



March 5, 2020

- [ACTION - REGIONAL COUNCIL ADOPTS FINAL RHNA METHODOLOGY](#)

NEWS FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

- [CONNECT SOCAL UPDATE](#)
- [SCAG DELEGATION TAKES POLICY PRIORITIES TO SACRAMENTO](#)
- [REGISTER FOR SCAG'S 55TH ANNUAL REGIONAL CONFERENCE AND GENERAL ASSEMBLY](#)

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 & videos, visit: bit.ly/SCAGagendas.

HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE MEETING



Members of the Regional Council hearing public comment regarding the Regional Housing Needs Assessment allocation methodology.

ACTION

REGIONAL COUNCIL ADOPTS FINAL RHNA METHODOLOGY

The Regional Council today adopted Resolution No. 20-619-2, adopting the Final Regional Housing Needs Assessment (RHNA) methodology for the Sixth Housing Element Cycle (2021-2029). As part of the RHNA process, SCAG must develop a final RHNA methodology that will determine each jurisdiction's draft RHNA allocation as a share of the regional determination of 1,341,827 housing units need as provided by the California Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD).

HCD previously completed their review in January of what was then the Draft RHNA methodology and found that it furthers the five statutory objectives of RHNA, allowing SCAG to finalize the methodology and issue draft RHNA allocations to each individual jurisdiction. Jurisdictions are able to estimate their allocations with this adopted methodology using the latest [Estimate Tool](#). Individual jurisdictions' official draft RHNA allocation numbers will be distributed next month, followed by an appeals process. For updates on RHNA, please visit www.scag.ca.gov/RHNA.



NEWS FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

CONNECT SOCIAL UPDATE

Through a continuing, cooperative and comprehensive planning process with its stakeholders, SCAG developed the Draft Connect SoCal plan – the 2020-2045 Regional Transportation Plan/Sustainable Communities Strategy, which meets state and federal requirements and lays out a collective vision for improving the region’s mobility, economy and sustainability. SCAG released the Draft Connect SoCal plan for over the required 60-day public comment period, which began on Nov. 14, 2019 and ended on Jan. 24. SCAG received 107 separate communications on the draft plan and 52 comment letters on the plan’s Draft Program Environmental Impact Report.

All elements of the Draft Connect SoCal plan received supportive comments with the majority of comments seeking further clarification. This month’s Regional Council agenda included a staff report summarizing comments into 16 major categories: Active Transportation; Aviation and Airport Ground Access; Emerging Technology; Environmental Justice; Goods Movement; Natural & Farm Lands Conservation; Passenger Rail; Project List; Public Health; Public Participation & Consultation; Relationships Between Connect SoCal and the Regional Housing Needs Assessment (RHNA); Sustainable Communities Strategy; Transit; Transportation Conformity Analysis; Transportation Finance; and Other. Staff is still in the process of making revisions to the Draft Connect SoCal plan and will present a Proposed Final Connect SoCal plan at the April 2 Joint Meeting of the SCAG Policy Committees. For updates on Connect SoCal, please visit connectsocial.org.

SCAG DELEGATION TAKES POLICY PRIORITIES TO SACRAMENTO

A delegation of SCAG Regional Council members and executive staff traveled to Sacramento on Feb. 18–19 for the annual SCAG Sacramento Summit. The delegation was joined by leaders from the Southern California Leadership Council, California Association of Councils of Government, and National Community Renaissance.

The delegation, which included President Bill Jahn, First Vice President Rex Richardson, Second Vice President Clint Lorimore, and Regional Council members Margaret Clark, Margaret Finlay, Jan Harnik, Steve Hofbauer, Ray Marquez, Larry McCallon, Fred Minagar, Judy Mitchell, David Pollock, Carmen Ramirez, Jess Talamantes, and Cheryl Viegas-Walker, held a series of 35 sit-down meetings with a bipartisan group of state lawmakers to provide updates on hot topics like Connect SoCal and the RHNA allocation plan. The trip also focused on highlighting three priority legislative issues: 1) Increase the capacity for local governments to develop affordable housing through economic development tools like tax increment financing; 2) Modernize the California Environmental Quality Act to limit abuses that stop responsible community improvement projects; and 3) Reinstate the practice that allows local governments that reach an agreement to “trade” or “transfer” portions or all of their RHNA allocation.

The Summit kicked off with a dinner program where Assemblymember Sharon Quirk-Silva (D-Fullerton) gave welcome remarks followed by a substantive policy discussion with Assemblymember Laura Friedman (D-Glendale) and Assemblymember Chad Mayes (NPP-Yucca Valley). The delegation also held a breakfast program with special guest speaker David S. Kim, who was appointed Secretary of the California State Transportation Agency (CalSTA) in July 2019.

REGISTER FOR SCAG'S 55TH ANNUAL REGIONAL CONFERENCE AND GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Mark your calendars! SCAG's premier annual event is fast approaching. The 55th Regional Conference and General Assembly will convene May 6–8 at the JW Marriott Desert Springs Resort & Spa in Palm Desert, CA. Over 900 of Southern California's most influential leaders and innovators are expected to attend, including local elected officials, CEOs, business and civic leaders, transportation and environmental stakeholders, local government staff and others. In addition to providing unbeatable networking opportunities, the conference will send attendees home with fresh insights and new resources to help them better address future challenges in their own communities. The event is free for elected officials and city managers in the region, and a special early bird registration rate will be available until March 29. For additional information, please contact Linda Jones at jonesl@scag.ca.gov or (213) 236-1912 or visit www.scag.ca.gov/GA2020 to register. For information about sponsorship opportunities, please contact Houston Laney at laney@scag.ca.gov or (213) 236-1906.

UPCOMING MEETINGS

March

- 17th Legislative/Communications & Membership Committee
- 19th Technical Working Group
- 19th Public Health Working Group
- 19th Sustainable Communities Working Group
- 24th Transportation Conformity Working Group
- 25th Modeling Task Force
- 30th Regional Transit Technical Advisory Committee

April

- 2nd Joint Meeting of the Policy Committees
- 2nd Regional Council
- 16th Technical Working Group
- 21st Legislative/Communications & Membership Committee
- 28th Transportation Conformity Working Group
- 29th Audit Committee



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