



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

#### REGIONAL COUNCIL OFFICERS

President  
**Curt Hagman**  
County of San Bernardino

First Vice President  
**Cindy Allen, Long Beach**

Second Vice President  
**Ray Marquez, Chino Hills**

Immediate Past President  
**Jan C. Harnik, Riverside County**  
Transportation Commission

#### COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Executive/Administration  
**Curt Hagman**  
County of San Bernardino

Community, Economic &  
Human Development  
**David J. Shapiro, Calabasas**

Energy & Environment  
**Jenny Crosswhite, Santa Paula**

Transportation  
**Tim Sandoval, Pomona**

## SPECIAL MEETING

# JOINT MEETING OF THE POLICY COMMITTEES (CEHD, EEC, AND TC)

***Members of the Public are Welcome to Attend  
In-Person & Remotely***

***Thursday, February 6, 2025  
10:00 a.m. – 11:45 a.m.***

### ***To Attend In-Person:***

**SCAG Main Office - Regional Council Room  
900 Wilshire Blvd., Ste. 1700  
Los Angeles, CA 90017**

### ***To Watch or View Only:***

**<https://scag.ca.gov/scag-tv-livestream>**

### ***To Attend and Participate on Your Computer:***

**<https://scag.zoom.us/j/82245194979>**

### ***To Attend and Participate by Phone:***

**Call-in Number: 1-669-900-6833  
Meeting ID: 822 4519 4979**

## ***PUBLIC ADVISORY***

If members of the public wish to review the attachments or have any questions on any of the agenda items, please contact Maggie Aguilar at (213) 630-1420 or via email at [aguilarm@scag.ca.gov](mailto:aguilarm@scag.ca.gov). Agendas & Minutes are also available at: [www.scag.ca.gov/committees](http://www.scag.ca.gov/committees).

SCAG, in accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), will accommodate persons who require a modification of accommodation to participate in this meeting. SCAG is also committed to helping people with limited proficiency in the English language access the agency's essential public information and services. You can request such assistance by calling (213) 630-1410. We request at least 72 hours (three days) notice to provide reasonable accommodations and will make every effort to arrange for assistance as soon as possible.



## Instructions for Attending the Meeting

**To Attend In-Person and Provide Verbal Comments:** Go to the SCAG Main Office located at 900 Wilshire Blvd., Ste. 1700, Los Angeles, CA 90017 or any of the remote locations noticed in the agenda. The meeting will take place in the Regional Council Room on the 17<sup>th</sup> floor starting at 10:00 a.m.

**To Attend by Computer:** Click the following link: <https://scag.zoom.us/j/82245194979>. If Zoom is not already installed on your computer, click "Download & Run Zoom" on the launch page and press "Run" when prompted by your browser. If Zoom has previously been installed on your computer, please allow a few moments for the application to launch automatically. Select "Join Audio via Computer." The virtual conference room will open. If you receive a message reading, "Please wait for the host to start this meeting," simply remain in the room until the meeting begins.

**To Attend by Phone:** Call (669) 900-6833 to access the conference room. Given high call volumes recently experienced by Zoom, please continue dialing until you connect successfully. Enter the **Meeting ID:** 822 4519 4979, followed by #. Indicate that you are a participant by pressing # to continue. You will hear audio of the meeting in progress. Remain on the line if the meeting has not yet started.

## Instructions for Participating and Public Comments

**Members of the public can participate in the meeting via written or verbal comments.**

**In Writing:** Written comments can be emailed to: [ePublicComment@scag.ca.gov](mailto:ePublicComment@scag.ca.gov). Written comments received **by 5pm on Wednesday, February 5, 2025**, will be transmitted to members of the legislative body and posted on SCAG's website prior to the meeting. You are **not** required to submit public comments in writing or in advance of the meeting; this option is offered as a convenience should you desire not to provide comments in real time as described below. Written comments received after 5pm on Wednesday, February 5, 2025, will be announced and included as part of the official record of the meeting. Any writings or documents provided to a majority of this committee regarding any item on this agenda (other than writings legally exempt from public disclosure) are available at the Office of the Clerk, at 900 Wilshire Blvd., Suite 1700, Los Angeles, CA 90017 or by phone at (213) 630-1420, or email to [aguilarm@scag.ca.gov](mailto:aguilarm@scag.ca.gov).

**Remotely:** If participating in real time via Zoom or phone, please wait for the presiding officer to call the item for which you wish to speak and use the "raise hand" function on your computer or \*9 by phone and wait for SCAG staff to announce your name/phone number.

**In-Person:** If participating in-person, you are invited but not required, to fill out and present a Public Comment Card to the Clerk of the Board or other SCAG staff prior to speaking. It is helpful to indicate whether you wish to speak during the Public Comment Period (Matters Not on the Agenda) and/or on an item listed on the agenda.

## General Information for Public Comments

Verbal comments can be presented in real time during the meeting. Members of the public are allowed a total of 3 minutes for verbal comments. The presiding officer retains discretion to adjust time limits as necessary to ensure efficient and orderly conduct of the meeting, including equally reducing the time of all comments.

For purpose of providing public comment for items listed on the Consent Calendar, please indicate that you wish to speak when the Consent Calendar is called. Items listed on the Consent Calendar will be acted on with one motion and there will be no separate discussion of these items unless a member of the legislative body so requests, in which event, the item will be considered separately.

***In accordance with SCAG's Regional Council Policy, Article VI, Section H and California Government Code Section 54957.9, if a SCAG meeting is "willfully interrupted" and the "orderly conduct of the meeting" becomes unfeasible, the presiding officer or the Chair of the legislative body may order the removal of the individuals who are disrupting the meeting.***



**JOINT MEETING OF THE  
POLICY COMMITTEES (CEHD, EEC, AND TC)  
SPECIAL MEETING AGENDA**

TELECONFERENCE AVAILABLE AT THESE ADDITIONAL LOCATIONS\*

**Community, Economic and Human Development (CEHD) Committee**

<p><b>Jesse Armendarez</b> Grand Hyatt Indian Wells Resort and Villas Back Lobby Patio 44600 Indian Wells Lane Indian Wells, CA 92210</p>	<p><b>Debra Dorst-Porada</b> City of Ontario - City Hall 303 East B Street Conference Room 2 Ontario, CA 91764</p>	<p><b>Lucy Dunn</b> 3065 Brownbirds Nest Drive Henderson, NV 89052</p>
<p><b>Rose Espinoza</b> City of La Habra - City Hall 110 East La Habra Boulevard La Habra, CA 90631</p>	<p><b>Claudia Frometa</b> City of Downey - City Hall 11111 Brookshire Avenue Council Conference Room Downey, CA 90241</p>	<p><b>Peggy Huang</b> City of Huntington Beach - City Hall 2000 Main Street Huntington Beach, CA 92648</p>
<p><b>Matt LaVere</b> Ventura County Government Center 800 S. Victoria Avenue Fourth Floor Conference Room Ventura, CA 93009</p>	<p><b>Jed Leano</b> City of Claremont - City Hall 207 Harvard Avenue Upstairs Junior Conference Room Claremont, CA 91711</p>	<p><b>Anni Marshall</b> City of Avalon - City Hall 410 Avalon Canyon Road Avalon, CA 90704</p>
<p><b>John A. Mirisch</b> City of Beverly Hills - City Hall 455 N. Rexford Drive, 4th Floor Beverly Hills, CA 90210</p>	<p><b>Joseph Morabito</b> City of Wildomar - City Hall 23873 Clinton Keith Road Wildomar, CA 92595</p>	<p><b>Zizette Mullins</b> City of Burbank - City Hall 275 E. Olive Avenue, 2nd Floor Burbank, CA 91502</p>
<p><b>Misty Perez</b> 1000 Towne Center Dr. Suite 300 Oxnard, CA 93036</p>	<p><b>Sonny Santa Ines</b> City of Bellflower - City Hall 16600 Civic Center Drive Bellflower, CA 90706</p>	<p><b>Becky A. Shevlin</b> City of Monrovia - City Hall 415 S Ivy Avenue Monrovia, CA 91016</p>
<p><b>Tony Wu</b> 4509 Temple City Boulevard Temple City, CA 91780</p>		

**Energy and Environment Committee (EEC)**

<p><b>Ana Beltran</b> 351 W. Main Street Lobby Westmorland, CA 92281</p>	<p><b>Art Bishop</b> Town of Apple Valley - Town Hall 14955 Dale Evans Pkwy Conference Room A Apple Valley, CA 92307</p>	<p><b>Robert D. Copeland</b> Signal Hill Public Library Learning Center 1800 E. Hill Street Signal Hill, CA 90755</p>
<p><b>Ned E. Davis</b> City of Westlake Village - City Hall 31200 Oak Crest Drive Westlake Village, CA 91361</p>	<p><b>Shari L. Horne</b> City of Laguna Woods - City Hall 24264 El Toro Road Laguna Woods, CA 9263</p>	<p><b>Elaine Litster</b> City of Simi Valley - City Hall 2929 Tapo Canyon Road Simi Valley, CA 93063</p>



**JOINT MEETING OF THE  
POLICY COMMITTEES (CEHD, EEC, AND TC)  
SPECIAL MEETING AGENDA**

<p><b>Tamala Takahashi</b> City of Burbank - City Hall 275 East Olive Avenue 2nd Floor, Council Office Burbank, CA 91502</p>	<p><b>Connor Traut</b> 7661 Silver Street Buena Park, CA 90620</p>	<p><b>Stephanie Virgen</b> City of Coachella - City Hall 1515 Sixth Street Coachella, CA 92236</p>
--	--	--

**Transportation Committee (TC)**

<p><b>Adele Andrade-Stadler</b> 2956 West Shorb Street Alhambra CA 91803</p>	<p><b>Brian S. Berkson</b> City of Jurupa Valley - City Hall 8930 Limonite Avenue Jurupa Valley, CA 92509</p>	<p><b>Denise Delgado</b> City of Coachella - City Hall 1515 6th Street Coachella, CA 92236</p>
<p><b>James Gazeley</b> City of Lomita - City Hall 24300 Narbonne Ave Lomita, CA 90717</p>	<p><b>Jason Gibbs</b> City of Santa Clarita - City Hall 23920 Valencia Boulevard Orchard Conference Room Santa Clarita, CA 91355</p>	<p><b>Fred Jung</b> City of Fullerton - City Hall 303 W. Commonwealth Avenue Fullerton CA 92832</p>
<p><b>Kleiman Lauren</b> City of Newport Beach - City Hall 100 Civic Center Drive Bay B Newport Beach, CA 92660</p>	<p><b>Carlos Leon</b> City of Anaheim - City Hall 200 S Anaheim Boulevard Anaheim, CA 92805</p>	<p><b>Richard Loa</b> Law Offices of Richard Loa 536 East Palmdale Boulevard Palmdale, CA 93550</p>
<p><b>Marsha McLean</b> City of Santa Clarita - City Hall 23920 Valencia Boulevard Orchard Conference Room Santa Clarita, CA 91355</p>	<p><b>Carol Moore</b> City of Laguna Woods - City Hall 24264 El Toro Road Laguna Woods, CA 92637</p>	<p><b>Ara Najarian</b> 500 N. Brand Boulevard, Suite 830 Conference Room Glendale, CA 91203</p>
<p><b>Frank J. Navarro</b> City of Colton - City Hall 650 N. La Cadena Drive Colton, CA 92324</p>	<p><b>Sharona Nazarian</b> City of Beverly Hills - City Hall 4th Floor 455 N. Rexford Drive Beverly Hills, CA 90210</p>	<p><b>Ed Reece</b> City of Claremont - City Hall 207 Harvard Avenue City Council Office Claremont, CA 91711</p>
<p><b>Crystal Ruiz</b> 674 Sunnyside Boulevard San Jacinto, CA 92582</p>	<p><b>Zak Schwank</b> City of Temecula - City Hall 41000 Main Street Third Floor Canyons Conference Room Temecula CA, 92590</p>	<p><b>Jeremy Smith</b> City of Canyon Lake City Hall 31516 Railroad Canyon Road Canyon Lake, CA 92587</p>
<p><b>Ward Smith</b> City of Placentia Council Chambers 401 E. Chapman Avenue Placentia, CA 92870</p>	<p><b>Wes Speake</b> City of Corona - City Hall 400 S. Vicentia Avenue Corona, CA 92882</p>	<p><b>Cynthia Sternquist</b> 6131 Camellia Avenue Temple city CA 91780</p>
<p><b>Michael M. Vargas</b> City of Perris - City Hall 101 N. D Street Perris, CA 92570</p>		

\* Under the teleconferencing rules of the Brown Act, members of the body may remotely participate at any location specified above.



