



NO. 656
SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS
REGIONAL COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
THURSDAY, JUNE 1, 2023

THE FOLLOWING MINUTES ARE A SUMMARY OF ACTIONS TAKEN BY THE REGIONAL COUNCIL. A VIDEO RECORDING OF THE ACTUAL MEETING IS AVAILABLE ON THE SCAG WEBSITE AT: <http://scag.iqm2.com/Citizens/>

The Regional Council (RC) of the Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG) held its regular meeting both in person and virtually (telephonically and electronically). A quorum was present.

Members Present

Hon. Art Brown, President	<i>Buena Park</i>	District 21
Supervisor Curt Hagman, 1st Vice President		San Bernardino County
Hon. Cindy Allen, 2nd Vice President	<i>Long Beach</i>	District 30
Hon. Jan Harnik, Imm. Past President		RCTC
Supervisor Luis Plancarte		Imperial County
Supervisor Don Wagner		Orange County
Supervisor Vianey Lopez		Ventura County
Hon. Maria Nava-Froelich		ICTC
Hon. Brian Goodell		OCTA
Hon. Alan Wapner		SBCTA
Hon. Trish Kelley		TCA
Hon. Mike T. Judge		VCTC
Hon. Gil Rebolgar	<i>Brawley</i>	District 1
Hon. Kathleen Kelly	<i>Palm Desert</i>	District 2
Hon. Linda Krupa	<i>Hemet</i>	District 3
Hon. Clint Lorimore	<i>Eastvale</i>	District 4
Hon. Zak Schwank	<i>Temecula</i>	District 5
Hon. Damon L. Alexander	<i>San Bernardino</i>	District 7
Hon. L. Dennis Michael	<i>Rancho Cucamonga</i>	District 9
Hon. Ray Marquez	<i>Chino Hills</i>	District 10



Hon. Wendy Bucknum	<i>Mission Viejo</i>	District 13
Hon. Lauren Kleiman	<i>Newport Beach</i>	District 15
Hon. Valerie Amezcua	<i>Santa Ana</i>	District 16
Hon. Marshall Goodman	<i>La Palma</i>	District 18
Hon. Joe Kalmick	<i>Seal Beach</i>	District 20
Hon. Marty Simonoff	<i>Brea</i>	District 22
Hon. Frank Yokoyama	<i>Cerritos</i>	District 23
Hon. José Luis Solache	<i>Lynwood</i>	District 26
Hon. Ali Saleh	<i>Bell</i>	District 27
Hon. Mark E. Henderson	<i>Gardena</i>	District 28
Hon. Suely Saro	<i>Long Beach</i>	District 29
Hon. Andrew Sarega	<i>La Mirada</i>	District 31
Hon. Margaret Clark	<i>Rosemead</i>	District 32
Hon. Gary Boyer	<i>Glendora</i>	District 33
Hon. Adele Andrade-Stadler	<i>Alhambra</i>	District 34
Hon. Margaret E. Finlay	<i>Duarte</i>	District 35
Hon. Keith Eich	<i>La Cañada Flintridge</i>	District 36
Hon. Tim Sandoval	<i>Pomona</i>	District 38
Hon. James Gazeley	<i>Lomita</i>	District 39
Hon. Lauren Meister	<i>West Hollywood</i>	District 41
Hon. Konstantine Anthony	<i>Burbank</i>	District 42
Hon. Ken Mann	<i>Lancaster</i>	District 43
Hon. David J. Shapiro	<i>Calabasas</i>	District 44
Hon. Laura Hernandez	<i>Port Hueneme</i>	District 45
Hon. Rocky Rhodes	<i>Simi Valley</i>	District 46
Hon. Jenny Crosswhite	<i>Santa Paula</i>	District 47
Hon. Nithya Raman	<i>Los Angeles</i>	District 51
Hon. Tim McOsker	<i>Los Angeles</i>	District 62
Hon. Steve Manos	<i>Lake Elsinore</i>	District 63
Hon. Casey McKeon	<i>Huntington Beach</i>	District 64
Hon. Elizabeth Becerra	<i>Victorville</i>	District 65
Hon. Oscar Ortiz	<i>Indio</i>	District 66
Hon. Celeste Rodriguez	<i>San Fernando</i>	District 67
Hon. Marisela Nava	<i>Perris</i>	District 69
Hon. Andrew Masiel, Sr.	<i>Pechanga Dev. Corp.</i>	Tribal Gov't Reg'l Planning Brd.
Ms. Lucy Dunn		Business Representative

