



Southern California Association of Governments
900 Wilshire Boulevard, Suite 1700, Los Angeles, California 90017
August 1, 2019

NO. 612
SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS
REGIONAL COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE MEETING
THURSDAY, JUNE 6, 2019

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/>

In conjunction with the Regional Conference and General Assembly, the Regional Council of the Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG) held its regular meeting at the SCAG main office, 900 Wilshire Boulevard, Suite 1700, Los Angeles, CA 90017.

Members Present

Table with 3 columns: Member Name, City, and District. Includes members like Hon. Bill Jahn (Big Bear Lake, District 11), Hon. Rex Richardson (Long Beach, District 29), and various supervisors from different counties.

OUR MISSION

To foster innovative regional solutions that improve the lives of Southern Californians through inclusive collaboration, visionary planning, regional advocacy, information sharing, and promoting best practices.

OUR VISION

Southern California's Catalyst for a Brighter Future

OUR CORE VALUES

Be Open | Lead by Example | Make an Impact | Be Courageous



Members Present...continued

Hon. Charles Puckett	<i>Tustin</i>	District 17
Hon. Stacy Berry	<i>Cypress</i>	District 18
Hon. Trevor O’Neill	<i>Anaheim</i>	District 19
Hon. Art Brown	<i>Buena Park</i>	District 21
Hon. Marty Simonoff	<i>Brea</i>	District 22
Hon. Sean Ashton	<i>Downey</i>	District 25
Hon. Emma Sharif	<i>Compton</i>	District 26
Hon. Dan Medina	<i>Gardena</i>	District 28
Hon. Margaret Clark	<i>Rosemead</i>	District 32
Hon. Steve De Ruse	<i>La Mirada</i>	District 31
Hon. Jorge Marquez	<i>Covina</i>	District 33
Hon. Margaret E. Finlay	<i>Duarte</i>	District 35
Hon. Teresa Real Sebastian	<i>Monterey Park</i>	District 34
Hon. Steve Tye	<i>Diamond Bar</i>	District 37
Hon. Tim Sandoval	<i>Pomona</i>	District 38
Hon. James Gazeley	<i>Lomita</i>	District 39
Hon. Jess Talamantes	<i>Burbank</i>	District 42
Hon. David Shapiro	<i>Calabasas</i>	District 44
Hon. Carmen Ramirez	<i>Oxnard</i>	District 45
Hon. David Pollock	<i>Moorpark</i>	District 46
Hon. Tim Holmgren	<i>Fillmore</i>	District 47
Hon. David Ryu	<i>Los Angeles</i>	District 51
Hon. Steve Manos	<i>Lake Elsinore</i>	District 63
Hon. Lyn Semeta	<i>Huntington Beach</i>	District 64
Hon. Rita Ramirez	<i>Victorville</i>	District 65
Hon. Megan Beaman Jacinto	<i>Coachella</i>	District 66
Hon. Marsha McLean	<i>Santa Clarita</i>	District 67
Hon. Marisela Magana	<i>Perris</i>	District 69
Hon. Brian McDonald		Tribal Gov’t Reg’l Plng Board
Mr. Randall Lewis	<i>Lewis Group of Companies</i>	Business Representative

Members Not Present

Hon. Randon Lane, 1st Vice President	<i>Murrieta</i>	District 5
Supervisor Luis Plancarte		Imperial County
Supervisor Hilda Solis		Los Angeles County
Supervisor Curt Hagman		San Bernardino County
Hon. James Predmore	<i>Holtville</i>	ICTC

