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# Press Release

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **Senate President pro Tempore Darrell Steinberg Complimented Local Elected Officials on Their Leadership**

Los Angeles, CA – (May 3, 2012) The Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG) welcomed the Honorable California Senate President pro Tempore, Darrell Steinberg, to its Regional Council meeting today in Los Angeles.

Every month SCAG convenes a meeting of the 84-member governing board, known as the Regional Council, at its headquarters in downtown Los Angeles. This month Senate President pro Tempore Darrell Steinberg, author of the Sustainable Communities and Climate Protection Act of 2008 (SB 375), joined the meeting as the Board President, Executive Director and Committee Chairs reported on the business of nation's largest metropolitan planning organization.

"One of the important components of SB 375 is that it establishes greenhouse gas emission targets, however it respects the decision of local agencies on how to best achieve the goals. The ground-breaking transportation and housing plan that SCAG adopted provides choices for a region that is one of the most congested and polluted in the nation. I applaud SCAG for thinking long term and strategically about how to improve the region's air quality and mobility," said California Senate President pro Tempore, Darrell Steinberg.

"It was a great pleasure to welcome Senate President pro Tempore Steinberg to our Regional Council meeting less than a month after the General Assembly adopted, without objection, the 2012 – 2035 Regional Transportation Plan and Sustainable Communities Strategy (RTP/SCS) and certified the Program Environmental Impact Report. This has been a very busy but fulfilling year as President of SCAG, and I look forward to continuing to serve the agency as Past President as we begin to implement the long range plan," said SCAG President and Santa Monica City Council Member, Pam O'Connor.

"The 2012 – 2035 RTP/SCS not only achieves, but actually exceeds the greenhouse gas emissions reduction targets established in SB 375. This two decade long plan provides housing and transportation options for a region of 18 million people that accounts for \$1 trillion in gross regional product, and yet is anticipated to add an additional four million people. Mr. Steinberg's attendance at our meeting today signifies that our plan will achieve the goals of reducing traffic congestion, improving the health of our residents while providing the necessary transportation solutions for a productive business environment," said SCAG Executive Director, Hasan Ikhtrata.

The full meeting was streamed live on the SCAG website, and will be available for on-demand viewing next week at [www.scag.ca.gov/scagtv](http://www.scag.ca.gov/scagtv).

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***About SCAG***

*SCAG is the nation's largest metropolitan planning organization, representing six counties, 191 cities and more than 18 million residents. SCAG undertakes a variety of planning and policy initiatives to plan for a livable and sustainable Southern California now and in the future. For more information about SCAG's regional efforts, please visit [www.scag.ca.gov](http://www.scag.ca.gov).*