

Southern California Association of Governments
February 4, 2026

MINUTES OF THE MEETING
EXECUTIVE/ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE (EAC)
WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 3, 2025

THE FOLLOWING MINUTES IS A SUMMARY OF ACTIONS TAKEN BY THE EXECUTIVE/ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE (EAC). AN AUDIO RECORDING OF THE ACTUAL MEETING IS AVAILABLE AT: <http://scag.iqm2.com/Citizens/>.

The Executive/Administration Committee (EAC) of the Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG) held its regular meeting both in person and virtually (telephonically and electronically). A quorum was present.

Members Present

Hon. Cindy Allen, 1st Vice President	<i>Long Beach</i>	District 30
Hon. Ray Marquez, 1st Vice President	<i>Chino Hills</i>	District 10
Hon. Jenny Crosswhite, 2nd Vice President	<i>Santa Paula</i>	District 47
Sup. Curt Hagman, Imm. Past President		San Bernardino County
Hon. David J. Shapiro, Chair CEHD	<i>Calabasas</i>	District 44
Hon. Rocky Rhodes, Vice Chair CEHD	<i>Simi Valley</i>	District 46
Hon. Daniel Ramos, Vice Chair EEC	<i>Adelanto</i>	District 65
Hon. Mike Judge, Chair, TC	<i>VCTC</i>	Ventura County
Hon. Thomas Wong, Vice Chair, TC	<i>Monterey Park</i>	District 34
Hon. Patricia Lock Dawson, Chair, LCMC	<i>Riverside</i>	District 68
Hon. Margaret Finlay, Vice Chair LCMC	<i>Duarte</i>	District 35
Hon. Wendy Bucknum, President's Appt.	<i>Mission Viejo</i>	District 13
Hon. Mike Goodsell, President's Appt.	<i>ICTC</i>	Holtville
Hon. Lucy Dunn		Business Representative

Members Not Present

Hon. Rick Denison, Chair EED	<i>Yucca Valley</i>	District 11
Hon. Karen Bass, President's Appt.	<i>Los Angeles</i>	Member-At-Large
Hon. Jan Harnik, President's Appt.	<i>RCTC</i>	Riverside
Hon. Andrew Masiel, Sr.	<i>Pechanga Dev. Corp.</i>	TGRPB Representative

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

Carmen Flores, Chief Human Resources Officer
Ruben Duran, Board Counsel
Jeffery Elder, Chief Counsel/Director of Legal Services
Maggie Aguilar, Clerk of the Board
Jonna Hart, Acting Deputy Clerk

CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

President Cindy Allen called the meeting to order at 3:04 p.m. and asked Regional Council Member Mike Judge, VCTC, to lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

President Allen opened the Public Comment Period.

The Clerk of the Board acknowledged there were no written public comments received.

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

REVIEW AND PRIORITIZE AGENDA ITEMS

There was no prioritization of agenda items.

CONSENT CALENDAR

There were no public comments on the Consent Calendar.

Approval Items

1. Minutes of the Meeting – November 5, 2025
2. Contract Amendment: 20-049-C01, Security Guard Services
3. Contracts Amendment: 21-047-MFRP-14, Regional Resilience Framework
4. Contracts \$500,000 or Greater: 26-003-C01, Videography Services
5. SCAG Memberships and Sponsorships

Receive and File

6. Purchase Orders, Contracts and Contract Amendments below Regional Council Approval Threshold

7. CFO Monthly Report

A MOTION was made (Finlay) to approve Consent Calendar Items 1 and 5 and Receive and File Items 6 and 7. Motion was SECONDED (Shapiro) and passed by the following votes:

AYES: Allen, Bucknum, Crosswhite, Finlay, Goodsell, Hagman, Judge, Lock Dawson, Marquez, Ramos, Rhodes, Shapiro, and Wong (13)

NOES: None (0)

ABSTAIN: None (0)

CFO REPORT

Cindy Giraldo, Chief Financial Officer, reported that the fiscal year 25 audit was officially complete, and the results of the audit and financial statements would be presented to the Audit Committee next week. She also reported that a lot of work had been done in securing new revenues for the agency. She noted that they had two successful grant applications with Caltrans and had also been working towards completing grant agreements for the CERT grant and the two Safe Streets and Road for All (SS4A) grants, which all combined total just under \$21 million in resources that will come into the SCAG region. Lastly, she reported that they had been working diligently towards the preparation of the fiscal year 27 budget, which would be presented in just three months.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