**CEHD - Community, Economic and Human Development  
Committee Members – February 2025**

- 1. Hon. David J. Shapiro**  
CEHD Chair, Calabasas, RC District 44
- 2. Hon. Rocky Rhodes**  
CEHD Vice Chair, Simi Valley, RC District 46
- 3. Hon. Cindy Allen**  
2nd Vice President, Long Beach, RC District 30
- 4. Hon. Valerie Amezcua**  
Santa Ana, RC District 16
- 5. Hon. Jesse Armendarez**  
San Bernardino County, SBCTA
- 6. Hon. Drew Boyles**  
El Segundo, RC District 40
- 7. Hon. Wendy Bucknum**  
Mission Viejo, RC District 13
- 8. Hon. Don Caskey**  
Laguna Hills, OCCOG
- 9. Hon. Tanya Doby**  
Los Alamitos, OCCOG
- 10. Hon. Debra Dorst-Porada**  
Ontario, Pres. Appt. (Member at Large)
- 11. Ms. Lucy Dunn**  
Business Representative, Non-Voting Member
- 12. Hon. Keith Eich**  
La Cañada Flintridge, RC District 36
- 13. Hon. Bob Engler**  
Thousand Oaks, VCOG
- 14. Hon. Rose Espinoza**  
La Habra, OCCOG
- 15. Hon. Waymond Fermon**  
Indio, CVAG
- 16. Hon. Margaret Finlay**  
Duarte, RC District 35



## COMMUNITY, ECONOMIC AND HUMAN DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE AGENDA

---

- 17. Hon. Claudia Frometa**  
Downey, RC District 25
- 18. Hon. Martin Fuentes**  
Cudahy, GCCOG
- 19. Hon. Victoria Garcia**  
San Fernando, RC District 67
- 20. Hon. Gary Gardner**  
Desert Hot Springs, RC District 2
- 21. Hon. Mark Henderson**  
Gardena, RC District 28
- 22. Hon. Peggy Huang**  
Yorba Linda, OCCOG
- 23. Hon. Cecilia Hupp**  
Brea, OCCOG
- 24. William Hussey**  
Grand Terrace, SBCTA
- 25. Hon. Lynda Johnson**  
Cerritos, GCCOG
- 26. Sup. Matt LaVere**  
Ventura County CoC
- 27. Hon. Jed Leano**  
Claremont, SGVCOG
- 28. Hon. Anni Marshall**  
Avalon, GCCOG
- 29. Hon. Andrew Masiel**  
Tribal Govt Regl Planning Board Representative
- 30. Hon. John Mirisch**  
Beverly Hills, Pres. Appt. (Member at Large)
- 31. Hon. Geneva Mojado**  
Soboba Band of Luiseño Indians
- 32. Hon. Joseph Morabito**  
Wildomar, WRCOG
- 33. Hon. Zizette Mullins**  
Burbank, AVCJPA



## COMMUNITY, ECONOMIC AND HUMAN DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE AGENDA

---

**34. Hon. Joseph Murphy**  
Pechanga Band of Indians

**35. Hon. Marisela Nava**  
Perris, RC District 69

**36. Hon. Misty Perez**  
Port Hueneme, Pres. Appt. (Member at Large)

**37. Hon. Freddy Puza**  
Culver City, WCCOG

**38. Hon. Nithya Raman**  
Los Angeles, RC District 51

**39. Hon. Sonny Santa Ines**  
Bellflower, GCCOG

**40. Hon. Becky Shevlin**  
Monrovia, SGVCOG

**41. Hon. Mary Solorio**  
San Fernando, SFVCOG

**42. Hon. Helen Tran**  
San Bernardino, RC District 7

**43. Hon. Mark Waronek**  
Lomita, SBCCOG

**44. Hon. Acquanetta Warren**  
Fontana, SBCTA

**45. Hon. Jeff Wood**  
Lakewood, RC District 24

**46. Hon. Tony Wu**  
West Covina, SGVCOG

**47. Hon. Frank A. Yokoyama**  
Cerritos, RC District 23

**48. Hon. Frank Zerunyan**  
Rolling Hills Estates, SBCCOG



## ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE AGENDA

---

### EEC - Energy and Environment Committee Members – February 2025

1. **Hon. Jenny Crosswhite**  
EEC Chair, Santa Paula, RC District 47
2. **Hon. Lauren Meister**  
EEC, Vice Chair, West Hollywood, RC District 41
3. **Hon. Debbie Baker**  
La Palma, RC District 18
4. **Hon. Ana Beltran**  
Westmorland, ICTC
5. **Hon. Arthur Bishop**  
Apple Valley, SBCTA
6. **Hon. Margaret Clark**  
Rosemead, RC District 32
7. **Hon. Robert Copeland**  
Signal Hill, GCCOG
8. **Hon. Ned Davis**  
Westlake Village, LVMCOG
9. **Hon. Rick Denison**  
Yucca Valley, RC District 11
10. **Hon. Jesus Escobar**  
Imperial County
11. **Hon. Carmen Hernandez**  
Barstow, SBCTA
12. **Hon. Shari Horne**  
Laguna Woods, OCCOG
13. **Hon. Britt Huff**  
Rolling Hills Estates, SBCCOG
14. **Hon. Joe Kalmick**  
Seal Beach, RC District 20
15. **Hon. Steven Leash**  
Cahuilla Band of Indians
16. **Hon. Elaine Litster**  
Simi Valley, VCOG





## ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE AGENDA

---

- 17. Hon. Patricia Lock Dawson**  
Riverside, RC District 68
- 18. Sup. Vianey Lopez**  
Ventura County
- 19. Hon. Cory Moss**  
Industry, Pres. Appt. (Member at Large)
- 20. Hon. Daniel Ramos**  
Adelanto, RC District 65
- 21. Hon. Jose Sanchez**  
Los Angeles County, CoC
- 22. Hon. Jeannette Sanchez-Palacios**  
Ventura, VCOG
- 23. Hon. Suely Saro**  
Long Beach, RC District 29
- 24. Hon. Patty Senecal**  
Seal Beach, OCCOG
- 25. Hon. Jennifer Stark**  
Claremont, SGVCOG
- 26. Hon. Ali Taj**  
Artesia, GCCOG
- 27. Hon. Tamala Takahashi**  
Burbank, SFVCOG
- 28. Hon. Connor Traut**  
Buena Park, OCCOG
- 29. Hon. Stephanie Virgen**  
Coachella, CVAG
- 30. Hon. Dale Welty**  
Canyon Lake, WRCOG



## TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE AGENDA

---

### TC - Transportation Committee *Members – February 2025*

1. **Hon. Tim Sandoval**  
TC Chair, Pomona, RC District 38
2. **Hon. Mike Judge**  
TC Vice Chair, VCTC
3. **Hon. Adele Andrade-Stadler**  
Alhambra, SGVCOG
4. **Hon. Phil Bacerra**  
Orange County, CoC
5. **Hon. Ryan Balius**  
Anaheim, RC District 19
6. **Sup. Kathryn Barger**  
Los Angeles County
7. **Hon. Brian Berkson**  
Jurupa Valley, Pres. Appt. (Member at Large)
8. **Hon. Daniel Brotman**  
Glendale, AVCJPA
9. **Hon. Jeanette Burns**  
Morongo Band of Mission Indians
10. **Hon. Denise Delgado**  
Coachella, Pres. Appt. (Member at Large)
11. **Hon. Jon Dumitru**  
Orange, RC District 17
12. **Hon. JJohn Dutrey**  
Montclair, SBCTA
13. **Hon. John Gabbard**  
Dana Point, RC District 12
14. **Hon. James Gazeley**  
Lomita, RC District 39
15. **Hon. Jason Gibbs**  
Santa Clarita, NCTC
16. **Hon. William Go**  
Irvine, RC District 14



## TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE AGENDA

---

- 17. Sup. Curt Hagman**  
San Bernardino County
- 18. Hon. Jan C. Harnik**  
RCTC
- 19. Hon. Laura Hernandez**  
Port Hueneme, RC District 45
- 20. Hon. Lauren Hughes-Leslie**  
Lancaster, NCTC JPA
- 21. Hon. Heather Hutt**  
Los Angeles, RC District 57
- 22. Hon. Fred Jung**  
Fullerton, RC District 21
- 23. Hon. Trish Kelley**  
TCA Representative
- 24. Hon. Lauren Kleiman**  
Newport Beach, RC District 15
- 25. Hon. Linda Krupa**  
Hemet, RC District 3
- 26. Hon. Andrew Lara**  
Pico Rivera, RC District 31
- 27. Hon. Carlos Leon**  
OCTA Representative
- 28. Hon. Bridgett Lewis**  
Torrance, Pres. Appt (Member at Large)
- 29. Hon. Richard Loa**  
Palmdale, NCTC
- 30. Hon. Clint Lorimore**  
Eastvale, RC District 4
- 31. Hon. Ken Mann**  
Lancaster, RC District 43
- 32. Hon. Steve Manos**  
Lake Elsinore, RC District 63
- 33. Hon. Ray Marquez**  
Chino Hills, RC District 10



## TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE AGENDA

---

- 34. Hon. Larry McCallon**  
Air District Representative
- 35. Hon. Marsha McLean**  
Santa Clarita, Pres. Appt. (Member at Large)
- 36. Hon. Tim McOsker**  
Los Angeles, RC District 62
- 37. Hon. L.Dennis Michael**  
Rancho Cucamonga, RC District 9
- 38. Hon. Linda Molina**  
Calimesa, Pres. Appt. (Member at Large)
- 39. Hon. Carol Moore**  
Laguna Woods, OCCOG
- 40. Hon. Juan Muñoz-Guevara**  
Lynwood, GCCOG
- 41. Hon. Ara Najarian**  
Glendale, SFVCOG
- 42. Hon. Frank Navarro**  
Colton, RC District 6
- 43. Hon. Sharona Nazarian**  
Beverly Hills, WSCCOG
- 44. Hon. Nikki Perez**  
Burbank, RC District 42
- 45. Hon. Gil Rebollar**  
Brawley, RC District 1
- 46. Hon. Ed Reece**  
Claremont, SGVCOG
- 47. Hon. Marlon Regisford**  
Caltrans, District 7, Ex-Officio Non-Voting Member
- 48. Hon. Gabriel Reyes**  
San Bernardino County CoC
- 49. Hon. Crystal Ruiz**  
San Jacinto, WRCOG
- 50. Hon. Ali Saleh**  
Bell, RC District 27



## TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE AGENDA

---

- 51. Hon. Steve Sanchez**  
La Quinta, RC District 66
- 52. Hon. Zak Schwank**  
Temecula, RC District 5
- 53. Hon. Marty Simonoff**  
Brea, RC District 22
- 54. Hon. Jeremy Smith**  
Canyon Lake, Pres. Appt. (Member at Large)
- 55. Hon. Ward Smith**  
Placentia, OCCOG
- 56. Sup. Hilda Solis**  
Los Angeles County
- 57. Hon. Wes Speake**  
Corona, WRCOG
- 58. Sup. Karen Spiegel**  
Riverside County
- 59. Hon. Cynthia Sternquist**  
Temple City, SGVCOG
- 60. Hon. Butch Twining**  
Huntington Beach, RC District 64
- 61. Hon. Steve Tye**  
Diamond Bar, RC District 37
- 62. Hon. Michael Vargas**  
Riverside County CoC
- 63. Hon. Scott Voigts**  
Lake Forest, OCCOG
- 64. Sup. Donald Wagner**  
Orange County
- 65. Hon. Colleen Wallace**  
Banning, WRCOG
- 66. Hon. Alan Wapner**  
SBCTA
- 67. Hon. Thomas Wong**  
Monterey Park, SGVCOG
- 68. Hon. Zhen Wu**  
San Clemente, OCCOG



JOINT MEETING OF THE  
POLICY COMMITTEES (CEHD, EEC, AND TC)  
SPECIAL MEETING AGENDA

Southern California Association of Governments  
900 Wilshire Boulevard, Suite 1700 – Regional Council Room  
Los Angeles, CA 90017  
**Thursday, February 6, 2025**  
**10:00 AM**

The Joint Policy Committees may consider and act upon any of the items on the agenda regardless of whether they are listed as Information or Action items.

**CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

*The Honorable Curt Hagman, President*

*The Honorable David J. Shapiro, Chair, Community, Economic and Human Development Committee*

*The Honorable Jenny Crosswhite, Chair, Energy and Environment Committee*

*The Honorable Tim Sandoval, Chair, Transportation Committee*

**PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD (Matters Not on the Agenda)**

This is the time for public comments on any matter of interest within SCAG’s jurisdiction that is *not* listed on the agenda. For items listed on the agenda, public comments will be received when that item is considered. Although the committee may briefly respond to statements or questions, under state law, matters presented under this item cannot be discussed or acted upon at this time.

**CONSENT CALENDAR**

Approval Items

1. Minutes of the Meetings – March 7, 2024

PPG. 13

**INFORMATION ITEMS**

2. Regional Recovery and Resilience in the Face of Disasters  
*(Kome Ajise, Executive Director, SCAG)*

60 Mins. PPG. 26

- *Dr. Lucy Jones, Founder and Chief Scientist, Dr. Lucy Jones Center for Science and Society*
- *Amy Bodek, Director, County of Los Angeles Department of Regional Planning*
- *Steve Soboroff, Chief Recovery Officer, City of Los Angeles*
- *Nuin-Tara Key, Executive Director of Programs, California Forward*

**ADJOURNMENT**



**SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS  
SPECIAL JOINT MEETING OF THE JOINT POLICY COMMITTEES  
(COMMUNITY, ECONOMIC & HUMAN DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE (CEHD);  
ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE (EEC); AND TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE (TC))  
MINUTES OF THE MEETING  
THURSDAY, MARCH 7, 2024**

THE FOLLOWING MINUTES ARE A SUMMARY OF ACTIONS TAKEN BY THE JOINT POLICY COMMITTEES. A VIDEO RECORDING OF THE ACTUAL MEETING IS AVAILABLE ON THE SCAG WEBSITE AT: <http://scag.ig2.com/Citizens/>

The Joint Policy Committees of the Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG) held its meeting both in person and virtually (telephonically and electronically). A quorum was present.

**CEHD Members Present:**

<b>Hon. Frank Yokoyama (Chair)</b>	<b><i>Cerritos</i></b>	<b>District 23</b>
<b>Hon. David Shapiro (Vice Chair)</b>	<b><i>Calabasas</i></b>	<b>District 44</b>
Hon. Cindy Allen	<i>Long Beach</i>	District 30
Hon. Valerie Amezcua	<i>Santa Ana</i>	District 16
Hon. Gary Boyer	<i>Glendora</i>	District 33
Hon. Drew Boyles	<i>El Segundo</i>	District 40
Hon. Wendy Bucknum	<i>Mission Viejo</i>	District 13
Hon. Don Caskey	<i>Laguna Hills</i>	OCCOG
Hon. Tanya Doby	<i>Los Alamitos</i>	OCCOG
Hon. Debra Dorst-Porada	<i>Ontario, Pres. Appt.</i>	Member at Large
Ms. Lucy Dunn	Business Representative	Ex-Officio
Hon. Keith Eich	<i>La Cañada Flintridge</i>	District 36
Hon. Bob Engler	<i>Thousand Oaks</i>	VCOG
Hon. Rose Espinoza	<i>La Habra</i>	OCCOG
Hon. Waymond Fermon	<i>Indio</i>	CVAG
Hon. Margaret E. Finlay	<i>Duarte</i>	District 35
Hon. Claudia M. Frometa	<i>Downey</i>	District 25
Hon. Marshall Goodman	<i>La Palma</i>	District 18
Hon. Mark Henderson	<i>Gardena</i>	District 28
Hon. Cecilia Hupp	<i>Brea</i>	OCCOG
Hon. Lynda Johnson	<i>Cerritos</i>	GCCOG



Hon. Kathleen Kelly	<i>Palm Desert</i>	District 2
Hon. Lauren Kleiman	<i>Newport Beach</i>	District 15
Sup. Matt LaVere	<i>Ventura County</i>	CoC
Hon. Anni Marshall	<i>Avalon</i>	GCCOG
Hon. Andrew Masiel, Sr.	<i>Tribal Gov't Reg'l Planning Rep.</i>	
Hon. Casey McKeon	<i>Huntington Beach</i>	District 64
Hon. John Mirisch	<i>Beverly Hills, Pres. Appt.</i>	Member at Large
Hon. Joseph Morabito	<i>Wildomar</i>	WRCOG
Hon. Zizette Mullins	<i>Burbank</i>	AVCJPA
Hon. Joseph Murphy	<i>Pechanga Band of Indians</i>	
Hon. Marisela Nava	<i>Perris</i>	District 69
Hon. Ariel Pe	<i>Lakewood</i>	GCCOG
Hon. Freddy Puza	<i>Culver City</i>	WSCCOG
Hon. Gabriel Reyes	<i>San Bernardino County</i>	CoC
Hon. Rocky Rhodes	<i>Simi Valley</i>	District 46
Hon. Sonny Santa Ines	<i>Bellflower</i>	GCCOG
Hon. Becky Shevlin	<i>Monrovia</i>	SGVCOG
Hon. Mary Solorio	<i>San Fernando</i>	SFVCOG
Hon. Helen Tran	<i>San Bernardino</i>	SBCTA
Hon. Mark Waronek	<i>Lomita</i>	SBCCOG
Hon. Acquanetta Warren	<i>Fontana</i>	SBCTA
Hon. Tony Wu	<i>West Covina</i>	SGVCOG
Hon. Frank Zerunyan	<i>Rolling Hills Estates</i>	SBCCOG

**CEHD Members Not Present:**

Hon. Al Austin, II	<i>Long Beach</i>	GCCOG
Hon. Bobby Duncan	<i>Yucaipa</i>	SBCTA
Hon. John Gabbard	<i>Dana Point</i>	District 12
Hon. Camilo Garcia	<i>Imperial County</i>	CoC
Hon. Tammy Kim	<i>Irvine</i>	District 14
Hon. Jed Leano	<i>Claremont</i>	SGVCOG
Hon. Carlos A. Leon	<i>Anaheim</i>	District 19
Hon. Geneva Mojado	<i>Soboba Band of Luiseño Indians</i>	
Hon. George A. Nava	<i>Brawley</i>	ICTC
Hon. Misty Perez	<i>Port Hueneme, Pres. Appt.</i>	Member at Large
Hon. Nithya Raman	<i>Los Angeles</i>	District 51
Hon. Andrew Sarega	<i>La Mirada</i>	District 31





**EEC Members Present:**

<b>Hon. Deborah Robertson (Chair)</b>	<b>Rialto</b>	<b>District 8</b>
<b>Sup. Luis Plancarte (Vice Chair)</b>		<b>Imperial County</b>
Hon. Ana Beltran	<i>Westmoreland</i>	ICTC
Hon. Phil Brock	<i>Santa Monica</i>	WSCCOG
Hon. Margaret Clark	<i>Rosemead</i>	District 32
Hon. Jenny Crosswhite	<i>Santa Paula</i>	District 47
Hon. Ned Davis	<i>Westlake Village</i>	LVMCOG
Hon. Rick Denison	<i>Yucca Valley</i>	SBCTA
Hon. Carmen Hernandez	<i>Barstow</i>	SBCTA
Hon. Shari Horne	<i>Laguna Woods</i>	OCCOG
Hon. Britt Huff	<i>Rolling Hills Estates</i>	SBCCOG
Hon. Dan Kalmick	<i>Huntington Beach</i>	OCCOG
Hon. Joe Kalmick	<i>Seal Beach</i>	District 20
Hon. Steven Leash	<i>Cahuilla Band of Indians</i>	
Hon. Elaine Litster	<i>Simi Valley</i>	VCOG
Hon. Vianey Lopez		Ventura County
Hon. Lauren Meister	<i>West Hollywood</i>	District 41
Hon. Oscar Ortiz	<i>Indio</i>	District 66
Hon. Daniel Ramos	<i>Adelanto</i>	SBCTA
Hon. Nicholas Schultz	<i>Burbank</i>	AVCJPA
Hon. Jennifer Stark	<i>Claremont</i>	SGVCOG
Hon. Ali Taj	<i>Artesia, Pres. Appt.</i>	Member at Large
Hon. Tamala Takahashi	<i>Burbank</i>	SFVCOG
Hon. Connor Traut	<i>Buena Park</i>	OCCOG
Hon. Dale Welty	<i>Canyon Lake</i>	WRCOG
Hon. Edward H.J. Wilson	<i>Signal Hill</i>	GCCOG

**EEC Members Not Present:**

Hon. Damon L. Alexander	<i>San Bernardino</i>	SBCTA
Hon. Art Bishop	<i>Apple Valley</i>	SBCTA
Hon. Robert Copeland	<i>Signal Hill</i>	GCCOG
Hon. Maria Davila	<i>South Gate</i>	GCCOG
Hon. Jeannette Sanchez-Palacios	<i>Ventura</i>	VCOG
Hon. Stephanie Virgen	<i>Coachella</i>	CVAG

