



Board of Directors Meeting Agenda
 Jan 22, 2026, 9:00am

Zoom ONLY Mtg -<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89882264997>

Meeting call to order, Introductions

9:00 am

1. Public Comment

INFORMATION

CONSENT ITEMS

- | | | | |
|----|--|-----|--------------------|
| 2. | Oct, Dec 2025 Board Minutes | p-2 | ACTION |
| 3. | CTSA & Mobility Mgt Services Updates Aug 2025 | p-7 | INFORMATION |
| 4. | TDA, Independent Financial Audit updates FY 25 | | ACTION |

- | | | | |
|-----|--|------|--------------------|
| 5. | <u>Board Business:</u> | p-11 | |
| 1) | Officers Election Year 2026 | | ACTION |
| 2) | New Board member appointment (Anette Blatt, Scripps Health) | | ACTION |
| 6. | Annual Meeting Review, 2026 Meeting Calendar | p-12 | ACTION |
| 7. | Ongoing update on discussions and actions involving SANDAG | p-13 | INFORMATION |
| 8. | Conversation with Guest Speakers Ivet Woolridge, Eula Robertson – Leveraging TRIP volunteer service model for Mobility needs in SD County. | | INFORMATION |
| 9. | Operations and Mobility Services Mobility Management Updates: | | INFORMATION |
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BOARD Report on documenting Trip denials • AFA-2 launch, Service updates, Coordination with UTWSD • Implementation of SD Regional Center service agreement; MTS update • RideFACT Mobility and Brokerage Update • Brokerage Management Software procurement update | | |
| 10. | Updates on Mobility Management, RideFACT and other Grants | | INFORMATION |
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Proposed Cycle 13 grant scope/budget amendments, Contract start • AFA-2 subrecipient contract, taxicab insurance requirements | | |
| 11. | Executive Director’s Report | p-17 | INFORMATION |
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • FACT owned Vehicles Insurance; Staffing update | | |
| 12. | Board member and CAM updates | | INFORMATION |

FACT’s Mission- Assist San Diego County residents with barriers to mobility to achieve independence through coordination of transportation services

ITEM # 2

**FACT Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
October 30, 2025 9:00am
Zoom only meeting**

Board Members Attending	Susan Hafner, Hon. Dave Roberts, LaVonna Connelly, Hon. George Gastil, Hon. Jewel Edson, Hon. Bob Campbell, Gerardo Ramirez-Borja
Board Members Absent	Hon. Corinna Contreras, Hon. John Duncan
Staff Attending	Arun Prem, Ali Poorman, Christian Hernandez, Cynthia Pedersen, Kimberly Turner, Jissel Ramirez, Paola Zilli, Sydnie Alquist
Public/Guests	Matthew Yosgott, Deputy Director Programming – CTC, Brian Lane, Tim Garrett – SANDAG, Shane Hughes – SD Regional Center, David Merino
Public Comments	
Consent Items: Sept Board Meeting Minutes; CTSA & Mobility Mgt Services Updates –Aug 2025; Financial Updates; New Board Member Appointment	<p>Arun congratulated and welcomed FACT’s newly appointed Board member, Gerardo Ramirez-Borja.</p> <p>Ali Poorman summarized the August FACT Mobility Management services. Four hundred and ninety-nine referrals were made to JFS, MTS Access, NCTD Lift, and others. Referrals are offered to riders as an alternative to FACT services. City of San Marcos, City of Escondido, and Scripps are the top one-way contracted trips. City of San Marcos and City of Escondido just recently renewed their RideFACT contract. Total ridership for August was 3,629 trips.</p> <p>Susan congratulated and welcomed Gerardo on his appointment to the Board. Gerardo thanked the Board for having him as a member and looks forward to supporting it in whatever way he can.</p> <p>Motion to approve the Consent Agenda Items was made by Hon. Dave Roberts. Hon. Jewel Edson seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.</p>
Meetings/Media Events Planning - 11/20 AFA-2 Launch, Vehicle Showcase + Board Mtg; 12/3 Annual Mtg/20 th Anniv. Celebration – Partner of the Year, Keynote, Speakers	<p>Arun gave updates regarding upcoming events and meetings. On Thursday, November 20 FACT will host the launch of AFA-2 along with a vehicle showcase at Caltrans District 11.</p> <p>The event will begin at 9:00am with invited elected officials, United Taxi Workers of San Diego, FACT Board, staff and FACT riders present. Some media outlets will be present. The November Board of Directors meeting will</p>

