The City of National City is located in southern San Diego County and is bordered by the City of San Diego to the north and east; the unincorporated community of Bonita to the southeast; the City of Chula Vista to the south; and the San Diego Bay and City of Coronado to the west. National City has approximately 9.2 Square miles of incorporated territory, including approximately 1.8 square miles of submerged land within San Diego Bay.

As of 2014, the City of National City has an estimated population of 59,381, which is projected to increase to 90,070 by 2050 (SANDAG Regional Growth Forecast, 2010).

National City is governed by a five-member City Council consisting of a directly-elected Mayor and four Councilmembers elected at-large.

The National City Sphere of Influence is larger than the City’s boundary and includes an unincorporated island containing the community of Lincoln Acres.

The City of National City provides fire protection, police, and wastewater services city-wide.

Water service is provided by the Sweetwater Authority, which is a joint powers agency comprised of National City and the South Bay Irrigation District that manages and operates the water system for National City, western portions of the City of Chula Vista and the unincorporated community of Bonita. The South Bay Irrigation District provides water service to the unincorporated Lincoln Acres community. Trash hauling and disposal services are provided by contract with EDCO Disposal.