Highways to Boulevards
Regional Study
Project Advisory Committee (Phase 1)

Meeting #2

May 9, 2024

SCAG

WELCOME!

Welcome to the <u>second</u> Project Advisory Committee meeting for the Highways to Boulevards Regional Study

WELCOME & RECAP

Part 1

The Project Team

Hina Chanchlani

PROJECT MANAGER
SCAG

Kate White

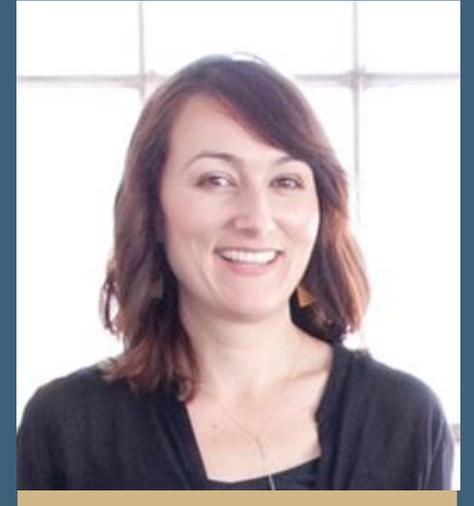**PROJECT DIRECTOR**
ARUP

Carleton Wong

PROJECT MANAGER
ARUP

Nina Harvey

TECHNICAL TEAM
Nelson/Nygaard

Amber Hawkes

PAC Facilitator + Designer
HERE

Let us know you're here! Thanks for joining us!

In the Zoom chat, please:

- Add your name, agency to the chat

Purpose of Today's Meeting

- Add to the Plans and Projects under consideration

- Discuss and prioritize criteria that can be used to gather and screen projects

Today's Agenda

- Part 1: Welcome & Recap (10 min)

- Part 2: Project ID, Screening, & Prioritization (20 min)

- Part 3: Interactive Mural Board (60 min)

- Part 4: Discussion & Next Steps (30 min)

Recap: Defining the Study

Highways to Boulevards Regional Study

Aims to identify areas to remove, retrofit, or mitigate the negative impacts of highways and railways through highway to boulevard conversions, freeway caps, bicycle and pedestrian facilities, and railroad conversions.