**TC Members Present:**

<b>Hon. Tim Sandoval (Chair)</b>	<b>Pomona</b>	<b>District 38</b>
----------------------------------	---------------	--------------------



**Hon. Mike T. Judge (Vice Chair)**

Hon. Adele Andrade-Stadler *Alhambra*  
 Hon. Liz Becerra *Victorville*  
 Hon. Brian Berkson *Jurupa Valley, Pres. Appt.*  
 Hon. Russel Betts *Desert Hot Springs*  
 Hon. Art Brown *Buena Park*  
 Hon. Ross Chun *Aliso Viejo*  
 Hon. Denise Delgado *Coachella, Pres. Appt.*  
 Hon. Jonathan Dumitru *Orange*  
 Hon. John Dutrey *Montclair*  
 Hon. James Gazeley *Lomita*  
 Hon. Jason Gibbs *Santa Clarita*  
 Hon. Curt Hagman  
 Hon. Jan Harnik  
 Hon. Laura Hernandez *Port Hueneme*  
 Hon. Lauren Hughes-Leslie *Lancaster*  
 Hon. Fred Jung *Fullerton*  
 Hon. Trish Kelley  
 Hon. Linda Krupa *Hemet*  
 Hon. Malcolm Lilienthal *Hemet*  
 Hon. Richard Loa *Palmdale*  
 Hon. Clint Lorimore *Eastvale*  
 Hon. Ken Mann *Lancaster*  
 Hon. Steve Manos *Lake Elsinore*  
 Hon. Ray Marquez *Chino Hills*  
 Hon. Larry McCallon *Highland*  
 Hon. Marsha McLean *Santa Clarita*  
 Hon. L. Dennis Michael *Rancho Cucamonga*  
 Hon. Linda Molina *Calimesa, Pres. Appt.*  
 Hon. Carol Moore *Laguna Woods*  
 Hon. Ara Najarian *Glendale*  
 Hon. Maria Nava-Froelich  
 Hon. Frank Navarro *Colton*  
 Hon. Sharona Nazarian *Beverly Hills*  
 Hon. Gil Rebolgar *Brawley*  
 Hon. Celeste Rodriguez *San Fernando*  
 Hon. Ed Reece *Claremont*  
 Hon. Crystal Ruiz *San Jacinto*

**VCTC**

District 34  
 District 65  
 Member at Large  
 CVAG  
 District 21  
 OCCOG  
 Member at Large  
 District 17  
 SBCTA/SBCCOG  
 District 39  
 NCTC  
 San Bernardino County  
 RCTC  
 District 45  
 NCTCJPA  
 OCCOG  
 TCA  
 District 3  
 WRCOG  
 NCTC  
 District 4  
 District 43  
 District 63  
 District 10  
 District 7  
 District 67  
 District 9  
 Member at Large  
 OCCOG  
 SFVCOG  
 ICTC  
 District 6  
 WSCCOG  
 District 1  
 District 67  
 SGVCOG  
 WRCOG



Hon. Ali Saleh	<i>Bell</i>	District 27
Hon. Zak Schwank	<i>Temecula</i>	District 5
Hon. Marty Simonoff	<i>Brea</i>	District 22
Hon. Ward Smith	<i>Placentia</i>	OCCOG
Hon. Jose Luis Solache	<i>Lynwood</i>	District 26
Hon. Karen Spiegel		Riverside County
Hon. Cynthia Sternquist	<i>Temple City</i>	SGVCOG
Hon. Michael Vargas	<i>CoC</i>	Riverside County
Hon. Don Wagner		Orange County
Hon. Wallace, Colleen	<i>Banning</i>	WRCOG
Hon. Alan Wapner		SBCTA/SBCOG
Hon. Thomas Wong	<i>Monterey Park</i>	SGVCOG
Hon. Jeff Wood	<i>Lakewood</i>	District 24
Mr. Marlon Regisford	<i>Caltrans District 7</i>	Ex-Officio Member

**TC Members Not Present:**

Hon. Ashleigh Aitken	<i>Anaheim</i>	District 19
Hon. Konstantine Anthony	<i>Burbank</i>	District 42
Hon. Kathryn Barger		Los Angeles County
Hon. Daniel Brotman	<i>Glendale</i>	AVCJPA
Hon. Jeanette Burns	<i>Morongo Band of Mission Indians</i>	
Hon. Andrew Do	<i>CoC</i>	Orange County
Hon. Heather Hutt	<i>Los Angeles</i>	District 57
Hon. Paul Krekorian	<i>Los Angeles</i>	District 49
Hon. Bridgett Lewis	<i>Torrance, Pres. Appt.</i>	Member at Large
Hon. Tim McOsker	<i>Los Angeles</i>	District 62
Hon. Suely Saro	<i>Long Beach</i>	District 29
Hon. Jeremy Smith	<i>Canyon Lake, Pres. Appt.</i>	Member at Large
Hon. Wes Speake	<i>Corona</i>	WRCOG
Hon. Hilda Solis		Los Angeles County
Hon. Steve Tye	<i>Diamond Bar</i>	District 37
Hon. Scott Voigts	<i>Lake Forest</i>	OCCOG

**Staff Present**

Kome Ajise, Executive Director  
Darin Chidsey, Chief Operating Officer  
Cindy Giraldo, Chief Financial Officer  
Sarah Jepson, Chief Planning Officer



---

Javiera Cartagena, Chief Government and Public Affairs Officer  
Julie Shroyer, Chief Information Officer  
Jefferey Elder, Chief Counsel/Director of Legal Services  
Ruben Duran, Board Counsel  
Maggie Aguilar, Clerk of the Board  
Cecilia Pulido, Deputy Clerk of the Board

**CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

President Art Brown called the meeting to order at 9:35 a.m. A quorum was confirmed. President Brown asked the Honorable Ray Marquez, Chino Hills, District 10, to lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

**PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD**

President Brown opened the Public Comment Period and outlined instructions for public comments. He noted this was the time for persons to comment on any matter pertinent to SCAG’s jurisdiction that were not listed on the agenda. He reminded the public to submit comments via email to [ePublicComment@scag.ca.gov](mailto:ePublicComment@scag.ca.gov).

There were no public comments for items not listed on the agenda.

Ruben Duran, Board Counsel, acknowledged there were no public comments received before the 5:00 p.m. deadline.

Seeing no public comment speakers, President Brown closed the Public Comment Period.

**REVIEW AND PRIORITIZE AGENDA ITEMS**

There was no reprioritization of items.

**ACTION ITEM**

***Action on Items No. 1, No. 2 and the Consent Calendar were acted upon together. The roll call vote is reflected below.***

1. Connect SoCal 2024: Recommendation to Approve the Final 2024 Regional Transportation Plan/Sustainable Communities Strategy (RTP/SCS)

President Brown explained that SCAG leads the region, bridging state and federal priorities with their local plans and that this requires balancing various needs with the vision for the future. He noted that Connect SoCal 2024 was four years in the making, and they had many discussions and

---

presentations along the way. He indicated that as this plan moved forward, SCAG would support local government in implementing various elements of the plan through funding administration, research and resources.

Kome Ajise, Executive Director, reported that last September, this body met to recommend that the Regional Council approve the draft Plan for release for public review and comment, which occurred on November 2<sup>nd</sup>. At this meeting, he indicated that staff would present the comments received during that draft release period and outline changes underway for the final proposed plan. He expressed that they were confident in moving forward with the final proposed plan, yet they also acknowledge and welcomed discussion on issues raised that could not be directly addressed in the plan itself. He noted that the anticipated adoption of this plan was a milestone, not a finish line and that this Plan would keep the region moving forward, but there was still more work to be done.

Sarah Dominguez, Planning Supervisor, shared that on November 2<sup>nd</sup> they released the draft plan for public review and comment which kicked off a 71-day comment period that closed on January 12<sup>th</sup>. She mentioned that staff read and responded to over 1,800 comments on the draft plan, and they were in the process of updating the proposed plan documents which would be available in advance of the April 4<sup>th</sup> Regional Council meeting. She also noted that there were some commenters and comments that raised issues or asked questions beyond what they could feasibly address in this plan and that those topics would be for future discussion. She also provided a brief overview of what Connect SoCal is and noted that the plan is expected to meet the state's requirement of a 19% per capita reduction in greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions by 2035. She also noted that Connect SoCal looks 20 years into the future to outline their transportation investments, planned land use, and a suite of programs, policies and strategies to help them reach their goals. She shared that the plan development included many steps and explained that the plan benefited from the insights and direction of stakeholders, representatives of transportation agencies, local jurisdictions, and other organizations and individuals who participated in SCAG working groups or provided formal input to the plan's project list or development pattern, in addition to the three special subcommittees who were able to explore deeper policy issues that provided guidance on the Plan. She also shared that the Policy Committees and Regional Council saw over 100 staff reports on various aspects of the plan policy and development. She also noted that staff engaged the public and community-based organizations on key stages of the plan and that during the draft review and comment period from November to January they held 15 elected official briefings and 3 public hearings. She also presented a summary of the feedback received and changes being made to the Plan. She noted key themes included the confusion regarding the applicability of the CARB's 2022 scoping plan target and the questioning of SCAG's inclusion of roadway projects within the plan. She clarified that the plan included significant investments in active transportation and transit, and that the detail provided on roadway projects did not accurately represent the investments in non-auto projects. She emphasized that staff had prepared a written response to each of the comments which would be documented and included in the appendices of the final public participation and consultation

Technical Report. She also highlighted revisions to the mobility goal, project adjustments, and changes to the forecasted regional development pattern. She discussed the addition of SCS consistency language and minor edits to regional planning policies and implementation strategies. She also noted that they were applying modeling enhancements and improvements to the plan; however, two quantified GHG emission reduction strategies were being removed as per feedback from CARB. She also noted topics that will need further discussion and policy direction which were beyond this plan cycle, such as comprehensive sustainable freight planning, addressing VMT increases from roadway capacity-increasing projects, aligning growth and regional resilience, supporting the clean energy transition, ensuring equity and the transition to user fees, identifying the needs and strategies for housing infrastructure investments, and reforming Senate Bill 375.

Karen Calderon, Project Manager for the Program Environmental Impact Report, explained that preparation of the plan triggers the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and since 2012 SCAG had been meeting their CEQA requirements through a Program Environmental Impact Report (PEIR). She provided an overview of the public outreach process to engage with various stakeholders and noted that Attachment 1 of the staff report summarized all their public outreach efforts to date. She also indicated that they took all the input and public comments into consideration when they released the draft back in November for a 65-day public comment period. She reported that there were three components to the proposed final PEIR and discussed the addition of two new chapters to the draft plan in response to comments received, which included revisions, responses to comments, and clarifications. She explained the first component was the draft comprised of the executive summary, Chapters 1 through 7, and 7 technical appendices, which was 14,000 pages. She further explained that the second component was the response to comments chapter and noted they had received 33 comment letters and 700 unique comments from a large range of commenters, including sovereign nations, state agencies, federal agencies, and other organizations. She indicated there were six reoccurring themes from the comments and noted that the most common CEQA topics raised were mitigation measures and alternatives. The last component was Chapter 9, Clarifications and Revisions which was organized into three categories: 1) revisions to the plan since publication of the 2024 draft PEIR, 2) response to comments on the 2024 draft PEIR, and 3) staff-initiated clarification and revisions. She clarified that after gathering all this information, they analyzed the changes to the draft to ensure that no recirculation was needed. She shared that there was additional CEQA required information which was the mitigation and monitoring report, the findings of fact, and the statement of overriding considerations that would be exhibits that live outside of the PEIR but were not used to support the Regional Council decision making related to the PEIR.

