



June 7, 2018

IN THIS ISSUE

- INFO – REPORT ON NEW INITIATIVE TO DRAW FOREIGN INVESTMENT TO THE REGION
- ACTION – RC APPROVES RECOMMENDATIONS FOR 2018 SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS

NEWS FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

- RECORD NUMBER OF ATTENDEES AT 2018 REGIONAL CONFERENCE AND GENERAL ASSEMBLY
- REGISTRATION CLOSING SOON FOR 2018 DEMOGRAPHIC WORKSHOP
- UPDATE ON RHNA AND 2020 RTP/SCS

ABOUT

The Regional Council is the governing board of the Southern California Association of Governments and consists of 86 elected officials representing 191 cities, six counties, county transportation commissions, transportation corridor agencies, tribal governments and air districts in Southern California.

AGENDA

For current and archived Regional Council meeting agendas and videos, visit: bit.ly/AgendaRC.

HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE MEETING



Felipe Cusnir, Director of International Trade and Investment for the Office of Los Angeles Mayor Garcetti, and Stephen Cheung, President of the World Trade Center Los Angeles, shared a report on international investment in Southern California with the Regional Council.

INFORMATION

REPORT ON NEW INITIATIVE TO DRAW FOREIGN INVESTMENT TO THE REGION

At today's meeting, the Regional Council was joined by Felipe Cusnir, Director of International Trade and Investment for the Office of Los Angeles Mayor Garcetti,

and Stephen Cheung, President of the World Trade Center Los Angeles, who shared a presentation on efforts to draw more global investment of Southern California. The presentation noted that despite its size and economic clout, the region trails behind other major city centers in global efforts to attract Foreign Direct Investment, and emphasized that collaboration at the local and regional level will be essential in the bid to make Southern California the nation's leading center for international trade and foreign investment. The Regional Council leadership inquired about the best ways for local cities and counties, and their economic development departments, to connect with the World Trade Center Los Angeles and the Foreign Direct Investment promotion effort. The Regional Council also had an engaged discussion with Cusnir and Cheung about how to strengthen local and regional economies together.

ACTION

RC APPROVES RECOMMENDATIONS FOR 2018 SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS

The Regional Council today voted to approve the Scholarship Committee recommendations for the 2018 SCAG Scholarship Program Awards. This year, SCAG received 44 applications from high school and community college students from across the region. Nine outstanding students were selected for scholarships, representing all six of SCAG's member counties. The SCAG Scholarship Program provides each winner with both a monetary award of \$4,000 and a two-week internship with SCAG or a local planning agency, in order to help students build the foundation for a career in urban planning and local government. This year, the Scholarship Committee decided to award discretionary scholarships to two additional highly qualified applications from Los Angeles County and Orange County, respectively. The scholarship recipients are as follows: Alyssa Bravo (Brawley), Prem Shelat (Los Angeles), Maya Sobchuk (Encino), Kexin Sun (Irvine), Ana Quintos (Riverside), Cami Tamondong (Rancho Cucamonga), Aric Prince (Van Nuys) and Cameron Kollar (Costa Mesa). Congratulations to these future leaders in Southern California's planning and governing community!



SCAG's Regional Council today recognized and thanked Gary Toebben, outgoing President and CEO of the Los Angeles Area Chamber of Commerce, for his leadership and service to the region. Pictured from left: Immediate Past President Margaret Finlay, Second Vice President Randon Lane, Mr. Toebben, President Alan Wapner, First Vice President Bill Jahn and Executive Director Hasan Ikhata.

NEWS FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

RECORD NUMBER OF ATTENDEES AT 2018 REGIONAL CONFERENCE AND GENERAL ASSEMBLY

On May 3-4 in Indian Wells, SCAG held its 53rd Annual Regional Conference and General Assembly, which was attended by more than 950 civic leaders from throughout Southern California. The two-day conference, which explored the theme "Southern California at a Crossroads," brought together a record number of elected officials and other high-level attendees for an engaged, informative event. On Wednesday, a special pre-conference session on "The Power of Shared Data" brought together an international group of experts and thought leaders to showcase how technology and open data can be used to improve the efficiency of city services, manage traffic congestion as well as future planning needs. Thursday's keynote speech from Dr. Talithia Williams, host of "Nova Wonders" on PBS and Professor of Statistics and Math at Harvey Mudd College, illuminated ways cities can tap into data resources already at their fingertips, and utilize it to make transformative decisions. Panel sessions on both Thursday and Friday addressed major opportunities and challenges for the region, including harnessing new transportation technologies, planning for the retail revolution, building resilience for natural disasters and finding long-term transportation funding solutions. A distinguished roster of state transportation leaders spoke on Friday, including Brian Annis, California Secretary of Transportation, Laurie Berman, Director of Caltrans and Susan Bransen, Executive Director of the California Transportation Commission. For highlights of the conference, visit the [event website](#) to view a photo gallery and our year-in-review video for 2017-2018.

SCAG AND USC HOST 2018 DEMOGRAPHIC WORKSHOP

On June 11, SCAG and the USC Price School of Public Policy will co-host the 29th annual Demographic Workshop, "Lasting Demographic Impacts After the Recovery," at the University of Southern California in Los Angeles. This year's program brings together industry-leading experts to share new research on the region's population and economic trends, shedding light on the future of our region's housing needs, transportation demands and economic revitalization in the wake of the Great Recession. A session of interactive roundtable discussions will bring together academics, policymakers and business leaders for substantive conversations on topics including the 2020 Census, population estimates, the Regional Housing Needs Assessment and homelessness. For more on the panels, speakers and other program details, check out the full conference agenda. Online registration is closed, but on-site registration will also be available at the event. General admission is \$125. The event is free for elected officials and discounted for students. To RSVP, visit scag.ca.gov/demographics.

UPDATE ON RHNA AND 2020 RTP/SCS

In preparation for the 2020 Regional Transportation Plan/Sustainable Communities Strategy (RTP/SCS) and the upcoming Regional Housing Needs Assessment, SCAG staff has been meeting one-on-one with local jurisdictions to solicit input on the draft forecast of population, households and employment, as well as data on local land use, transportation, environmental factors and sustainability plans and programs. As of this week, staff have met with 184 jurisdictions - 93 percent of the jurisdictions in the region. On May 17, we hosted the kickoff meeting for two of our topicspecific working groups, which bring together regional stakeholders to discuss the development of the RTP/SCS and provide technical expertise. The Sustainable Communities Working Group focuses on balancing ways to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, adapt to a changing climate, cultivate livable communities and ease pressures on natural systems. The Environmental Justice Working Group is engaged on strategies to conduct equitable environmental justice outreach and ensuring that the RTP/SCS reflects environmental justice goals and policies. More information about these and other Regional Planning Working Groups can be found [here](#).

UPCOMING MEETINGS

June

- 19th Legislative/Communications & Membership Committee
- 21st Technical Working Group
 - Active Transportation Working Group
 - Mobility Innovations Working Group
- 26th Transportation Conformity Working Group

July

- 17th Legislative/Communications & Membership Committee
- 19th Technical Working Group
 - Public Health Working Group
 - Safety Working Group
- 24th Transportation Conformity Working Group
- 25th Modeling Task Force



SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS
900 Wilshire Blvd., Ste. 1700, Los Angeles, CA 90017
(213) 236-1800 | www.scag.ca.gov

COUNTY REGIONAL OFFICES
Imperial | Orange | Riverside | San Bernardino | Ventura

Copyright © 2018, SCAG

CONNECT WITH US

