
Press Release

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SCAG HOSTS HISTORIC JOINT MEETING ON GREEN HOUSE GAS LEGISLATION

Los Angeles – December 3, 2009 – The Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG), in partnership with the Southern California Leadership Council (SCLC) and the Global Land Use and Economic Council (GLUE), held a historic joint meeting of public officials, business and community leaders today, to share and discuss ideas on moving forward with SB 375 implementation (legislation to reduce greenhouse gas emissions from cars and light trucks, by requiring integration of planning for transportation, land-use and housing.)

The gathering included former Governors Gray Davis and Pete Wilson, Assembly Speaker Karen Bass and Air Resources Board Chair Mary Nichols. Participants also included officials from the San Diego Association of Governments, the Southern California Air Quality Management District (AQMD) and County Transportation Commissions.

In speaking about the success of the meeting, SCAG Executive Director Hasan Ikhtrata said, “This joint meeting was an excellent demonstration of partnership and consensus-building among our regional leaders, coming together to speak as one voice for Southern California.”

The group discussed the challenges to cities, businesses and organizations for implementing SB 375, especially during recessionary times. They suggested that the Air Resources Board consider regional needs and provide flexibility in implementing SB 375. There was agreement to work with Speaker Bass and the Assembly, as well as the bill’s author, Senate President Pro Tem Darrell Steinberg, on two critical amendments to SB 375 for the next legislative session.

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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.