Sarah Dominguez indicated they were seeking two actions from the JPC, one that the Regional Council certify the PEIR and the other that the Regional Council approve the proposed final Connect SoCal 2024. She indicated that next steps after this meeting were to release the proposed final PEIR on March 25, 2024, which was 10 days prior to the intended certification date and two

steps above and beyond CEQA requirements. She indicated they anticipated posting the proposed final Connect SoCal 2024, and related technical reports in advance of the April 4<sup>th</sup> Regional Council. She explained that next steps would be to seek the certification of the final PEIR at the April 4<sup>th</sup> Regional Council meeting prior to approving adoption of Connect SoCal 2024 at the same meeting. She indicated that pending those Regional Council actions, SCAG would file the CEQA Notice of Determination and would submit the final plan to Federal and State regulatory agencies.

Executive Director Ajise expressed a sense of pride for what they had all accomplished as a region. He briefly touched upon the comments they had received and indicated it was a testament to the active participation by people around region, both public and private. He indicated that the plan balances various needs with a vision for the future. He addressed the need for a multi-modal plan that includes the maintenance and operation of existing systems, along with capacity enhancement projects. He emphasized the importance of balancing mobility options, including investment in transit and active transportation. He also highlighted a new focus on housing in the regional transportation plan, acknowledging the connection between transportation and housing. Lastly, he touched on the need to reform SB 375 and the challenges it presents.

The following public comment speakers expressed support for the plan and urged approval by the Regional Council: Amy Bodeck, Director of Regional Planning in Los Angeles County; Richard Lambros, Managing Director of the Southern California Leadership Council; Chris Wilson from the Los Angeles Business Federation (BizFed); Benjamin Lopez, Policy Director with the Inland Empire Economic Partnership; Nayiri Baghdassarian, Director of Public Policy for the San Gabriel Valley Economic Partnership; and Carlos Rodriguez from the Building Industry Association of Southern California.

Eli Lipman from Move LA touched on three items and the first one was population. He indicated that the report plans for more people in their region and in the last couple of years they had seen a decline in population in Southern California. He indicated that he believed that it was important in this plan, and especially in the next plan, that they consider alternative scenarios where they either have a population that levels off or a population that potentially declines. He also addressed the road pricing and indicated they were not seeing any movement in the region, or at the state level. He indicated he was concerned that there wasn't some urgency around this by local transportation commissions, SCAG, or the State which left a large hole in the plan in terms of mitigation. Lastly, he touched on the scoring system that SCAG established for projects and what gets funded and prioritized in terms of funding regionally for CMAQ and other Federal funding programs. He expressed this was a problem.

There were no additional comments on Item 1 and 2.

---

First Vice President Curt Hagman, San Bernardino County, congratulated everyone who was present at the Joint Policy Committee (JPC), the Regional Council, and staff. He expressed they were thankful that staff works to set the goal for Southern California and to set a vision for them to work together as counties and cities to really take care of their residents going forward. He moved the motion as amended by staff.

Policy Committee Member John Mirisch, Beverly Hills, expressed the importance of addressing ecological overshoot and not just climate change. He also agreed with Eli Lipman's point about population and believed they needed to be looking at a stable population or even a loss of population. He also touched upon the role of public transportation and stated there was a need to focus on practicality and making it competitive with driving. He also highlighted the importance of affordability, social equity, and the integration of autonomous vehicle technology into public transportation. He also expressed support for homeownership and noted that he thought the focus on allowing people who have been excluded from home ownership in the past needed to be a big focus. He also emphasized that as a group they needed to support anti-speculation housing bills. He expressed this was a milestone and thanked everybody for the hard work.

Policy Committee Member Tanya Doby, Los Alamitos, expressed her gratitude for the work they did on the plan. She also suggested that they consider inserting hyperlinks when referencing other parts of the plan for clarity.

Policy Committee Member Daniel Ramos, Adelanto, thanked staff and the entire team for the countless of hours and hard work that they put into the plan. He proceeded to second Regional Council Member Hagman's motion.

Policy Committee Member Ed Wilson, Signal Hill, thanked staff and all the partners in this process. He expressed he was happy to see that they were not only addressing sustainability but affordability and social equity in the plan. He also noted that the potential impact of emerging technologies like drones on airspace management should be considered in the future.

Regional Council Member Trish Kelley, TCA, thanked everyone and staff for the hard work that went into this process. She expressed she was troubled by the awkward position that they had been placed in because they were being asked to recommend approval to the Regional Council of a proposed final Connect SoCal plan and final EIR and they did not have those documents before them. She expressed appreciation that the staff report summarizes the general approach to responding to the public comments and identified some recommended changes, but it did not avoid the fact that they were being asked to approve documents that were not in their possession. She asked if they needed a recommendation from the JPC on this day, when did the transportation conformity for the current plan lapse, and how much time were they legally bound by to provide the adopted plan to the Federal agencies for review.

---



Executive Director Ajise clarified that the documents that they were recommending approval on had not changed and that was why they only heard about the changes that were addressed in the agenda package that they had. He further clarified that they only saw the changes that they noted in the document and that the main documents were still the same and there were no significant changes to that document. He indicated there was no need to recirculate the entire package. In terms of timing, he indicated that they needed approval to be able to get the plan to the State who usually takes about 60 days to review and provide approval. He also noted that the conformity timeline was in June. He also clarified that the plan and the EIR were circulated on November 2 and that there was a link in the packet to the documents.

Ruben Duran, Board Counsel, also noted that the documents were on SCAG's website.

Policy Committee Member Carol Moore, Laguna Woods, thanked staff for all the hard work that went into this. She expressed concern about the environment and indicated that they wanted good air quality and had to plan for it. She indicated that she noticed a variety of views by the commenters and that despite their being one plan they weren't forcing everyone into one plan. She expressed that she did not believe that people wanted to be forced into high density. She asked that they continue to listen to all people to make sure that all voices are heard.

Policy Committee Member Tamala Takahashi, Burbank, thanked staff for the hard work on this and expressed appreciation for all the outreach to the stakeholders and the various interests. She indicated it was really encouraging to hear so much positive support for the plan from different sectors that otherwise may have conflicting interest. She expressed she liked 1) the focus on looking at this plan as an investment in their future rather than a reaction to what they have to do; 2) the framework of looking at it as creating a backbone for public transit and a backbone for active transit versus trying to overlay; and 3) the framework of creating choice, it's not forcing anybody out of their cars and it's not making people do things they don't want do. She also emphasized the importance of choice for users in public transit and the need to measure success by meeting user needs, not just ridership numbers. She raised a question about the potential impact of the HLA law on future plans.

Policy Committee Member Masha McLean, Santa Clarita, echoed the comments and thanked staff for putting the plan together. She acknowledged comments by Council Member Mirisch regarding the time it takes to take public transportation and driving time. She expressed concern over the punitive nature of VMT and highlighted the need for advocacy for public transportation.

Policy Committee Member Phil Brock, Santa Monica, echoed comments by Council Member Mirisch about making sure that public transit competes with automobiles. He also expressed the importance of safety in public transportation.

Regional Council Member Karen Spiegel, Riverside County, also expressed concern on the importance of safety in public transportation. She also discussed cost efficiency, the need to allocate taxpayer dollars effectively, and enticing ridership. She also expressed concern about VMT.

Regional Council Member Lauren Meister, West Hollywood, District 41, stated that they needed to look at last mile and active transportation and the other modes of transportation like e-scooters and the delivery robots which were not necessarily safe. She indicated these were things they needed to look at in the future. She also agreed with comments made by Council Member Mirisch regarding climate resilience and noted that they needed to show their support for the environment in general.

Board Counsel Duran noted that there were two related items (Item 1: Connect SoCal and Item 2: EIR) and the minutes on the Consent Calendar. Given the size of this body, he alluded to taking one vote on all items.

The comprehensive staff report was included in the agenda packet and posted on the SCAG website. The meeting video is also available on the SCAG website.

2. Recommendation to Certify the Connect SoCal 2024 Final Program Environmental Impact Report (PEIR) (State Clearinghouse No.: 2022100337)

First Vice President Curt Hagman amended his motion to include Item 1, Item 2 and the minutes on the Consent Calendar. Policy Committee Member Ramos seconded the amended motion.

There were no public comments on the Item 2 and the Consent Calendar Item 3.

## CONSENT CALENDAR

There were no public comments on the Consent Calendar.

### Approval Items

3. Minutes of the Meetings – September 7, 2023

A MOTION was made (Hagman) to approve **Item 1:** to recommend that the Regional Council approve the proposed final 2024 Regional Transportation Plan/Sustainable Communities Strategy, Connect SoCal 2024, the 2023 Federal Transportation Improvement Program (FTIP) Consistency Amendment #23-26 and the associated proposed final transportation conformity analysis; **Item 2:** to recommend that the Regional Council certify the Final Program Environmental Impact Report

(PEIR) for Connect SoCal 2024 and direct staff to carry out administrative tasks for the Final PEIR certification; and the **Consent Calendar**: Item 3. Motion was SECONDED (Ramos). The motion passed by the following roll call votes:

**AYES:** (CEHD) Allen, Amezcua, Boyer, Boyles, Bucknum, Doby, Dorst-Porada, Eich, Engler, Fermon, Finlay, Goodman, Henderson, Hupp, Johnson, Kelly, LaVere, Marshall, Masiel, McKeon, Mirisch, Morabito, Mullins, Murphy, Pe, Puza, Reyes, Rhodes, Santa Ines, Shapiro, Shevlin, Solorio, Tran, Waronek, Warren, Yokoyama; Zerunyan (EEC) Beltran, Brock, Clark, Crosswhite, Davis, Denison, C. Hernandez, Horne, Huff, D. Kalmick, J. Kalmick, Leash, Litster, Lopez, Meister, Ortiz, Plancarte, Ramos, Stark, Taj, Takahashi, Traut, Welty, Wilson; (TC) Andrade-Stadler, Becerra, Berkson, Betts, Brown, Chun, Delgado, Dumitru, Dutrey, Gazeley, Gibbs, Hagman, Harnik, L. Hernandez, Hughes-Leslie, Judge, Krupa, Lilienthal, Loa, Lorimore, Mann, Manos, Marquez, McCallon, McLean, Michael, Molina, Moore, Najarian, Nava-Froelich, Navarro, Nazarian, Rebollar, Reece, C. Rodriguez, Ruiz, Saleh, Sandoval, Schwank, Simonoff, W. Smith, Solache, Spiegel, Sternquist, Vargas, Wagner, Wallace, Wapner, Wong, and Wood (111)

**NOES:** None (0)

**ABSTAIN:** Kelley (1)

**ADJOURNMENT**

President Brown indicated they would conclude the meeting with a special tribute to SCAG Senior Regional Planner John Asuncion who passed away after a long and heroic battle with cancer. He shared that John served the agency for more than 17 years and was a beloved member of the SCAG family. He took a moment of silence to remember John and sent regards to those who knew and loved John.