Members Not Present

Members Not Present

Members Not Present



Supervisor Kathryn Barger		Los Angeles County
Supervisor Hilda Solis		Los Angeles County
Supervisor Karen Spiegel		Riverside County
Hon. Frank Navarro	<i>Colton</i>	District 6
Hon. Deborah Robertson	<i>Rialto</i>	District 8
Hon. Rick Denison	<i>Yucca Valley</i>	District 11
Hon. Tammy Kim	<i>Irvine</i>	District 14
Hon. Jon Dumitru	<i>Orange</i>	District 17
Hon. Ashleigh Aitken	<i>Anaheim</i>	District 19
Hon. Claudia Frometa	<i>Downey</i>	District 25
Hon. Steve Tye	<i>Diamond Bar</i>	District 37
Hon. Drew Boyles	<i>El Segundo</i>	District 40
Hon. Eunisses Hernandez	<i>Los Angeles</i>	District 48
Hon. Paul Krekorian	<i>Los Angeles</i>	District 49/Public Transit Rep.
Hon. Bob Blumenfield	<i>Los Angeles</i>	District 50
Hon. Katy Young Yaroslavsky	<i>Los Angeles</i>	District 52
Hon. Monica Rodriguez	<i>Los Angeles</i>	District 54
Hon. Marqueece Harris-Dawson	<i>Los Angeles</i>	District 55
Hon. Curren D. Price, Jr.	<i>Los Angeles</i>	District 56
Hon. Heather Hutt	<i>Los Angeles</i>	District 57
Hon. Traci Park	<i>Los Angeles</i>	District 58
Hon. John Lee	<i>Los Angeles</i>	District 59
Hon. Hugo Soto-Martinez	<i>Los Angeles</i>	District 60
Hon. Kevin de León	<i>Los Angeles</i>	District 61
Hon. Patricia Lock Dawson	<i>Riverside</i>	District 68
Hon. Karen Bass	<i>Los Angeles</i>	Member-at-Large
Hon. Larry McCallon	<i>Highland</i>	Air District Representative

Staff Present

Darin Chidsey, Chief Operating Officer
Debbie Dillon, Chief Strategy Officer
Cindy Giraldo, Chief Financial Officer
Sarah Jepson, Chief Planning Officer
Javiera Cartagena, Chief Government and Public Affairs Officer
Carmen Flores, Chief Human Resources Officer
Julie Shroyer, Chief Information Officer
Michael Houston, Chief Counsel, Director of Legal Services
Ruben Duran, Board Counsel
Maggie Aguilar, Clerk of the Board

Cecilia Pulido, Deputy Clerk of the Board

CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

President Brown called the meeting to order at 12:01 p.m. and asked Regional Council Member Luis Plancarte, Imperial County, to lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

President Brown opened the Public Comment Period and outlined instructions for public comments. He noted this was the time for persons to comment on any matter pertinent to SCAG's jurisdiction that were not listed on the agenda. He reminded the public to submit comments via email to ePublicComment@scag.ca.gov.

Ruben Duran, Board Counsel, acknowledged there no written public comments received before or after the deadline.

Seeing no public comment speakers, President Brown closed the Public Comment Period.

REVIEW AND PRIORITIZE AGENDA ITEMS

There were no requests to prioritize agenda items.

ACTION ITEM

1. CEQA Addendum No. 4 to Connect SoCal 2020 Programmatic Environmental Impact Report (State Clearinghouse No. 2019011061)

There were no public comments speakers for Item No. 1.

Warren Whiteaker, Integrated Planning and Programming Department Manager, indicated that the presentation would cover both Items 1 and 2. He reported that the purpose of this item was to get Regional Council approval of the Addendum to the PEIR and approval of the amendments and associated transportation conformity determinations. He reminded the Regional Council that the SCAG region had been in a transportation conformity lockdown since August 15, 2021. He explained that they started soliciting needed project modifications from the County Transportation Commissions (CTCs) more than 14 months ago. He noted that there were 215 projects with modifications included in the Connect SoCal 2020 Amendment 3 and that between Connect SoCal 2020 Amendment 3 and 2023 Federal Transportation Improvement Program (FTIP) Consistency Amendment 23-03, there were approximately \$30 billion in projects included. He further explained