Recap: Goals

- Identify locations for conversion and mitigation

- Reknit communities

- Develop methodology to identify potential conversions

- Lift up Priority Equity Communities

- Preserve and create safer and healthier communities

- Position the region for federal funding and implementation

Recap: PAC Phase 1 Meeting Goals

PAC Phase 1 Goals

Meeting 1

- Introduction, visioning, goal setting, planning context, and case studies

Meeting 2

- **Continued project identification**

- **Screening, & prioritization**

Meeting 3

- Review draft corridor selection & discuss

Recap: Study Timeline

● PAC mtg

● We are here

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr
	2024												**2025**			

Best practices / plan review

Existing conditions / project identification

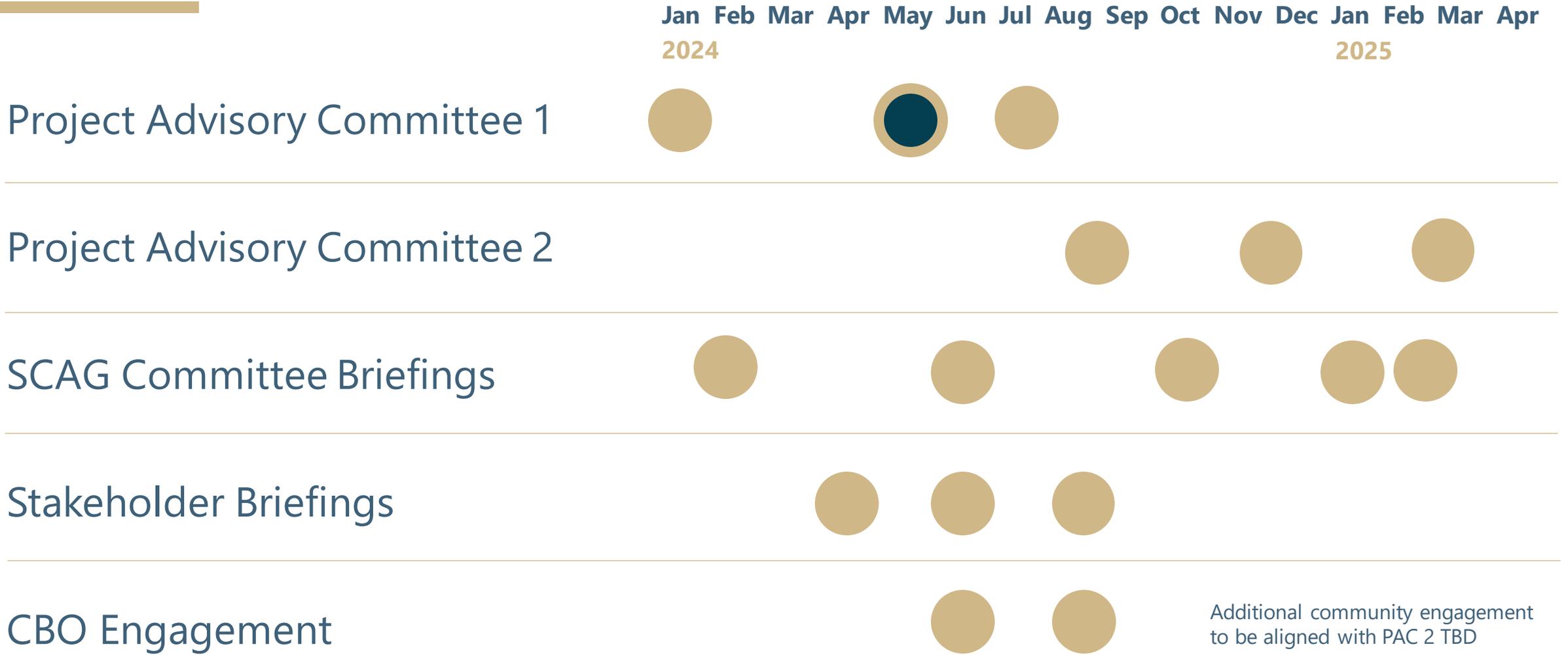**Prioritization framework & criteria**

6 – 10 projects identified

Concept design and final plan

Recap: Key Takeaways

PLAN FOR INCLUSION AND AFFORDABILITY FROM THE START

Infrastructure projects that substantially improve quality of life in a neighborhood often contribute to rising real estate values, which can price out existing residents and small businesses. Getting ahead of this by implementing anti-displacement measures early on is key. As SCAG reviews potential projects, those commited to preventing displacement may be prioritized, and early stage projects should be encouraged to do so.

PRIORITIZING UNDERSERVED COMMUNITIES

As additional relevant projects in the SCAG area are identified and considered as priority projects for this study, they should be screened to verify they are located in underserved communities.

LEVERAGE OVERLAPPING GOALS

As communities develop their project concepts and prepare their applications, considering the ways in which these projects serve the dual purpose of addressing climate change in addition to reconnecting communities may position them to be competitive for funding from a wider range of state—and federal—sources

FIND A PROJECT CHAMPION

Individuals and organizations who are passionate about reconnecting their community and will steward the project through a multi-year process are incredible assets. Projects with strong community support, especially those initiated by the community, are likely to be good candidates to undertake a major project. As projects are reviewed, existing advocates or an established framework for support, like a neighborhood group or business improvement district, should be considered a plus.

THINK BEYOND HIGHWAY CAPS

Context-sensitive solutions are key. Projects like complete streets, bus rapid transit lines to disconnected communities, pedestrian walkways and overpasses, linear parks and trails, main street revitalization, and even the redevelopment of railyards are all eligible for reconnecting communities funds and should be considered in the pool of potential priority projects.`

CONSISTENCY ACROSS LEVELS OF PLANNING

Reconnecting Communities Pilot Program requires projects applying for capital construction grants to be consistent with their state's long-range transportation plan and their MPO's long-range plan (if appliable), and included in the state, MPO, or Tribal Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). As priority projects are selected, the likelihood of support from both a bottom-up and top-down perspective should be considered.

PROJECT ID, SCREENING, & PRIORITIZATION

Part 2

Recap: Guiding Principles

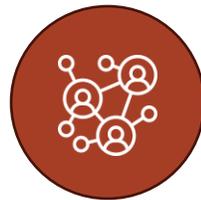## As Informed by the first meeting of PAC Phase 1 & Survey Results

Multimodal

Integrate and promote multimodal travel – improving access to opportunity and restoring community connectivity

Safe

Improve safety for all roadway users

Coordinated

Address regional issues and enhance regional coordination

Equitable

Prioritize historically disadvantaged communities and support economic empowerment