Members Not Present...continued

VACANT		District 3
Hon. Deborah Robertson	<i>Rialto</i>	District 8
Hon. Fred Minagar	<i>Laguna Niguel</i>	District 12
Hon. Steve Nagel	<i>Fountain Valley</i>	District 15
Hon. Tri Ta	<i>Westminster</i>	District 20
VACANT		District 23
Hon. Sonny Santa Ines	<i>Bellflower</i>	District 24
Hon. Ali Saleh	<i>Bell</i>	District 27
Hon. Lena Gonzalez	<i>Long Beach</i>	District 30
Hon. Jonathan Curtis	<i>La Cañada Flintridge</i>	District 36
Hon. Judy Mitchell	<i>Rolling Hills Estates</i>	District 40
Hon. Meghan Sahli-Wells	<i>Culver City</i>	District 41
Hon. Steven Hofbauer	<i>Palmdale</i>	District 43
Hon. Gilbert Cedillo	<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. Paul Koretz	<i>Los Angeles</i>	District 52
Hon. Nury Martinez	<i>Los Angeles</i>	District 53
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. Herb Wesson, Jr.	<i>Los Angeles</i>	District 57
Hon. Mike Bonin	<i>Los Angeles</i>	District 58
VACANT	<i>Los Angeles</i>	District 59
Hon. Mitch O'Farrell	<i>Los Angeles</i>	District 60
Hon. José Huizar	<i>Los Angeles</i>	District 61
Hon. Joe Buscaino	<i>Los Angeles</i>	District 62
Hon. Rusty Bailey	<i>Riverside</i>	District 68
Hon. Eric Garcetti	<i>Los Angeles</i>	Member-at-Large

Staff Present

Kome Ajise, Executive Director
 Darin Chidsey, Chief Operating Officer
 Debbie Dillon, Chief Strategy Officer
 Frank J. Lizarraga, Jr. General Counsel
 Joann Africa, Chief Counsel/Director of Legal Services
 Art Yoon, Director of Policy and Public Affairs

Basil Panas, Chief Financial Officer
Julie Loats, Chief Information Officer
Sarah Jepson, Interim Director of Planning

CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Honorable Bill Jahn President, called the meeting to order at 12:15PM and asked The Honorable Rex Richardson, 2nd Vice President, to lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

President Jahn opened the public comment period.

There being no public comment speakers, President Jahn closed the public comment period.

REVIEW AND PRIORITIZE AGENDA ITEMS

There was no request to prioritize agenda items.

ACTION/DISCUSSION ITEM

1. 2019 SCAG Scholarship Program

President Jahn introduced the item and asked Scholarship Committee Chair Cheryl Viegas-Walker to provide background information.

The Honorable Cheryl Viegas-Walker reported the committee reviewed twenty-four (24) applications from throughout the SCAG region and made recommendations based on the applicant's essay, career goals and other activities. She also reported that apart from the SCAG-funded awards, the California Transportation Foundation (CTF) partnered with SCAG this year to match and provide funding for one (1) additional scholarship award. Chair Viegas-Walker announced the names of the ten (10) students who are being recommended to the Regional Council to receive the 2019 SCAG Scholarship Award. She recognized the Scholarship Committee members for their time and dedication.

President Jahn thanked CTF for partnering with SCAG and Chair Viegas-Walker for her leadership along with the members for their work in the Scholarship Committee.

A MOTION was made (Navarro) to approve the slate of recipients of the 2019 SCAG Scholarship Program Award. Motion was SECONDED (Richardson) and passed by the following votes:

FOR: Ashton, Barger, Beaman Jacinto, Benoit, Berry, Brown, Bucknum, Carroll, Clark, DeRuse,

Finlay, Gazeley, Harnik, Holmgren, Huang, Iglesias, Jahn, Judge, Kelly, Lorimore, Magana, Manos, J. Marquez, R. Marquez, McCallon, McLean, Medina, Michael, Navarro, O'Neil, Parks, Pollock, Puckett, C. Ramirez, R. Ramirez, Real Sebastian, Richardson, Sandoval, Semeta, Shapiro, Simonoff, Spiegel, Tye, Viegas-Walker, Wagner and Wapner (46).

