

Energy and Environment Committee
of the
Southern California Association of Governments
July 2, 2015
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 (EEC) held its meeting at the SCAG Los Angeles Office. The meeting was called to order by the Hon. Deborah Robertson, Chair. There was a quorum.

Members Present

Hon. Denis Bertone, San Dimas	SGVCOG
Hon. Ross Chun, Aliso Viejo	TCA
Hon. Margaret Clark, Rosemead	District 32
Hon. Larry Forester, Signal Hill	GCCOG
Hon. Laura Friedman, Glendale	Arroyo Verdugo Cities
Hon. Mike Gardner, Riverside	WRCOG
Hon. Sandra Genis, Costa Mesa	OCCOG
Hon. Ed Graham, Chino Hills	District 10
Hon. Shari Horne, Laguna Woods	OCCOG
Hon. Diana Mahmud, South Pasadena	SGVCOG
Hon. Judy Mitchell, Rolling Hills Estates	District 40
Hon. Mike Munzing, Aliso Viejo	District 12
Hon. Jim Osborne, Lawndale	SBCCOG
Hon. Linda Parks	Ventura County
Hon. Greg Pettis, Cathedral City	District 2
Hon. David Pollock, Moorpark	VCOG
Hon. Carmen Ramirez, Oxnard (Vice-Chair)	District 45
Hon. Deborah Robertson, Rialto (Chair)	District 8
Mr. Steve Schuyler, Ex Officio	Building Industry Association
Hon. John Sibert, Malibu	District 44
Hon. Diane Williams, Rancho Cucamonga	SANBAG
Hon. Edward Wilson, Signal Hill	Gateway Cities

Members Not Present

Hon. Jordan Ehrenkranz, Canyon Lake	WRCOG
Hon. Mitchell Englander, Los Angeles	District 59
Hon. Steve Hwangbo, La Palma	District 18
Hon. Thomas Martin, Maywood	GCCOG
Hon. Geneva Mojado, Soboba Band of Luiseno Indians	Tribal COG
Hon. Lupe Ramos Watson, Indio	CVAG
Hon. Eric Schmidt, Hesperia	SANBAG
Hon. Meghan Sahli-Wells, Culver City	WCCOG
Hon. Jack Terrazas	Imperial County
Hon. Bonnie Wright, Hemet	WRCOG

CALL TO ORDER & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Hon. Deborah Robertson, Rialto, called the meeting to order at 10:09 a.m. The Hon. Greg Pettis, Cathedral City, led the Committee in the Pledge of Allegiance.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

Public comment to follow Item No. 8

REVIEW AND PRIORITIZE AGENDA ITEMS

ACTION ITEM

1. Minutes of the June 4, 2015 Meeting

A MOTION was made (Forester) to move the Minutes. The MOTION was SECONDED (Munzing) and APPROVED by the following votes:

AYES: Bertone, Chun, Clark, Forester, Friedman, Genis, Graham, Horne, Mahmud, Mitchell, Munzing, Osborne, Parks, Pettis, Pollock, Robertson, Sibert, Williams
NOES: None
ABSTAIN: Ramirez

CONSENT CALENDAR

Receive and File

2. 2015 Regional Council and Policy Committees Meeting Schedule
3. SCAG Clean Cities Coalition Update
4. SCAG Sustainability Planning Grants Program – Monthly Update
5. Quarterly Legislative Update
6. Cap-and-Trade Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund: Affordable Housing and Sustainable Communities (AHSC) Program Update

A MOTION was made (Pettis) to approve the Consent Calendar as amended to reflect in Agenda Item No. 2 that the EEC is not dark in August and will meet as part of a Joint Regional Council/Policy Committees meeting on August 6, 2015. The MOTION was SECONDED (Forester) and APPROVED by the following votes:

AYES: Bertone, Chun, Clark, Forester, Friedman, Genis, Graham, Horne, Mahmud, Mitchell, Munzing, Osborne, Parks, Pettis, Pollock, Ramirez, Robertson, Sibert, Williams

NOES: None
ABSTAIN: None

INFORMATION ITEMS

7. 2016-2040 Regional Transportation Plan/Sustainable Communities Strategy (2016 RTP/SCS) – Active Transportation

Alan Thompson, SCAG Staff, stated that SCAG is in the process of developing the 2016 RTP/SCS. As part of that process staff is currently studying strategies for increasing active transportation as a viable transportation option and for increasing the quality of life for Southern Californians. The options include expanding local and regional bikeway networks, developing a greenway network using riverbeds and other rights-of-way for bike and pedestrian paths separate from automobile traffic, first mile/last mile transit solutions to reduce the need for automobile usage, bicyclist/pedestrian friendly districts, safety education, and encouragement campaigns.

