

SPOTLIGHT

SCAG REGIONAL COUNCIL NEWSLETTER



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

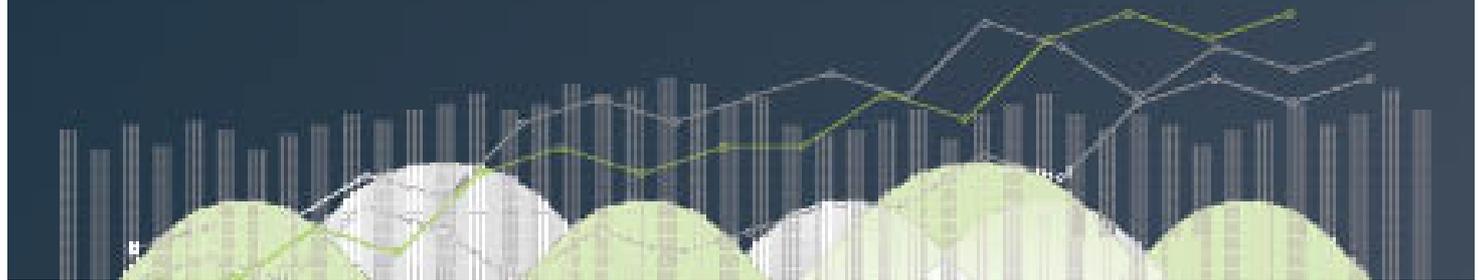
[Click here](#) for current and archived Regional Council meeting agendas and videos.

HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE MEETING

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA ECONOMIC SUMMIT

Charting an Inclusive Regional Recovery

DEC.01.2020 | REGISTER ONLINE TODAY!
scag.ca.gov/economicsummit



The 11th Annual Southern California Economic Summit is bringing together leading voices in business, policy, planning and academia on Tuesday, Dec. 1 to develop strategies for building back a strong, inclusive Southern California economy.

ACTION

REGIONAL COUNCIL AUTHORIZES THE RELEASE OF THE DRAFT 2021 FEDERAL TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM FOR PUBLIC REVIEW AND COMMENT

SCAG's Regional Council voted today to release the Draft 2021 Federal Transportation Improvement Program (FTIP) and the associated transportation conformity analysis for a 30-day public review and comment period, which will run from Nov. 6 through Dec. 7.

Developed in partnership with state and local agencies through a bottom-up process, the draft 2021 FTIP reflects a continued emphasis on properly maintaining the region's transportation system. It currently includes more than 2,000 projects for the region, totaling nearly \$35.3 billion over six years. In addition, these projects will benefit the regional and local economies with an estimated 104,000 direct jobs created each year. The Draft 2021 FTIP also reflects how the region is moving forward in implementing the policies and goals of Connect SoCal, SCAG's long-range strategic vision for regional transportation investments and reducing greenhouse gas emissions.

SCAG will be holding two virtual public hearings regarding the Draft 2021 FTIP on Tuesday, Nov. 17 and Wednesday, Dec. 2. For more information visit ftip.scag.ca.gov.

ACTION

RESOLUTION ADOPTED TO SUBMIT THE SCAG 2020 TITLE VI PROGRAM FOR STATE AND FEDERAL REVIEW

SCAG's Regional Council voted today to approve the SCAG 2020 Title VI Program. Title VI of the Civil Rights Act prohibits discrimination based on race, color or national origin in programs or activities receiving federal financial assistance. Throughout its history, SCAG's policy has been to not discriminate against any person with respect to a SCAG program or service. This commitment is incorporated into all of SCAG's operations and activities including public outreach efforts which aim to engage all segments of the population in the transportation planning process. Key components of the SCAG 2020 Title VI Program include the Language Assistance Program for limited English proficient populations, Public Participation Plan, subrecipient monitoring procedures and SCAG's new, ad hoc Special Committee on Equity and Social Justice. For more information visit scag.ca.gov.

