
Press Release

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Santa Monica Councilmember Receives *Public Sector Leader of the Year Award*

Mobility 21 Recognizes Pam O'Connor at the 11th Annual Transportation Summit

Anaheim, CA – Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG) Immediate Past-President and Santa Monica City Councilmember, Pam O'Connor, received the *Public Sector Leader of the Year Award* at the 11th Annual Mobility 21 Southern California Transportation Summit. Ms. O'Connor was recognized for her leadership as the 2011-12 President of SCAG's Regional Council. During her tenure the agency unanimously approved the 2012-2035 Regional Transportation Plan/Sustainable Communities Strategy (RTP/SCS).

The SCAG Regional Council adopted the 2012-2035 RTP/SCS on April 5, 2012. The long-range transportation and housing plan invests \$525 billion over nearly two and a half decades, creates approximately 500,000 jobs per year and improves the quality of life for nearly half of California's population.

Ms. O'Connor reflected upon the past year by stating, "It was a great honor and pleasure to work with my fellow Board Members as we came together as a region, representing 18 million people, to pass our first ever transportation plan that incorporates a sustainable communities strategy. This plan not only meets the legal requirements of Senate Bill 375, but it looks forward by planning for a 21st century global Southern California with investments in the infrastructure that will make business more competitive while enhancing a healthy quality of life."

"I would like to express my sincere admiration and congratulations to my fellow Board Member and colleague, Pam O'Connor, for her leadership as President and friendship as a fellow Southern California City Councilmember. Pam's decades of experience was evident as she excelled at providing strong direction but with a respect and appreciation for the diversified interests in our region as we came together to construct a plan that improves the lives for all in our region," said Glen Becerra, President of the Board, SCAG.

Hasan Ikhata, SCAG's Executive Director, joined with others in congratulating Ms. O'Connor for receiving Mobility 21's award by stating, "Pam is an exemplary leader. As President, she traveled to six counties and visited nearly all of the 191 cities SCAG represents. This level of commitment, her years of experience in transportation and housing planning, and consensus-

building skills resulted in bringing together key regional stakeholders to build a better tomorrow.”

Displaying her always gracious demeanor, Ms. O’Connor thanked Mobility 21 for recognizing her work as SCAG’s 2012 President, but was quick to add, “Today I stand alongside an extraordinary group of national and local leaders from both the public and private sectors who are working together to ensure that Southern California’s future includes a vibrant business community accompanied by a healthy environment. Senator Boxer’s leadership in authoring MAP-21, with innovative local support from Mayor Villaraigosa, resulted in the passage of a multi-year transportation plan to move our nation and region forward. In addition, Fran Inman is a perfect example of a private sector leader who also works tirelessly in the public sector to bridge the gap and benefit all. And although Deborah Barmack, Bill Campbell and Cindy Quon are receiving Lifetime Achievement Awards, we will continue to call upon them to share their experience and expertise for years to come.”

The 11th Annual Mobility 21 Southern California Transportation Summit was held at the Disneyland Hotel and featured more than 800 transportation, public and private sector leaders. The Summit focused on bringing together elected officials, transportation, business, labor and community leaders to develop solutions to transportation issues facing Southern California.

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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.scaq.ca.gov.