

SCAG UPDATE



March 6, 2012

Register Today for the 2012 Regional Conference and General Assembly!



On April 5, SCAG will be holding its 47th Annual Regional Conference and General Assembly at the Bonaventure Hotel in Downtown Los Angeles. The 2012 Regional Conference and General Assembly theme – Towards a Sustainable Future in Southern California – coincides with the adoption of the 2012-2035 Regional Transportation Plan/Sustainable Communities Strategy (RTP/SCS). The event will also feature a Reception and Awards Dinner on Wednesday, April 4, including the Sixth Annual Compass Blueprint Awards recognizing projects throughout Southern California that demonstrate Livability, Mobility, Prosperity and Sustainability.

“This year’s Regional Conference and General Assembly will be a time to reflect on our region’s achievements and imagine a sustainable future for our children and grandchildren,” said SCAG Executive Director Hasan Ikhata. “It is an event not to be missed and we invite you to join us.”

Registration for the Regional Conference and General Assembly is \$100 per person and \$50

for students. Prices include access to all events and meals of the SCAG Regional Conference and General Assembly. SCAG Regional Council members and General Assembly delegates may register for free. For more information, please visit www.scag.ca.gov/ga2012.

Draft 2012-2035 Regional Transportation Plan/Sustainable Communities Strategy Update

SCAG concluded its 55-day public review and comment period for the Draft 2012-2035 Regional Transportation Plan and Sustainable Communities Strategy (RTP/SCS) on February 14. Approximately 200 comments were received on SCAG's interactive RTP website, out of nearly 1,600 comments in total. SCAG's staff is reviewing each comment and will be providing appropriate responses. Comments received before the close of the official public comment period and responses to those comments will be included as an Appendix in the Final 2012-2035 RTP/SCS. Comments received after the close of the public comment period will be reviewed and addressed but may not be included in the Final 2012-2035 RTP/SCS Appendix.

SCAG is continuing to give presentations to local business and stakeholder groups on the Draft 2012-2035 RTP/SCS until April 4, 2012, the date when the Regional Council is

scheduled to consider adoption of the Final 2012-2035 RTP/SCS. The next public workshop, "Natural Resources and the 2012-2035 RTP/SCS," will be held Tuesday, March 13, 10:00 am, at SCAG's main office. The workshop will provide an overview of the proposed approach to environmental and public health issues in the 2012-2035 RTP/SCS and the Program Environmental Impact Report (PEIR). SCAG's eight video conference sites in Imperial, Riverside, Orange, San Bernardino and Ventura counties will be providing remote access. For more information, [click here](#).

Toolbox Tuesdays Gear Up Again



On Tuesday, February 14, SCAG kicked off its Toolbox Tuesdays series with a discussion on modern Traffic Roundabouts. Thirty local transportation and municipal planners attended the free Compass Blueprint training program and learned about the safety and congestion management benefits of properly engineered traffic roundabouts. Case studies included the recently implemented Vista Boulevard Roundabouts in Long Beach, a planned roundabout in Lancaster and a high-speed suburban roundabout corridor in Northern California. Presentation materials are available for download on the [Compass Blueprint Website](#).

The next [Toolbox Tuesdays session](#) is set for **March 27**, with training on the nuts and bolts of implementing Complete Streets Policies.

Toolbox Tuesdays are held at SCAG's Main Office, 818 W. 7th St., 12th Floor, in Downtown Los Angeles and available via videoconference at locations in Desert Hot Springs, El Centro and Palmdale, and in the counties of Orange, Riverside, San Bernardino and Ventura.

SCAG Scholarships Deadline March 9

The deadline is fast approaching for applications to be submitted for the 2012 SCAG Scholarship Program. The SCAG Scholarship is designed to provide seven high school and community college students a scholarship award of \$2,000 each and a two-week externship at a local government agency. Scholarship information was sent to all of the high schools and community colleges in the SCAG region. Applications for the SCAG Scholarship Program are available at www.scag.ca.gov/scholarship

Telecommute During Telework Week



Beginning Monday, March 5, 2012 Telework Exchange will host the second annual Telework Week. Underwritten by Cisco and supported by SCAG, Telework Week is a week-long effort to encourage agencies, organizations, and individuals to pledge to telework. During Telework Week 2011, nearly 40,000 pledges saved \$2,730,229 on commuting costs, gained back 148,692 hours into their day and removed 1,818 tons of pollutants from the air, while refraining from driving 3,764,001 miles. We invite you to pledge to telework the week of March 5-9,



2012 – it's free to participate. For more information, please visit:
www.teleworkexchange.com/teleworkweek.

Applications Available for EPA National Award for Smart Growth Achievement

Now through April 6, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) will be accepting applications for the 11th annual National Award for Smart Growth Achievement. This competition is open to public- and private-sector entities that have successfully used smart growth principles to improve communities environmentally, socially and economically. The EPA is considering projects under the following three categories: Programs and Policies, Equitable Development and Main Street or Corridor Revitalization.

Awarded projects will be featured in a short video, which will be shown at the National Award for Smart Growth Achievement ceremony in December 2012, at the New Partners for Smart Growth Conference in 2013 and posted on the EPA smart growth website. Applications may be submitted by either a public-sector or private-sector entity, but all applications must include a public-sector partner. For more information, official award guidelines and to download the entry form, please visit the [EPA website](#).

EVENTS

MARCH

13th [Workshop: Natural Resources and the 2012-2035 RTP/SCS](#)

21st [Special Meeting of the Regional Council and Policy Committees](#)

APRIL

3rd [Subregional Coordinators Group](#)

4th-5th [SCAG Regional Conference and General Assembly](#)

24th [Transportation Conformity Working Group](#)

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County Regional Offices

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Questions, comments or would like to subscribe? Contact us at update@scag.ca.gov.