



March 12, 2018

Carolina Ilic, Senior Regional Planner  
San Diego Association of Governments  
401 B Street, Suite 800  
San Diego, CA 92101

**Subject: Letter of Support for City of San Diego Mira Mesa Community Plan Update – Smart Growth Incentive Plan Grant Application**

Dear Ms. Ilic:

I am writing to express Biocom's support for the City of San Diego's application to the SANDAG Smart Growth Incentive Program (SGIP) to fund comprehensively updating the Mira Mesa Community Plan.

Biocom is the largest, most experienced leader and advocate for California's life science sector. Headquartered in San Diego, we work on behalf of over 1,000 members to drive public policy, build a network of industry leaders, create access to capital, introduce cutting-edge STEM education programs, and create value-driven purchasing programs.

The proposed grant project includes a study of existing and planned SANDAG smart growth opportunity areas in order to provide recommendations for transit supportive land uses, urban design concepts, and mobility/connectivity improvements as a component of the Mira Mesa Community Plan update process. These recommendations will serve as a means of supporting the goals of the City of San Diego's Climate Action Plan, which seeks to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by reducing vehicle miles traveled.

Biocom members are particularly interested in publicly accessible, local shuttle systems and other options that make it easier to access employment centers from transit stops. We are pleased that eligible grant projects must include improvement of internal mobility.

SGIP funding will facilitate a comprehensive effort to promote smart growth concepts that will support a healthier, more sustainable community. Many Biocom members have operations in the Mira Mesa Community Plan area. We look forward to working with the City of San Diego on the plan update.

Sincerely,

Jimmy Jackson, Sr. Vice President & Chief Policy Officer  
Biocom

