

Energy and Environment Committee
of the
Southern California Association of Governments
March 1, 2012

Minutes

THE FOLLOWING MINUTES ARE A SUMMARY OF ACTIONS TAKEN BY THE ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE. A DIGITAL RECORDING OF THE ACTUAL MEETING IS AVAILABLE FOR LISTENING IN SCAG'S OFFICE.

The Energy and Environment Committee held its meeting at the SCAG office, in Los Angeles. The meeting was called to order by the Hon. Margaret Clark, Chair. There was a quorum.

Members Present

Hon. Lisa Bartlett, Dana Point	TCA
Hon. Denis Bertone, San Dimas	SGVCOG
Hon. Brian Brennan, San Buenaventura	VCOG
Hon. Margaret Clark, Rosemead	District 32
Hon. Jordan Ehrenkranz, Canyon Lake	WRCOG
Hon. Larry Forester, Signal Hill	GCCOG
Hon. Keith Hanks, Azusa	District 33
Hon. James Johnson, Long Beach	District 30
Hon. Thomas Martin, Maywood	GCCOG
Hon. Dan Medina, Gardena	SBCCOG
Hon. Judy Mitchell, Rolling Hills Estates	SBCCOG
Hon. Sam Pedroza, Claremont	SGVCOG
Hon. Lupe Ramos Watson, Indio	CVAG
Hon. Jack Terrazas	Imperial County
Hon. Cheryl Viegas Walker, El Centro	District 1
Hon. Mark Waldman, La Palma	OCCOG
Hon. Dennis Zine, City of Los Angeles	District 50

Members Not Present

Hon. Mark Calac	Pechanga Band of Luiseno Indians
Hon. Mitchell Englander, Los Angeles	District 59
Hon. David Gafin, Downey	District 25
Hon. Phil Luebben, Cypress	OCCOG
Hon. Ed Scott, Rialto	SANBAG
Hon. Sam Toles, Cathedral City	CVAG
Hon. Edward Wilson, Signal Hill	Gateway Cities

CALL TO ORDER & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Hon. Margaret Clark, Chair, called the meeting to order at 10:02 a.m.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

ELECTION OF CHAIR AND VICE-CHAIR

A motion (Pedroza) was made to nominate the Hon. Cheryl Viegas-Walker, El Centro, as Chair. The motion was seconded (Zine) and unanimously approved.

A motion (Bertone) was made to nominate the Hon. James Johnson, Long Beach, as Vice-Chair. The motion was seconded (Zine) and unanimously approved.

REVIEW AND PRIORITIZE AGENDA ITEMS

Agenda Item 3 was brought forward as the first presentation item and moved forward as an Action Item rather than an Information Item.

CONSENT CALENDAR

Approval Item

1. Minutes of February 2, 2012 Meeting

A motion was made (Forester) to approve the Consent Calendar. The motion was seconded (Bertone) and unanimously approved.

ACTION ITEM

3. Future Effective Ozone Budgets for South Coast Air Basin

Rongsheng Luo, SCAG staff, informed the Committee that after today's agenda had been sent to the Committee members, the United States Environmental Protection Agency (US EPA) requested a more formal public review process for the future effective ozone budgets. As a result, Staff would like to change this Information Item into an Action Item.

Recommended action: Recommend that the Regional Council, at its April 4th meeting, authorize Staff to release for public review SCAG's conformity re-determination for the 2012-2035 Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) with new 8-hour ozone budgets for the South Coast Air Basin.

After the Draft 2012 RTP was released last November, the EPA on March 1, 2012 approved the 2007 Ozone State Implementation Plan RSIP revision, including the updated ozone budget for the South Coast Air Basin. However, the final rule was published on March 1, 2012 and the new budget will not become effective until April 30, 2012. SCAG and the United States Department of Transportation (US DOT) are required to use the new ozone budgets once they become effective. As required by the EPA's transportation conformity regulation, staff has performed a conformity analysis for the Draft 2012 RTP based on the current EPA approved emission budgets. Since the new ozone budgets will become effective after the Regional Council's (RC) adoption of the RTP in April, but likely before US DOT's conformity determination for the 2012 RTP, the conformity for the 2012 RTP will need to be re-determined for the new ozone budgets. Furthermore, the conformity determination will need to go through a 30-day public review process. Staff has performed the conformity analysis for the Draft 2012 RTP with the new future effective ozone budgets. The Draft 2012 RTP meets the future effective ozone budgets for the South Coast Air Basin. Staff will perform the conformity re-determination for the Final 2012 RTP and recommended that EEC take the previously stated action.

Motion was made (Forester) to recommend that the Regional Council, at its April 4th meeting, authorize staff to release for public review SCAG's conformity re-determination for the 2012-2035 Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) with new 8-hour ozone budgets for the South Coast Air Basin. The motion was seconded (Zine) and unanimously approved.

