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# Press Release

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## **SCAG REGIONAL COUNCIL APPROVES ONE-TIME OFFER TO WAIVE 10% OF FY 2009-10 MEMBERSHIP DUES ASSESSMENT**

**LOS ANGELES – July 2, 2009** – Due to the State of California’s economic crisis and its impact on local government agencies, the Regional Council of the Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG) has approved a one-time offer to waive 10% of the FY 2009-10 Membership Dues for its member agencies. The action is consistent with the agency's bylaws, which allow the Regional Council to defer, waive or reduce payment of the annual dues for not more than one year at a time.

“This action shows that SCAG understands that some of our member agencies are struggling due to the State’s budget crisis,” said SCAG President and El Centro City Councilman Jon Edney during the Regional Council Meeting on July 2, 2009. “Not all of SCAG’s members need to accept this one-time offer, but for those members whose local budgets are increasingly constrained, this action may help ease some of their burden, without undue hardship for the agency.”

“We appreciate our members’ past support of SCAG and their ongoing support is crucial for the region,” said SCAG Executive Director Hasan Ikhata. “We look forward to continuing to work with all of our members as we confront these challenging times together.”

The waiver offer will not change the basis of calculation for future assessments. While it will reduce budgeted income, SCAG's General Fund budget will remain balanced.

SCAG has already deferred pay raises, reduced travel outside of the region and implemented procurement practices to reduce program costs.

Member agencies will receive revised dues invoices by July 15, 2009.

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### ***About SCAG***

*SCAG is the nation’s largest metropolitan planning organization, representing six counties, 189 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).*