AGAINST: None (0)

ABSTAIN: None (0)

CONSENT CALENDAR

Approval Items

2. Minutes of the Meeting - May 2, 2019
 3. Approval for Additional Stipend Payments
 4. Legal Services Contract
 5. Proposed Revisions to Regional Council Policy Manual related to Regional Council District Representative Election Procedures
 7. Active Transportation Database Caltrans Partnership
 8. AB 11 (Chiu) - Community Redevelopment Law of 2019
 10. AB 335 (Garcia) - Imperial County Transportation Commission
 12. Notice of Exemption (NOE) for the SCAG Local Demonstration Initiative
 13. Notice of Exemption (NOE) San Gabriel Valley Greenway Network Implementation Plan
 14. SCAG Memberships and Sponsorships
 15. Contracts \$200,000 or Greater: 19-030-C01, SCAG Regional Greenprint
 16. Contracts \$200,000 or Greater: 19-050-C01, Riverside Active Transportation Plan (ATM) Phase 2
 17. Contracts \$200,000 or Greater: 19-040-C01, City of Wildomar Active Transportation Plan
-

Receive and File

18. SCAG Randall Lewis Employee Wellness Program
19. Connect SoCal Technical Methodology Submittal to California Air Resources Board
20. June State and Federal Legislative Monthly Update
21. Purchase Orders \$5,000 - \$199,000; Contracts: \$25,000 - \$199,000 and Amendments \$5,000

President Jahn noted that Agenda Item No. 18, related to the Employee Wellness Program, is generously sponsored by Randall Lewis. The six-month program is designed as a series of monthly health challenges, where teams compete for recognition and prizes. To increase the visibility of the program and create a prominent role for our elected leaders, each of the Officers will “Captain” one of the wellness teams. President Jahn thanked Randall Lewis for his generosity.

The following agenda items were pulled from the Consent Calendar: Item 6 by Councilmember Stacy Berry; Item 9 by Supervisor Don Wagner; Item 11, by Councilmember Margaret Clark; and Receive and File agenda item 22, by Supervisor Linda Parks.

A MOTION was made (Brown) to approve the Consent Calendar except for Agenda Item Nos. 6, 9 and 11; and Receive and File Item 22. Motion was SECONDED (Michael) and passed by the following votes:

FOR: Ashton, Barger, Beaman Jacinto, Benoit, Berry, Brown, Bucknum, Carroll, Clark, DeRuse, Finlay, Gazeley, Harnik, Holmgren, Huang, Iglesias, Jahn, Judge, Kelly, Lorimore, Magana, Manos, J. Marquez, R. Marquez, McCallon, McLean, Medina, Michael, Navarro, O’Neil, Parks, Pollock, Puckett, C. Ramirez, R. Ramirez, Real Sebastian, Richardson, Sandoval, Semeta, Shapiro, Sharif, Simonoff, Spiegel, Tye, Viegas-Walker, Wagner and Wapner (47).

AGAINST: None (0)

ABSTAIN: None (0)

PULLED AGENDA ITEMS NOS. 6, 9, 11 AND 22

6. Regional Housing Needs Assessment (RHNA) Consultation Package to the State Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD)

Councilmember Stacy Berry, Cypress, District 18, commented that significant concerns were raised at the CEHD Committee meeting and because of this, she offered a motion to “amend the HCD

Consultation Package so that the proposed regional total reflects the local input of 430,289 and still provide the regional data elements related to the existing need number on a separate list in the HCD package." Motion was SECONDED (Bucknum).

Second Vice President Rex Richardson commented on the outcome of the vote at the earlier meeting of the CEHD Committee and asked Executive Director Kome Ajise to provide a clarification. Mr. Ajise responded that the CEHD committee did approve staff's recommendation regarding the RHNA Consultation package which incorporated a regional housing need total that reflected both existing need and projected needed. Mr. Ajise also provided background information on the RHNA requirements and consultation with HCD regarding assessments for the region including recognizing legislative changes (SB 828 and AB 1771) that are closely related to existing housing needs and consideration of projected needs that is consistent with the growth forecast.

Discussion ensued regarding the RHNA process; the proposed amendment to the consultation package [as made in the motion by Councilmember Berry] that seeks to exclude the consideration of the existing need and therefore, not strategic to ignore state laws in the consultation package to HCD; clarification on the proposed amendment; and concerns regarding the numbers indicating shortage of housing (Richardson, Kelly, Huang and McLean).

