



Southern California Association of Governments
Hybrid (In-Person and Remote Participation)
900 Wilshire Boulevard, Suite 1700 - Policy Meeting Room
Los Angeles, CA 90017
April 7, 2022

**ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE
MINUTES OF THE MEETING
THURSDAY, APRIL 7, 2022**

THE FOLLOWING MINUTES ARE A SUMMARY OF ACTIONS TAKEN BY THE ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE (EEC). A DIGITAL RECORDING OF THE ACTUAL MEETING IS AVAILABLE AT: <http://scag.iqm2.com/Citizens/>.

The Energy and Environment Committee (EEC) of the Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG) held its regular meeting both in person and virtually (telephonically and electronically), given the declared state of emergency (pursuant to State of Emergency Proclamation dated March 4, 2020) and local public health directives imposing and recommending social distancing measures due to the threat of COVID-19, and pursuant to Government Code Section 54953(e)(1)(A). A quorum was present.

Members Present

Hon. David Pollock, Moorpark (Chair)	District 46
Hon. Deborah Robertson, Rialto (Vice Chair)	District 8
Hon. Cindy Allen, Long Beach	District 30
Hon. Margaret Clark, Rosemead	SGVCOG
Hon. Ned Davis, Westlake Village	LVMCOG
Hon. Julian Gold, Beverly Hills	WSCCOG
Hon. Britt Huff, Rolling Hills Estates	SBCCOG
Hon. Dan Kalmick, Huntington Beach	OCCOG
Hon. Joe Kalmick, Seal Beach	District 20
Hon. Elaine Litster, Simi Valley	VCOG
Hon. Diana Mahmud, South Pasadena	SGVCOG
Hon. Oscar Ortiz, Indio	CVAG
Sup. Luis Plancarte	Imperial County
Hon. Randall Putz, Big Bear Lake	District 11
Sup. Carmen Ramirez	Ventura County
Hon. Greg Raths, Mission Viejo	OCCOG
Hon. Richard Rollins, Port Hueneme	VCOG
Hon. Sharon Springer, Burbank	SFVCOG
Hon. Connor Traut, Buena Park	OCCOG



Hon. John Valdivia, Signal Hill	GCCOG
Hon. Colleen Wallace, Banning	WRCOG
Hon. Edward H.J. Wilson, Signal Hill	GCCOG

Members Not Present

Hon. Ana Beltran, Westmoreland	ICTC
Hon. Robert Copeland, Signal Hill	GCCOG
Hon. Maria Davila, South Gate	GCCOG
Hon. Rick Denison, Yucca Valley	SBCTA
Hon. Shari Horne, Laguna Woods	OCCOG
Hon. Jonathan Ingram, Murrieta	WRCOG
Hon. Cynthia Moran, Chino Hills	SBCTA
Hon. Jesus Silva, Fullerton	President’s Appointment

CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chair David Pollock called the meeting to order at 9:33 a.m. Vice Chair, Deborah Robertson, Rialto, District 46, led the Pledge of Allegiance. Staff confirmed a quorum was present.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

Chair Pollock opened the public comment period and provided detailed instructions on how to provide public comments. He noted that this was the time for members of the public to offer comment for matters that are within SCAG’s jurisdiction but are not listed on the agenda.

He reminded the public to submit comments via email to EECPublicComment@scag.ca.gov. He noted that public comments received via email to after 5pm on Wednesday, April 6, 2022, would be announced and included as part of the official record of the meeting.

SCAG staff noted there were no written public comments received by email before or after the 5pm deadline on Wednesday, April 6, 2022. SCAG staff also noted that there were no public comments for matters not listed on the agenda.

Seeing no public comment speakers, Chair Pollock closed the public comment period for matters not listed on the agenda.

REVIEW AND PRIORITIZE AGENDA ITEMS

There were no requests to prioritize agenda items.



ELECTION OF EEC CHAIR AND VICE CHAIR

Supervisor Carmen Ramirez, Ventura County, nominated Deborah Robertson, for Chair of the Energy and Environment Committee and was seconded by Colleen Wallace, Banning, WRCOG.