	<p>follow this event at Caltrans. Hon. Joe LaCava and Hon. Raul Campillo have confirmed their attendance at this event.</p> <p>On Wednesday, December 3, 2025, FACT will host its Annual Board of Directors Meeting and 20th Anniversary celebration at the Mingei International Museum at 8:30am with call to order at 9:00am. Speakers include Amber J. Ter-Vrugt and Jenny Batts from Scripps (the meeting sponsor), Hon. Rebecca Jones, William York (211), Wendy King (Caltrans), Hon. Alysson Snow, Clarissa Falcon (CTC), Jeff Hoitt (NCTD), Michael Wygant, MTS, and Hon. Joe LaCava as Keynote speaker. FACT will recognize drivers and provider of the year, and present Hon. Raul Campillo with the partner of the year award.</p>
<p>Ongoing SANDAG Updates</p>	<p>FACT received the SANDAG AFA-Cycle 2 contract earlier in the month. FACT requested some upfront funding from SANDAG to help offset any operating expenses at the start of the second RideFACTNOW program. Arun said some negotiating between FACT and SANDAG regarding funding is being ironed out.</p> <p>Arun introduced Sydnie Alquist, temporary accountant, who is working with staff to bring the accounting up to date after Julius's departure, specifically resubmitting SANDAG invoices and financial statements.</p> <p>Cycle-13 Grants scope will be finalized in November or December.</p>
<p>Conversation with Guest Speaker – Matthew Yosgott, CTC</p>	<p>Susan welcomed Matthew Yosgott, Deputy Director of SP1 Programming at the California Transportation Commission (CTC). Arun thanked Matthew for attending the meeting and said Matthew could be helpful with coordinated funding proposals.</p> <p>Matthew thanked the Board for the invitation to the meeting. He gave a brief introduction of the CTC saying it is closely positioned with CalTrans. The passage of SP1 was a landmark bill for the state of California to get a continuous stream of funding resources for transportation improvements across the state. The gas tax passed in 2017 set aside a source of funding for new transportation programs that are intended to be continuous over time. Matthew reviewed the four different programs that receive a set aside allotment every year. He stated that the program that targets increasing accessibility and mobility for seniors and individuals with disabilities is one FACT most associates with.</p> <p>Matthew said the more that applicants can apply in conjunction with different projects that are considered more widely competitive, the more they can secure funding. He said that through partnerships with other projects, set-asides or carve-offs can provide an opportunity to fund FACT.</p>

	<p>Arun said he has learned is that there are projects in San Diego that qualify for SP1 funding that were not considered competitive but could have been funded if FACT had been a component of those grants. He said working on getting the agencies in the region to work on coordination is something that will be addressed further with those agencies. Susan said the partnership strategy would enhance the quality of life in this region because of the perception that some of the programs are big construction projects that have a benefit to the community, but FACT services have a more immediate benefit.</p> <p>Susan thanked Matthew for his presentation and his perspective, and said it will be helpful when FACT reaches out to a potential partner. LaVonna asked how agencies partner for funding. Matthew said there are ways to connect projects through accessibility and make the application work for different purposes.</p> <p>Arun thanked Matthew and said he hopes to continue the conversation.</p>
<p>Board Officer Nominating Committee Report</p>	<p>Hon. Dave Roberts, Chair of the Nominating Committee for 2026 FACT Officers, reported that committee members Susan Hafner, Hon. Jewel Edson, Hon. George Gastil, LaVonna Connelly, and Dave recommended the officers stay in their positions for another year.</p> <p>Dave added that the nominated officers would like others to consider running for the executive committee.</p> <p>RECOMMENDATION:</p> <p>Staff recommends Board members review the proposed slate of Board Officers for calendar year 2026 and take appropriate action to confirm a slate for Board Officer Elections:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Susan Hafner – Chair • LaVonna Connelly – Vice Chair • George Gastil – Treasurer • Dave Roberts – Secretary <p>Motion to approve the proposed slate of Board Officers for calendar year 2026 was made by Hon. Jewel Edson. LaVonna Connelly seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.</p>
<p>Operations and Mobility Services Mobility Management Updates: AFA-2 Contract Received; RideFACT Mobility +</p>	<p>Arun reminded the Board to mark their calendars regarding the AFA-2 – Launch Event on November 20, 2025. UTWSD will be attending the event, in addition to elected officials and Caltrans staff.</p> <p>Christian Hernandez gave a brokerage update. Rides fill up quickly due to the cap, therefore, referrals are given to callers to assist them in finding other</p>