Healthy

Improve health and environmental outcomes

Resilient

Support transportation network resilience to climate impacts

Buildable

Project feasibility from a financial and deliverability point of view

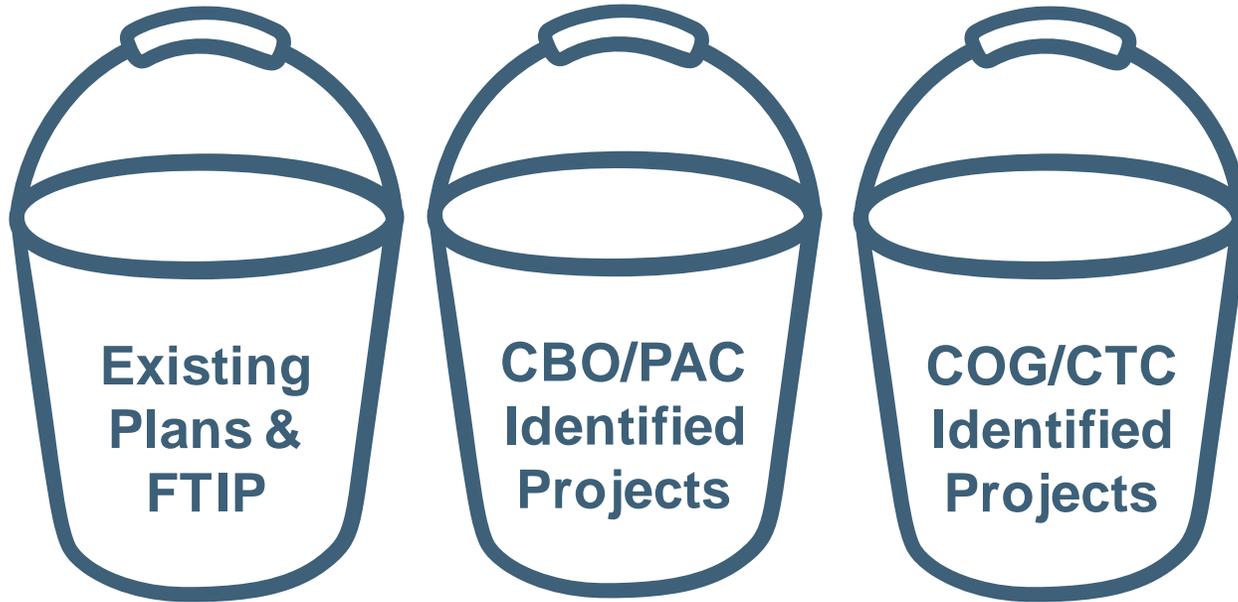# Recap: Guiding Principles

Relation to Connect SoCal (Thematically)

| **Multimodal** | **Safe** | **Coordinated** | **Equitable** | **Healthy** | **Resilient** | **Buildable** |

Mobility   **Communities**   **Environment**   **Economy**

Next Steps in the Study Process

1) Identify Projects & Sources

2) Screen Projects

3) Prioritize Projects

1) Identify Projects & Sources

Existing Plans & FTIP

CBO/PAC Identified Projects

COG/CTC Identified Projects

Review of State Policies, Programs, and Plans

- Caltrans 2020-2024 Strategic Plan
- Caltrans Reconnecting Communities: Highways to Boulevards Pilot Program
- Caltrans Transportation Analysis Framework
- Caltrans Comprehensive Multimodal Corridor Plans (Districts 7, 8, 11, and 12)
- California Climate Action Plan for Transportation Infrastructure
- California Transportation Assessment Report
- Caltrans Freeway Cap Best Practices Guide
- Z – Preparation for Relinquishment Approval Report
- Goods Movement Technical Report

- Metro Vision 2028 Plan
- Our Next LA Long Range Transportation Plan
- Caltrans Project Development Procedures Manual Appendix
- Towards an Active California
- Caltrans Active Transportation (CAT) Plan District 7
- Caltrans Active Transportation (CAT) Plan District 8
- Caltrans Active Transportation (CAT) Plan District 11
- Caltrans Active Transportation (CAT) Plan District 12
- Inter-Regional Transportation Strategic Plan
- State Highway Operation and Protection Program (SHOPP)

Review of Local Plans

Imperial County
- Our Imperial Valley, Our Future, Our Growth Long Range Transportation Plan
- Imperial CTC

Los Angeles County
- Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (LA Metro) Vision 2028 Plan
- LA Metro Our Next LA Long Range Transportation Plan

Orange County
- Beach Boulevard Corridor Study
- Orange County Transportation Authority (OCTA) Direction 2045 Long Range Transportation Plan
- OCTA State Route 91 Comprehensive Multimodal Corridor Plan
- South Orange County Multimodal Transportation Study

San Bernardino County
- Active San Bernardino
- Inland Empire Comprehensive Multimodal Corridor Plan
- San Bernardino Countywide Transportation Plan Update

Riverside County
- Riverside County's Long Range Transportation Study
- Inland Empire Comprehensive Multimodal Corridor Plan

Ventura County
- Ventura County's Comprehensive Transportation Plan
- Ventura County Freight Corridors Study
- VCTC US 101 Communities Connected Multimodal Corridor Study

2) Screen Projects

Identify Projects

Existing Plans & FTIP

CBO/PAC Identified Projects

COG/CTC Identified Projects

Screen Projects

1. **Is this project located within or adjacent to a disadvantaged community?**

2. **Is this project located in an area with poor access to jobs, education, healthcare, food, and recreation?**

3. **Does this project include project elements that remove, retrofit, or mitigate highways or other transportation facilities that create barriers?**

Criteria and data informed by USDOT Reconnecting Communities Grant

3) Prioritize Projects

Identify Projects

Existing Plans & FTIP

CBO/PAC Identified Projects

COG/CTC Identified Projects

Screen Projects

1. Is this project located within or adjacent to a disadvantaged community?

2. Is this project located in an area with poor access to jobs, education, healthcare, food, and recreation?

3. Does this project include project elements that remove, retrofit, or mitigate highways or other transportation facilities that create barriers?