Vice Chair Robertson thanked members for her nomination.

Chair Pollock stated that if there were no other nominations, he would declare Mayor Robertson as winner by acclamation.

Vice Chair Robertson asked if there had been any other [members] who had submitted their name for nomination.

Chair Pollock stated Jeffrey Elder, Deputy Legal Counsel, was on the line to announce nominations. Jeffrey Elder, Deputy Legal Counsel, stated there were no nominations received for the Vice Chair position and would need to call for nominations from the floor.

Chair Pollock opened up nominations from the floor for position of Vice Chair of the Committee.

Vice Chair Robertson, nominated Oscar Ortiz for Vice Chair and was second by Policy Committee Member Diana Mahmud, South Pasadena, SGVCOG.

Chair Pollock stated that if there were no other nominations, he would declare Oscar Ortiz elected Vice Chair as winner by acclamation.

Chair Pollock asked if there were any public comments, seeing none, Chair Pollock closed public comments for this item.

Deputy Legal Counsel Elder announced that because they were remote, they needed to do roll call for all of their actions. He stated they could do a joint roll call vote for both positions in order to formalize it.

Chair Pollock stated a motion would be in order to confirm the election of Deborah Robertson and Oscar Ortiz as Chair and Vice Chair of the Committee.

A MOTION was made (Mahmud) to approve the election of Deborah Robertson and Oscar Ortiz as Chair and Vice Chair of the Committee, respectively. Motion was SECONDED (Clark) and passed by the following votes:

AYES: Allen, Brotman, Clark, Davis, Gold, Huff, D. Kalmick, J. Kalmick, Litster, Mahmud,

Ortiz, Plancarte, Pollock, Putz, Ramirez, Rath, Robertson, Rollins, Springer, Traut, Valdivia and Wallace (22)

NOES: None (0)

ABSTAINS: None (0)

CONSENT CALENDAR

There were no public comments on this item.

Approval Items

1. Minutes of the Meeting – March 3, 2022
2. Transportation Control Measure (TCM) Substitution by Orange County Transportation Authority (OCTA)

Receive and File

3. SCAG Climate Action Resolution Quarterly Update

A MOTION was made (Robertson) to approve the Consent Calendar. Motion was SECONDED (Valdivia) and passed by the following votes:

AYES: Allen, Brotman, Clark, Davis, Gold, Huff, D. Kalmick, J. Kalmick, Litster, Mahmud, Ortiz, Plancarte, Pollock, Putz, Ramirez, Rath, Robertson, Rollins, Springer, Traut, Valdivia, Wallace and Wilson (23)

NOES: None (0)

ABSTAINS: None (0)

INFORMATION ITEMS

4. Draft 2022 South Coast Air Quality Management Plan (AQMP)

There were no public comments on this item.

Rongshen Luo, Program Manager of the Environmental Business Unit, introduced Dr. Sarah Rees, Deputy Executive Officer with the South Coast AQMP and Ariel Fideldy, who would be making a joint presentation on the Draft 2022 Air Quality Management Plan (AQMP). He stated that the Draft 2022 AQMP was a very important plan, not only because it would reduce air pollution and improve air quality in the region but also because SCAG was one of the preparing agencies under the AQMP and had implications for SCAG's future regional transportation plans and programs.

Dr. Sarah Rees shared her presentation, where she discussed what an AQMP was and discussed the timeline of the Draft AQMP.

Oscar Ortiz, Indio, CVAG, asked Dr. Rees what the impacts of them being bumped up to extreme for non-attainment were for the Coachella Valley. He asked if there were any other impacts besides them getting additional time. Dr. Rees replied saying they bumped up Coachella to extreme and there were no significant impacts. Policy Committee Member Ortiz also asked if in terms of aircraft there was any movement towards hydrogen fuel. Dr. Rees stated there was a lot of experimental work on smaller aircrafts and that they were many years away from being at demonstration level.