<p>Brokerage Update; Coordination with UTWSD; Brokerage Management Software procurement update</p>	<p>means of affordable transportation. Arun said when the AFA-2 program begins, on-demand rides will be available and RideFACT will still be operating. Arun said the situation will improve for those riders needing transportation.</p> <p>LaVonna asked if FACT tracks the number of denials, the need that's not being met, and the impact denials have on the quality of life on individuals. LaVonna said this information could affect the continuity of funding.</p> <p>She asked if the denials go in a database, and if not, would it be possible to keep a tally on denials. Jewel said it is important to present the numbers when FACT is procuring funding. Susan asked that the topic be a full agenda item for another time since it has great effect on different aspects of FACT.</p> <p>Arun said FACT is in the process of finalizing the scope of work for the ICAM grant in order to procure the brokerage management software grant.</p>
<p>Updates on Grants</p>	<p>Kimberely Turner gave an update regarding grants. She said FACT has been working very closely with SANDAG staff and the proposed grant Cycle 13 budget will be revised through adjustments in the match. Kimberly thanked SANDAG for working with FACT to make the adjustments.</p> <p>AFA-2 contract is currently being reviewed and for the first time, FACT will have a subrecipient, the United Taxi Workers of San Diego. Kimberly will be giving grant oversight to the UTWSD on behalf of FACT.</p> <p>FACT has not received any recent update regarding the Ramona Microtransit Project.</p> <p>Kimberly said she will be addressing ridership denials, or any shortfalls in service, with staff to prevent any losses in funding and help keep FACT competitive. Susan concurred and said that perhaps new software can address this because the information is critical.</p>
<p>Executive Director's Report</p>	<p>Arun announced that CAM has a new chair, Alyssa Ahn, of Caltrans.</p> <p>Arun introduced Shane Hughes from the San Diego Regional Center, Todd Lordson's replacement as CAM's representative on FACT's Board. Todd will be retiring soon. FACT and SD Regional Center have been in discussions regarding accessible transportation, and a proposal is due soon.</p> <p>The rider coalition will hold its first meeting at Caltrans on November 14. Kate Pecora has renamed the coalition to SDARC - San Diego Accessible Riders Coalition. This project is funded by an APTA sponsored grant.</p>

	<p>Arun will be attending a two-day Independent Transportation Network Conference in Portland, Maine November 10-12, 2025.</p> <p>Arun, Susan, Christian and Ali attended the CalACT Fall Conference in Lake Tahoe last month. Arun made a presentation on responding to the needs in communities. He presented information regarding AFA-1 and 2. He also moderated a presentation on emergency responses to events such as the recent fires in California.</p>
Board member and CAM Updates	Susan said the CalACT conference was excellent. Shane Hughes said he was happy to be taking over for Todd.
ADJOURNMENT	The meeting was adjourned at approximately 10:15am.

Annual Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
December 3, 2025
Mingei International Museum
1439 El Prado Balboa Park
San Diego, San Diego CA 92101

Board Members Attending	Susan Hafner, Hon. George Gastil, Hon. Jewel Edson, Hon. Dave Roberts, LaVonna Connelly, Hon. Bob Campbell (Emeritus), Gerardo Ramirez-Borja
Board Members Absent	Hon. John Duncan, Hon. Corinna Contreras
Staff Attending	Arun Prem, Christian Hernandez, Ali Poorman, Cynthia Pedersen, Paola Zilli, Kimberly Turner, Jissel Ramirez, Kalin Alston, Farah Rizvi, Jessica Gutierrez, Elena Alegria, Lindsey Poorman
AGENDA Notification	Action on Business Items Board Officers Elections and Financial Audit Update was deferred until the January 2026 Board of Directors meeting.

ITEM # 3

TO: BOARD OF DIRECTORS

FROM: Ali Poorman, Contracts Manager

RE: FACT Services updates – NOVEMBER 2025

ISSUE: This item presents a monthly RideFACT and agency services update.

	NOVEMBER 2025
SERVICE	ONE-WAY TRIPS
ACS	0
UCSD	24
Scripps	370
Escondido	429
County HHS	11
San Marcos	480
Tri-City	94
SDG&E	0
RideFACT	1,506
TOTAL	2,920

Scripps Health

Through November 2025, a total of 12,422 trips were provided. FACT provides transportation services for various Scripps facilities, including Encinitas Scripps, Prebys Cancer Clinic, Scripps Mercy Hospital in Hillcrest and Chula Vista, Scripps Green, Scripps Advanced Care Clinic, and Scripps Vista Clinic. The service agreement between FACT and Scripps Health commenced on January 15, 2020. FACT's brokerage vendors transport patients to and from hospitals, clinics, pharmacies, residences, and even hospitals located outside San Diego County. FACT signed an Evergreen contract amendment in August 2021. The contract term was renewed in January 2024 through 2026.