President Allen stated that she hoped they would join the next day for the "2025 Southern California Economic Update" during the Joint Policy Committee Meeting. She shared that this annual presentation would include a comprehensive overview of the region's economic performance over the past year and an outlook for the year ahead. She also noted that they would also have a special topical analysis on the regional economic benefits and opportunities of the 2028 Olympic and Paralympic Games in Los Angeles. She further noted that they would have time for an in-depth discussion, which would be moderated by former Los Angeles Mayor Eric Garcetti. She also reported that it was that time of year again for their annual preparations for the General Assembly. She explained that they would be forming three committees to shepherd their processes for reviewing board officer candidates, reviewing the bylaws, and awarding the annual scholarships. She indicated that members interested in serving on the Bylaws and Resolutions Committee and the Nominating Committee should submit their name to the Clerk no later than January 20, 2026. For members interested in serving on the Scholarship Committee, she noted that they should contact the Clerk's office or Government Affairs Officer Rachel Wagner to submit their interest by January 20, 2026. She also reported that members interested in a board officer position should keep an eye out in January for information about how to apply. She indicated that they expected to announce appointments at the February Regional Council meeting. She also reported that she was proud to be a part of the WTS-LA Annual Scholarships & Awards Gala where Executive Director Kome Ajise and she presented the WTS-LA/SCAG Community College Scholarship to Aimee

Rodriguez Lopez of Long Beach City College. She explained that as the recipient of the chapter's Ray LaHood Award last year, Kome Ajise also delivered the keynote address where he celebrated the contributions of women to the region's transportation and planning fields. Lastly, she reminded the members that there was no meeting of the EAC in January 2026 and that the next regular meeting of the EAC was scheduled for Wednesday, February 4, 2026, at 3 p.m.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Executive Director Ajise reported on several key items, including the upcoming Regional Council vote on \$1.25 billion in transportation funding for the Federal Fiscal Year 2026-27 and 2027-28 Surface Transportation Block Grant (STBG) and Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) funding cycle, which the Transportation Committee approved unanimously. He reminded members that SCAG became responsible for administering these programs in July 2023 due to federal corrective action. He also reported that at the November Transportation Committee, some members raised concerns about SCAG's 2.5 percent regional set-aside for STBG/CMAQ funds and asked for more details. He stated that in response, he sent a memo to the Transportation Committee, providing more context and specificity on the use of SCAG's regional set-aside. He noted that the response was also included as part of the Regional Council staff report. He emphasized that the regional set-aside was negotiated with federal agencies as part of SCAG's Compliance Action Plan, to support regional planning priorities. He noted that details were in SCAG's annual OWP and current FTIP—both approved by the Regional Council and the federal agencies. He stated they were proud of the work they put together in these recommendations, which really showed SCAG's role in providing a regional perspective and supporting the development of Connect SoCal. He provided an update on the state's air quality conformity lockdown, which revoked waivers on June 12. He announced that as of November 21, the issue had been resolved, and the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) approved the latest planning assumptions and updates to the emissions estimation model that was developed by the California Air Resources Board (CARB). He emphasized that this had fully lifted the statewide conformity lockdown, including in the SCAG region, which meant that SCAG could continue with the current schedule for conformity analysis for the 2027 FTIP and Connect SoCal 2024 consistency amendment and advance project schedules, particularly any needed for the Olympics. He also shared details about the CV Link project's grand opening events in Coachella Valley. He explained that the CV Link was a multimodal, fully separated, bicycle and pedestrian access throughfare across the Coachella Valley. He noted that SCAG contributed to CV Link by helping to secure funding from the state's Active Transportation Program over several cycles. He indicated that the first event was in La Quinta, where he joined Mayor Linda Evans and Supervisor Mauel Perez to speak about the collaboration that brought this project to fruition. The second event was in Palm Desert, where he joined former Regional Council member and current Riverside County Auditor Controller Ben Benoit, and SCAG Past President and Palm Desert Mayor Jan Harnik to highlight the regional importance of CV Link. He stated that while in the Coachella Valley, he also took the opportunity to meet with Sunline Executive Director Mona Babauta and visit the Traffic Management Center (TMC). He also reported that in partnership with South Coast AQMD and MSRC, SCAG recently launched the second phase of the Last Mile Freight Program. He noted that in the first phase, SCAG