Mr. Thompson introduced Claire Robinson, Amigos De Los Rios, who briefed the committee on her organization's efforts to facilitate the planning and implementation of the Emerald Necklace Vision Regional Greenway Network. Ms. Robinson introduced some of the challenges and opportunities for advancing mobility, open space and enhanced watershed management goals through integrated planning in river and utility corridors.

8. 2016-2040 Regional Transportation Plan/Sustainable Communities Strategy (2016 RTP/SCS) – Natural/Farm Lands Update

Kristen Pawling, SCAG Staff, gave the EEC an update for the 2016 RTP/SCS related to natural/farm land conservation strategies. She highlighted the efforts of the SCAG Open Space Conservation Working Group (Working Group) and presented their best practices recommendations for the 2016 RTP/SCS. The Working Group met from November 2014 to June 2015 on a number of topics addressing natural/farm lands. Over the past several months, the Working Group documented its recommendations for refining and updating natural/farm land conservation strategies. The recommendations address best practice sharing, facilitate partnerships and collaboration, funding, innovative land use policies, natural corridor connectivity, public health, encourage urban greening/green infrastructure, and climate smart conservation. The Working Group also provided input on the scenario planning process including sea level rise and sensitive habitat conservation. The Working Group will reconvene in the fall of 2015 to provide feedback on the draft 2016 RTP/SCS and collaborate on potential approaches for implementing natural/farm land strategies.

Melanie Schlotterbeck, Friends of Harbors, Beaches and Parks (FHBP), stated that the FHBP is currently participating and collaborating with SCAG's Working Group on the 2016 RTP/SCS. The FHBP believes Cap and Trade funding can be received by the SCAG region specifically related to conservation strategies.

9. 2016-2040 Regional Transportation Plan/Sustainable Communities Strategy (2016 RTP/SCS) – Program Environmental Impact Report (PEIR) Update and Preliminary Draft Outline

Lijin Sun, SCAG Staff, stated a report was being presented to provide a status update on the 'RGKT hqt'vj g'2016 RTP/SCS. The Notice of Preparation (NOP) of the 2016 RTP/SCS PEIR was released for a 30-day public review and comment period, in accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), which ended on April 7, 2015. The purpose of the NOP was to notify federal, state, regional, local government agencies, as well as any interested parties, that SCAG is preparing the PEIR for the 2016 RTP/SCS and is seeking comments with respect to the scope and content of the environmental information that will be analyzed in the draft EIR. When the comment period ended, SCAG received twenty-six (26) comments in response to the NOP. The comments ranged from topics such as air quality, mitigation measures, the plans goals, and scenario planning. Staff has also discussed a preliminary draft outline of the PEIR and a schedule of events in the next few months relating to preparation of the PEIR.

10. Recap of 26th Annual SCAG/USC Demographic Workshop – June 1, 2015

Simon Choi, SCAG Staff, stated that SCAG had a very successful joint Annual Demographic Workshop with USC on June 1, 2015. The main theme of this year's workshop was, "Big Changes Ahead in Post-Recession California." One hundred fifty (150) attendees from throughout California gathered together and discussed what changes California would be facing after the Great Recession. The first panel featured metropolitan population projections focusing on migration after the Great Recession. The second panel reviewed new trends in fertility in California. Policy implications of the trends among millennials and baby boomers on multifamily housing, and sustainable growth strategies were also discussed.

11. Lancaster Better Built Home Program and Home Water Recycling

Item No. 11 will be brought back to the September 3, 2015 meeting of the EEC.

CHAIR'S REPORT

Hon. Deborah Robinson requested staff to address the following:

- Provide color PowerPoint presentations in future agendas and in the drop box as well.
- Extend the courtesy to presenters outside of SCAG to be listed at the beginning of the agenda items to ensure that there is time for their presentation.

STAFF REPORT – None

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Hon. Deborah Robertson: 1) Invite US EPA to discuss issues surrounding Superfund Sites, 2) best practices to conserve water for the state's current Stage 3 Water Alert

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SCAG will hold a California Gold: Bringing Cap and Trade Dollars to Southern California on Thursday, August 6, 2015, 1:00-3:30 pm, at the SCAG Los Angeles office.

ADJOURNMENT

Hon. Deborah Robertson adjourned the meeting at 11:55 a.m.

The next regular meeting of the Energy & Environment Committee (EEC) will be held on Thursday, September 3, 2015 at the SCAG Los Angeles office.

