

EVALUATING THE ECONOMIC IMPACT OF TRANSNET ON SAN DIEGO'S ECONOMY

**PRODUCED BY** 













## IS AN INVESTMENT IN THE REGIONAL ECONOMY

Transportation infrastructure strengthens the regional economy and promotes future economic growth. Expansions and enhancements to roads, highways and public transit reduce congestion, decrease travel times and increase business productivity. This economic impact analysis of TransNet – the voter-approved half-cent sales tax – reveals how investments in transportation have impacted San Diego's economy.

\$3.3B=

TRANSNET TAXES EXPENDED OVER THE LAST 25 YEARS

\$20B

TOTAL

ECONOMIC

IMPACT

650

PROJECTS
COMPLETED
TO DATE

\$500M
IN TRAVEL
TIME SAVINGS
ANNUALLY

12.4M

HOURS OF
TRAVEL TIME SAVED
ANNUALLY

\$9B
IN LOCAL WAGES
& SALARIES

5,300

NUMBER OF JOBS SUPPORTED ANNUALLY

Every \$1 collected in TransNet taxes results in \$1.70 INCREASE IN THE REGION'S GDP



The majority of jobs created by TransNet are in industries that pay above average wages\*

#### JOBS SUPPORTED BY TRANSNET, TOP 10 INDUSTRIES

Construction (Non-residential) 39%



### BENEFITS THE REGION

The average San Diegan's commute is 25 minutes each way. Improvements to the transportation network – including new transit routes, more frequent transit service and extensive highway enhancements – have helped commute times in the region remain relatively unchanged over the last five years, despite the region's growing population and economy.



\*Based on TransNet economic impact analysis

#### **SAN DIEGO RANKS #1 #7 SEATTLE** AMONG PEER METRO **#2 PORTLAND AREAS\*\* WITH BOTH THE** #9 BOSTON (3 26 STOP 52 **LOWEST AVERAGE COMMUTE TIMES AND 8 BALTIMORE** ANNUAL HOURS OF **DELAY PER COMMUTER PITTSBURGH #6 DENVER** Average Travel Time to Work (min.) #3 AUSTIN Annual Delay per Commuter (hrs.) **#1 SAN DIEGO ☼** 25 STOP 42

#### THE GROWING NEED FOR A BALANCED NETWORK

Young professionals, the cornerstone of San Diego's workforce and innovation economy, increasingly prefer to live in residential areas offering a variety of mobility options and shorter commute times. As more people shift to biking, walking and riding transit, investing in a balanced transportation system becomes a leading economic development priority.



53% INCREASE IN WALKING TO WORK SINCE 2005

10% INCREASE IN TRANSIT RIDERSHIP SINCE 2010

#### TRANSPORTATION INFRASTRUCTURE IS THE

## BACKBONE OF SAN DIEGO'S ECONOMY

With more than 3.2 MILLION PEOPLE and nearly 1.5 MILLION JOBS in the region today, San Diego's extensive network of highways, roads, rail lines and public transit is essential for the movement of people and goods around the region.

#### TODAY'S TRANSPORTATION NETWORK AT A GLANCE...

10,149 ROAD MILES





1,122
MILES OF DEDICATED
BIKE LANES





**GROWTH IS INEVITABLE.** More people means more travel and additional demand on the region's transportation network. Focusing future transportation investments, including a variety of travel options, in faster growing residential and employment areas will ensure a balanced system and help promote economic prosperity.

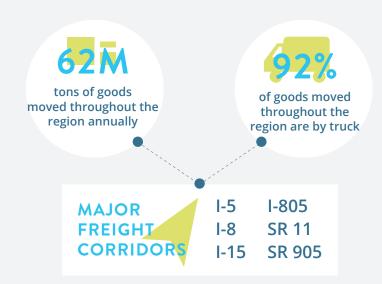
# THE REGION IS GROWING TODAY 2050 PEOPLE 3.23M 4.07 M 1.26% JOBS 1.48M 1.91M 1.29% HOUSING UNITS 1.18M 1.49M 1.49M



Each day, traffic and congestion cost the region millions of dollars in lost wages, productivity and operating costs. The I-15 Express Lanes corridor is a prime example of how highway investment can support economic growth. These managed lanes have significantly improved travel times throughout the region; helping to faster connect people to major employment centers such as Downtown. The time savings and decreased operating costs resulting from network enhancements ultimately improve the bottom line for businesses and increase the region's GDP.

#### SUPPORTING TRADE AND COMMERCE

SAN DIEGO'S GLOBAL COMPETITIVENESS IS DIRECTLY TIED TO INVESTMENTS IN TRANSPORTATION INFRASTRUCTURE





total value of goods moved throughout the region's land ports of entry (POE) – Otay Mesa, San Ysidro and Tecate



#### TRANSNET: THE BASICS

First approved by voters in 1988, TransNet, the region's half-cent sales tax, has been used to prepare regional infrastructure projects to compete for federal and state grants. This includes a mix of capital projects, such as road and highway construction, or expanding public transit, in addition to operational expenditures for ongoing maintenance and service.



#### REGIONAL EMPLOYERS BENEFIT FROM TRANSPORTATION INFRASTRUCTURE

#### SPOTLIGHT: SCRIPPS HEALTH



"Route 235 is a nice ride and I'm doing it by choice. It's fast and it takes the stress out of my commute."

- Laura Johnson, Scripps Employee
Rapid Bus Route 235 passenger

Scripps



As an employer of highly-specialized talent, and with multiple facilities throughout the region, Scripps relies on the transportation network to meet the diverse mobility needs of its workforce. Scripps also plays a major role in meeting its employees' transportation needs by providing a first/last mile shuttle solution for transit riders, encouraging vanpooling and subsidizing employee transit passes.

For more information on this study, please visit sandiegobusiness.org/research