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New Study: Riverside Commute Causes Serious Environmental Damage *Creating More Housing in North San Diego County Would Reduce Impact*

SAN DIEGO (Feb. 18, 2020) - According to a new study released today by the San Diego Regional Chamber of Commerce, workers commuting from Riverside County to San Diego County each day has significant environmental implications. The study found that the more than 53,000 people commuting from Riverside to San Diego travel an extra 1.3 billion miles per year and emit an additional 400,000 metric tons of carbon dioxide when compared to what their commute would be if they lived in homes along the I-15 corridor in North San Diego County.

“The results of this study reinforce what we already know – that San Diego County needs more housing for our workers,” said Jerry Sanders, President and CEO of the San Diego Regional Chamber of Commerce. “If we were to create more housing here in our region, we could greatly reduce commute times and lessen the significant impact that tailpipe emissions have on global warming.”

These commutes have an impact of over 400,000 metric tons of emissions, and represent 26 million hours spent commuting annually, according to the study. Finally, it found that commuters drove 102 miles when commuting from their homes in Riverside to their work in San Diego. Two-thirds of that 102 mile commute is traveling to the San Diego County line from a home in Riverside. This represents a significant quality of life issue and diminishing competitiveness for the San Diego region’s ability to retain its workforce.

The study was conducted by Fehr & Peers, a transportation planning and engineering firm with offices in San Diego. The full study is available [online here](#).

About the San Diego Regional Chamber of Commerce

The San Diego Regional Chamber is the hub for connections and collaboration among the regional business community, and uses that clout to advocate for public policies and candidates that support economic growth and the creation of jobs for all businesses. As the largest local Chamber on the West

Coast, representing approximately 2,500 businesses and an estimated 300,000 jobs, the San Diego Regional Chamber is working to make the San Diego region the best place to live and work. For more information, please visit SDChamber.org or call 619-544-1300.

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