There being no further business, President Brown adjourned the Joint Policy Committee meeting in memory of John Asuncion at 11:09 a.m.

[MINUTES ARE UNOFFICIAL UNTIL APPROVED BY THE JOINT POLICY COMMITTEES]

//



**AGENDA ITEM 2**

**REPORT**

Southern California Association of Governments  
February 6, 2025

**To:** Joint Meeting of the Policy Committees (JPC)

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S  
APPROVAL**

**From:** Elizabeth Carvajal, Deputy Director  
(213) 236-1801, carvajal@scag.ca.gov

**Subject:** Regional Recovery and Resilience in the face of Disasters

**RECOMMENDED ACTION:**

Information Only – No Action Required

**STRATEGIC PRIORITIES:**

This item supports the following Strategic Priority 1: Establish and implement a regional vision for a sustainable future. 2: Be a cohesive and influential voice for the region. 3: Spur innovation and action through leadership in research, analysis and information sharing.

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:**

*The Wildfires that continue to ravage communities across the SCAG region have brought to the forefront the need to engage in a regional discussion on building resilient communities and a deeper understanding around recovery and how to most effectively prepare communities to prevent and mitigate negative impacts from disasters that have become a more recurring occurrence across the region.*

*SCAG defines resilience as the capacity of the region's built, social, economic and natural systems to anticipate and effectively respond to changing conditions, acute shocks, and chronic stressors by creating multiple opportunities for a sustainable, thriving and equitable future.*

*When planning for resilience, it is essential to plan for sudden or acute events (shocks) that threaten immediate safety and well-being that can range from droughts, earthquakes, extreme heat, flooding, landslides, wildfires, among others. In addition, to most effectively plan, prepare, and recover, it is imperative to embed considerations around chronic challenges (stressors) that weaken natural, built, or human resources such as aging or non-resilient infrastructure, lack of reliable transportation, and economic insecurity, among others.*

*The Joint Policy Committee provides an opportunity for a regional discussion on resilient recovery and rebuilding and, in the long-term, how to most effectively plan for and build equitable and resilient communities. The Joint Policy Committee discussion will inform additional discussions*

---

*with each policy committee in the coming months to identify recommendations for SCAG to support equitable and resilient recovery and rebuilding and long-term resilience.*

## **BACKGROUND:**

### **The Wildfires**

On January 7<sup>th</sup>, the SCAG region experienced a series of wildfires that erupted in the Pacific Palisades and surrounding communities and through the Eaton Fire in the communities of Altadena, Pasadena, and Sierra Madre with many people across the region evacuated from their homes and communities. Since the start of the Pacific Palisades and Eaton Fires, the Kenneth, Hughes and the Sepulveda Fires have started in the region, with the Kenneth and Sepulveda Fires fully contained as of January 27<sup>th</sup>.

#### Eaton Fire

The Eaton Fire started on January 7<sup>th</sup> in Los Angeles County with direct impacts to the communities of Altadena, an unincorporated community in Los Angeles County, and northern portions of the cities of Pasadena and Sierra Madre. According to Cal Fire, as of January 27<sup>th</sup>, the fire impacted 14,021 acres and was 95% contained. As of January 27<sup>th</sup>, 9,418 structures were destroyed 1,073 structures damaged, along with 17 confirmed civilian fatalities and 9 fire fighter injuries.

#### Pacific Palisades

The Pacific Palisades Fire also started on January 7<sup>th</sup> and is primarily located in the City of Los Angeles. According to CalFire, as of January 27<sup>th</sup>, the fire impacted 23,448 acres and was 95% contained. A total 6,837 structures were destroyed and 1,017 structures damaged along with 12 confirmed civilian fatalities, three injuries, and one fire fighter injury.

#### Kenneth Fire

The Kenneth Fire started on January 9<sup>th</sup> and was located in Los Angeles and Ventura Counties. The fire impacted 1,052 acres and has been completely contained. There was no impact to structures and or loss of human life.

#### Hughes Fire

The Hughes Fire started on January 27<sup>th</sup> in the counties of Los Angeles and Ventura and covers 10,396 acres near Lake Hughes Road near Castaic Lake and Castaic. The fire was 92% contained as of January 27<sup>th</sup> with no impact to structures and or loss of human life.

#### Sepulveda Fire

The Sepulveda Fire started on January 23<sup>rd</sup> and near the 405 freeway in the area of North Sepulveda Boulevard and Getty Center Drive in the City of Los Angeles. The fire impacted 45 acres and was

---

100% contained as of January 24<sup>th</sup> with no confirmed impact to structures and nor loss of human life.

### *Eaton Fire and Pacific Palisades Communities and Impacts*

Recovery efforts are underway for the Eaton and Pacific Palisades Fires. Actions have been taken by the federal government, the State of California, the County of Los Angeles, the City of Los Angeles and other impacted jurisdictions. A summary of federal and state actions can be found in the attachment. Through its Office of Emergency Management, the County of Los Angeles has convened taskforces with multiple state and federal agencies as well as staff from impacted jurisdictions to tackle a series of activities that will be critical to long-term recovery and rebuilding. In addition, the Governor of the State of California, the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors, and the Mayor of the City of Los Angeles have all undertaken a series of executive orders and legislative actions focused on simplifying and streamlining the process that is critical to keeping communities safe and helping them rebuild. Furthermore, Disaster Recovery Centers have been made available to support residents to navigate the recovery and rebuilding process.

The Pacific Palisades fire extent includes about 18,500 housing units and the Eaton fire extent includes about 22,200 housing units<sup>1</sup>. Both impacted communities have a higher share of over-65 population and high-income households than the county as a whole, the Palisades area more so. In terms of workers living in the area, the Pacific Palisades has over 17,000 workers and the Eaton area with over 28,000 workers. Important to note that the ‘workers living in the area’ figure does not include workers who were employed by businesses in these communities including service workers like childcare providers, house cleaners, gardeners, personal health aides, to name a few. These workers commuted into these communities and have now lost a key source of income.

Both areas’ housing units far exceed the LA county averages in terms of owner-occupancy and single-family structures. The Eaton Fire area covers some uniquely longstanding communities, with only 8.3 percent of housing units built since 1990 with the Pacific Palisades at 19.4%, compared to 16.9 percent for Los Angeles County as a whole. Both areas have longer-tenured residents than Los Angeles County as a whole—in the Eaton fire area 20.1 percent of householders moved into their residences before 1989. This statistic is 17.9 percent in the Palisades fire area and 10.6 percent in LA county as a whole.

---

<sup>1</sup> This analysis matches the Palisades fire extent to Census block groups whose centers lie within the portion of the City of Los Angeles' Brentwood-Pacific Palisades Community Planning Area either north of Sunset Blvd. or west of Rockingham Ave., plus Census Block Groups in the Topanga Census Designated Place and those in the eastern half of the City of Malibu. Eaton fire extent is matched to \*\*Census block groups whose centers lie within the boundaries of the Altadena Census Designated Place plus several Census block groups in the cities of Pasadena and Sierra Madre where residential or commercial structures were destroyed.

---

As noted above, over 16,259 structures were destroyed in the Eaton and Pacific Palisades Fires. Of these, 11,689 residential structures were destroyed with approximately 11,000 single family homes and over 600 multi-family structures. In addition, approximately 312 commercial and other non-infrastructure structures were destroyed. Given the complete destruction of 11,689 residential structures in areas with an average household size of 2.67, an estimate of the minimum residents who are displaced would be about 31,000.

In addition to destroyed residences, over two thousand additional structures of all types were damaged in the Eaton and Pacific Palisades Fires-- these communities had a combined total population of just under 100,000. As such, the total number of displaced residents and households is still unknown. However, it is important to note that that even structures that were undamaged by the fires may still be impacted by the fires because of the smoke and potential contaminants. In addition, affected infrastructure and broader hazardous waste cleanup may affect those with structures that were 'undamaged' and thereby affect temporary or longer-term displacement of residents.

These fires have a wide-range of short-, medium, and long-term impacts including the loss of life health and wellbeing, economic vitality for people and communities, long established communities, neighborhoods, and resources, destroyed infrastructure private property, destroyed infrastructure, and impacts to the environment and wildlife. Of note, the destruction of housing units resulted in both homeowners and renters losing their homes and thereby instantaneously thrust into a housing rental market that is already plagued by undersupply and resulting high costs that impact nearly all income categories.

#### Broader Risks in the Region

Beyond wildfires, the likelihood that communities will face shocks such as droughts, earthquakes, extreme heat, flooding, landslides, among others, is significant and the frequency of many these disasters is increasing as a result of the unavoidable impacts of climate change. In 2023, Hurricane Hilary resulted in flooding in San Bernardino and Riverside Counties. In turn, Hurricane Hilary was embedded within two-year cycle of exceptionally wet rainy seasons characterized by a stream of atmospheric rivers that caused widespread infrastructure and flooding impacts throughout much of the region. This alternation between more extreme periods of heavy precipitation and more severe drought is part of an emerging pattern of weather whiplash that is being intensified by climate change, and is having a range of significant impacts:

- Heat-related events occurring from 2010 to 2019 resulted in more than 53,000 emergency room visits, 7,000 hospitalizations, and 600 deaths in California. Extreme heat causes drier landscapes, which then make wildfires and drought more likely and extreme.

- In 2020, California experienced a record number of dry heat days due to a changing climate and had over 6,000 fires that burned millions of acres, making that year the largest wildfire season recorded in the state's modern history.
- Economic costs from wildfires include resources involved in fighting the fires, damage to property, health care bills, disrupted business costs, lost tax revenue, and decreased property values—and were estimated to be \$10 billion in 2020 in California.
- Approximately 200,000 homes in the SCAG region are in 100-year flood plains.
- Approximately 1 million homes are in fire hazard zones.
- Important to note that in Eaton Fire, structures were completely destroyed as far as 1.3 miles *outside* of this wildfire hazard perimeter due to extreme winds carrying embers.
- The latest preliminary reports from Los Angeles County Economic Development Corporation (LAEDC) on the Eaton and Palisades Fires, as of January 22<sup>nd</sup>, were \$53.9 billion in property damage, \$466 million in lost property tax receipts, and \$12 billion in lost labor income due to idled workers. However, these figures can be expected to change as new information becomes available.

Disasters can happen anywhere in the region with their impacts extending well beyond the directly impacted communities. For example, as noted in relation to the Eaton and Pacific Palisades Fires, the destruction of over 11,000 residential structures will create a ripple effect across the housing market. In the immediate term, impacted individuals and families must find housing. This has resulted in pressures in the undersupplied housing market with reports from those seeking housing that they are experiencing rent increases and concerns over price gouging. The lack of supply in the housing market will be a challenge for individuals who were already searching for housing in these markets in addition to the victims of these wildfires. Relatedly, the displacement of these individuals and families and relocation to other communities across the region is likely to create an immediate unplanned demand on infrastructure and other community resources.

The cost and impact of the disasters are long lasting. Rebuilding and recovery span a breadth of activities, needed resources, and time for both the community and individuals. Embedding equity and resilience into community planning and building ensures that the appropriate measures are in place to address these risks to minimize damage, loss of life, and long-lasting impacts for communities.

