

August 23, 2021

Honorable Clint Lorimore  
President, Regional Council  
Southern California Association of Governments  
900 Wilshire Blvd., Suite 1700  
Los Angeles, CA 90017

Re: **SoCal Greenprint Initiative**

Dear SCAG President Lorimore,

As a natural resources conservation organization, we are reaching out to thank the Southern California Association of Governments for its visionary move to sponsor the development of the SoCal Greenprint project. We strongly urge the organization to keep the project on track for a Fall 2021 launch.

There is no question that Southern California as a region will continue to expand and develop in the years to come. Southern California needs additional housing and transportation services to help it continue to be an economically vibrant region. The Inland Empire Resource Conservation District (IERCD) is a supporter of the SoCal Greenprint because it elevates existing data to help decision makers and stakeholders like ourselves understand how to best integrate nature into the future growth and development of the region. As a public agency that works to promote conservation of natural resources in partnership with residents, municipalities, and other organizations, this tool would be a great asset in our efforts to identify projects that would increase our region's fire resiliency, food security, habitat connectivity, and opportunities to access open space.

The SoCal Greenprint is a tool that is in line with SCAG and the region's leadership in ensuring that our continued growth is done so in a sustainable way that prepares our communities for the climate challenges that lie ahead. As a region, Southern California is connected by watersheds, wildlife corridors, air quality issues and economic activity that is not constrained by jurisdictional boundaries. The SoCal Greenprint will help our organization and others overcome those boundaries to promote smart regional planning that also makes sense locally. We appreciate the opportunity to leverage the SoCal Greenprint's data to understand how to better plan and prepare for a collective future of growth and environmental leadership.

We appreciate the opportunity to express our support for the continued development of the SoCal Greenprint as part of the August 24 public hearing. We urge you to take the feedback collected to strengthen the tool and develop the resource we need for sustainable growth in Southern California.

Sincerely,



Susie Kirschner, Conservation Programs Manager  
Inland Empire Resource Conservation District  
[skirschner@iercd.org](mailto:skirschner@iercd.org)  
(909) 307-4934