Britt Huff, Rolling Hills Estates, SBCCOG, had questions regarding electrification's effectiveness for shipping and alternative technology. Dr. Rees explained electrification would not be effective for shipping, due to the battery issue. She stated they were looking into fuel cell technology to see where that could be effective.

Margaret Clark, Rosemead, SGVCOG, shared information about studies showing how Chinese emissions were causing pollution [in the United States] and how communities in the southern borders were suffering from emissions coming from Mexico. She asked if from that standpoint, they were punishing their own people when pollutants were coming from other countries that probably did not have same standards. Dr. Rees, shared there were provisions in the clean air act that made some exceptions if pollution was coming from other countries. She clarified that even though they were getting ozone from Asia, it was not causing the higher levels in pollution. She explained that the biggest contributors for fine particulate matter was emissions within our basin as well as getting emissions from wildfire, smoke, and dust from dust storms.

Diana Mahmud, South Pasadena, SGVCOG, asked about air quality impacts and the association with the production of green hydrogen. Dr. Rees shared green hydrogen was important from a climate perspective because they were able to use renewable resources.

Sharon Springer, Burbank, SFVCOG, asked if they could enhance the reduction [of emissions] by more personal action such as walking, taking the train or bus. Dr. Rees shared that personal cars, were relatively a small chunk of that. She stated that ozone concerns came from goods movements

as those were the huge emitters and they were working on figuring out ways of cleaning up the supply chain.

Ariel Fideldy, Manager at South Coast Air Quality Planning Section at the California Air Resources Board (CARB), provided an update on the Attainment Plan to reduce emissions.

Chair Pollock thanked speakers for their presentations.

The comprehensive staff report, including PowerPoint presentation, was included in the agenda packet and can be accessed on the SCAG website.

Chair Pollock stated he would have to walk back the agenda. He stated they had discovered after they had elected their officers for the next year, that [Policy Committee Member] Ortiz was not currently a member of the Regional Council and [SCAG's] bylaws actually required the Chairs and Vice Chairs of Committees to be members of the Regional Council. He stated that with his apologies to Member Ortiz, they needed to ask for a motion to reconsider and reopen the nominations for Vice Chair.

A MOTION was made (Ramirez) to reconsider the election of officers. Motion was SECONDED (Robertson) and passed by the following votes:

AYES: Brotman, Clark, Davis, Gold, Huff, J. Kalmick, Litster, Mahmud, Ortiz, Plancarte, Pollock, Putz, Ramirez, Rath, Robertson, Rollins, Springer, Traut, and Wallace Wilson (19)

NOES: None (0)

ABSTAINS: None (0)

Chair Pollock reopened nominations for Vice Chair. He clarified he only needed a nomination and did not need a second.

Vice Chair Robertson stated she nominated Supervisor Luis Plancarte.

Chair Pollock closed the nominations and declared by acclamation that Supervisor Plancarte was Vice Chair. He then stated they needed a motion and a vote to officially adopt that.

A MOTION was made (Wallace) to elect Supervisor Luis Plancarte as Vice Chair of the Committee. Motion was SECONDED (Ortiz) and passed by the following votes:

AYES: Brotman, Clark, Davis, Gold, Huff, D. Kalmick, J. Kalmick, Litster, Mahmud, Ortiz, Plancarte, Pollock, Putz, Ramirez, Rath, Robertson, Rollins, Springer, Traut, and Wallace (20)

NOES: None (0)

ABSTAINS: None (0)

There were no public comments on this item.

5. Equity Analysis Approach (formerly Environmental Justice Analysis)

There were no public comments on this item.

Anita Au, Senior Regional Planner, provided a preview of staff’s proposal on the Connect SoCal 2024 Equity Analysis, previously known as the Environmental Justice Analysis. She explained that they wanted to ensure their analysis approach lined up with Federal and State Equity Efforts.

Elaine Litster, Simi Valley, VCOG, asked if Ms. Au if she could define what the threshold was for rent burdened criteria, and wanted to know if it was a percentage of income, a percentage of population. Ms. Au stated they currently did not have the thresholds because they would be doing the analysis. She stated the threshold was determined by the percentage of the regional population within each criterion.