City of Escondido

Between November 2019 and November 2025, FACT facilitated 38,458 trips. FACT provides transportation to and from the City of Escondido's senior lunch nutrition program, available Monday through Friday. This service commenced on November 1, 2019. However, trips were temporarily halted from mid-March 2020 to May 2021 due

to the COVID-19 pandemic. Service resumed on June 15, 2021. The contract term for this arrangement was extended through June 2025, with the option for up to two renewal periods.

City of San Marcos

From February 2018 to November 2025, FACT provided 24,164 lunch shuttle and Catch a Ride! trips. Catch a Ride! offers transportation for eligible seniors aged 60 and older within San Marcos city limits, as well as for medical appointments within a 20-mile radius outside the city. FACT and San Marcos recently agreed to extend the contract through June 2026.

County HHSA

1,879 trips have been conducted under this agreement from late November 2018 through November 2025. This service offers transportation for non-contagious Tuberculosis patients from their homes to clinics for treatment on behalf of the County. The contract is set to continue until December 31, 2028. This contract term was extended in January 2024.

UCSD Shiley-Marcos Alzheimer's Disease Research Center

By November 2025, a total of 678 trips had been completed. In the summer of 2022, contracted trips were provided to transport patients involved in an ongoing Alzheimer's clinical trial. The contract was extended in January 2024. Additionally, in December 2023, UCSD Health partnered with 211 to arrange transportation for discharged patients attending follow-up medical appointments. This pilot program, running from December 2023 to March 2024, completed 168 trips and achieved significant success, with only one hospital readmission.

American Cancer Society

As of November 2025, FACT provided 421 medical trips for chemotherapy and radiation treatments. FACT will partner with the American Cancer Society (ACS) to address access to care barriers for patients with cancer through their grant program, beginning April 1, 2025, to March 31, 2026.

Tri-City Contracts – Emergency Room & Outpatient Behavioral Health

FACT has provided 9,948 trips for Tri-City patients discharged from the ER as of November 2025. FACT began transportation services for Tri-City Medical Center in December 2016.

211 Cool Zone Transportation In 2021, 211 requested FACT's assistance in transporting individuals to and from the County of San Diego's Cool Zones, which were established to provide heat relief during the summer and early fall. In June 2022, FACT entered into a contract to receive direct referrals through 211's Community Information Exchange (CIE) platform to support this program. FACT completed 26 trips between 2022-2024. The County of San Diego will continue the Cool Zone program through referrals to local libraries.

NCTD- Same-day Transportation Service

FACT completed three trips for the pilot program. The NCTD Pilot program was a same-day transportation service for all NCTD-certified LIFT customers. NCTD LIFT customers requested trips directly to FACT. The pilot program commenced on January 1, 2024, and was completed on June 30, 2024.

MTS/First Transit/Transdev

FACT provided accessible next-day trips during the MTS/First Transit/Transdev work stop. FACT completed 1,826 trips between May 1-July 13, 2023.

