Introduction to Our Local Economy

Overview
At the forefront of the regional economy are five key industries: education, military, technology innovation, healthcare, and tourism. Chief Economist, Ray Major, will describe the importance of organizations and governments working together to address economic challenges in the San Diego region. Members of the Board of Directors will have an opportunity to ask panel members questions related to the work SANDAG does and possible solutions through San Diego Forward: The 2021 Regional Plan.

Next Steps
This panel is part of a series of informational agenda items related to the 2021 Regional Plan. Future topics will include big data, the regulatory requirements that guide Regional Plan development, transportation modeling, and Environmental Impact Reports.

Hasan Ikhrata, Executive Director
Key Staff Contact: Ray Major, Chief Economist (619) 595-5668, ray.major@sandag.org
Attachment: 1. Panelist Biographies

Action: Discussion / Possible Action
An overview of the industries driving the San Diego region’s economy and how they have evolved over time will be presented. Representatives from key sectors will speak about their transportation and housing needs. This panel will explore opportunities and identify suggestions to address these needs through San Diego Forward: The 2021 Regional Plan.

Fiscal Impact:
None
Schedule/Scope Impact:
None
Innovation-Driven Cycles Throughout History
The Dynamics of the San Diego Regional Economy

January 17, 2020
Panel Member Biographies

Education

Pradeep Khosla
Chancellor, UC San Diego

Chancellor Pradeep K. Khosla is an internationally renowned electrical and computer engineer recognized for his seminal contributions in secure software, intelligent robot systems, and design. As UC San Diego’s chief executive officer, Khosla provides vision and strategy, leading a campus of more than 38,000 students within six undergraduate colleges and 11 academic divisions and graduate schools; a preeminent health system; and the prestigious Scripps Institution of Oceanography.

Khosla has positioned UC San Diego to define the future of the public research university by activating the institution’s first-ever strategic plan and launching the Campaign for UC San Diego, an ambitious 10-year, $2 billion endeavor aimed at transforming the university physically, intellectually and culturally. $2.14 billion has been raised in seven years. The campus is currently undergoing a $2 billion construction boom to expand classroom and research space and double the number of beds to provide a four-year housing guarantee to undergraduates at 20% below market rate.

Under Chancellor Khosla’s leadership, UC San Diego has expanded college access and affordability for underserved students, initiated campus-wide interdisciplinary research initiatives to foster collaboration and solve societal challenges, created bench-to-bedside patient care, and strengthened research and community partnerships to drive regional impact.
Captain Brien Dickson
Commanding Officer, Naval Base Point Loma

Captain Dickson is the Naval Base Point Loma Commanding Officer. He entered the Navy following high school graduation from Casper, Wyoming. He graduated with distinction from the United States Naval Academy in 1993 with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Aerospace Engineering. He has served for over twenty years as a Submarine Warfare Officer.

After basic submarine and nuclear training, his first assignment was onboard the USS KAMEHAMEHA (SSN 642), where he served in a number of capacities including Damage Control Assistant. While on board, the ship conducted deployments to the Western Pacific supporting various Naval Special Warfare missions as the Pacific’s only Dual Dry Deck capable ship. In August 1997 he reported to the University of Nebraska NROTC Unit as Assistant Professor of Naval Science, where he earned a master’s degree in Mechanical Engineering.

Following advanced submarine officer training, he reported to the USS OHIO (SSBN 726) (Blue) as the Strategic Weapons Officer. He completed three patrols including the last C-4 Follow-on CINC Evaluation Test before entering shipyard to begin the USS OHIO’s conversion to become the first SSGN. He worked as a Submarine Ballistic Missile Planner assigned to United States Strategic Command from January 2004 until December 2005. Serving as the USS LA JOLLA (SSN 701) Executive Officer, he deployed to the Western Pacific in 2006. Following a tour as the Operations Officer for Commander Submarine Force, U.S. Pacific Fleet, he took command of the USS JEFFERSON CITY (SSN 759). Under his command, JEFFERSON CITY deployed to the Arabian Gulf in 2011-2012 earning a Meritorious Unit Citation and was awarded the Battle “E” for 2012. Following command of SSN 759, he served as the Deputy Commander for Training on the staff of Commander Submarine Squadron ELEVEN and as Director, Operational Support for the Chief of Naval Operations (N2/N6F21).