INFORMATION ITEMS

2. Certification for the Final Program Environmental Impact Report (PEIR) for the 2012-2035 Regional Transportation Plan and Sustainable Communities Strategy (2012-2035 RTP/SCS)

Jacob Lieb, SCAG Staff, briefed the EEC that the public comment period for the PEIR closed on February 14. SCAG received a substantial number of comments. SCAG is required under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) to respond to every comment that is included in each letter. Although staff received comments in a number of different directions, there was a pervasive theme around the mitigation measures identified for non-SCAG entities. The general direction of those comments was that that body of mitigation in the Draft EIR was too detailed, too extensive, too directive, and could be interpreted to be putting forth requirements for subsequent projects at the local level. Staff would like to emphasize that was never the intent of the Draft EIR. It was always the intent that, while the PEIR has an extensive body of mitigation, the measures be viewed as a tool box or menu of options that can be considered as appropriate at the project planning scale.

At SCAG's February 21, 2012 Draft RTP/SCS Workshop, staff recommended an approach for dealing with the body of comments as well as other comments that were received on the draft document. SCAG's policy committee members were generally responsive and supportive to the approach staff recommended in dealing with response to comments. Staff will follow up, at this stage of the plan development, with a Joint Policy Committee meeting that will be held on March 21. In advance of that meeting, as the agenda and materials are posted, committee members will have the final proposed Draft EIR as well as all the detailed responses to comments. Staff will be asking at the March 21st meeting to make a recommendation to the Regional Council that the EIR be certified on April 4th.

Most of the comments SCAG received around the subject of mitigation were that they were too detailed and too extensive. Staff will make revisions in the final document that are streamlining in clarifying the intent of the mitigation program. However, in one area the staff is going to be recommending an additional mitigation measure to be carried out by SCAG. Not a local or project specific mitigation measure, it deals with the issue of health impacts for residents living near freeways and other transportation facilities, an evolving, complex issue. Staff will be proposing one additional mitigation measure for SCAG and is described in a matrix in the material the committee received for today's joint policy committee meeting.

4. National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)/California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Delegation Provisions of Federal Reauthorization Legislation

Sharon Neely, SCAG Staff, provided information to the committee members regarding the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) delegation provisions currently in the House bill versus the Senate bill, MAP 21 versus H.R.7 matrix. Staff does not believe either bill is going to progress quickly and noted the agenda item can carry over to next month's meeting.

5. Safe, Clean, and Reliable Drinking Water Supply Act of 2012 Bond Proposition

Sharon Neely, SCAG Staff, informed the committee members that the Safe, Clean, and Reliable Drinking Water Supply Act of 2012 Bond Proposition was considered by the Legislative Committee. Staff has summarized in today's agenda what the status of the legislation is and how the funds would be allocated but it is unknown as to whether this legislation will actually make it on the ballot given the competing tax initiatives. Staff will continue to monitor this bill and report back to the Committee.

CHAIR'S REPORT - None

STAFF REPORT –

Form 700, Conflict of Interest Form, is due back to SCAG's Office of Regional Council Support by April 2, 2012.

The Hon. Margaret Clark was acknowledged for all her good work as Chair of the EEC over the last two (2) years.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS – Zero Emissions Goods Movement Technology

ANNOUNCEMENTS - None

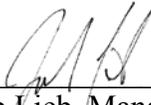
ADJOURNMENT

Hon. Margaret Clark adjourned the meeting at 10:29 a.m.

The next meeting will be a Joint Regional Council and Policy Committees Meeting to be held on Wednesday, March 21, 2012 at the SCAG Los Angeles office.

The 2012 Regional Council and General Assembly will be held on April 4-5, 2012 at the Bonaventure Hotel in Downtown Los Angeles

Action Minutes Approved by:



Jacob Lieb, Manager
Environmental and Assessment
Services

Energy and Environment Committee Attendance Report

2012

Member (including Ex-Officio) LastName, FirstName	Date Appointed if after 1/1/12	Representing	X = County Represented						X = Attended Black Shading = Dark NM = New Member												Total Mtgs Attended	
			Imperial	Los Angeles	Orange	Riverside	San Bernardino	Ventura	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec		
Bartlett, Lisa*		OCCOG			X				X	X	X											3
Bertone, Denis		SGVCOG		X					X	X	X	G										3
Brennan, Brian		VCOG						X	X		X	E										2
Calac, Mark*		Pechanga					X					N										
Clark, Margaret*		Rosemead		X					X	X	X	E										3
Ehrenkranz, Jordan		WRCOG					X		X		X	R										2
Englander, Mitchell*		Los Angeles		X								A										
Forester, Larry		Gateway Cities		X					X	X	X	L										3
Gafin, David*		Downey		X					X	X												2
Hanks, Keith		Azusa		X						X	X	A										2
Johnson James		Long Beach		X					X	X	X	S										3
Luebben, Phil		Cypress			X				X	X		E										2
Martin, Thomas		GCCOG		X					X	X	X	M										3
Medina, Dan		SBCCOG		X					X		X	B										2
Mitchell, Judy*		SBCCOG		X					X	X	X	L										3
Pedroza, Sam		SGVCOG		X					X	X	X	Y										3
Ramos Watson, Lupe		CVAG					X			X	X											2
Scott, Edward		SANBAG						X														
Terrazas, Jack		Imperial County	X						X		X											2
Toles, Sam		CVAG					X															
Viegas Walker, Cheryl*		El Centro	X						X	X	X											3
Waldman, Mark		La Palma		X					X	X	X											3
Wilson, Edward		Signal Hill		X					X													1
Zine, Dennis*		Los Angeles		X					X	X	X											3
TOTALS			2	15	2	4	1	1														