INFORMATION

WADE CROWFOOT SPEAKS ON CALIFORNIA CLIMATE VULNERABILITIES, ADAPTATION STRATEGIES AND OPPORTUNITIES

Wade Crowfoot, California Secretary for Natural Resources with the California Natural Resources Agency, presented to the Regional Council on California's climate vulnerabilities and opportunities to enlist the state's natural and working lands in the fight against climate change. Crowfoot confirmed that climate change mitigation and adaptation planning have become more pressing with each passing year as the region experiences extreme health, safety and economic impacts from intensified wildfires, inland flooding and mudslides from torrential rainstorms, coastal flooding exacerbated by sea-level rise, and intensified urban heat island effects from unusually high temperatures. California has committed to pursuing innovative actions, strategies and partnerships to maximize the full climate benefits of soils management, wetlands restoration, active forest management and green infrastructure. The California Natural Resources Agency leads and coordinates California's climate adaptation and natural resources policies, and supports more than 26 distinct departments, conservancies, and commissions as it leads efforts to steward California's natural environment.

INFORMATION

SCAG RELEASES THE SOCAL CLIMATE ADAPTATION PLANNING GUIDE

SCAG staff shared with Regional Council the recently published the [SoCal Climate Adaptation Planning Guide](#), which helps the region's jurisdictions improve resilience to climate-related stressors such as extreme heat, wildfire, drought, flooding, heavy precipitation and sea-level rise. The SoCal Climate Adaptation Planning Guide addresses existing vulnerabilities through the lens of land use and transportation and provides implementation tools for local jurisdictions to adapt to climate change. It also includes tools for stakeholders to more effectively communicate about climate stressors and identify opportunities for the region's land use pattern and transportation system to be more adaptable, resilient and respond to hazards relating to a changing climate.

NEWS FROM THE PRESIDENT

SCAG RECOGNIZES OUTGOING REGIONAL COUNCIL AND COMMITTEE MEMBERS

SCAG President Rex Richardson recognized and thanked the outgoing board and committee members for their service.

Outgoing Regional Council members include Immediate Past President Bill Jahn, City of Big Bear Lake; Mayor Rusty Bailey, City of Riverside; Councilmember Steve Nagel, City of Fountain Valley; Councilmember Jeanine Pearce, City of Long Beach; Councilmember Charles E. "Chuck" Puckett, City of Tustin; Mayor Miguel Pulido, City of Santa Ana; Councilmember Meghan Sahli-Wells, City of Culver City; Councilmember Lyn Semeta, City of Huntington Beach; and Councilmember Herb Wesson, City of Los Angeles.

Outgoing committee members include Councilmember Emily Gabel-Luddy, City of Burbank; Councilmember Toni Momberger, City of Redlands; Councilmember Greg Morena, City of Santa Monica; Councilmember James Osborne, City of Lawndale; Councilmember Thomas A. Small, City of Culver City; Councilmember Joseph Tessari, City of Eastvale; and Councilmember Bonnie Wright, City of Hemet.

SCAG HOSTS HOUSING PRODUCTION ROUNDTABLE

In response to President Richardson's [2020-2021 Work Plan: A Framework for Recovering and Reimagining a Resilient Region](#), SCAG hosted the first of three virtual roundtable meetings to discuss ways the region can accelerate housing production for households of all income levels.

A primary goal of these meetings is to equip local governments and subregional entities with the tools they need to ensure that Local Early Action Planning and Regional Early Action Planning dollars are deployed in a manner that addresses local needs, advances regional priorities and fosters innovation and collaboration. This first meeting involved 36 local government practitioners, including seven representing our subregional partners. The facilitated discussion by Richard France of Estolano Associates explored how subregional partnerships can help meet our region's diverse housing needs. The meeting featured several speakers from across the state who are exploring cross-jurisdictional partnerships to meet shared housing goals. SCAG also invited representatives from five jurisdictions to share best practices, gather feedback, and discuss housing priorities for their communities.

