

August 24, 2021

SCAG Board/Committee,

Thank you to SCAG for the opportunity to provide feedback and voice support for the continuation of the SoCal Greenprint project. My name is Brittany Rivas, Community Organizer with the Los Angeles Alliance for a New Economy.

At LAANE, we believe that data is the foundation of smart decision making that makes the stakes, opportunities and benefits clear. Access to information is especially important as we embark on the important effort to shape the future of a six-county region. We need to make decisions about where housing growth will occur, where we will place parks and green space so that people have the resources they need for healthy living, and amid a drought, how we will protect valuable resources like clean water. The SoCal Greenprint will be an invaluable asset in getting a baseline understanding of the issues that need to be considered as the region grows and develops amid what we know will be increasingly concerning climate change challenges.

For our campaigns, we use data to understand how to maximize the public good and ensure that underserved communities get a fair chance to succeed and thrive. That is why we are especially eager to see the completion of the equity section that puts an important lens on how our most impacted residents are experiencing environmental injustices and threats from climate change.

We encourage SCAG to finalize the SoCal Greenprint and make this important resource available to the stakeholders who will be shaping the intertwined future of our region.