President Jahn asked Councilmember Berry to clarify and repeat her motion. Councilmember Berry repeated her motion to amend the HCD Consultation Package so that the proposed regional total reflects the local input of 430,289 and can still provide the regional data elements related to the existing need number on a separate list in the HCD package. President Jahn noted the motion was seconded by Councilmember Bucknum.

In reference to page 34 of the agenda packet, Second Vice President Rex Richardson asked staff to provide further clarification. Kevin Kane, SCAG staff, explained the assessment of the SCAG region housing need; the projected household growth; and estimate of additional housing need existing at the beginning of the RHNA projection period. Second Vice President Richardson thanked Kevin Kane for the clarification and offered a SUBSTITUTE MOTION approving staff's recommendation regarding the RHNA Consultation package to HCD. Motion was SECONDED (Finlay).

Discussion ensued opposing the substitute motion; interpretations on the projected household growth; existing need versus projected need; understanding the outcome of the CEHD Committee's vote regarding this matter; and HCD's process and desire to treat COGs evenly across the state (Clark, Real Sebastian, McLean, Carroll, Semeta and Finlay).

For clarification purposes, President Jahn repeated the substitute motion, offered by Second Vice President Richardson and seconded by Councilmember Finlay, approving staff's recommendation. The substitute motion failed by the following votes.

- FOR:** Ashton, Beaman Jacinto, Brown, Finlay, Gazeley, Harnik, Huang, Jahn, Kelly, J. Marquez, McCallon, Michael, Navarro, Pollock, C. Ramirez, R. Ramirez, Richardson, Ryu, Sandoval, Sharif, Viegas-Walker and Wapner (22)
- AGAINST:** Benoit, Berry, Bucknum, Carroll, Clark, DeRuse, Holmgren, Iglesias, Judge, Lorimore, Manos, R. Marquez, McLean, Medina, O’Neil, Puckett, Real Sebastian, Semeta, Shapiro, Simonoff, Spiegel, Talamantes, Tye and Wagner (24)
- ABSTAIN:** Magana and Parks (2)

Because the substitute motion failed, the members voted on the original motion (Berry and seconded by Bucknum) to amend the HCD Consultation Package so that the proposed regional total reflects the local input of 430,289 and can still provide the regional data elements regarding the existing need number on a separate list in the HCD package. Motion passed by the following votes:

- FOR:** Benoit, Berry, Brown, Bucknum, Carroll, Clark, DeRuse, Holmgren, Huang, Iglesias, Judge, Lorimore, R. Marquez, McLean, Medina, O’Neil, Puckett, R. Ramirez, Real Sebastian, Semeta, Shapiro, Simonoff, Spiegel, Talamantes, Tye, Wagner and Wapner (27)
- AGAINST:** Ashton, Beaman Jacinto, Finlay, Gazeley, Harnik, Jahn, Kelly, Manos, J. Marquez, McCallon, Michael, Navarro, Parks, Pollock, C. Ramirez, Richardson, Ryu, Sandoval, Sharif, and Viegas-Walker (20)
- ABSTAIN:** Magana (1)

9. AB 47 (Daly) - Driver Records: Points: Distracted Driving

Supervisor Don Wagner, Orange County, stated that he does not have a problem with the underlying policy and expressed opposition for AB 47 (Daly). He stated the bill is not within the jurisdiction of the agency and cautioned the members in taking a position on certain bills—whether good or bad—especially an insurance industry-driven bill such as AB 47.

Councilmember Cheryl Viegas-Walker, El Centro, District 1, stated support for AB 47 and referenced page 57 of the agenda packet that defines the nexus between SCAG’s core priorities and the measure [*“...AB 47’s goal of reducing traffic collisions, injuries and deaths by imposing a stricter penalty for a second offense on the use of electronic devices while driving which can assist in meeting SCAG’s regional safety targets adopted by the Regional Council and required by the FHWA”*].

