

Energy and Environment Committee
of the
Southern California Association of Governments
October 2, 2014

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. Margaret Clark, Rosemead	District 32
Hon. John Denver, Menifee	WRCOG
Hon. Jordan Ehrenkranz, Canyon Lake	WRCOG
Hon. Larry Forester, Signal Hill	GCCOG
Hon. Laura Friedman, Glendale	Arroyo Verdugo Cities
Hon. Sandra Genis, Costa Mesa	OCCOG
Hon. Diana Mahmud, South Pasadena	SGVCOG
Hon. Judy Mitchell, Rolling Hills Estates	District 40
Hon. Mike Munzing, Aliso Viejo	District 12
Hon. David Pollock, Moorpark	VCOG
Hon. Meghan Sahli-Wells, Culver City	WCCOG
Mr. Steve Schuyler, Ex Officio	Building Industry Association
Hon. Joe Shaw, Huntington Beach	OCCOG
Hon. John Sibert, Malibu	District 44
Hon. Jack Terrazas	Imperial County
Hon. Cheryl Viegas-Walker, El Centro	District 1

Members Not Present

Hon. Lisa Bartlett, Dana Point (Vice-Chair)	TCA
Hon. Mitchell Englander, Los Angeles	District 59
Hon. Ed Graham, Chino Hills	District 10
Hon. Steve Hernandez, Coachella	CVAG
Hon. Linda Krupa, Hemet	WRCOG
Hon. Thomas Martin, Maywood	GCCOG
Hon. Geneva Mojado, Soboba Band of Luiseno Indians	Tribal COG
Hon. Sam Pedroza, Claremont	SGVCOG
Hon. Carmen Ramirez, Oxnard	District 45
Hon. Deborah Robertson, Rialto (Chair)	District 8
Hon. Stephen Sammarco, Redondo Beach	SBCCOG
Hon. Eric Schmidt, Hesperia	SANBAG
Hon. Diane Williams, Rancho Cucamonga	SANBAG
Hon. Edward Wilson, Signal Hill	Gateway Cities

CALL TO ORDER & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Hon. Cheryl Viegas-Walker, El Centro, called the meeting to order at 10:03 a.m. The Hon. Jack Terrazas, Imperial County, led the Committee in the Pledge of Allegiance.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

Leeor Alpern, South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD), announced that the SCAQMD is holding its 26th Annual Clean Air Awards on October 3, 2014, at 11:30 a.m., at the Millennium Biltmore Hotel in downtown Los Angeles. Additionally, the SCAQMD is holding its Environmental Justice Conference on November 13, 2014, 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m., at California State University, Los Angeles. Additional information can be found at www.aqmd.gov.

REVIEW AND PRIORITIZE AGENDA ITEMS

In response to a request from staff, Action Item 1 (Notice of Exemption for the Southern California Active Transportation Safety and Encouragement Campaign) and Information Item 9 was pulled from the agenda.

ACTION ITEM

1. Notice of Exemption for the Southern California Active Transportation Safety and Encouragement Campaign (Project)

Action Item 1 was pulled from the agenda and brought back at the November 6, 2014 Regional Council meeting

CONSENT CALENDAR

Item 2 and 3 of the Consent Calendar were pulled for discussion.

Receive and File

4. SCAG Sustainability Planning Grants Program – Monthly Update
5. 2014 Southern California Regional Active Transportation Funding Recommendations and Project List

A MOTION was made (Forester) to approve Items 4 and 5 of the Consent Calendar
The MOTION was SECONDED (Pollock) and APPROVED.

AYES: Bertone, Clark, Denver, Ehrenkranz, Forester, Friedman, Genis, Mahmud, Mitchell,
Pollock, Sahli-Wells, Shaw, Terrazas, Viegas-Walker
NOES: None
ABSTAIN: None

Approval Item

2. Minutes of the September 11, 2014 Meeting

Hon. Margaret Clark, Rosemead, asked that the minutes include an amendment to Item 12, last paragraph, to read as follows: “The presentation generated a discussion that included some suggestions from the committee for further research and information including financial literacy education.”

Hon. Diana Mahmud, South Pasadena, asked that the minutes include an amendment to Future Agenda Items that reflects discussion on Cap and Trade.

A MOTION was made (Pollock) to move the Minutes as amended. The MOTION was SECONDED (Forester) and APPROVED.

AYES: Bertone, Clark, Denver, Ehrenkranz, Forester, Mahmud, Mitchell, Pollock, Sahli-Wells, Shaw, Viegas-Walker
NOES: None
ABSTAIN: Friedman, Genis, Terrazas

Receive and File

3. 2014 Regional Council and Policy Committee Meeting Schedule

A MOTION was made (Forester) to move Item 3. The MOTION was SECONDED (Bertone) and APPROVED.

