

SPOTLIGHT

SCAG REGIONAL COUNCIL NEWSLETTER



September 7, 2017

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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

INFORMATION

SCAG DELEGATION VISITS SACRAMENTO TO BRING RESOURCES, FUNDING TO SOCAL



From left: Regional Councilmembers Rex Richardson (Long Beach), Jeffrey Giba (Moreno Valley) James Mulvihill (San Bernardino), Immediate Past President Michele Martinez (Santa Ana), President Margaret Finlay (Duarte), California Assembly Speaker Anthony Rendon (D-Lakewood), Pam O'Connor (Santa Monica), Jose Luis Solache (Lynwood), Greg Pettis (Cathedral City), Laura Rosenthal (Malibu), Carmen Ramirez (Oxnard) and SCAG COO Darin Chidsey.

A delegation from SCAG traveled to Sacramento last week to meet with seven state senators and 10 assemblymembers to discuss the need for regional equity in cap-and-trade derived funding. The SCAG group included President Margaret Finlay, Immediate Past President Michele Martinez and Regional Council members James Mulvihill, Jose Luis Solache, Rex Richardson, Margaret Clark, Laura Rosenthal, Jeff Giba, Carmen Ramirez, Pam O'Connor and Greg Pettis. The delegation stressed to the lawmakers that Southern California has not received its fair share of funding to build affordable housing, sustainable communities, and other transformative infrastructure projects, which will impact our region's ability to meet our emission reduction goals. SCAG is committed to providing a voice for the region on this and other issues, and will continue to keep our Regional Council updated on any new developments.

ACTION

RC APPROVES AMENDMENT 2 TO SCAG'S FISCAL YEAR 2017-18 OVERALL WORK PROGRAM

The Regional Council adopted Resolution No. 17-592-2, approving Amendment 2 to the Fiscal Year 2017-18 Overall Work Program (OWP). Amendment 2 will increase the OWP budget by \$1.6 million, from \$47.7 million to \$49.3 million. The budget increase results mainly from programming five new Caltrans Sustainable Transportation Planning Program grants that SCAG received. These include:

- \$183,750 for the City of Montclair's Safe Routes to School Plan
- \$80,961 for the Gold Coast Transit District's First-Mile Last-Mile Connectivity Study on Naval Base Ventura County
- \$304,800 to the San Bernardino Associated Governments' Paths to Clean Vehicle Technology and Alternative Fuels Implementation project
- \$375,996 to the Westside Cities Council of Governments' Westside Mobility Study Update
- \$432,000 for SCAG's Mobility Innovations and Pricing project

ACTION

RC APPROVES PROPOSED 2019 FTIP GUIDELINES

The Regional Council today approved the proposed guidelines for the 2019 Federal Transportation Improvement Program (FTIP). The FTIP is a federally mandated list of transportation investment priorities in the SCAG region and is updated every two years. SCAG staff have been working to update the FTIP guidelines in collaboration with federal funding agencies (FHWA, FTA), Caltrans, the County Transportation Commissions and the Transportation Conformity Working Group to ensure that all current legal, administrative and technical requirements are met. The guidelines approved today reflect and addressed the comments received from our partner agencies. The FTIP is an important document for the region, allowing project sponsors to move forward with state and federal environmental review or project funding allocation/obligation. It also reflects how the region is moving forward in implementing the policies and goals of the 2016–2040 Regional Transportation Plan/Sustainable Communities Strategy (2016 RTP/SCS), SCAG's long-range strategic vision for regional transportation investments and reducing greenhouse gas emissions. The 2019 FTIP Guidelines and the Comments and Responses document are available online at: ftip.scag.ca.gov/Documents/Draft2019FTIPGuidelines.pdf and ftip.scag.ca.gov/Documents/Draft2019FTIPGuidelinesComments.pdf.



NEWS FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

ECONOMIC SUMMIT TO ADDRESS HOUSING CRISIS

On Thursday, Nov. 9, SCAG, in partnership with the Southern California Leadership Council, will bring together local civic and business leaders to explore how the state's record-high home prices and shortage of available housing units stand to impact the economic health of the region, at the eighth annual Southern California Economic Summit: "The Cost of Not Housing." Held at the L.A. Hotel in downtown Los Angeles, the summit will be a crucial discussion on the challenges that housing affordability poses to local, regional and statewide economies. The event is free for elected officials. Early bird registration is \$75 per person until Sept. 15. Visit scag.ca.gov/economicsummit to register.

UPDATE ON CARB GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSION REDUCTION TARGETS

The California Air Resources Board (CARB) is updating regional targets for reducing per-capita greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, under the Sustainable Communities and Climate Protection Act of 2008, or SB 375. On September 27, SCAG submitted a comment letter to CARB on their draft recommendations. Specifically, SCAG stated that CARB's current recommendation of reducing GHG emissions per capita by 21 percent by 2035 is not achievable. SCAG also reiterated that our recommended target of reducing GHG emissions per capita by 18 percent by the year 2035 is ambitious, but achievable pending much effort and innovation in future planning. Discussions about target setting are ongoing, and SCAG will continue working with CARB staff to address these issues. CARB is expected to issue its final recommendations for SB 375 GHG targets in October 2017, and take final actions in November 2017.

SCAG LAUNCHES I-105 CORRIDOR SUSTAINABILITY STUDY

In coordination with LA Metro and Caltrans, SCAG has launched an I-105 Corridor Sustainability Study to identify a comprehensive set of multi-modal solutions to the challenges in this corridor, not just for congestion relief but for long-term sustainability. The study will leverage the existing framework of previously prepared corridor system plans, but will take a more comprehensive approach. The study's development will incorporate new planning tools including "complete streets" concepts and the Smart Mobility Framework. SCAG held a kickoff meeting for the study on Aug. 23 and next steps include the development of a stakeholder engagement strategy and a framework outlining the overall approach. Updates will be provided to SCAG's Transportation Committee throughout the development of the study, which is expected to conclude in Spring 2019.

UPCOMING MEETINGS

September

- 7th Regional Council & Policy Committee Meetings
- 9th GoHuman Bike Safety for Kids at Veteran's Park (Ontario)
- 9th GoHuman Bike Safety for Kids at Harvard Park (Los Angeles)
- 10th GoHuman Bike Safety for Kids at UC Riverside
- 12th Audit Committee
- 19th Legislative/ Communications & Membership Committee
- 21st Technical Working Group
- 26th Transportation Conformity Working Group

October

- 5th Regional Council & Policy Committees
- 17th Legislative/ Communications & Membership Committee
- 19th Technical Working Group
- 24th Transportation Conformity Working Group



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