CTSA, RideFACT & Contracted Service Data	Web hits	Referrals	Programs in Database	New Agencies in Database	Total Requests for RideFACT Trips	RideFACT Trips Provided	RideFACT Trips Unable to Provide	Contracted Trips Provided	Total Trips	RideFACT Avg Mileage	RideFACT Avg Trip Cost
Prior to 2017					46,838	46,838	0	37,146	83,984		
Subtotal 2017	9,225	1075	148		29,841	28,628	1,213	8,764	29,045		
Subtotal 2018	16,928	2050	158		56,682	54,390	2,292	16,861	37,339		
Subtotal 2019	9,225	1075	174		29,841	28,628	1,213	8,764	32,392		
Subtotal 2020	14,956	2109	185		29,808	28,455	1353	11,606	40,061		
Subtotal 2021	20,687	3729	189	10	41,959	37,293	4666	5,568	42,861		
Subtotal 2022	31,811	2232		5	28,340	23,119	5221	15,184	38,303		
Subtotal 2023	38,002	1369		8	13,815	12,134	1,681	19,090	31,224	9.85	\$ 35.56
SUBTOTAL					277,124	259,485	17,639	122,983	335,209		
July	3,349	137	184	0	1,502	1,299	203	1,530	2,829	12.18	\$ 118.80
August	4,178	164	184	0	1,697	1,503	194	1,578	3,081	26.19	\$ 105.65
September	3,230	131	184	0	1,874	1,748	126	1,328	3,076	12.73	\$ 91.36
October	3,767	165	184	0	2,316	2,117	199	1,455	3,572	12.4	\$ 89.53
November	2,977	76	173	0	2,171	1,990	181	1,303	3,293	13.1	\$ 81.69
December	2,331	132	177	4	2,207	2,148	59	1,055	3,203	12	\$ 70.61
January	3,364	134	177	0	2,362	2,328	34	1,352	3,680	12.16	\$ 69.31
February	3,267	103	177	0	2,516	2,436	80	1,210	3,646	12.01	\$ 69.85
March	2,903	121	177	0	2,728	2,684	44	1,464	4,148	12.54	\$ 69.33
April	3,368	96	177	0	2,059	2,045	14	1,444	3,489	12.36	\$ 72.33
May	3,258	126	182	5	2,415	2,400	15	1,457	3,857	13.13	\$ 71.27
June AFA					1,061	1,052	9		1,052	12.98	\$ 72.91
June RF	3,197	84	181	1	752	749	3	1,200	1,949	10.09	\$ 34.51
Subtotal 2024	39,189	1469			25,660	24,499	1,161	16,376	40,875	13.37	\$ 78.24
					302,784	283,984	18,800	139,359	376,084		
July	3,607	77	181	0	814	814	0	1,603	2,417	10.94	\$ 30.91
August	3,529	65	181	0	733	729	4	1,690	2,419	10.93	\$ 29.99
September	3,720	98	185	6	899	899	0	1,632	2,531	9.92	\$ 29.82
October	3,695	70	184	0	1,064	1,064	0	1,786	2,850	10.16	\$ 30.12
November	3,138	80	186	2	839	839	0	1,489	2,328	11.15	\$ 31.44
December	3,239	88	186	0	871	871	0	1,544	2,415	10.09	\$ 27.52
January	4,870	90	186	0	854	854	0	1,628	2,482	9.89	\$ 27.60
February	4,701	189	188	1	758	758	0	1,452	2,210	11.01	\$ 24.57
March	8,304	233	186	0	1,080	1,080	0	1,808	2,888	8.95	\$ 20.35
April	4,911	148	187	1	1,800	1,800	0	1,783	3,583	9.02	\$ 27.46
May	9,302	286	187	6	2,183	2,183	0	1,623	3,806	8.95	\$ 28.22
June	4,940	391	185	2	2,636	2,636	0	1,756	4,392	8.75	\$ 29.78
Subtotal 2025	57,956	1815			14,531	14,527	4	19,794	34,321	9.98	\$ 28.15
TOTAL					317,315	298,511	18,804	159,153	410,405		
July	5,272	476	188	3	1,748	1,748	0	1,938	3,686	10.39	\$ 23.61
August	4,990	499	188	0	1,726	1,726	0	1,903	3,629	9.69	\$ 23.13
September	5,252	643	185	3	1,697	1,697	0	1,608	3,305	10.32	\$ 24.73
October	4,076	501	185	1	1,890	1,890	0	1,736	3,626	10.03	\$ 23.63
November	4,247	276	186	1	1,506	1,506	0	1,414	2,920	10.02	\$ 28.03
Subtotal 2026	23,837	2,395			8,567	8,567	0	8,599	17,166		
TOTAL					325,882	307,078	18,804	167,752	427,571		

ITEM # 5

TO: BOARD OF DIRECTORS

FROM: ARUN PREM, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

RE: 2026 OFFICERS ELECTION & NEW BOARD MEMBER APPOINTMENT

ISSUE: Recommendations for Board to address matters pertaining to governance:

BACKGROUND

I. New Board Member Appointment:

Ms. Anette Blatt (Scripps Health), has expressed interest in joining the FACT Board of Directors. FACT currently has 8 voting Board members and one Emeritus Board member.

Anette Blatt, M.M., is Director of Community Benefit and Advocacy Services at Scripps Health, where she provides oversight and strategic guidance for the organization's community benefit activities, including strategy development, grantmaking, and regulatory reporting. She oversees Scripps' Community Health Needs Assessment and Implementation Strategies, ensuring alignment with state requirements and community priorities.

Prior to joining Scripps Health, Ms. Blatt lived in Boston, Massachusetts, where she served as Manager of Community Partnerships for Tufts Health Plan. She holds a Master of Management in Health Policy and Health Services from The Heller School for Social Policy and Management at Brandeis University in Waltham, Massachusetts, and a Bachelor of Arts in Psychology from the University of California, Santa Barbara.

