El Cajon, La Mesa, Lemon Grove, or Santee selected by the mayors of those cities; a mayor from the cities of Carlsbad, Del Mar, Encinitas, Oceanside, or Solana Beach selected by the mayors of those cities; and a mayor from the cities of Escondido, Poway, San Marcos, or Vista selected by the mayors of those cities.

All meetings of the selection committee shall be publicly noticed and conducted in full compliance with the requirements of the Brown Act. Should the selection committee be unable to reach agreement on a candidate from the qualified candidates recommended by the technical screening committee, the selection committee shall request the technical screening committee to recommend two additional qualified candidates for consideration.

Conflict of Interest

ITOC members shall be subjected to SANDAG conflict of interest policies. ITOC members shall have no legal action pending against SANDAG and are prohibited from acting in any transactions directly or indirectly involving SANDAG, such as being a consultant to SANDAG or to any party with pending legal actions against SANDAG during their tenure on ITOC. ITOC members also prohibited from having a direct financial interest or employment with any private entity or public agency division which receives TransNet sales tax funds.