that in addition to changes in completion year, scope, and cost, through these amendments, they had been able to accommodate programming of Surface Transportation Block Grant and Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality funds by the CTCs before June 30. He indicated that in accordance with requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), staff evaluated the project modifications to determine if the changes would result in new impacts or a substantial increase in existing impacts and noted that the Addendum fulfilled CEQA requirements. He further explained that in addition to CEQA, the amendments were also required to meet federal transportation conformity requirements. He also indicated that it took extraordinary cooperation and collaboration involving management, legal, and planning staff of multiple agencies to achieve this and thanked all the involved staff from many federal, state, and region air and transportation partner agencies who played a role in resolving the transportation conformity lockdown. He also noted that with the lifting of the conformity lockdown, staff was able to demonstrate that the Plan and FTIP Amendments met all federal conformity requirements as listed. Lastly, he mentioned that following the Regional Council action, staff would forward to the state and federal agencies for final approval.

The comprehensive staff report was included in the agenda packet and posted on the SCAG website. The meeting video is also available on the SCAG website.

A MOTION was made (Hagman) to adopt Resolution No. 23-652-1, approving Addendum No. 4 to the Connect SoCal 2020 Program Environmental Impact Report (PEIR, SCH No. 2019011061), and direct staff to carry out administrative tasks for the approval. Motion was SECONDED (Plancarte). The motion passed by the following roll call votes:

AYES: Alexander, Allen, Amezcua, Andrade-Stadler, Anthony, Becerra, Boyer, Brown, Bucknum, Clark, Crosswhite, Eich, Finlay, Gazeley, Goodell, Goodman, Hagman, Harnik, Henderson, L. Hernandez, Judge, Kalmick, Kelley, Kelly, Krupa, Lopez, Lorimore, Mann, Manos, Marquez, Masiel, Meister, Michael, Nava, Nava-Froelich, Ortiz, Plancarte, Raman, Rebollar, Rhodes, Saleh, Sandoval, Sarega, Saro, Schwank, Shapiro, Simonoff, Solache, Wagner, Wapner, and Yokoyama (51)

NOES: McKeon (1)

ABSTAIN: None (0)

In the interest of time, action on Items 2, 3 and the Consent Calendar were acted upon together. The roll call vote is reflected below.

2. Connect SoCal 2020 Amendment 3 & 2023 Federal Transportation Improvement Program (FTIP) Consistency Amendment 23-03, Including the Associated Transportation Conformity Determinations

There were no public comments speakers for Item No. 2.

The staff presentation was addressed with Item 1 as noted above. The comprehensive staff report was included in the agenda packet and posted on the SCAG website. The meeting video is also available on the SCAG website.

3. STBG/CMAQ Program Guidelines

There were no public comments speakers for Item No. 3.

Warren Whiteaker, Integrated Planning and Programming Department Manager, reported that during SCAG's most recent federal certification review, jointly conducted by the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and Federal Transit Administration (FTA), the region was found to meet federal requirements with one corrective action. He explained that the corrective action pertains to SCAG's role in the prioritization and selection of projects funded with Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) and Surface Transportation Block Grant (STBG) funds. He further explained that SCAG, like other Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPOs) across California, had been complying with California Streets and Highways Code that directs apportionment of CMAQ and STBG funds to the CTCs. He noted that following SCAG's bottoms-up transportation project selection approach, CTCs in the SCAG region had held primary responsibility for programming CMAQ and STBG funds and had sole responsibility for selecting projects in FTIP. He indicated that the certification review notes that federal legislation and regulations require that SCAG, in its role as the MPO, must select projects to be implemented using federal funds, including for CMAQ and STBG. He indicated that in order to comply with the corrective action, SCAG would 1) initiate a regional call for nominations; 2) continue to rely on the six CTCs in the SCAG region for assistance in the process for local outreach within their respective counties and with initial project screening against the SCAG developed selection criteria and identification of county-level project prioritization; and 3) SCAG staff would evaluate nominations against program criteria and recommend a list of projects for Regional Council approval. He highlighted that through collaboration with the CTCs, Caltrans, and their federal partners, SCAG had been able to reach some critical milestones over the past year in addressing the federal corrective action, which was issued last year and had received positive feedback on the Compliance Action Plan. He also explained that SCAG staff had worked with CTC staff and other partners to develop draft CMAQ and STBG program guidelines to define the specifics of the new process and recently presented the program guidelines to the CTC CEOs, and based on that feedback, submitted the guidelines to Caltrans and the federal agencies for their consideration.

Lastly, he noted that although the new project selection process will be effective July 1, SCAG anticipated issuing a call for projects next year for inclusion in the 2025 FTIP.