As per FACT Bylaws:

SECTION 3.1. NUMBER The corporation shall have no less than five (5) and no more than eleven (11) directors; Emeritus nonvoting board members may be appointed at the discretion of the board, by a majority vote of the Board members; the number of Emeritus board members may not exceed 1 per block of 5 regular board members, or a total of 2.

SECTION 3.19.1. FILLING VACANCIES Vacancies on the board may be filled by approval of the majority of Directors then in office or, if the number of directors then in office is less than a quorum, by (1) the unanimous written consent of the directors then in office, (2) the affirmative vote of a majority of the directors then in office at a meeting held pursuant to notice or waivers of notice complying with this Article of these bylaws, or (3) a sole remaining director. A person elected to fill a vacancy as provided by this Section shall hold office until the next annual election of the board of directors or until his or her death, resignation, or removal from office.

RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends Board members appoint Anette Blatt to the Board of Directors

ITEM # 6

TO: BOARD OF DIRECTORS

FROM: Cynthia Pedersen, Manager of HR & Admin, and & Arun Prem, ED

RE: 2026 FACT Board Meeting Calendar

ISSUE:

Proposed 2026 Board of Directors Meetings. FACT Board meetings are held on 4th Thursday of each month except when the schedule is amended by Board action due to Holidays or other considerations:

Proposed 2026 Meeting Calendar

Thursday, January 22, 2026

Thursday, February 26, 2026

Thursday, March 26, 2026 - Board Retreat

Thursday, April 23, 2026

Thursday, May 28, 2026

Thursday, June 25, 2026

Thursday, July 23, 2026

August, 2026 (Recess)

Thursday, September 24, 2026

Thursday, October 22, 2026

Thursday, November 12, 2026 - Holiday Schedule

Wednesday, December 9, 2026 - Annual Meeting

RECOMMENDATION

Staff requests Board input and approval for the proposed 2026 Board Meeting Calendar.

ITEM # 7

TO: BOARD OF DIRECTORS

RE: SANDAG Updates

ISSUE: Ongoing update on discussions and actions involving SANDAG

FACT Staff is working with SANDAG to revise and resubmit invoices that had been returned for review and corrections. On Oct 23, 2025, FACT received the AFA-2 DRAFT agreement for review. The AFA-2 Agreement with SANDAG was completed on Nov 6, 2025. RideFACTNOW was reinstated in December 2025; the on-demand service is expected to continue through December 2026 (approx.). Cycle 12 implementation was completed in November 2025. FACT has requested SANDAG to implement Cycle 13 asap.

BACKGROUND

Cycle 13 grant award recommendations endorsed by TC were approved by SANDAG's Board on June 27, 2025. In September SANDAG staff proposed updates to the potential Cycle 13 contracts which will consolidate the agreements and reduce some of the match requirements; these proposed changes favor FACT, and will be confirmed in the next few weeks. FACT continues to be on a the SANDAG grants watchlist due to invoicing issues that are being addressed in discussions with SANDAG. On Sep 19th FACT requested an urgent meeting with SANDAG staff to seek clarifications regarding the deficiencies and clear directions for follow up.

SANDAG staff shared with FACT the Coordinated Plan Priorities propose for the updated Plan. FACT provided a response to the list of priorities. FACT is supportive of the proposals, and called attention to one of the priorities – “door through door” transportation that may require more review. Meeting with Danielle, Tim and Ruby (SANDAG) to review CTSA role, competition for funding, and improving coordination amongst specialized transportation services providers.

On March 20, 2025, FACT Board Members, Susan Hafner, La Vonna Connelly, Hon John Duncan and Hon George Gastil, and Arun Prem met with SANDAG CEO Mr. Mario Orso. SANDAG Staff – Antoinette Meier, Brian Lane, Jenny Russo and Robyn Wapner were also present. The hour-long discussion included review of the CTSA contract, CTSA role in Coordinated Plan, Funding mechanism and a recommendation re. a group that would follow up on the matters that were discussed.

On 1/17/2025, SANDAG staff asked Transportation Committee to recommend that SANDAG's Board approve the funding recommendation for the AFA Cycle-2 call for projects. The Item was approved unanimously. *SANDAG staff recommended award of \$2.3 m of AFA Cycle 2 funds to FACT. FACT was the only applicant (out of 5) approved for funding. UTWSD is a partner in FACT's project.* SANDAG's Board will review the TC recommendation on 1/24/2025. If approved, the funding will provide on-demand accessible rides countywide, tentatively beginning March 2025, through March 2026.