Immediate Past President Alan Wapner commented that while he understands Supervisor Wagner's comments, AB 47 falls within SCAG's jurisdiction as it directly impacts the agency's mission and goals. He stated that SCAG's Go Human Campaign and its traffic safety program focuses on safe streets strategy, partnering with cities to deploy demonstration projects that increase public awareness of engineering solutions to address fatalities and serious injuries.

A MOTION was made (Finlay) to support AB 47 (Daly) - Driving Records: Points: Districted Driving. Motion was SECONDED (Richardson) and passed by the following votes:

FOR: Ashton, Barger, Beaman-Jacinto, Benoit, Berry, Brown, Bucknum, Clark, DeRuse, Finlay, Gazeley, Harnik, Holmgren, Huang, Jahn, Kelly, Magana, J. Marquez, R. Marquez, McCallon, McLean, Medina, Michael, Navarro, O'Neil, Parks, Pollock, Puckett, C. Ramirez*, R. Ramirez, Real Sebastian, Richardson, Ryu, Sandoval, Semeta, Shapiro, Sharif, Simonoff, Spiegel, Talamantes, Tye, Viegas-Walker and Wapner (43)*

AGAINST: Carroll, Iglesias, Judge, Lorimore, Manos and Wagner (6).

ABSTAIN: None (0)

After the voting was closed, Regional Councilmember Carmen Ramirez, Oxnard, District 45, stated she inadvertently voted "No" and indicated that she intended to vote "Yes" on Agenda Item 9, *AB 47 (Daly) - Driver Records: Points: Distracted Driving*. General Counsel Frank Lizarraga directed staff to correct Councilmember Ramirez's vote as a "Yes" vote and is annotated* above.

11. S. 923 (Feinstein) - Fighting Homelessness through Services and Housing Act

Councilmember Margaret Clark, Rosemead, District 32, stated support for S. 923 (Feinstein); however, she pulled the item because she would like to incorporate a language on the bill that will address funding for programs supporting mental health and drug-dependency issues.

A MOTION was made (Clark) to support S. 923 (Feinstein). Motion was SECONDED (Barger) and passed by the following votes:

FOR: Ashton, Barger, Beaman Jacinto, Benoit, Berry, Brown, Bucknum, Carroll, Clark, DeRuse, Finlay, Gazeley, Harnik, Holmgren, Huang, Iglesias, Jahn, Kelly, Lorimore, Magana, Manos, J. Marquez, R. Marquez, McCallon, McLean, Medina, Michael, Navarro, O'Neil, Parks, Pollock, Puckett, C. Ramirez, R. Ramirez, Real Sebastian, Richardson, Ryu, Sandoval, Semeta, Shapiro, Sharif, Simonoff, Spiegel, Tye, Viegas-Walker, Wagner and Wapner (47).

AGAINST: Judge (1)

ABSTAIN: None (0)

22. CFO Monthly Report

President Jahn introduced the item and asked Basil Panas, Chief Financial Officer, to provide background information.

Supervisor Linda Parks, Ventura County, expressed concerns regarding the Caltrans audit findings and read excerpts from the report. She stated she is pleased with the hiring of Executive Director Kome Ajise, a former Chief Deputy Director of Caltrans, who will work on making the agency be more transparent, be held accountable and to take the audit findings as a 'call for action' while ensuring SCAG's fiscal policies are in order. Supervisor Parks asked that SCAG's response that is due August 1st relative to the audit findings be made available to the Regional Council.

Discussion ensued and additional comments were made regarding issues on transparency and conflict of interests, (Finlay, Carroll and Richardson). In an attempt to fully be transparent, Mr. Ajise noted that the Caltrans' determination letter, dated May 7, 2019, was electronically communicated to all members of the Audit Committee immediately upon receipt. Since then, SCAG staff has been working towards a Corrective Action Plan due to Caltrans on August 1. Additionally, staff is also working on addressing the weaknesses in SCAG's processes. Mr. Ajise conveyed his full commitment to the Regional Council by making improvements to the agency's processes by strengthening those weaknesses that were identified in the audit report.