Policy Committee Member Springer stated that in relation to [Prioritized Equity Populations and Areas] PEPA and the disabled and senior population, though they did not live in the PEPA area they needed to get connected, they needed access to public transportation.

Chair Pollock announced they would be taking items out of order. He stated they would take Item 7 before Item 6 if there was no objection.

7. Policy Development Framework for Connect SoCal 2024

There were no public comments on this item.

Sarah Dominguez, Program Manager, provided an overview of Connect SoCal’s framework development. She stated the framework for policy development would be outlining how they would be bringing issues and discussion items forward to the different policy committees. She stated they would be seeking input and feedback before adopting final version.

Policy Committee Member Springer stated she spoke up for the disabled as a liaison to the Burbank Council on Disabilities she shared they felt like they were being left behind and wanted to be part of the inclusivity. She stated that active transportation and universal design were very important to them.

The comprehensive staff report, including PowerPoint presentation, was included in the agenda packet and can be accessed on the SCAG website.

6. Racial Equity Early Action Plan – FY22 Progress Report

There were no public comments on this item.

Courtney Aguirre, Performance Strategy Program Manager, stated she would be sharing highlights from SCAG's efforts to implement its first Racial Equity Action Plan. She provided a brief background as to how SCAG's Regional Council adopted a resolution affirming its commitment to advancing equity, diversity and inclusion throughout the region. Ms. Aguirre explained the resolution called for the formation of an Ad Hoc Special Committee on Equity and Social Justice to further develop the agencies response to advancing equity more meaningfully. She explained the committee's work culminated in the development of the action plan which included an overarching definition of equity, goals and strategies and early actions that were internally and externally focused. Lastly, Ms. Aguirre discussed future goals and expressed there was still a lot of work to be done, she stated they were receptive to hearing about opportunities for partnership with others on how to advance equity and ideas for new actions.

Robertson, suggested formation appointments by outgoing presidents. Helpful if people on committee could be listed in the presentation. Governing body giving the direction. Also list partnerships.

The comprehensive staff report, including PowerPoint presentation, was included in the agenda packet, and can be accessed on the SCAG website.

CHAIR'S REPORT

Chair Pollock stated this was his last meeting as Chair [of the committee] and thanked everyone for the amazing things they were able to do during his chairmanship in particular the Climate Action Plan they got past and the Greenprint which they would get past. He stated it had been an honor and privilege to serve as Chair. He stated he believed deeply in the work they did there and the progress they were making. He thanked them for the privilege to serve as their Chair and he left with great faith in Mayor Robertson and Supervisor Plancarte that they would be able to carry on. He shared he was good through November on his City Council, but he was not planning on running

for re-election and chose not to run for re-election to his Regional Council seat. He stated the meeting in Palm Desert [General Assembly] would be his last meeting with SCAG. He stated it had been 8-9 years he had been involved with SCAG and had learned an incredible amount and was always impressed as to what they could do as a regional group. He once again thanked them for allowing him to be Chair.

Supervisor Ramirez stated Chair Pollock was a tremendous leader in Ventura County and stated she would miss him in his public roles because he was always the collaborative visionary. She thanked him.

Robertson echoed the same sentiments as Supervisor Ramirez, thanked Chair Pollock for his leadership and appreciated his steadiness.

STAFF REPORT

Rachel Wagner reminded everyone that the [Regional Conference and General Assembly] was taking place the following month May 5-6. She shared that elected officials and city managers could attend for free. She shared SCAG was undergoing its certification review from the U.S. Department of Transportation, where every four years they must certify SCAG to ensure it is carrying out its Metropolitan Planning Process in adherence with federal statutes and regulations. She stated that as part of this process SCAG would be hosting a public listening session from 5-6 p.m. on Tuesday, April 12. Ms. Wagner also took the opportunity to thank outgoing Chair Pollock for his service and leadership to SCAG as Chair of EEC and on the Regional Council. She stated that in her capacity as Regional Affairs Officer for Ventura County she had gotten to know him well over the years and will miss working together.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

There were no future agenda items.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Policy Committee Member Ortiz stated he would like to get a discussion on the future plans for the Salton Sea and the Lithium projects coming up in the Salton Sea as well.