As a frame of reference, surveys from the 2019 Paradise, CA and 2023 Lahaina, Hawaii fires—both urban fires but neither within a large metropolis—show a mixed picture of where residents live one year after the event. A roughly even share of displaced Lahaina residents were living (i) at another Lahaina address, (ii) in an unsafe structure in Lahaina, and (iii) another town on the island of Maui with only small portions leaving the island or the state. Displaced Paradise residents were roughly evenly split between (i) moving to nearby Chico, (ii) moving within 30 miles of Paradise, and (iii) moving beyond 30 miles—with the majority of those aged 65+ moving beyond 30 miles.



### *The FAIR Plan*

One of the most important considerations around rebuilding is the availability of the financial resources to navigate the process and conduct the necessary improvements. This can be a lengthy and complicated. Insurance will be a critical element to access the financial resources that are needed to rebuild. Insurance has long been an issue that has plagued the housing market in California for new construction and for existing homeowners and other uses. The California FAIR Plan Association is a syndicated fire insurance pool that is made up of insurance companies who provide coverage in California. The FAIR Plan was created by statute in 1968, and it is focused on providing coverage to homeowners who are not able to secure home insurance.

### Planning for Resilience, Recovery, and Rebuilding

#### *Planning for Resilience*

Local jurisdictions can plan for disasters and a resilient recovery through the General Plan Safety Element, Local Hazard Mitigation Plans, Emergency Response Plans, Emergency Evacuation Plans, and climate adaptation plans to start. These plans create an opportunity for local jurisdictions to embed resilience into their goals and programs and take actions to reduce risk to loss of life or damage to property due to disasters or hazards. In addition, these plans can also outline the steps that a community will take during a disaster. Planning for resilience requires a comprehensive approach that considers the interdependence of the following:

- Built systems: How can built systems withstand changing conditions and shocks, including changes in climate conditions, while continuing to provide critical services?
- Social systems: How can social systems respond to changing conditions, shocks and stressors by minimizing risks to public health and safety, and maximizing equity and protection of the most vulnerable?
- Economic systems: How can economic systems maintain function when shocked and efficiently use resources over time for investment in repair, reconstruction, and adapting to change?
- Natural systems: How can natural systems adjust and continue to provide essential resources, including clean air and groundwater, and maintain functioning ecosystems?

#### *Disaster Recovery and Rebuilding*

As resilient recovery and rebuilding efforts continue to unfold, equity is a key consideration to ensure that all impacted individuals, including the most vulnerable, have real and meaningful

opportunities to recover and rebuild. The gravity and extent of a disaster will inform the necessary partnerships, resources, and timeline for recovery and rebuilding.

The 2019 California Disaster Recovery Framework (CDRF) identifies the following recovery goals and objectives around disaster recovery.

- (1) address and articulate the transition from response to recovery and the concurrent implementation of response and recovery activities;
- (2) facilitate the integration of federal and State recovery efforts through close coordination with partners throughout the three recovery phases described in the NDRF Recovery Continuum (Figure 1 below);
- (3) alleviate obstacles and promote community recovery by ensuring a timely active insertion of State and federal resources to reduce interruptions to the local recovery process; and
- (4) provide predictability of resources and extra support to assist local agencies in the development of local recovery strategies.

In addition, the CDRF outlines short to long term phases of State recovery priorities. In the short-term activities are focused on stabilizing the situation, including communication and public information, mass care and shelter, debris clearance, and damage assessments to name a few. Intermediate-Term priorities occur when vital services are restored and include activities such as interim housing, debris management, infrastructure restoration, business reestablishment, schools and social services, and others. Finally, long-term state recovery priorities include ongoing recovery projects moving towards self-sufficiency and include supporting sustainable community planning efforts (ex. long term housing and reconstruction of facilities and infrastructure), resilient communities (ex. mitigation policies), economic revitalization, and climate adaptation to name a few examples from the CDRF.

As highlighted in the CDRF, there are several short to long term activities that are undertaken to support recovery. Safety is always an important consideration. Considerations include taking stock of potential resulting hazards and pollution that may result from a disaster. In addition, there is also risk of post-disaster cascading events. For example, in the Eaton and Pacific Palisades Fire, concerns over mudslides are prevalent with imminent rains in the region. Furthermore, as previously noted, evacuation orders and loss of residential structures results in the immediate need for housing in an already constrained market.

These fires have destroyed entire neighborhoods and communities, that were majority homeowners, that now face the challenge of rebuilding their homes and the financial constraints that comes with this. It is important to note that Altadena is a community that has a deep history of long standing Black middle-class homeownership. The fires in Eaton Canyon and Pacific Palisades have resulted in a loss of housing and put at risk retirement nest eggs and opportunities for creating generational wealth.

Based on the fairly consistent level of housing production in the SCAG region and LA county over the last four years, the residential structures lost in the Palisades and Eaton fires together is roughly the same as the number of housing units built every 6 months in Los Angeles County, or every 3 months in the SCAG region. This highlights the importance streamlining permitting processes and other actions that can help homeowners rebuild, in line with actions taken by the federal, state and affected jurisdictions.

Renters' ability to return to their communities will depend on the availability of the housing stock and whether homeowners can or will rebuild. In addition, in many cases infrastructure has been damaged which will be critical to rebuilding these communities. Resilience can be incorporated into community planning efforts to reduce future risk and increase property and benefits. For example, planning efforts can include urban greening strategies that can increase wildfire resilience at the same time they reduce heat island impacts or mobility planning that addresses both daily resident trips and evacuation needs. Urban design can be coupled with building design that embeds resilience through hardening techniques that combine vegetation management and building materials that resist intrusion of flames and embers projected by a wildfire. Along urban wildland boundaries and into the wildlands themselves restoration efforts that focus on native, fire-resistant regrowth and the removal of invasive, generally more flammable invasives, are important for future resilience and risk reduction.

As recovery efforts are assessed, additional resources will be needed to fund infrastructure, residential, commercial and economic hubs, and community resources that are essential for complete and resilient communities. Tax Increment Financing may be a viable tool to plan for resilient communities and recovery. Of note, in 1994, following the devastation of the Northridge Earthquakes, the former City of Los Angeles Community Redevelopment Agency established the 'Earthquake Disaster Assistance Plan' for communities in the San Fernando Valley to support repair and restoration resulting from the earthquake. These plans funded residential rehabilitation programs, downpayment assistance programs for low to moderate income families, first time home buyer programs, seismic gas shut-off valve safety demonstration program, and a series of commercial loan and economic recovery programs.

While that form of redevelopment is no longer available, several tax increment financing tools have become available that can support communities to plan and build resilient communities as well as recover from disasters. In addition, the CDRF highlights "...particular authorities and resources provided by redevelopment law may be helpful after a major disaster...even though new redevelopment activity is not currently occurring in California, this information is provided to ensure recovery planners have knowledge of the full range of effective tools available, especially after a catastrophic disaster". As these efforts, tools, and strategies are explored, conceived, and implemented equity is a key consideration to support the most vulnerable impacted by disasters.

### SCAG Regional Resilience Efforts

Resilience is a core value for SCAG and was identified as a priority in Connect SoCal 2024 by the Regional Council through the creation of the Resilience and Conservation Subcommittee and as a value that was interwoven throughout the plan. Connect SoCal 2024 identifies several regional planning policies and implementation strategies that support climate resilience and adaptation.

#### Regional Planning Policy (examples)

- Prioritize the most vulnerable populations and communities subject to climate hazards to help the people, places and infrastructure that are most at risk for climate change impacts. In doing so, recognize that disadvantaged communities are often overburdened (#64)
- Support local and regional climate and hazard planning and implementation efforts for transportation, land use, and other factors (#65).

#### Implementation Strategies (examples)

- Provide local and regional partners with resources, education and trainings to identify and protect areas vulnerable to climate effects and other resilience shocks and stressors, particularly for low-income communities and communities of color.
- Support implementing agencies' efforts to include climate-ready home-hardening strategies in new construction as well as the retrofitting of existing structures to minimize the potential loss of housing units stemming from climate-related hazards.
- Research existing and potential options to fund the climate resilience efforts of implementation agencies.

In addition, SCAG has a long track record as a convener, collaborator, and through developing resources for communities to plan for climate adaptation and resilience. A few efforts to highlight include:

- SoCal Climate Adaptation Framework provides an overview of how the Southern California region can work together to plan and prepare for the impacts of sea level rise, extreme heat, increasingly frequent and damaging wildfires, and other climate-related issues. Resources include a climate adaptation planning guide, model policies to address specific climate hazards, curriculum on how to conduct climate vulnerability assessments. This resource will be further evaluated to explore opportunities to refine in response to the Joint Policy Committee meeting and following discussions from the three SCAG Policy Committees.
- SCAG's Regional Resilience Framework will include a Resilience Toolkit that can guide local jurisdictions in identifying and addressing shocks and stressors that threaten resilience, including those that are locally relevant and those with regional repercussions, as well as those that are most relevant to disadvantaged communities. The Resilience Toolkit will also

highlight funding and financing opportunities to support resilience planning and implementation. A Toolbox Tuesday is planned for April 2025 to roll out the Toolkit for regional stakeholders.

- HELPR 3.0, which will be launched in early February (as well as previous versions), includes a layer that allows users to identify parcels that are within wildfire hazard areas and other vulnerable areas (such as flood plains, areas subject to sea level rise, earthquake fault zones, landslide hazard zones, and liquefaction susceptibility zones), which can support jurisdictions in planning for future growth with sensitivity to climate hazards.
- SCAG has prioritized resilience in Calls for Projects for the Regional Utilities Supporting Housing (RUSH) program and is proposing to do so as part of the CMAQ/STBG program. For example, in the RUSH program, SCAG is funding the City of Palm Desert and the Soboba Band of San Luiseno Indians to build infrastructure to address flooding issues resulting from Hurricane Hilary.
- Connect SoCal's *Forecasted Regional Development Pattern* details where future jobs and housing are projected to be located, based on expert projection, existing planning documents, regional policies, and review and input by local jurisdictions. The Forecasted Development Pattern is also informed by thirteen types of Green Region/Resource Areas (including wildfire risk) where future growth and development might not be consistent with sustainable development objectives.
- As previously highlighted, Connect SoCal 2024 embeds resilience as an overarching priority and the plan includes a range of policies and implementation strategies that include a focus on resilience and adaptation.

#### Presentation and Panel Discussion

SCAG has convened a series of experts and leaders in their fields to engage in a discussion around resilient recovery. Dr. Lucy Jones, a renowned seismologist, will present on the most important considerations around disasters and recovery responses while outlining the phases and the key agencies involved in recovery efforts.

**Dr. Lucy Jones** is founder and chief scientist of the nonprofit Dr. Lucy Jones Center for Science and Society, which supports the application of science in the creation of more resilient communities. With a Bachelor of Arts in Chinese Language and Literature from Brown University and a Ph.D. in Geophysics from MIT, she worked as a seismologist at the US Geological Survey for 33 years where she developed the methodology used for earthquake advisories in the State of California, created the Great ShakeOut drill, encompassing over 60 million participants globally in 2019, served as Science Advisor for Seismic Safety for the Mayor of Los Angeles and wrote over 100 published papers on statistical seismology and integrated disaster scenarios. She has held visiting professorships at University of California (Hitchcock Chair), and University of Oregon (Morse chair).