AYES: Bertone, Clark, Denver, Ehrenkranz, Forester, Friedman, Genis, Mahmud, Mitchell, Pollock, Sahli-Wells, Shaw, Terrazas, Viegas-Walker
NOES: None
ABSTAIN: None

INFORMATION ITEMS

6. 101 Freeway Wildlife Bridge in Agoura Hills

Hon. Linda Parks, Ventura County, stated that today’s item addresses the 2012-2035 Regional Transportation Plan/Sustainable Community Strategy (2012 RTP/SCS) directive to “ensure access to open space and habitat preservation despite competing quality of life demands drive by growth, housing and employment needs, and traditional development patterns.” Hon. Linda Parks then introduced Mr. Paul Edelman, Chief of Natural Resources and Planning for the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy who provided a presentation on creating a wildlife bridge across the 101 Freeway in Agoura Hills. The presentation covered the status and costs of the proposal and examples of similar bridges in the United States and around the world.

7. Update on the California Environmental Protections Agency's (CalEPA) CalEnviroScreen Tool

Ping Chang, SCAG Staff, provided an update on the CalEnviroScreen Tool. The Tool uses existing environmental, health and socioeconomic data to consider the extent to which California communities are burdened by and vulnerable to pollution. On August 14, 2014, CalEPA released the CalEnviroScreen Version 2.0, which includes the additional indicators of drinking water quality and unemployment rate, and uses census tracts instead of zip codes as the basic geographic unit.

CalEPA is currently considering five (5) alternative methods to utilize the tool and an additional method was proposed by the Bay Area. All the methods utilize the original data but apply different selection criteria. The significance of the CalEnviroScreen Tool is that, as required by SB 535, the tool will be used to define disadvantaged communities and then allocate a portion of the Cap and Trade fund to those communities. Specifically at least 10% of the over \$800 million Cap and Trade funds is required to be used for projects located within disadvantaged communities, and at least 25% to be used for projects which will benefit disadvantaged communities

The CalEPA Secretary is expected to make the final selection of the method by October 31, 2014.

8. Comprehensive Planning for Open Space Strategic Plan

Kristen Pawling, SCAG Staff, stated there are three (3) areas in which SCAG can play a role in Open Space Planning: 1) create a data and information repository, 2) collect and disseminate best practices, and 3) convene dialogue with stakeholders and partners on replicating successful approaches.

There are five (5) deliverables that a consultant has provided SCAG: 1) a list of key stakeholder organizations, 2) a list of scientific experts for ecological resources in the region, 3) a conservation framework and assessment, 4) a natural resources GIS database, and 5) existing information and data gaps for natural resources in the region. The compiled data will be made publically available.

Melanie Schlotterbeck, Friends of Harbors, Beaches, and Parks provided public comment. Ms. Schlotterbeck stated that her non-profit coalition in Orange County will continue to provide SCAG with applicable feedback on the 2016 RTP/SCS and thanked the EEC for their support of SCAG's Open Space Strategic Planning efforts.

Hon. Laura Friedman, Glendale, stated that the City of Glendale is encountering issues implementing its downtown plans and has received comment letters from Caltrans as part of the CEQA process. Residents in opposition to these development plans point to the Caltrans letters to back up their views. Hon. Cheryl Villegas-Walker suggested that SCAG staff further investigate.

9. Active Transportation Work Program for the 2016-2040 Regional Transportation Plan/Sustainable Communities Strategy (2016 RTP/SCS)

Alan Thompson, SCAG Staff, stated staff is beginning to develop the active transportation component of the next RTP/SCS, incorporating the Active Transportation Subcommittee recommendations, as well as other strategic investments, and recent plans, policies and studies. Staff has worked with the CTCs regarding Safe Routes to School, First Mile/Last Mile studies, and Active Transportation Program Funding and plans to incorporate them into the 2016 RTP/SCS.

As part of these efforts, Staff surveyed all cities and counties in the SCAG region with 125 responding. There is active transportation planning going on, usually in the cities or counties' public works departments, but half the cities surveyed do not have any formal Active Transportation programs.

Next steps include completion of needs assessment, integration with public health planning, strategy development, modeling and public outreach.

Hon. Cheryl Viegas-Walker requested that this Item be brought back to the Committee in the future for further discussion.

10. Update on SCAG's Bottom-Up Local Input Process for the 2016-2040 Regional Transportation Plan and Sustainable Communities Strategy (2016 RTP/SCS)

Since the presentations were running behind and this item was presented at the last meeting, Hon. Cheryl Viegas-Walker asked the Committee if they had any questions with regard to Item 10. There were no questions and the Staff presentation was waived.