Prioritize

Existing Conditions Data for each project relating to the Guiding Principles

3) Prioritize Projects

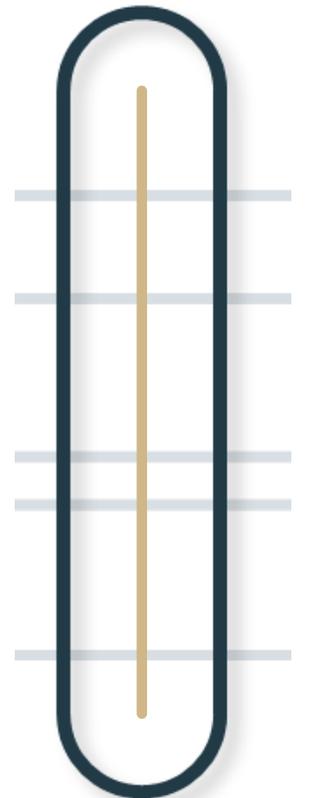**Identify Projects**   **Screen Projects**   **Prioritize Projects**

1. Is this project located within or adjacent to a disadvantaged community?

2. Is this project located in an area with poor access to jobs, education, healthcare, food, and recreation?

3. Does this project include project elements that remove, retrofit, or mitigate highways or other transportation facilities that create barriers?

Existing Plans & FTIP

CBO Identified Projects

COG/CTC Identified Projects

Analyze existing conditions around the project extents

Data Layers to Use for Prioritization

Multimodal

Analyzing whether the project serves multiple modes, including walking, biking, and transit, and links the project to key destinations.

Things to think about for the upcoming activity
What data would you use to measure this?

Data Layers to Use for Prioritization

Safe

Analyzing whether the project serves areas that have high crash rates and would benefit from corridor improvements.

Things to think about for the upcoming activity
What data would you use to measure this?

Data Layers to Use for Prioritization

Coordinated

Analyzing how the project will be implemented, and which agencies and communities will need to coordinate with to implement the project.

Things to think about for the upcoming activity
What data would you use to measure this?

Data Layers to Use for Prioritization

Equitable

Analyzing whether the project serves areas that have been historically underrepresented and may benefit from corridor improvements.

Things to think about for the upcoming activity
What data would you use to measure this?

Data Layers to Use for Prioritization

Healthy

Analyzing whether the project serves sensitive receptors and areas that would benefit from reduced pollution.

Things to think about for the upcoming activity
What data would you use to measure this?

Data Layers to Use for Prioritization

Resilient

Analyzing whether the project serves areas that are more sensitive to climate change impacts and/or increases climate resiliency.

Things to think about for the upcoming activity
What data would you use to measure this?

Data Layers to Use for Prioritization

Buildable

Analyzing whether the project is feasible and can be constructed.

Things to think about for the upcoming activity
What data would you use to measure this?

INTERACTIVE MURAL BOARD

Part 3

Mural Board Activity

tinyurl.com/SCAGPAC

DISCUSSION & NEXT STEPS

Part 4

Large Group Discussion Questions

- What are your takeaways from today's meeting?

- Who can we speak to for additional project ideas from your jurisdiction?

Next Steps: CBO Engagement

- Reach out to CBOs from across the SCAG Region

- Identify CBOs to lead community events and distribute surveys to gain community feedback on priorities and areas of highest need

- Collaborate on concept development once 6 – 10 project locations have been selected

Next Steps: Committee Briefings

Briefings to the following SCAG Committees:

- Regional Transit Technical Advisory Committee (RTTAC) – May 2024

- Transportation Committee (TC) – June 2024

- Safe and Active Streets Working Group (SASWG) – June 2024

Next Steps

Project Advisory Committee Meeting #3 will be held in July 2024.

- We will reach out to you closer to the date to schedule the meeting.

- Between Meetings #2 and #3, the technical team will be screening corridors and assembling a draft list of prioritization criteria.

  - We will send a survey after the meeting so you can **help us vet the draft prioritization criteria**.

- The prioritization criteria will be finalized and shared, and subsequently a draft list of prioritized corridors will be generated by the technical team.

- At Meeting #3 you will be able to review and comment on the draft prioritized corridor list.

THANK YOU!

For more information, please visit:

https://scag.ca.gov/corridor-planning