The comprehensive staff report was included in the agenda packet and posted on the SCAG website. The meeting video is also available on the SCAG website.

A MOTION was made (Anthony) to approve **Item No. 2:** Adopt Resolution No. 23-656-2, approving the Connect SoCal 2020 Amendment 3 & 2023 Federal Transportation Improvement Program (FTIP) Consistency Amendment 23-03, including the associated transportation conformity determinations; **Item No. 3:** Approve STBG/CMAQ Program Guidelines. Authorize Executive Director to initiate call for projects consistent with approved guidelines; and **Consent Calendar** Items 4 through 12 and Receive and File Items 13 through 23. Motion was SECONDED (Solache). The motion passed by the following roll call votes:

AYES: Alexander, Allen, Amezcua, Andrade-Stadler, Anthony, Becerra, Boyer, Brown, Bucknum, Clark, Crosswhite, Eich, Finlay, Gazeley, Goodell, Goodman, Hagman, Harnik, Henderson, L. Hernandez, Judge, Kalmick, Kelley, Kelly, Krupa, Lopez, Lorimore, Mann, Manos, Marquez, Masiel, McOsker, Meister, Michael, Nava, Nava-Froelich, Ortiz, Plancarte, Raman, Rebollar, Rhodes, C. Rodriguez, Saleh, Sandoval, Sarega, Saro, Schwank, Shapiro, Simonoff, Solache, Wagner, Wapner, and Yokoyama (53)

NOES: McKeon (1)

ABSTAIN: None (0)

CONSENT CALENDAR

There were no public comments on the Consent Calendar.

Approval Items

4. Minutes of the Regular Meeting – May 4, 2023
5. Adoption of Amended SCAG Conflict of Interest Code
6. Approval for Additional Stipend Payment
7. Contract Amendment: Contract No. 20-002-C01, Board Counsel Services – Term Extension

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8. Contracts \$500,000 or Greater: Contact No. 23-024-C01, Lennox Community Pedestrian Plan
 9. Housing and Transportation Bills of Interest Follow-Up
 10. 2023 Sacramento Summit Legislation Follow-Up
 11. Safety, Resilience, and Housing Bills – Support
 12. SCAG Memberships and Sponsorships

Receive and File

13. June 2023 State and Federal Legislative Update
14. Transportation Conformity Determination of Proposed Final Connect SoCal 2020 Amendment 3 and 2023 Federal Transportation Improvement Program Consistency Amendment #23-03
15. Status Report on SCAG's Racial Equity Early Action Plan
16. Connect SoCal 2024: Equity Analysis Update – Priority Equity Communities
17. Connect SoCal 2024: Local Data Exchange (LDX) Survey Results
18. Connect SoCal Regional Growth Vision & Local Data Exchange Evaluation
19. RHNA Reform Process Updates
20. SCAG Regional Travel Demand Model (ABM) Peer Review Meeting
21. Federal Performance Target Update
22. Purchase Orders, Contract and Amendments below Regional Council Approval Threshold
23. CFO Monthly Report

BUSINESS REPORT

Regional Council Member Lucy Dunn reported that State Farm had pulled out from issuing insurance policies for any new business plans or new construction in California but would continue to stay in the state for existing homeowners. She noted that with about 21% of the market share in

California, this was a big hit. She explained that there was a lot of talk about it being as a result of wildfires and inflation. She further explained that the business community contends that it is a result of the way they were implementing Proposition 103 which passed by the voters years ago that allowed the insurance commissioner the ability to raise rates, but they would not because it was not one of the things that they want to do. She noted that State Farm had tried to get them to match rate raises with their risk assessments from wildfires. She indicated that wildfires and climate change were issues in other states too, but State Farm had not pulled out of other states, only California. She indicated that the building industry continued to try to work with the insurance commissioner, because it was going to impact all the planning on housing if they can't get fire insurance to protect housing. She also reported that Disneyland Resort was going through the environmental process with community outreach and would eventually go through Anaheim's planning commission and then City Council for a billion-dollar investment. She explained that Disneyland continued to be the state's number one single-site employer in all of California, drawing employees from every county in the SCAG region. She also reported that Disney had pulled back 2000 jobs that they had sent from California to Florida because of all the Florida litigation that was happening between the governor's administration and the Disney Resort. She reported that business leaders throughout the state were in the process of sending a very strong letter of support to the Governor on his 11-Point Plan to advance and expedite infrastructure and transportation projects in California, including CEQA reform. She indicated that the business community notes that the legislature is not accepting trailer bills, but they want to go through a process. She noted that the business community was saying that if they can't build these projects then they can't meet the climate change goals and the energy objectives. She also reported that the office market, especially in some downtowns, was in a freefall and that major U.S. and international companies were selling their offices at significant losses or in some cases, just giving them back to the lenders. She explained that this should not have a big impact on most of their suburban cities in the SCAG region, but it may have some impact. She indicated that Regional Council members should look to their staff and review the office buildings in their communities to see which ones might be vulnerable to financial turmoil. She indicated that this could impact downtown retail and other factors such as loss of jobs. She stated that the potential bright side was that in some of these suburban markets, these offices might be able to be raised and then redeveloped into either housing or other economically development sustainable projects. She noted that there was a lot of talk about high rise office buildings being transferred into housing and that it was not going to happen as it was way too hard and expensive. Lastly, she reported that the Central California Intelligence Center cautioned them to be very careful of Artificial Intelligence (AI) voice cloning which was capable of digitally replicating human voices for impersonation or deception. She noted that Instances of false kidnapping, bomb threats and grandparents' scams had been recently reported.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT



President Brown welcomed the following new Regional Council Members: Damon L. Alexander, San Bernardino, RC District 7; Rick Denison, Yucca Valley, RC District 11; Johnathan Dumitru, Orange, RC District 17; Celeste Rodriguez, San Fernando, RC District 67; Andrew Sarega, La Mirada, RC District 31; and Suely Saro, Long Beach, RC District 29. He announced that he had made several committee appointments to the following committees: Emerging Technologies Committee, the Legislative/Communications and Membership Committee, and the Executive Administration Committee and congratulated all the appointees. He also provided a recap of SCAG's 58th Annual Regional Conference and General Assembly. He also took a moment to recognize the Scholarship award recipients which were approved in May. He also reported that he participated in a Broadband Digital Equity workshop along with Executive Director Kome Ajise and Regional Council members Suely Saro and Mark Henderson, in Long Beach on May 20 which was hosted by SCAG, the California Department of Technology and the California Public Utilities Commission. He indicated that the purpose of the workshop was to gather input on the development of the State Digital Equity Plan and the Broadband Equity, Access and Deployment Five-Year Action Plan. Lastly, he reported that the next meeting of the Regional Council was scheduled for Thursday, July 6, 2023, at 12:00 p.m.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Executive Director Ajise acknowledged the approval of the action items on the agenda and noted they were very significant. He reported that they had wrapped up the public outreach process for Connect SoCal and held 14 in person and seven virtual meetings with input from stakeholders and the public. He indicated that they would present the highlights and findings from Connect SoCal outreach to the Regional Council next month and would also ask the Executive/Administration Committee and Regional Council to approve an update to the Connect SoCal Policy Development Framework based on feedback received at the May Policy Committee meetings. He also provided an update on the RHNA reform process and indicated that SCAG was seeking input from jurisdictions and stakeholders on their draft RHNA reform recommendations through a brief public survey, outreach and a listening session on June 22nd. He noted that the draft recommendations, survey and registration for the listening session could all be found at scag.ca.gov/rhna. He provided an update on the SoCal Greenprint Technical Advisory Committee and noted that they were almost done forming the Committee to ensure regional representation. He indicated that once the membership was finalized, SCAG would schedule meetings with the TAC. He also reported that SCAG hosted the California Secretary of Transportation Toks Omishakin on May 8 for a listening session with regional transit agencies on economy, workforce development, transition to zero emissions, and additional funding needs for transit operations. He also reported that he participated in the inaugural board meeting for the Los Angeles County Affordable Housing Solutions Agency (LACAHS) on May 17. Additionally, he also participated in the Annual 88 Cities Summit where they discussed homelessness, the digital divide and clean-technology infrastructure. Lastly, he provided an update on items related to the Last Mile Freight Program. He indicated that

the new Advanced Clean Fleet Rules require registered trucks to be zero-emission by 2035 which had serious implications across tens of thousands of container trucks operating today in the SCAG region, many of which are owned by small businesses. He explained that in alignment with SCAG's Goods Movement Supply Chain Resolution, their partnership with the MSRC was helping to fund this transition to near-zero and zero-emission trucks and infrastructure. A video was played on one of the projects.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

There were no future agenda items.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were no announcements.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, President Brown adjourned the Regional Council meeting at 12:51 p.m.

[MINUTES ARE UNOFFICIAL UNTIL APPROVED BY THE REGIONAL COUNCIL]

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