Policy Committee Member Greg Rath, Mission Viejo, OCCOG, requested an update on sodium batteries that are more environmentally friendly.

ADJOURNMENT



There being no further business, Chair Pollock adjourned the Energy and Environment Committee meeting at 11:40 a.m.

[MINUTES ARE UNOFFICIAL UNTIL APPROVED BY THE EEC]

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ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE ATTENDANCE REPORT

2021-22

MEMBERS	Representing	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	April	May	Total Mtgs Attended To Date
Allen, Cindy	Long Beach, District 30	1	1		0	1	1		1		0	1		6
Beltran, Ana	Westmoreland, ICTC	1	0		0	1	0		1		0	0		3
Brotman, Daniel	Glendale, AVCJPA	1	1		1	1	1		1		1	1		8
Clark, Margaret	Rosemead, SGVCOG	1	0		1	1	1		1		1	1		7
Copeland, Robert	Signal Hill, GCCOG	1	1		1	1	1		1		1	0		7
Davila, Maria	South Gate, GCCOG	0	0		0	0	0				0	0		0
Davis, Ned	Westlake Village, LVMCOG	1	1		1	0	1		1		1	1		7
Denison, Rick	Yucca Valley, SCBTA	1	1		0	1	0				0	0		3
Gold, Julian	Beverly Hills, WSCCOG	1	1	D	1	1	1	D	1	D	0	1		7
Horne, Shari	Laguna Woods, OCCOG	1	1		1	1	1		1		1	0		7
Huff, Britt	Rolling Hills Estates, SCBCOG	1	1	A	1	1	1	A	1	A	0	1		7
Ingram,Jonathan	Murrieta, WRCOG				1	1	1				0	0		3
Kalmick, Dan	Huntington Beach, OCCOG	1	1		1	1	1		1		1	1		8
Kalmick, Joe	Seal Beach, District 20	1	1	R	1	1	1	R	1	R	1	1		8
Litster, Elaine	Simi Valley, VCOG	1	0		1	1	1		1		1	1		7
Mahmud, Diana	So. Pasadena, SGVCOG	1	0	K	1	1	1	K	1	K	1	1		7
Moran, Cynthia	Chino Hills, SBCTA	1	1		1	1	1		1		1	0		7
Ortiz, Oscar	Indio, CVAG	1	1		1	1	1		1		0	1		7
Plancarte, Luis	Imperial County	1	1		1	1	1		1		1	1		8
Pollock, David (CHAIR)	Moorpark, VCOG	1	1		1	1	1		1		1	1		8
Putz, Randall	Big Bear Lake, District 11	1	1		1	1	1		1		1	1		8
Ramirez, Carmen	Oxnard, RC District 45	1	1		1	1	1		1		1	1		8
Raths, Greg	Mission Viejo, OCCOG	1	1		1	1	1		1		1	1		8
Robertson, Deborah	Rialto, RC District 8	1	1		1	1	1		1		1	1		8
Rollins, Richard	Port Hueneme, VCOG	1	1		1	0	0		1		0	1		5
Silva, Jesus	Fullerton, President's Appointment	1	1		1	1	1		1		1	0		7
Springer, Sharon	Burbank, SFVCOG	1	0		1	1	1		1		1	1		7
Traut, Connor	Buena Park, OCCOG	1	1		1	1	1		1		0	1		7
Valdivia, John	San Bernardino, SBCCOG	0	1		1	0	1				0	1		4
Wallace, Colleen	Banning, WRCOG										1	1		
Wilson, Edward H.J.	Signal Hill, GCCOG	1	1		0	1	1		1		1	1		7

Attachment: EEC Attendance Sheet 2021-22 (Minutes of the Meeting - April 7, 2022)