Find more information about President Richardson's goals to support housing production, preservation and protection in the full work plan at [scag.ca.gov](https://www.scag.ca.gov).

NEWS FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

REGISTER FOR SCAG'S 11TH ANNUAL SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA ECONOMIC SUMMIT

On Tuesday, Dec. 1, SCAG will host the [Southern California Economic Summit](#) virtually for the first time in its 11-year history. Join civic and business leaders from across Southern California for this vital conversation centered around "Charting an Inclusive Regional Recovery."

In the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic, Southern California's cities, families and cornerstone industries have all been seismically impacted and face enormous challenges on the road to recovery. Leading voices in business, industry, planning and academia will join the conversation in panel and roundtable discussions to help define strategies for building back a strong, inclusive Southern California economy.

General admission tickets are \$50. The ticket fee may be waived for elected officials and city managers of SCAG's member jurisdictions –[reserve your seat today](#).

6TH CYCLE RHNA APPEALS PROCESS UPDATE

The window for cities to appeal their draft Regional Housing Needs Assessment (RHNA) allocation closed on Oct. 26. A total of more than 50 appeals were filed by local jurisdictions. Following the Regional Council's adoption of Connect SoCal in its entirety on Sept. 3, SCAG distributed the draft allocations to local jurisdictions on Sept. 4. The appeals process follows steps laid out in the adopted RHNA Appeals Procedures. All appeals received by SCAG have been posted at scag.ca.gov/housing.

Local jurisdictions and the State Department of Housing and Community Development may now provide comments on the appeals submitted to SCAG. Comments should be sent to housing@scag.ca.gov before 5 p.m. on Thursday, Dec. 10.

SCAG staff will contact the jurisdictions that filed or are subject to appeals to share the date of their RHNA Appeals Hearings. The hearings are scheduled to take place between Dec. 11, 2020, and Jan. 10, 2021, but may also be extended until Feb. 9, 2021, if necessary. For questions or comments about RHNA, please contact housing@scag.ca.gov.

SCAG RECEIVES \$1.25 MILLION GRANT FOR *GO HUMAN* PROGRAMS

Earlier this year, SCAG was awarded a \$1.25 million grant from the California Office of Traffic Safety to fund continued work through *Go Human*, SCAG's regional active transportation safety and encouragement program. The new grant kicked off on Oct. 1 and will help fund *Go Human* activities through Sept. 30, 2021, including:

- ***Go Human's* Community Safety Ambassador Cohort Program**, a participatory and experiential planning and leadership series.
- **Resilient Streets Strategies**, which implements street activations that address safety and resiliency in response to the pandemic.
- **Safety Mini-Grants**, which fund local projects led by community-based organizations.
- **Sub-Regional Safety Peer Exchange Program**, a series of community-informed virtual sessions for stakeholders and practitioners addressing traffic safety.
- **Co-Branded Safety Advertisements**, print and digital graphics provided at no cost to jurisdictions who have committed to the *Go Human* Safety Pledge.

To strategically shape these programs in alignment with local community needs, and in response to the impacts of the pandemic, *Go Human* held a Community Listening session on Oct. 19 to provide the public with an opportunity to give their input. More than 27 representatives from across the region provided feedback, which has directly informed upcoming strategies. *Go Human* will continue to facilitate similar listening sessions in the future. Please visit the [Go Human webpage](#) for details on future activities and events.

UPCOMING MEETINGS

November

- 17th Legislative/Communications & Membership Committee
- 19th Environmental Justice Working Group
- 24th Transportation Conformity Working Group
- 25th Modeling Task Force

December

- 2nd Executive Administration Committee
- 15th Legislative/Communications & Membership Committee
- 17th Public Health, Sustainable Communities & Climate Adaptation Working Groups
- 24th Transportation Conformity Working Group



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