

Hasan Ikhmeta Biography

Considered one of the preeminent transportation planning experts in the nation, Hasan Ikhmeta is the Executive Director of the San Diego Association of Governments (SANDAG). SANDAG is the leading research, planning, and transportation agency for the San Diego region. The agency builds consensus; makes strategic plans; obtains and allocates resources; plans, engineers, and builds public transportation, and provides information on a broad range of topics pertinent to the region's quality of life. Agency policymakers are elected officials from each of the area's 18 cities and the county. Mr. Ikhmeta leads a staff of about 350 professionals who develop public policy initiatives for elected officials on numerous issues encompassing population growth, transportation, environmental management, economic development, municipal finance, binational coordination, and public safety.

Mr. Ikhmeta has over 30 years of public and private sector transportation planning experience in the region. As Executive Director of SANDAG, he directs day-to-day operations of the agency and implements policies set by its governing board. In addition, Mr. Ikhmeta is the Chief Executive Officer of the SANDAG Service Bureau, the nonprofit public benefit corporation chartered by SANDAG.

Mr. Ikhmeta has received several awards and honors from various organizations and agencies including the American Society of Public Administration, Southern California Leadership Council, Orange County Transportation Authority, Orange County Business Council, League of California Cities, City of Los Angeles, State of California Certificate of Recognition, Association of the San Bernardino County Special Districts, the Building Industry Association, regional chapters of the Women's Transportation Seminar and numerous others.

Mr. Ikhmeta holds a Bachelor's and a Master's degree in Civil and Industrial Engineering from Zaporozhye University in the former Soviet Union; a Master's degree in Civil Engineering from UCLA, and a PhD Candidacy in Urban Planning and Transportation from the University of Southern California.

Prior to joining SANDAG in 2018, Mr. Ikhmeta worked for Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG), Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (MTA) and South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD).

Mr. Ikhmeta is an adjunct professor in the business school at California State University, Northridge.