FACT's meeting request with SANDAG's CEO is in process; it is likely the meeting will occur in March 2025.

SANDAG staff issued a *Notice of Intent to Award for the AFA Cycle 2 Call for Projects* on Nov 1, 2024. This Notice recommends that SANDAG's TC and Board approve the funding recommendation.

It is anticipated the SANDAG Board will review this request in January 2025, following the TC's review on December 20, 2024.

AFA Cycle-2 funds will extend RideFACTNOW transportation for another year; service could be implemented in Feb 2025, based on the above timeline.

In August and September 2024, there were no formal updates on AFA Cycle-2 evaluation. Based on recent indications, the implementation is likely to be delayed significantly.

FACT is planning to submit Cycle 13 SGTP grant applications as per the SANDAG Board actions taken in July 2024.

During September 2024 Mobility Working Group Meeting (MWG), and SSTAC, SANDAG staff presented a plan to issue a call for Microtransit grants; available funding approx. \$8m in Jan 2025. Staff proposal restricts Nonprofits from applying directly. Only government entities may apply. Individual grants awards will be limited to \$1m, with a 20% match requirement. FACT provided public comment questioning this inequitable approach, calling attention to the potential negative impacts, and recommending against it.

On July 19, 2024 TC considered FACT's request to amend the proposed match against the Section 5310 funding award from 50% to 20%, which is allowable by FTA., and increase the per trip rate from \$32 to \$37. SANDAG staff recommended against the approval based on their view that it creates a fairness issue. FACT explained in a letter to TC that the 50% match commitment pertained to FACT's original Cycle 12 RideFACT application, which was not funded. Therefore, the match requirement should not carry forward to supplemental funds provided to FACT. FACT also explained that it was presumed AFA funds would provide the match, which did not turn out to be the case. FACT cost per trip for RideFACT trips (next day) increased due to the increase in average trip length from 9 miles to 13 miles. The TC approved SANDAG staff recommendation to deny FACT's request for amendments. SANDAG's Board will review the TC recommendation on Friday, July 26th.

TC Discussion on Funding for FACT services on May 17, 2024 was consistent with the February 16 discussion where FACT staff, riders and several vendors urged the TC to confirm the recommendation approved in Feb – i.e. *Provide approximately \$845,000 annually to FACT for the next two years using only Section 5310 funding (fully fund the RideFACT portion of the request only). FACT would provide the 20% matching funds (\$170,000 approx. annually). TC also recommended that FACT have the option to compete for STGP Cycle 13 Call for Projects. The TC chose to amend their prior recommendation to maintain the set aside (\$1.7m in*

Section 5310 funds)) and prevent FACT from applying for additional Section 5310; FACT would be able to apply for up to \$1m in SMG funds.

The above action was the result of some nonprofits as well as the transit agencies commenting on the high cost of RideFACTNOW compared with the cost of other service providers. SANDAG staff and some TC members clarified the comparison between accessible and ambulatory rides, as well as rides provided by volunteers compared with contracted rides was not valid and needed to be viewed in context.

The impact of the TC's action, if approved by SANDAG's Board would be to cap FACT's STGP grants at \$2.7m. The other STGP applicants' grant requests would be capped at \$2.2m.

SANDAG staff recommended that the during its meeting on June 28, 2024, the Board approve the TC's recommendations:

1. Approve the proposed STGP Cycle 13 call for projects, including the evaluation criteria and process for awarding funding, except that the Board shall retain discretion over final Section 5310 awards subject to FTA requirements and a two-thirds vote of the Board.
2. Lower the maximum amount of SMG funding an applicant can receive to \$1 million and keep the existing maximum amount of Section 5310 funding an applicant can receive at \$1.2 million.
3. Approve a 26% annual allocation of Federal Fiscal Year 2023 and 2024 Section 5310 pass-through funding available (approximately \$835,543 and \$856,666 respectively) to Facilitating Access to Coordinated Transportation (FACT) for RideFACT service.
4. Should the Board approve a direct allocation of Section 5310 funds to FACT, exempt the direct allocation of Section 5310 funds to FACT from FACT's maximum grant award amount, and prohibit FACT from competing for and/or receiving the remaining Section 5310 grant funding.
5. Reinstate the allowability of indirect costs for the SMG program starting with the STGP Cycle 13 call for projects consistent with the proposed indirect cost guidelines.

TC Discussion on Funding for FACT services on Feb 16, 2024: The TC action on Agenda Item 7 was preceded by Item 6 - a presentation by MTS and NCTD re the mandated ADA paratransit services, and need to maintain funds for the services.