Captain Dickson is authorized to wear the Legion of Merit, Defense Meritorious Service Medal, Meritorious Service Medal, Navy & Marine Corps Commendation Medal, and the Navy & Marine Corps Achievement Medal. The Naval Submarine League recognized him with the RADM Jack N. Darby award for inspirational leadership and excellence in command for the year 2013.
Technology Innovation

Kevin Carroll
Executive Director, Tech San Diego

Kevin leads the efforts at Tech San Diego with best practices and knowledge gained in over fifteen years executive leadership experience at TechAmerica, the American Electronics Association, and most recently CONNECT. He oversees all aspects of Tech San Diego business operations to efficiently provide a voice for the regional technology community. Kevin has lived in the San Diego area since 2000, and like many locals enjoys skateboarding and sailing in his spare time.

Healthcare

Dimitrios Alexiou
President/CEO, Hospital Association of San Diego & Imperial Counties (HASD&IC)

As President/CEO of HASD&IC, Mr. Alexiou provides leadership, representation, advocacy, and acts as an advisory on behalf of over 38 hospitals and health systems in the 2-county region. He also participates in the California Hospital Association’s Executive Management Group, representing nearly 450 hospitals and health systems statewide; and on CHA special committees to address issues of quality and patient safety, managed care, finance, and issues specific to non-profit hospitals, integrated systems, and academic medical centers. Nationally, he is engaged in hospital issues through the American Hospital Association Region Nine Policy Board and the Conference of Metropolitan & Regional Hospital Associations.

Mr. Alexiou was previously the Regional Vice President for the Hospital Association of Southern California (HASC), where he worked with hospital executives, county administrators, and elected officials in Riverside and San Bernardino counties on administrative, public policy and regulatory issues affecting patients, hospitals and health care. He was also adjunct faculty at California State University, San Bernardino and California State University, Northridge, teaching in the master’s in health administration program.

Prior to joining HASC, Dimitrios served as Chief Operating Officer for Totally Kids Specialty Healthcare in Loma Linda, and previously worked for HASC as an administrative fellow in advocacy and government relations.

Dimitrios has a master’s degree in health administration from California State University, Northridge and a bachelor’s degree in Biology from the University of Arizona. In addition, he is a fellow with the American College of Healthcare Executives, a board member for the Health Care Executives of Southern California and a board member for the CSU Northridge health administration alumni.
The San Diego Tourism Authority (SDTA) represents over 900 hospitality organizations and serves as the San Diego region’s tourism marketing engine. Kapich is a frequent guest speaker at industry conferences nationwide as well as a guest lecturer at the San Diego State University School of Hospitality and for LEAD San Diego. In 2001, she was named as one of the “Top 100 Marketers” in the nation by Advertising Age magazine and is the recipient of numerous marketing, advertising and tourism awards including San Diego County Hotel-Motel Association Gold Key “Allied Person of the Year” Award, San Diego Daily Transcript “Women of Influence” Recognition, San Diego Magazine “Woman of the Year” Honoree, San Diego Business Journal Women Who Mean Business Finalist and Multi-Cultural Conventions Services Network “Women In Tourism & Hospitality” Honors.

In 1997, Kapich joined the San Diego Tourism Authority. In her role as COO, she is responsible for strategic planning, brand stewardship, community engagement and revenue development. She is the driving force behind the SDTA’s integrated marketing program and partnerships including major initiatives such as the National Geographic “World’s Smart Cities” San Diego documentary.

Currently, Kapich serves on the Visit California Marketing Advisory Board, Friends of Balboa Park Board of Directors and CalPoly SLO Experience Industry Management Advisory Board. Past board positions include the California Travel Association, California Restaurant Association San Diego Chapter, Junior League of San Diego and the Advertising Club of San Diego. She is a graduate of the LEAD Influence San Diego class of 2017.

A San Diego native, Kapich was featured as one of the “50 People to Watch” by San Diego Magazine. She is a graduate of the University of California, Santa Barbara.