11. SCAG GIS Services Program Status Report

Ping Wang, SCAG Staff, stated that within the SCAG region one hundred fifty five (155) local jurisdictions have enrolled as participants in SCAG's GIS Services Program. The program assists local jurisdictions in updating their existing land use data and improving the planning process for increased work efficiency, cost savings, and better decision-making. SCAG staff is developing a survey to assess a jurisdiction's satisfaction with the GIS program and to identify additional services that are needed by local jurisdiction in the area of GIS to improve their day-to-day planning operations.

CHAIR'S REPORT - None

STAFF REPORT

Jonathan Nadler, SCAG staff, stated that the Strategic Growth Council (SGC) has released it preliminary guidelines for the Affordable Housing Sustainable Communities portion of the Cap and Trade funding for this fiscal year. The \$130 million program will provide grants and loans for affordable housing, infill and compact transit oriented development, and infrastructure. The deadline for comments to the guidelines is October 31, 2014. SGC will hold a workshop at SCAG on the guidelines Monday, October 27, 2014, from 1:00-4:00 p.m.

Justine Block, SCAG Deputy Legal Counsel, stated that Mayor Lisa Bartlett, TCA, is no longer serving on the Regional Council (RC) and EEC. This creates a vacancy in the EEC Vice-Chair position. Eligible candidates for the Vice-Chair position are required to be a member of the RC.

Hon. Cheryl Viegas-Walker requested that an e-mail notice be sent to all the EEC members prior to the election, notifying them that if they are interested in the Vice-Chair position please advise Lillian Neal-Harris, Clerk of the Board.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS - No items

ANNOUNCEMENTS

ADJOURNMENT

Hon. Cheryl Viegas-Walker adjourned the meeting at 12:01 p.m.

Action Minutes Approved by:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jonathan Nadler", written over a horizontal line.

Jonathan Nadler, Manager
Compliance & Performance Monitoring

Energy and Environment Committee Attendance Report

2014

Member (including Ex-Officio) LastName, FirstName	Date Appointed if after 1/1/14	Representing	X = County Represented						X = Attended Black Shading = Dark												Total Mtgs Attended		
			Imperial	Los Angeles	Orange	Riverside	San Bernardino	Ventura	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec			
Bertone, Denis		SGVCOG		X						X	X	X	X	G			X	X	X				7
Chun, Ross	11/1/2014	TCA												E									
Clark, Margaret		Rosemead		X						X	X	X	X	N	X		X	X	X				8
Denver, John	9/9/2014	Menifee				X								E				X	X				2
Ehrenkranz, Jordan		WRCOG				X				X	X	X		R	X			X	X				6
Englander, Mitchell		Los Angeles		X										A									
Forester, Larry		Gateway Cities		X							X	X	X	L	X		X	X	X				7
Friedman, Laura		AVCOG		X						X	X	X	X		X		X		X				7
Genis, Sandra		OCCOG			X					X	X	X	X	A	X		X		X				7
Krupa, Linda		Hemet					X					X	X	S	X			X					4
Mahmud, Diana	6/5/2014	SGVCOG		X										S				X	X				2
Martin, Thomas		GCCOG		X						X	X	X		E			X	X					5
Mitchell, Judy		SBCCOG		X						X	X	X	X	M			X	X	X				7
Mojado, Geneva	2/1/2014	Tribal COG									X	X	X	B	X								4
Munzing, Mike		District 12			X					X	X	X	X	L	X		X	X	X				8
Pedroza, Sam		SGVCOG		X								X		Y			X						2
Pollock, David		VCOG						X		X	X	X			X		X	X	X				7
Ramirez, Carmen		Oxnard						X		X	X	X	X		X		X	X					7
Ramos-Watson, Lupe	11/1/2014	CVAG				X																	
Robertson, Deborah		District 8						X			X	X	X		X		X	X					6
Sahli-Wells, Meghan	6/5/2014	WCCOG		X											X		X	X	X				4
Sanmarco, Stephen		SBCCOG		X						X	X							X					3
Schmidt, Eric	6/5/2014	SANBAG						X							X								1
Schuyler, Steve	2/1/2014	BIASC									X				X		X	X	X				5
Sibert, John	9/10/2014	Malibu		X															X				1
Terrazas, Jack		Imperial County	X							X	X	X	X		X				X				6
Viegas Walker, Cheryl		El Centro	X							X	X	X	X		X		X	X	X				8
Williams, Diane		SANBAG						X		X	X	X	X		X		X						6
Wilson, Edward		Signal Hill		X						X	X	X	X		X			X					6
TOTALS			2	12	3	4	3	2															