*Following the Transportation Committee's **October 20, 2023, meeting**, FACT provided SANDAG with a memo describing its RideFACT funding request (Attachment 2). In its memo, FACT requested \$843,924 annually for RideFACT, or nearly \$1.7 million for two years, which is an approximately 110% increase over its \$800,000 RideFACT request through the STGP Cycle 12 Call for Projects. FACT also requested \$1,512,000 annually for its CTSA and mobility management activities, which is nearly a 31% increase over its STGP Cycle 12 mobility management award combined with its dedicated TDA Article 4.5 funding. SANDAG's Data Science team reviewed the FACT memo and determined the RideFACT request and methodology used were reasonable based on an analysis of the baseline data FACT provided and changes in fuel prices and population growth.*

Important Factors to Consider

The two sources of funding the Transportation Committee could consider allocating to FACT because they do not require a competitive selection process are the Section 5310 Program and the Transportation Development Act (TDA) Article 4.5. funds. Federal Transit Administration (FTA) regulations require that the Section 5310 funding be accompanied by a minimum 20% match of non-federal sources, so any allocation of those funds would require FACT to provide the required match. The Transportation Committee could consider allocating TDA Article 4.5 funding to FACT to supply the required match. Either allocation would require approval through the Board of Directors. The Section 5310 allocation could accompany the Cycle 13 STGP Call for Projects; however, the TDA allocation would require an amendment of [SANDAG Board Policy No. 027](#).

Option 1: *Provide approximately \$2.3 million annually to FACT for the next two years using Section 5310 and TDA Funding (fully fund the FACT request).*

Option 2: *Provide approximately \$1.6 million annually to FACT for the next two years using Section 5310 and TDA Funding (partially fund the FACT request).*

Option 3: *Provide approximately \$845,000 annually to FACT for the next two years using only Section 5310 funding (fully fund the RideFACT portion of the request only). FACT would provide the 20% matching funds (\$170,000 approx. annually). TC also recommended that FACT have the option to compete for STGP Cycle 13 Call for Projects.*

Option 4: *Do not allocate any funding for FACT at this time and require them to compete for funding through the STGP and AFA grant programs.*

ITEM #11

TO: BOARD OF DIRECTORS

FROM: Arun Prem, Exec. Director; Cynthia Pedersen, Mgr. of Admin. & HR

RE: Executive Director's Report September 2026 – Jan 2026,

Meeting and Events – September 2025

9/26/2025 Meeting – SANDAG Board of Directors
9/29/2025 Meeting – Michael McHale, St Paul's Senior Services
9/30/2025 Meeting – CalACT Emergency Planning- Arun

Meeting and Events – October 2025

10/7/2025 Meeting – SD Regional Center Transportation Discussion – Todd Lordson, Christian, Arun
10/7/2025 Meeting – Regional Short-Range Transit Planning Task Force – SANDAG, Arun
10/9/2025 Meeting – Joint Working Group: 2025 Regional Plan Update – Arun
10/10/2025 Meeting – SANDAG Board of Directors
10/14/2025 Meeting – CAM – Ali, Paola, Christian, Jissel, Arun
10/16/2025 Meeting - Accessible Coalition Kick Off Meeting Discussion – Kate Pecora, Alyssa Ahn,
Christian, Arun
10/17/2025 Meeting – Transportation Committee
10/21-24/25 Conference – CalACT Fall Conference – Susan, Arun, Christian, Ali
10/30/2025 Meeting – FACT Board of Directors

Meeting and Events – November 2025

11/7/2025 Meeting – SANDAG Board of Directors
11/10-13/2025 Meeting – ITN Conference – Portland, ME
11/14/2025 Transportation Committee Meeting
11/20/2025 AFA-2 Launch, Vehicle Showcase Media Event – Caltrans
11/21/2025 SANDAG Board of Directors

Meeting and Events – December 2025

12/3/2025 FACT Annual Board of Directors Meeting – 20th Anniversary Celebration

Meetings and Events – January 2026

1/6/2026	STGP Grant Assistance Meeting
1/8/2026	Meeting – SDARC – Ali, Christian, Arun
1/13/2026	CAM Meeting – Arun, Christian, Ali, Paola, Kimberly, Cynthia
1/14/2026	Meeting – Waymo – Nuna Atadja, Susan, Arun
1/22/2026	FACT Board of Directors Meeting
1/22/2026	Regional Short-Range Transit Planning Tack Force
1/23/2026	SANDAG Board of Directors