deployed about \$17 million in near-zero and zero emission freight technology across 22 projects in Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, and San Bernardino counties. He further noted that funding for the second phase came from the U.S. EPA which was \$51.5 million to support cleaner freight movement through rebates to fleet owners that purchase new battery-electric trucks or convert existing diesel trucks. He explained that the goal of this program was to improve air quality and deliver meaningful community health benefits across Southern California and noted that applications would be accepted through January 30, 2026, and more information was available on the SCAG website. He reported that on November 20, he was invited to address the Santa Barbara Association of Governments (SBCAG) Board about SCAG's efforts to support the 2028 Summer Olympic and Paralympic Games. He shared information on the Games Mobility Program Framework, which helps them to advance implementation of projects in Connect SoCal. He indicated this continued the work they had been doing in sharing information with the MPO's. Lastly, he also announced that they had a tour hosted by member Daniel Ramos of Regional Council District 65 the week before which included Regional Council First Vice President Ray Marquez, and other members such as Helen Tran and Art Bishop. He stated they got to see the future site for the Brightline West Station in the Town of Apple Valley, the Victorville Wellness Center, and the housing development in Hesperia.

There were no public comments for the CFO report, President's report, or the Executive Director's report.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

There were no future agenda items.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Regional Council member Daniel Ramos, Adelanto, District 65, thanked Mayor Patricia Lock Dawson for allowing them to join her at Riverside City Hall and expressed kind words about the facilities. He thanked both Executive Director Ajise, Chief Operating Officer Darin Chidsey, and others for making the drive to Regional Council District 65 and touring the sites. He also thanked everyone for their leadership and mentorship this year. He wished everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. He expressed kind words of President Allen and stated that their thoughts and prayers were with her.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, President Allen adjourned the Meeting of the Executive/Administration Committee at 3:29 p.m.

[MINUTES ARE UNOFFICIAL UNTIL APPROVED BY THE EAC]

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Executive / Administration Committee Attendance Report

MEMBERS	CITY	Representing	2025-26															Total Mtgs Attended To Date
			5-Jun	19-Jun	20-Jun	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY		
Hon. Cindy Allen, President, Chair	Long Beach	District 30	1	1	1	1		1	0	1	1							7
Hon. Ray Marquez, 1st Vice Chair	Chino Hills	District 10	1	1	1	1		1	1	1	1							8
Hon. Jenny Crosswhite, 2nd Vice Chair	Santa Paula	District 47	1	1	1	1		1	1	1	1							8
Hon. Curt Hagman, Imm. Past President		San Bernardino County	1	0	0	1		1	1	1	1							6
Hon. David J. Shapiro, Chair, CEHD	Calabasas	District 44	1	1	1	1		1	1	1	1							8
Hon. Rocky Rhodes, Vice Chair, CEHD	Simi Valley	District 46	1	1	1	1		1	1	1	1							8
Hon. Rick Denison, Chair, EEC	Yucca Valley	District 11	1	1	0	0		0	1	1	0							4
Hon. Daniel Ramos, Vice Chair, EEC	Adelanto	District 65	1	1	1	1		1	1	1	1							8
Hon. Mike T. Judge, Chair, TC		VCTC	1	1	1	1		1	1	1	1							8
Hon. Thomas Wong, Vice Chair, TC	Monterey Park	District 34	1	1	1	1		1	1	1	1							8
Hon. Patricia Lock Dawson, Chair, LCMC	Riverside	District 68	1	0	0	1		1	1	0	1							5
Hon. Margaret Finlay, Vice Chair, LCMC	Duarte	District 35	0	1	1	1		1	1	1	1							7
Hon. Karen Bass, President's Appt.	Los Angeles	Member-At-Large	0	0	0	0		0	0	0	0							0
Hon. Wendy Bucknum, President's Appt.	Mission Viejo	District 13	1	1	0	1		1	1	0	1							6
Hon. Mike Goodsell, President's Appt.		ICTC	1	1	1	1		1	1	1	1							8
Hon. Jan Harnik, President's Appt.		RCTC	1	1	1	1		1	1	1	0							7
Hon. Andrew Masiel, Sr.	Pechanga Dev. Corporation	Tribal Government Regional Planning Board	1	0	0	0		0	1	1	0							3
Ms. Lucy Dunn, Ex-Officio Member	Lucy Dunn Strategic Issues Mar	Business Representative	1	1	1	0		0	0	1	0	1						5

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