Supervisor Don Wagner further commented regarding transparency issues especially on how we do business, and how we account and respond to our vendors.

Councilmember Jess Talamantes, Burbank, District 42, commented that transparency is not the issue but the lack of oversight and as members of the Regional Council, we have to ask staff the tough questions.

Councilmember Cheryl Viegas-Walker, El Centro, District 1, suggested when drafting a response to Caltrans, to consider taking into account the comments made by the Regional Council members and address the issues and deficiencies that were identified to ensure changes are made. She expressed appreciation for SCAG's Internal Auditor who has regularly identified the deficiencies and systematically informed the Audit Committee of these findings.

BUSINESS REPORT

As the business representative to the Regional Council, Ex-Officio Member Randall Lewis, Lewis Group of Companies, provided an update regarding the recent shopping convention center that he attended and reported the impact of several stores that are closing for business. Mr. Lewis also attended the home-builders' conference and reported the discussions relative to the state's housing issues. In closing, Mr. Lewis recounted the following: (1) potential slowing down of the global economy; (2) the threat of tariffs that have caused alarm in California and the issues arising for some of the state's key export areas that threaten its trading partners which may impact each community very differently; and (3) how manufacturing factories may be moving out of state due to increasing effects of climate change.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

President Jahn welcomed the following new members:

- (1) Brian McDonald, Tribal Government Regional Planning Board Representative; also in EAC
- (2) RC District 7 Larry McCallon, Highland, also in TC
- (3) RC District 14 Michael Carroll, Irvine; also in TC
- (4) RC District 37 Steve Tye, Diamond Bar, also in TC
- (5) Orange County Supervisor Don Wagner, also in TC

Appointments to Policy Committees:

- (1) Leslie Daigle, Newport Beach - to the Emerging Technologies Committee
- (2) Jim Mulvihill, San Bernardino - to CEHD and RHNA
- (3) John Mirisch, Beverly Hills - to CEHD
- (4) Carlos Rodriguez, Yorba Linda - to TC
- (5) Drew Boyles, El Segundo - to TC
- (6) Rhonda Shader, Placentia - to EEC

Finally, President Jahn announced the following President's Appointments to the Executive Committee:

- (1) Supervisor Luis Plancarte
- (2) Margaret Finlay
- (3) L. Dennis Michael
- (4) Frank Navarro

President Jahn announced that he is seeking members to the Audit Committee especially those who members who are financial experts and/or have experience in accounting and audit principles. If interested in serving the committee to contact staff.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Kome Ajise, Executive Director, commented that he is humbled by being SCAG's Executive Director. He expressed appreciation for the energetic discussions during today's meeting. Mr. Ajise reported that he has made some restructuring decisions to address some of process improvement needs that have been identified at SCAG.

Mr. Ajise shared the peer review for SCAG's Activity Based Model (ABM) which is the technical basis for all the plan evaluations that SCAG undertakes has just been completed. The peer review went very well with experts from across the country validating SCAG's model. ABM is first in the nation in terms of capacity, size and technology.

Mr. Ajise reported that while in Sacramento, he had the opportunity to meet with the Los Angeles Legislative Delegation for a focused conversation about housing and how to ensure the region continues to do better in terms of the resources available especially the Cap and Trade funds.

President Jahn invited members to SCAG's 30th Annual Demographic Workshop, on Tuesday, June 11, 8:30AM - 3:30PM at the USC Trojan Ballroom. This year's theme is *"Make It Count - The Impact of Census 2020 and Connect SoCal In the Future."* In partnership with the USC Sol Price School of Public Policy, a celebratory reception and dinner marking the 30th Anniversary of the Demographic Workshop is also scheduled for Monday, June 10 at the University Club, USC Campus.

The Regional Council will be dark in the month of July. The next regular meeting is scheduled for Thursday, August 1, 2019.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, President Jahn adjourned the Regional Council meeting at 1:49PM.