Dr. Jones's presentation will be followed by a moderated discussion with the following panelists:

- **Amy Bodek, Director of the Los Angeles County Department of Regional Planning**  
Ms. Bodek is the Director of the Los Angeles County Department of Regional Planning. She joined the County of Los Angeles as the Director of Regional Planning in February 2018. She is the first female director of the department in its 100- year history. The Department of Regional Planning serves nearly 1.1 million people in the unincorporated areas of the county, which covers a diverse geography over 2/3 of the county's land area. Prior this, Ms. Bodek held several roles with the City of Long Beach, including as Director of Development and Executive Director of its former Redevelopment Agency. She holds degrees from Cornell University and a Master of Urban Planning from New York University.
- **Steve Soboroff, City of Los Angeles, Chief Recovery Officer, City of Los Angeles**  
Mr. Soboroff is the City of Los Angeles' recently appointed Chief Recovery Officer. In this role, he is charged with recommending a comprehensive City strategy for rebuilding and expediting the safe return of residents, workers, businesses, schools, nonprofits, libraries and parks in areas devastated by the fires. Mr. Soboroff is an accomplished real estate developer renowned for his civic leadership and ability to advance the most complex civic initiatives. This includes serving as Senior Advisor in the Office of Mayor Richard Riordan during the Northridge Earthquake and as CEO and Chairman of Playa Vista. He is former President of the Los Angeles Board of Police Commissioners, the Los Angeles Board of Recreation and Park Commissioners, and a member of the Board of Harbor Commissioners.
- **Nuin-Tara Key, Executive Director of Programs at California Forward**  
Ms. Key is the Executive Director of Programs at California Forward. She supports the overall strategy and development of programs across the organization. She has nearly 20 years of experience in climate adaptation and mitigation policy, climate finance, urban and regional planning, and social and environmental equity. Prior to joining CA FWD, Nuin-Tara served as a Senior Advisor and Consultant and in the California Governor's Office of Planning and Research (OPR) as an appointee under Governors Brown and Newson, including as Deputy Director for Climate Resilience. She has a Master of Urban and Regional Planning from Portland State University and a BA from Lewis and Clark College.

Following the panel, policy committee members will be invited to ask questions and provide comments, including identifying key issues for further focused discussion in the upcoming months in SCAG's three policy committees.

#### Next Steps

Following the Joint Policy Committee, the three policy committees will be engaged in the coming months on topics within their purview to develop recommendations that will inform an approach



---

on how SCAG can most effectively support equitable and resilient recovery and rebuilding as well as broader resilience planning and communities in the region.

**FISCAL IMPACT:**

Work associated with this item is included in the FY25 Indirect Cost Program (810.0120.20: Planning Policy Development).

**ATTACHMENT(S):**

1. Details of Government Support for Southern California Wildfires

## Attachment: Details of Government Support for Southern California Wildfires

As Southern California addresses the destruction caused by wildfires around the region, SCAG is committed to supporting local agencies in the collective work of recovery and resilience.

Every level of government, from local to federal, has mobilized to ease the recovery work of communities affected by the wildfires. SCAG’s Legislative Affairs team has been monitoring these developments to inform local jurisdictions in Southern California about the recovery effort, compiling the follow list of recovery actions at the federal, state, and city level:

### Federal Government

**Major Disaster Declaration:** On Jan. 8, then-President Biden issued a Major Disaster Declaration related to the Los Angeles fires. This declaration makes available federal assistance funding to help state, Tribal, and local governments cover emergency response costs. The declaration also includes individual assistance programs for affected citizens and businesses, which includes temporary accommodation and financial assistance for destroyed property.

### City of Los Angeles

**Executive Order No. 1:** Los Angeles Mayor Karen Bass issued a sweeping Executive Order to enable Los Angeles residents to rapidly rebuild homes lost in the wildfires and lay the foundation for businesses to rebuild. Mayor Bass also updated the local emergency declaration to account for wildfire devastation and to accelerate the city’s recovery and rebuilding.

**Business tax extension:** Los Angeles Mayor Karen Bass announced that the deadline to file city business taxes has been extended for businesses directly impacted by the wildfires. The due date for those businesses impacted has been extended from Feb. 28 to April 14. Additional information is available from the [Office of Finance](#).

**Chief Recovery Officer:** Los Angeles Mayor Karen Bass appointed Steve Soboroff as the chief recovery officer for the city of Los Angeles’ rebuild and recovery effort.

### California Governor’s Office

**State of Emergency Declaration:** On Jan. 7, 2025, Governor Newsom proclaimed a state of emergency related to the Southern California fires. This emergency declaration allows



local, state, and Tribal agencies to apply for reimbursement from the federal government for activities related to responding to the wildfires.

**Executive Order N-10-25**: This order suspends certain state tax laws that impose penalties, costs, and interest for late payments of property taxes due in calendar year 2025 until April 10, 2026. Certain additional state tax laws requiring the filing of various property tax statements are also suspended under this order.

**Emergency State Funding**: A relief package provides at least \$2.5 billion in additional funding for ongoing emergency response efforts and to jumpstart recovery efforts for Southern California. The legislature began amending budget bills to release additional funds (more information on proposed legislation can be found later in this article).

**Tax Relief for Los Angeles County**: This executive order postpones the individual tax filing deadline for Los Angeles County taxpayers to Oct. 15. Additionally, the state extended sales and use tax filing deadline for Los Angeles County taxpayers until April 30. Governor Newsom suspended penalties and interest on late property tax payments for a year, effectively extending the state property tax deadline.

**Coastal Act and California Environmental Quality Act Streamlining for Rebuilding**: This Jan. 12 executive order streamlines rebuilding of homes and businesses destroyed by suspending permitting and review requirements under the California Environmental Quality Act and the California Coastal Act.

**Executive Order N-14-25**: This Jan. 27 order also reiterates suspension of permitting requirements under the California Coastal Act by Executive Order N-4-25 while helping boost availability of short-term housing by making it easier for those impacted by the Southern California wildfires to stay in hotels and other short-term rentals for more than 30 days.

**Building Code and Permitting Review**: This Jan. 12 executive order also directs state agencies to identify additional permitting requirements, including provisions of the Building Code, that can safely be suspended or streamlined to accelerate rebuilding and make it more affordable.

**Temporary Housing Measures**: A Jan. 16 executive order streamlines construction of accessory dwelling units, allowing for more temporary trailers and other housing and suspend fees for mobile home parks.

**Eviction Protections**: A Jan. 17 executive order prohibits landlords in Los Angeles County from evicting tenants for sharing their rental with survivors displaced by the Los Angeles-area wildfires.

**Price Gouging:** A Jan. 12 executive order expands restrictions to protect survivors from illegal price hikes on rent, hotel and motel costs, and building materials or construction. Report violations to the [Office of the Attorney General](#). The order extends price gouging protections for essential building materials, housing and storage services, and repair, construction, and emergency clean-up services until Jan. 7, 2026, in Los Angeles County.

**Real Estate Speculators:** A Jan. 14 executive order protects wildfire victims from predatory land speculators making aggressive and unsolicited cash offers to purchase their property.

**Supporting Students and Schools:** A separate Jan. 14 executive order makes it easier for schools damaged or destroyed in the fires to use temporary facilities and allows displaced students to attend school outside of their district by suspending a number of state rules.

**Small Business Tax Relief:** A Jan. 13 executive order directs state tax agencies to extend business tax deadlines and relieve interest and penalties.

**Small Business Recovery:** On Jan. 21, Governor Newsom announced expanded access to small business support centers and the California Office of the Small Business Advocate to issue resources guides.

**Mortgage Relief Programs:** Governor Newsom announced commitment by five major financial institutions to offer mortgage relief for property owners in designated fire areas. These institutions will provide a 90-day forbearance on mortgage payments, 90-day waiver of late fees, and 60- to 90-day moratorium on new foreclosures.

**Support Workers Suffering Job Loss:** The state directed \$20 million to create temporary jobs in impacted areas and provide these workers with supportive services through awards from the Employment Development Department.

## California Department of Insurance

**Emergency Declaration:** California Insurance Commissioner Lara issued an emergency declaration for Los Angeles and Ventura counties, which requires non-licensed claim adjusters from out of state to follow all California laws.

**One-Year Moratorium on Insurance Cancellations:** This moratorium creates a mandatory one-year moratorium preventing homeowners insurance cancellations and non-renewals in areas impacted by the wildfires.

**Maintaining Healthcare for Impacted Consumer:** This notice directs California health insurers to submit emergency plans detailing how they will ensure continued access to

medically necessary health care services for the duration of the declared state of emergency. These include allowing for 90-day prescription drug refills and suspending refill waiting periods for all drug tiers, including specialty drugs.

**Preventing and Prosecuting Insurance Fraud:** A partnership with the Los Angeles County District Attorney to launch a rapid response effort to prevent and prosecute insurance fraud targeting wildfire survivors.

## California State Legislature

### Budget

**SBX1-3 (Weiner; Gabriel):** This legislation proposes to amend the 2024 state budget to expend \$1 billion for emergency protective measures, evacuations, sheltering for survivors, household hazardous waste removal, assessment and remediation of post-fire hazards such as flash flooding and debris flows, traffic control, air quality and water and other environmental testing, and other actions to protect health, protect the safety of persons or property, and expedite recovery.

**SBX1-4 (Weiner; Gabriel):** This bill would appropriate up to \$1.5 billion in one-time funding from the state General Fund, or other available funds, for uses noted previously under SBX 1-3.

**Climate Bond:** The recently passed climate bond includes a \$1.5 billion set aside for wildfire preparedness. Senate Pro Tem Mike McGuire said that funding from the climate bond could be used for removing dead trees, managing dry vegetation, and building fire breaks and defensible space around homes and businesses.

### Policy

**AB 226 (Calderon; Alvarez):** The [FAIR Plan](#) insurance bill would support the FAIR Plan with additional liquidity through the [California Infrastructure and Economic Development Bank](#).

**AB 238 (Harabedian):** This proposed legislation would permit borrowers affected by the wildfires to request mortgage forbearance due to financial hardship. Borrowers must confirm their hardship without extra documentation. It also requires servicers to provide a 180-day forbearance, extendable by another 180 days upon request, without fees or penalties, and foreclosures are prohibited during this period.

**AB 239 (Harabedian):** This bill would require the California Department of Housing and Community Development and the California Governor's Office of Emergency Services to form a disaster force for Los Angeles County. This task force will coordinate efforts with the

Federal Emergency Management Agency and local governments to rebuild housing after wildfires, starting Jan. 7. A state disaster housing coordinator will be appointed to expedite resource delivery. The task force must report to the legislature on rebuilding status by April 1, 2026, and quarterly thereafter.

**AB 246 (Bryan)** Rent Relief: This legislation would prohibit an owner of residential real property from increasing the rental rate for a dwelling or a unit located in Los Angeles County more than the rental rate for the dwelling or unit charged on Jan. 7. The rent cap will stay in effect for 12 months after the state of emergency is over.

## SCAG

Previous SCAG News articles have shared lists of [resources for residents and business owners](#) displaced by the fires as well as a list of resources for communities beginning to [recover and prepare](#) for future wildfires and extreme weather events. SCAG will continue updating the SCAG News channel as new resources become available.