

# SELF-CERTIFICATION PROCESS AND SCHEDULE REGIONAL GROWTH MANAGEMENT STRATEGY

## INTRODUCTION

The SANDAG Joint Powers Agreement Amendment that established the Regional Planning and Growth Management Review Board requires the Board to adopt rules to implement a self-certification process for member agencies. Member agencies agree to "... determine (self-certify) the pertinent elements of their general plans with regional plans." The attached three-part outline and schedule is intended to carry out the self-certification process.

The following three points should be incorporated in self-certification:

- The parts of the Regional Growth Management Strategy (RGMS) subject to consistency determination should include more than plans and policies. Important implementation actions recommended in the Strategy, such as ordinances, should also be included in local determination of consistency. The Strategy will identify recommended actions that should be included in self-certification.
- Local jurisdictions should have flexibility in determining their consistency with the Strategy. If a jurisdiction has not adopted the exact policy or implementation action identified in the Strategy, it should be able to certify its consistency if it can document an alternative means it is using to achieve the objectives of the Strategy's recommended actions.
- There should be consistency between the Strategy and the plans and programs of appropriate single-purpose regional agencies. The single-purpose regional agencies including the Air Pollution Control District, San Diego County Water Authority, Regional Water Quality Control Board, Local Agency Formation Commission, Department of Defense, Port District, Metropolitan Development Transit Board, North County Transit District, and CALTRANS have been involved in the preparation of the Strategy, and their plans, or elements of their plans, have been included as part of the Strategy. To ensure consistency the agencies will:
  - 1) Review the draft Strategy for consistency with their plans and programs, and suggest changes to the Strategy as appropriate. Plans and programs may also be revised to achieve consistency;
  - 2) Review the adopted Strategy annually for consistency with their plans and programs, and report in a similar manner as local jurisdictions to the Regional Board on the results of that review; and

- 3) Participate in the annual quality of life standards and objectives monitoring report.

This participation, in conjunction with local jurisdiction self-certification with the Regional Growth Management Strategy, will provide for comprehensive local/regional cooperation. In the event of a dispute, single-purpose regional agencies may request that SANDAG initiate the Conflict Resolution Procedure available to member agencies.

#### PART I: INITIAL SELF-CERTIFICATION PROCESS

1. Regional Board adopts initial Regional Growth Management Strategy after holding a public hearing.

2. Regional Board prepares and distributes model self-certification resolution and checklist as guidance to local jurisdictions.

1ST MONTH  
FOLLOWING  
ADOPTION

The checklist will be modeled after the CEQA initial study checklist. The checklist will identify the Strategy's recommended actions requiring self-certification. Each jurisdiction will be asked to indicate full consistency, partial consistency, or inconsistency with the Strategy's recommended actions. Space will be provided to explain the response for each recommended action, including documentation of how consistency may have been achieved through alternative actions to those recommended in the Strategy. This feature of the checklist will provide for local flexibility in self-certification.

3. Local jurisdictions file status report with the Regional Board (the completed checklist) regarding consistency with the Strategy after holding a public hearing.

BY END OF  
6TH MONTH  
FOLLOWING  
ADOPTION

The status report should identify where the jurisdiction is consistent, and identify actions the jurisdiction intends to take to achieve consistency. If a jurisdiction anticipates that the actions necessary to achieve consistency will take more than twelve months it will notify the Board in the status report and provide an estimated completion date.

4. Local jurisdictions take actions to achieve consistency.

6TH MONTH  
THROUGH 18TH  
MONTH FOLLOWING  
ADOPTION

5. Local jurisdictions adopt self-certification resolution and file with Regional Board after holding a public hearing. A revised checklist is attached to resolution.

BY END OF  
19TH MONTH  
FOLLOWING  
ADOPTION

6. Regional Board issues status report on self-certification at a public hearing. The status report is a compilation of local jurisdiction self-certification documentation provided in step 5.

BY END OF  
20th MONTH  
FOLLOWING  
ADOPTION

## PART II: CONTINUING SELF-CERTIFICATION PROCESS

1. After adoption of the initial Strategy by the Regional Board, all local jurisdiction plan amendments, regulations and other actions related to the Strategy should be subject to a self-certification finding. A copy of each finding should be forwarded to the Regional Board, placed on their agenda as an information item, and made available to the public.

CONTINUING

2. Regional Board prepares and distributes annual report monitoring growth and the implementation of the Strategy.

ANNUALLY

This report is the regional "report card" on progress toward meeting the quality of life standards and objectives in the Strategy. It highlights any changes that may be necessary in the Strategy to account for changes in quality of life standards and objectives or for problems encountered in making progress towards their achievement. The annual monitoring report should be issued to the Regional Board at a public hearing.

3. Regional Board adopts any appropriate changes or additions to the Strategy, based on local jurisdiction/regional agency review and comment on the monitoring report and after holding a public hearing.
4. Regional Board prepares and distributes model self-certification resolution and checklist as guidance to local jurisdictions.

ANNUALLY

ANNUALLY

The checklist will have the same format as the checklist developed for the initial self-certification process. However, it will only concern changes and additions to the Strategy adopted the previous month.

5. Local jurisdictions adopt self-certification resolution and file with Regional Board after holding a public hearing. The checklist is attached to resolution.

ANNUALLY

If the jurisdiction is unable to complete the actions necessary to achieve consistency within six months, it will notify the Board of the date when it expects to file its consistency resolution.