

SPOTLIGHT

SCAG REGIONAL COUNCIL NEWSLETTER



April 5, 2018

From: Hon. Judy Mitchell, Representing District 40

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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



California High Speed Rail Authority CEO Brian P. Kelly joined the Regional Council to share updates on the agency's new Draft Business Plan.

INFO

HIGH-SPEED RAIL CEO PRESENTS NEW DRAFT BUSINESS PLAN

At today's meeting, Brian P. Kelly, Chief Executive Officer of the California High-Speed Rail Authority (CAHSRA), presented to the Regional Council an overview of the [Draft 2018 CAHSRA Business Plan](#). The 2018 Draft Plan raises the projected cost up to \$77.3 billion from the 2016 plan's projected \$64 billion and extends the anticipated completion timeline from being operational in 2029 to 2033. Mr. Kelly confirmed that the Draft Plan establishes that the rail line's initial operating segment will run from San Francisco to Bakersfield, meaning the SCAG region will have to wait longer to experience the benefits of high-speed rail.

Mr. Kelly emphasized that CAHSRA remains committed to bringing critical investments to the SCAG region, highlighting the agency's 2012 Memorandum of Understanding with SCAG that committed \$1 billion to near-term rail improvements in Southern California. The 2018 Draft Business Plan reiterates the original funding commitment and specifies \$423 million for Link Union Station, which will be crucial to long-term success of the High Speed Rail project. The Regional Council expressed that they look forward to continuing to partner with the High-Speed Rail Authority on bringing critical investments to Southern California.

ACTION

RC VOTES TO SUPPORT INGLEWOOD MOBILITY PLAN

The Regional Council voted today to authorize SCAG's support of a citywide Mobility Plan for the City of Inglewood, in partnership with Los Angeles Metro.

Major projects coming to the city include the Crenshaw light rail line extension, the Airport Metro Connector Station, several thousand housing units and an athletic stadium that will host multiple professional sports teams as well as events in the 2028 Olympics. In order to support Inglewood's planning for a multimodal transportation network that meets the needs of all users, SCAG has agreed to partially fund up to \$200,000 for a comprehensive and sustainable citywide Mobility Plan. The total anticipated project cost is \$550,000. SCAG will now work with City of Inglewood and Los Angeles Metro to develop a Memorandum of Understanding and proposed project scope of work, which will be presented to the Regional Council for review when complete.

NEWS FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

REGISTER FOR THE 2018 REGIONAL CONFERENCE AND GENERAL ASSEMBLY



2018
**REGIONAL CONFERENCE
& GENERAL ASSEMBLY**
**SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA AT A
CROSSROADS**

MAY 3-4
Renaissance Indian Wells Resort & Spa
44400 Indian Wells Lane, Indian Wells, CA 92210
scag.ca.gov/ga2018



The early bird registration deadline is approaching for SCAG's 53rd annual Regional Conference and General Assembly, to be held May 3-4 at the Renaissance Indian Wells Resort & Spa. This year's program, themed "Southern California at a Crossroads," will address how online shopping is impacting local retail and revenue, share ways that cities can build resilience for earthquakes and other natural disasters, discuss solutions to the housing crisis and investigate the region's transportation future. Panel descriptions and an updated agenda are available on the event website. The event is free for elected officials and city

managers in the region. Discounted early bird registration ends on April 6, so [register today](#).

SCAG is also hosting a special pre-conference session on Wednesday, May 2: The Future Communities Forum to showcase how technology, open data, big data, and analytics are being used to solve common challenges. The Forum is part of SCAG's new effort to foster innovation and data-driven decision making in the public sector. The Forum's theme is "The Power of Shared Data" and it will bring together elected officials, public sector chief information officers, data scientists, private sector leaders, and SCAG's international partners to exchange ideas on public-private data-flows as well as how to use big data to solve big problems. For more information on the Future Communities Forum, please email John Cho at choj@scag.ca.gov.

SCAG IN SACRAMENTO: DELEGATION LOBBIES FOR THE REGION



A delegation of Southern California leaders traveled to Sacramento in early March to meet with a bipartisan group of state lawmakers and lobby on behalf of the region. This advocacy trip focused on regional-level issues, addressing policy goals related to alleviating the state's severe housing shortage, meeting climate targets and ensuring that Southern California gets the resources it needs to improve its transportation infrastructure and overall mobility.

The delegation stressed the need for reform on the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), to prevent slowdowns on much-needed developments; encouraged policies that incentivize local governments to build an adequate, affordable supply of housing; and affirmed support for dedicated funding for badly needed repairs and maintenance to our transportation infrastructure. The group also reiterated the need for equitable distribution of cap-and-trade revenues to transportation improvements and sustainable communities in all areas of the SCAG region. The delegation met directly with 20 state legislators and staff representatives of seven others. For a recap of the trip, visit [here](#).

AIR RESOURCES BOARD UPDATES REGIONAL GHG REDUCTION TARGET



On March 23, the California Air Resources Board (CARB) voted to adopt new state and regional climate targets. As the region's metropolitan planning area responsible for charting how Southern California will meet its goal, SCAG has been working collaboratively with CARB on a target for reducing greenhouse gas emissions at the regional level that is ambitious and attainable. The new target requires the SCAG region to make a 19 percent reduction in greenhouse gas emissions per capita by the year 2035 – up from a previous target of 13 percent. At the community level, this means considerably reducing per capita vehicle miles traveled. SCAG's 2020 Regional Transportation Plan/Sustainable Communities Strategy, a blueprint for Southern California's long-term transportation and land use planning, will identify a path to meeting the adopted target. We applaud CARB for engaging in a collaborative process towards achieving regional sustainability. Partnership like this is essential to meeting climate goals and making Southern California a leading example for the rest of the world.

2020 REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION PLAN/SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES STRATEGY UPDATE



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 123 jurisdictions - 62% of the region. By October of 2018, we expect to have met with all 197 jurisdictions. These meetings have also been an opportunity to educate each jurisdiction on SCAG's planning process, data development techniques, as well as SCAG's web-based Scenario Planning Model – Data Management Site. Additional information on this effort is available on our [website](#).

UPCOMING MEETINGS

April

17th Legislative/Communications & Membership Committee

19th Technical Working Group

24th Transportation Conformity Working Group

May

3rd Regional Conference & General Assembly

15th Legislative/Communications & Membership Committee

17th Technical Working Group

22nd Transportation Conformity Working Group

23rd Modeling Task Force



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